

A comprehensive plan **outlines long-term physical growth and development** for the next 20 to 30 years. Public input from community leaders and citizens is an important component of a Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan serves as a decision making guide for elected officials and is used to direct and influence the many public and private decisions that shape the future of a community. It is adopted by a local government and generally indicates how public officials and citizens wish the community to develop over the next two to three decades. A comprehensive plan forms the foundation for zoning and other ordinances and regulations.

### A typical comprehensive plan includes four main elements:

**Goals and objectives:** Goals are value-based statements that are not necessarily measurable, while objectives are more specific, measurable statements of desired ends. This part of the plan addresses, at a minimum, issues such as residential, commercial and industrial development; parks, open space and recreation; street and road improvements; and public schools and community facilities.

**Land Use Plan:** This component of the plan designates in map or policy form the proposed general distribution and extent of the uses of land for residences, commerce, industry, recreation and open space, and public/semi-public facilities. Projections of population and economic growth may be the basis for quantitative recommendation for each land use category.

**Transportation Plan:** This component depicts in map form the proposed functional classifications of all existing and proposed streets, roads and highways for the areas encompassed by the land use plan. All other forms of pertinent transportation (such as rapid transit, sidewalks, bicycle routes, airports and trains) should be addressed as appropriate. The transportation plan is a basis for a capital improvements plan.

**Community Facilities Plan:** This includes an inventory and analysis of public facilities including, but not limited to water, sanitary sewer, drainage, parks and recreation, fire stations, police stations, libraries, schools and other public buildings and facilities. Like the transportation plan, the community facilities plan is a basis for a capital improvements plan.

### Implementation:

Typical implementation tools include zoning ordinances (map and text), housing and building regulations, subdivision regulations, a capital improvements plan, code adoption and enforcement, and design review. The implementation of a comprehensive plan presumes the initial political action that made its preparation possible will also make its utilization equally possible.

Slaughter & Associates **will work with your community** to create an **effective, future oriented plan unique to your needs.**

### Optional elements of a comprehensive plan include:

- Annexation
- Coastal
- Economic
- Education
- Energy
- Fire protection
- Flood control
- Growth plan
- Hazardous waste
- Historic preservation
- Industrial
- Military resources
- Mineral resources
- Parking
- Parks and recreation
- Redevelopment
- Scenic highways
- Social services
- Waste management
- Water resources