Design Matters: Planning a Region & City for Community Character
American Planning Association

40,000 members in 90 countries
More than 1,000 members outside the United States
5,000 attend our annual conference (30 countries represented)
Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA)

A series of international initiatives coordinated among various government, public, private, academic, and multinational organizations.

ECPA strives to minimize the effects of climate change throughout the Americas and Caribbean

ECPA promotes sustainable housing
Great Places in America
GREAT PLACES IN AMERICA
The American Planning Association celebrates excellence in planning.

America's best neighborhoods
The 2011 Great Places in America list proclaims the nation's best neighborhoods, streets and public spaces.
APA National Centers for Planning

Hazards Planning Research Center

Green Communities Research Center

Planning and Community Health Research Center
Project: Planning for Urban and Community Forestry

Partners: International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and American Forests (AF), and supported by the USDA Forest Service
The Daniel Burnham Forum on Big Ideas
The Daniel Burnham Forum on Big Ideas

• “The Next 50: Planning, Architecture, and Landscape Architecture”
  July 12, Chicago Cultural Center, with ASLA, AIA and APA Presidents

• “International Trends, Domestic Impacts”
  September 30, at the National Building Museum in Washington, DC.
APA Products and Publications

Making Community Design Work: A Guide for Planners

Complete Streets (PAS 559) Best Policy and Implementation Practices
APA Products and Publications

Planning and Urban Design Standards

APA’s Urban Design and Preservation Division
APA’s Sustaining Places Initiative
Sustaining Places Task Force

• Examining how sustainability can be incorporated into Comprehensive Plans
Sustainability—Defining Challenge of the 21st Century

Issues

- Resource depletion
- Climate instability
- Energy production
- Economic stress
- Social inequity
- Public health
Role of Comprehensive Plan

Plan is ideal vehicle:
- Legal authority
- Scope to cover functions
- History of practice

Plan has mandate to:
- Set community goals
- Engage citizens
- Assign responsibilities
- Achieve consensus

Plan is policy basis for:
- Land use, environmental & design regulations – zoning
- Public facility standards
- Capital improvements program
Principles of Planning for Sustaining Places

- Livable built environment
- Harmony with nature
- Resilient economy
- Interwoven equity
- Healthy communities
- Responsible regionalism
- Authentic participation
- Accountable implementation

2007 Marin Countywide Plan

http://co.marin.ca.us/depts/CD/main/fm/TOC.cfm
Vertical Integration of Plans
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Scale</th>
<th>Example Sustainability Policies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Regional Plan          | • Air quality management  
                        | • Habitat conservation system  
                        | • Watershed and water quality management  
                        | • Regional transportation network |
| Local Jurisdiction Plan| • Land use types and location policies  
                        | • Green building policies  
                        | • Jobs/housing coordination  
                        | • Economic base capacity  
                        | • Bicycle circulation network |
| Community Plan         | • Parcel land use & zoning  
                        | • Community public facilities strategy  
                        | • Housing options  
                        | • Mobility connections & pedestrian master plan  
                        | • Community character & urban design policies |
| Master Plan            | • Development program  
                        | • Building & site design  
                        | • Distributed energy systems  
                        | • Landscaping for water conservation  
                        | • Bicycle, pedestrian, and transit network connections |
The San Diego Example
A City Set in a Bio-Diverse Region
Housing Growth in the San Diego Region
GHG Inventory Project Results

Hypothetical GHG Emissions Reduction Targets
San Diego County

- 2006 Levels
- 2020 BAU Projections
- AB 32 Target
- Executive Order S-3-05 Target (2050)
GHG Inventory Project Results

GHG Emissions for San Diego County (2006)

www.sandiego.edu/epic
Regional Comprehensive Plan
for the San Diego Region

Final
July 2004
Smart Growth Concept Map

Smart Growth Areas

- Existing/Planned Potential
  - Metropolitan Center
  - Urban Center
  - Town Center
  - Community Center
  - Rural Village
  - Special Use Center
  - Mixed Use Transit Corridor

- Habitat Planning Preserve Areas
- Existing Major Employment Areas
- Urban Area Transit Strategy Boundary
2050 Regional Transportation Plan
Jurisdictions That have Updated or Are Updating their General/Specific Plans
A City of Villages
Village Propensity Map
UPTOWN Community Plan
The Uptown District Master Plan
City of San Diego
Land Development Code

- Commercial/Mixed-Use zones
- Pedestrian-Oriented Design standards
- Parking reductions for mixed-use, transit proximity
- Tandem parking in some areas
- Small lot and townhouse zones
- Landscape Standards
  - Street trees required
  - Water conservation mandates
- Community Gardens code
Thank you.

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William.anderson3@aecom.com