

## PLAN PURPOSE

Kentucky Revised Statutes, Chapter 100, requires a local government to adopt a comprehensive plan, in order to apply land use regulations -- zoning and subdivision regulations. This requirement discourages the arbitrary application of land use regulations. Rather, it encourages a local community to devise a vision of its future, and to apply land use regulations as tools to implement that vision.

*The Comprehensive Plan for Owensboro, Whitesville and Daviess County* is predicated on the belief that each community resident should have a suitable living environment that provides the opportunity to achieve his or her potential. In other words, our community must strive to provide the best possible quality of life for all its citizens, not only those here today, but also those who will be added in the future. A significant measure of quality of life is in the form and function of the physical community. Therefore, our overall vision is a community that has a good form, a logical layout; and a community that functions efficiently, where public service costs are minimized.

The primary purpose of the *Comprehensive Plan* is to detail the vision described above. To do this, we must discover where we have been and where we are heading. We must evaluate the current status of the community, then devise plans to correct present inadequacies and to prepare for future needs. An important task is the preparation of plans that determine the amounts and locations of new urban land and public facilities that will be needed in the future.

This evaluation and planning process, which creates a detailed vision of our community's future, is documented in the *Comprehensive Plan*. As a result, our local governments and the private sector gain valuable insight and guidance. Now, we can take actions that are more logical and coordinated; actions that will help us realize our vision of the community's future.

## FUNCTIONS OF THE PLAN

The *Comprehensive Plan* performs several vital functions:

- ◆ Source of information about the community
- ◆ Program of correction for inadequate facilities
- ◆ Estimate of future development needs
- ◆ Indicator of development goals and objectives
- ◆ Device for coordination of development actions
- ◆ Incentive to stimulate public interest and responsibility
- ◆ Guide to appropriate ways and means to fulfill the plan

These functions of the plan are dependent on two important concepts. First, because the *Comprehensive Plan* is intended to serve as a coordinating device for specific development plans, it must be updated and refined periodically. This includes refining zoning and subdivision regulations so that they are consistent with the objectives of the plan.

The second concept is the flexibility of the plan. This is accomplished by keeping the plan general in its content while at the same time providing a stable, reliable basis for determining public and private development policies.

## PLAN FORMAT

The Comprehensive Plan is designed to display information as concisely as possible. The written text often serves as a summary of a more detailed or technical report. In those instances, the detailed report should be consulted when addressing specific topics. These topical reports are cited in the bibliography (Section 090).

## EXHIBITS

The written text includes numerous exhibits -- maps, tables, graphs -- which provide the reader with an easy means of comparing different data and trends.

A standard full-page format map is used for most of the map exhibits throughout the plan. The Urban Service Area surrounding Owensboro, and Whitesville's growth area, are predominant. A smaller-scale inset map shows the remainder of Daviess County, the Rural Service Area. This format allows location information to be presented visually, at a constant scale. Occasionally, larger-scale maps are included within the text to point out locations within special areas.

A large-format Land Use Plan Map is included as part of the Comprehensive Plan. It serves as a summary of the various plans contained within this document. Refer to Section 440 for more information about this map.

### Exhibit 011-G1:

#### **Numbering of Parts, Sections, Pages...**

The numbering system used in this document will facilitate the updating of individual sections, without renumbering the entire document. Numbers of parts, sections and pages are hierarchical, and most are three digits. Exhibits are numbered by the page on which they occur, with an extension to indicate the type of exhibit.

<b>Part 400</b>	One of eight parts into which the <i>Comprehensive Plan</i> is divided: Parts 000 through 700.
<b>Section 410</b>	The first section of Part 400. Parts may have up to nine sections where necessary: for example, Sections 410, 420, 430, through 490.
<b>Page 411</b>	The first page of Section 410. Most sections have nine or fewer pages: for example, Pages 411, 412, 413, through 419. However, if a section has more than nine pages, the numbering continues in series with four-digit numbers: 4110, 4111, 4112, etc. Thus, Page 4112 is the twelfth page in Section 410.
<b>Exhibit 411-T1</b>	The first Table exhibited on Page 411.
<b>Exhibit 411-T2</b>	The second Table exhibited on Page 411.
<b>Exhibit 412-M1</b>	The first Map exhibited on Page 412.
<b>Exhibit 4110-G3</b>	The third Graph or Graphic exhibited on Page 4110, the tenth page in section 410.