



PLANO TOMORROW

A Comprehensive Plan for Excellence



Plano Tomorrow Work Session

Visioning & Regionalism Summary
and
The Natural Environmental Discussion

Planning & Zoning Commission
March 17, 2014



March 3 Work Session Summary

- Vision Statement
- Regionalism Policy Options



Plano Tomorrow Vision Statement

“Plano is a global leader, excelling in exceptional education, abounding with world class businesses and vibrant neighborhoods.”



Six Issues

- Population Growth
- Regional transportation
- Air Quality
- Water preservation
- Consistency with neighboring cities
- Education



Population Growth

- New policy specifying locations where growth should occur.



Regional Transportation

- Open to transportation system expansion projects within city to improve traffic flow
 - Roadways and expressways
 - Bicycle trail connections
 - Encourage expansion of mass transit into non member cities



Air Quality

- Regional leader in terms of local policies to address air quality
 - Alternative fuel dispensing sites
 - Alternative fuel vehicles in city fleet
 - Strengthen idling polices
 - New ideas to improve traffic flow on thoroughfares
 - Support investment for alternative fuel sites



Water Preservation

- Leadership in changing policies, conserving water and mitigating storm water damage
 - Continue water restrictions even if situation improves
 - Strict enforcement of restrictions
 - Require storm water mitigation plans for all projects



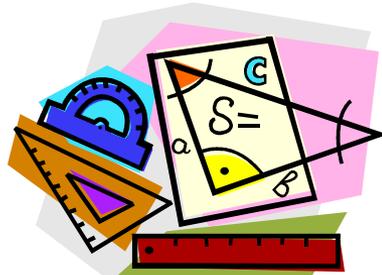
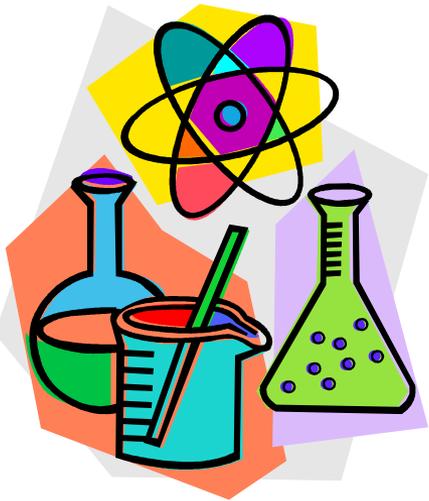
Consistency with Neighboring Cities

- Consider opportunities to partner with neighboring cities to provide municipal services



Education

- More intense involvement with local schools, assist UT-Dallas with gaining Tier 1 status



Conclusion

- Questions/Comments?
- What is next?
 - Chairman Grady will share results of March work sessions with City Council on April 14, 2014
 - Gather department and public feedback on regionalism and vision statement





PLANO TOMORROW

A Comprehensive Plan for Excellence



Plano Tomorrow Work Session

The Natural Environment Discussion

Planning & Zoning Commission

March 17, 2014



Plano Tomorrow Draft Vision Statement

Plano is a global leader, excelling in exceptional education, abounding with world class businesses and vibrant neighborhoods.



Potential Supportive Pillars

The Built Environment

- Land Use
- Transportation
- Urban Design
- Redevelopment & Revitalization
- Housing/Neighborhoods
- Historic Preservation

The Natural Environment

- Efficient Buildings
- Waste Management
- Air Quality
- Future Adaptation
- Renewable Energy
- Preservation of Open Space

The Regional Environment (Regionalism)

The Social Environment

- Education
- Public Safety
- Arts and Culture
- Parks and Recreation
- Social Services/Health
- Community Involvement

The Economic Environment

- Economic Development
- Jobs and Workforce Development
- Targeted Industries
- Business Retention & Development
- Major Employment Areas
- Diversified Economic Base



The Natural Environment – Issues

1. Building Efficiency
2. Water Conservation
3. Renewable Energy
4. Waste Reduction
5. Air Quality – Transportation and Urban Heat Islands
6. Stormwater Management
7. Open Space and Natural Resource Preservation



