

14 - URBANIZATION

GOAL:

To provide for an orderly and efficient transition from rural to urban land use.

Urban growth boundaries shall be established to identify and separate urbanizable land from rural land.

Establishment and change of the boundaries shall be based upon consideration of the following factors:

- (1) Demonstrated need to accommodate long-range urban population growth requirements consistent with LCDC goals;
- (2) Need for housing, employment opportunities, and livability;
- (3) Orderly and economic provision for public facilities and services;
- (4) Maximum efficiency of land uses within and on the fringe of the existing urban area;
- (5) Environmental, energy, economic and social consequences;
- (6) Retention of agricultural land as defined, with Class I being the highest priority for retention and Class VI the lowest priority; and,
- (7) Compatibility of the proposed urban uses with nearby agricultural activities.

The results of the above considerations shall be included in the comprehensive plan. In the case of a change of a boundary, a governing body proposing such change in the boundary separating urbanizable land from rural land, shall follow the procedures and requirements as set forth in the Land Use Planning goal (Goal 2) for goal exceptions.

Any urban growth boundary established prior to January 1, 1975 which includes rural lands that have not been built upon shall be reviewed by the governing body, utilizing the same factors applicable to the establishment or change of urban growth boundaries.

Establishment and change of the boundaries shall be a cooperative process between a city and the county or counties that surround it.

Land within the boundaries separating urbanizable land from rural land shall be considered available over time for urban uses. Conversion of urbanizable land to urban uses shall be based on consideration of:

- (1) Orderly, economic provision for public facilities and services;
- (2) Availability of sufficient land for the various uses to insure choices in the market place;
- (3) LCDC goals; and,
- (4) Encouragement of development within urban areas before conversion of urbanizable areas.

GUIDELINES:

A. PLANNING:

1. Plans should designate sufficient amounts of urbanizable land to accommodate the need for further urban expansion, taking into account (1) the growth policy of the area, (2) population needs (by the year 2000), (3) the carrying capacity of the planning area, and (4) open space and recreational needs.
2. The size of the parcels of urbanizable land that are converted to urban land should be of adequate dimension so as to maximize the utility of the land resource and enable the logical and efficient extension of services to such parcels.
3. Plans providing for the transition from rural to urban land use should take into consideration as a major determinant the carrying capacity of the air, land and water resources of the planning area. The land conservation and development actions provided for by such plans should not exceed the carrying capacity of such resources.

B. IMPLEMENTATION RELATED:

1. The type, location and phasing of public facilities and services are factors which should be utilized to direct urban expansion.
2. The type, design, phasing and location of major public transportation facilities (i.e., all modes: air, marine, rail, mass transit, highways, bicycle and pedestrian) and improvements thereto are factors which should be utilized to support urban expansion into urbanizable areas and restrict it from rural areas.
3. Financial incentives should be provided to assist in maintaining the use and character of lands adjacent to urbanizable areas.
4. Local land use controls and ordinances should be mutually supporting, adopted and enforced to integrate the type, timing and location of public facilities and services in a manner to accommodate increased public demands as urbanizable lands become more urbanized.

5. Additional methods and devices for guiding urban land use should include but not be limited to the following:
(1) tax incentives and disincentives; (2) multiple use and joint development practices; (3) fee and less-than-fee acquisition techniques; and (4) capital improvement programming.

6. Plans should provide for a detailed management program to assign respective implementation roles and responsibilities to those governmental bodies operating in the planning area and having interests in carrying out the goal.