

COMMUNITY PLANNING OVERVIEW

SUBJECT BRIEF

The Community Planning subject brief supports FDOT's efforts to integrate transportation and land use planning decisions and to collaborate with local governments and partners around the state.

What Does Community Planning Mean to FDOT?

Community planning is the process of guiding or shaping the conditions of a community, based on the vision of its residents and businesses. Land use planning and transportation planning are parts of community planning that, when successfully integrated, ensure a connected, reliable transportation system that supports the economy, enhances communities, and conserves natural resources.

How Does Community Planning Affect FDOT's Work?

Through community planning, local governments establish policies and processes that guide economic development, land use, and transportation. Land use policies and processes may include densities and intensities for new neighborhoods or businesses, zoning requirements, and development timeframes. Transportation policies may support safety enhancements, promote transportation options, or consider how economic and population growth affect local transportation facilities.

Planning decisions are used by FDOT to determine context classifications, safety needs, traffic operations, and access management. Context classifications, land use, zoning, and the types of transportation users influence decisions about speed management, parking, preservation of community character, freight routes and delivery, and the balance between destination versus through traffic. Community planning decisions also affect a local government's need for new transportation projects, improvements, or changes to existing facilities.



How Can FDOT Strengthen The Alignment of Land Use and Transportation?

By working collaboratively with our partners to provide technical expertise and information on FDOT's programs and policies, we can address transportation-related opportunities throughout the planning process. This helps support local government visions; promotes good planning outcomes that benefit people, communities, and natural resources; reduces impacts on state transportation facilities; and ensures efficient and reliable movement of people and goods on Florida's transportation system.

Establishing open lines of communication early and often with local entities, partner agencies, metropolitan planning organizations, and developers on community planning issues is critical to support FDOT's mission and vision and the Department's priorities.

Although each district has a community planning coordinator, the responsibility of partnering with local governments is shared by all areas of FDOT. The following examples demonstrate some of FDOT's collaborative efforts to promote community planning.



COMMUNITY VISIONS

Implement local government visions to revitalize commercial districts by enhancing safety, expanding walkability, and promoting retail and service-oriented land uses.

Partner to develop corridor visions that provide the framework for expanding transportation options and complementary land use policies.

TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

Work with partners to develop facilities that provide safe, efficient movement for people and goods.

Provide technical assistance on how land use changes can promote economic growth, enhance safety, and enable transportation options near housing and jobs.

COMMUNITY CHARACTER

Work with local governments to identify policies to promote a transportation system that enhances community character.

Collaborate to revitalize rural downtowns by maximizing parking potential, enhancing landscaping and safety, or reassessing access points.

TOURISM

Leverage Shared-Use Non-motorized (SUN) Trail funding to create shared-use paths, improve bicycle and pedestrian safety, close gaps in the state's trail system, and promote tourism.

WATER QUALITY

Work on transportation projects that benefit traffic flow and safety while protecting water quality and supporting conservation efforts.

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?

[Community Planning Website](#) | [Context Based Design](#) | [Traffic](#) | [Analysis](#)
[Site Impact Analysis](#) | [Local Government Resource Guide](#)