Public Outreach Campaign Comments

Open Ended Comments Related to the Environment

- Increase water supply and conservation (25)
- HOA restrictions on environmental improvements (xeriscaping, solar, roofing) (6)
- Need more recycling efforts/requirements (5)
- Shouldn't focus time/money on green initiatives (3)
- Need more green areas (3)
- Encourage solar power (3)
- Need for a tree planting program (2)
- Establish an environmental and sustainability advisory board (2)
- Unused land should be gardens and hiking/biking paths (2)
- Need to reduce emissions
- Develop long range energy plan
- Building codes should include energy and resource conservation
- Ban plastic bags
- Plano should lead the community in green improvements
- Reduce the heat island



Work Session Outline

1. Provided background for each topic in packet
2. Commissioners will provide general direction
3. Staff will work with departments to identify the actions necessary to achieve the Commissioner's direction
4. Staff will bring back actions for evaluation



The Natural Environment Pillar



1. Plano should be a **leader** in “greening” the environment by making **significant investments** in renewable energy, efficient buildings, waste reduction, transportation, and future adaptation.
2. Plano should **assist** in “greening” the environment by seeking only the **most cost effective methods** and ideas in renewable energy, efficient buildings, waste reduction, transportation, and future adaptation.
3. Plano should be a **spectator** in “greening” the environment by only making improvements in “greening” the environment that are **required by state or federal mandate**.

Building Efficiency – Building Codes

1. With the recommendations of NCTCOG, Plano should **strongly consider adopting all or a portion** of the IgCC to enforce **mandatory** “greening” requirements for buildings. Plano should also be an advocate to persuade other cities to adopt the green code.
2. Plano should follow the regional discussions regarding the IgCC and **only consider adopting all or a portion of the IgCC if other cities begin to adopt the code**. Plano will continue to allow alternative “greening” building methods, but should **consider providing financial incentives** for green construction.
3. Regardless of the recommendations from NCTCOG, Plano **should not enforce any “greening” requirements for buildings**, which are not required by the current 2012 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). Plano will continue to allow alternative “greening” building methods; however, Plano **should not provide financial incentives** for green construction.



Building Efficiency – Building Retrofit

1. Plano should consider expanding **energy efficiency incentive and educational programs** by partnering with private utility companies and local businesses to encourage the retrofit of existing structures.
2. Plano should consider expanding energy efficiency **educational programs only** to encourage the retrofit of existing structures.
3. Plano should maintain current levels and **not consider** expanding any additional incentive or educational programs to encourage energy efficiency and the retrofit of existing structures.



Water Conservation

1. Plano should consider expanding water conservation **educational/marketing programs and incentive programs** for such items as: drip irrigation systems, rainwater collection and harvesting, air conditioning condensation harvesting, and drought tolerant landscaping.
2. Plano should consider expanding water conservation **educational and marketing programs only** to encourage conservation.
3. Plano should maintain current levels and **not consider** expanding any additional incentive or educational/marketing programs to encourage water preservation.



Renewable Energy – Municipal Buildings

1. Plano should make **significant investments** in renewable energy for municipal buildings.
2. Plano should only make the **most cost effective** renewable energy improvements for municipal buildings.
3. Plano should **not invest** in renewable energy improvements for municipal buildings.



Plano Environmental Education Center



Tom Muehlenbeck Recreation Center

Renewable Energy – Electric Providers

1. Plano should be a leader of TCAP (Texas Coalition for Affordable Power) and **negotiate higher** renewable energy minimums with the city's electric providers **regardless** if it increases electricity rates.
2. Plano **should only** negotiate higher renewable energy minimums with the city's electric providers only if it maintains or reduces existing electricity rates.
3. Plano **should not** negotiate any additional renewable energy minimums with the city's electric providers.



Renewable Energy – Incentivizing Renewable Energy

1. Plano **should provide incentives** (financial or regulatory) for the use of renewable energy by residents and businesses.
2. Plano **should only provide educational/marketing material** for the use of renewable energy by residents and businesses and should support private initiatives like Solarize Plano.
3. Plano **should not provide promotional material or incentives** (financial or regulatory) for the use of renewable energy by residents and businesses.



Waste Reduction

1. Nearing the city's 40% recycling diversion goal, Plano should **increase** the diversion goal and increase educational programs and incentives. In addition, Plano **should consider creating mandatory regulations** to increase recycling efforts to remain a recycling leader in North Texas. Mandatory regulations could include providing space within commercial and multifamily dumpster enclosures for recycle refuse containers or converting previously incentivized programs into requirements.
2. Nearing the city's 40% recycling diversion goal, Plano should **increase** the diversion goal and increase educational programs and incentives **without** adding new mandatory regulations.
3. Plano should maintain the 40% recycling diversion goal and **not increase** recycling efforts (education, incentives, or mandatory regulations).



Air Quality | Transportation

Transportation Demand Management (TDM)

1. Plano **should commit** to a TDM program and meet with local corporations to identify the best policies for the program. Plano **should actively pursue** corporations to take advantage of the program.
2. Plano should readopt the existing TDM policies as they address all the needs of our local corporations and businesses. Plano **should not actively pursue** corporations to take advantage of the program.
3. Plano **should remove all TDM policies** from the comprehensive plan as they are not effective.



Air Quality | Transportation

City Fleet

1. Plano should make **significant investments** in converting the city's fleet to alternative fuel or electric vehicles.
2. Plano should only pursue the **most cost effective methods** to convert the city's fleet to alternative fuel or electric vehicles.
3. Plano **should not pursue** converting the city's fleet to alternative fuel or electric vehicles.



Air Quality | Urban Heat Islands

Permeable Pavements

1. Plano **should require** the use of permeable pavement for new development and redevelopment, where suitable, including municipal properties.
2. Plano **should further incentivize** the use of permeable pavement and consider installing permeable pavement on municipal properties **only if it is cost effective**. This could include allowing permeable pavement for any developments, regardless of their parking lot size.
3. Plano **should retain** the existing incentives for the use of permeable pavement and should not install permeable pavement on municipal properties.



Air Quality | Urban Heat Islands

Urban Forestry

1. Plano should expand its Urban Forestry initiatives by leading a city-wide tree inventory study to determine the total canopy coverage, species, and long-term health of Plano's urban forest. The City would focus tree planting efforts, maintenance of existing trees, and education to areas of the city where UHI effect is greatest. Existing developments should be **required** to add landscaping **only for significant** redevelopment or expansion projects to bring the site into conformance with the Zoning Ordinance's landscaping requirements. Education on the benefits of trees and urban forests should be provided to the citizens.
2. Plano should inform and educate citizens on the benefits of trees and urban forests, especially relating to urban heat islands. No additional funding should be spent on a canopy coverage study. All existing developments should be **encouraged** to add landscaping for redevelopment or expansion projects. Plano should continue to actively increase the canopy coverage of parks, municipal sites, and parkways.
3. Plano **should not** invest staff time or funding for Urban Forestry initiatives.



Air Quality | Urban Heat Islands

Green/Cool Roofs

1. Plano **should require** cool or green roofing materials for both residential and nonresidential developments, including retrofitting municipal building roofs at the end of their lifespan.
2. Plano should only retrofit municipal building roofs with cool or green roofs at the end of their lifespan **if it is cost efficient** and **incentivize** developers to incorporate cool and green roofing materials on residential and nonresidential developments.
3. Plano **should only encourage** developers to incorporate cool or green roofing materials on residential and nonresidential developments and should not retrofit any municipal buildings.



Stormwater Management

1. Plano **should revise** existing stormwater quality standards and increase **mandatory** standards above the minimum state and federal requirements. This would include incorporating all or some of NCTCOG's Best Management Practices (BMPs) to new developments and significant redevelopment projects. The city should incorporate **all or some** of NCTCOG's BMPs to improve water quality on municipal owned sites, parkways, and roadway projects.
2. Plano **should only** incorporate the **most cost effective practices** from NCTCOG's BMPs to improve water quality on municipal owned sites parkways, and roadway projects and should **increase incentives** for private development and redevelopment projects.
3. Plano should **only encourage developers** to incorporate NCTCOG's BMPs and **should not** retrofit any municipal sites.



Open Space and Natural Resource Preservation

1. Plano **should pursue** additional open space and trail connections to improve the quality of life for its citizens. This would include purchasing vacant and underutilized land for parks and open space and/or purchasing floodplain for trail connections.
2. Plano should continue efforts to develop and enhance existing open spaces and preserves **but should not consider expanding** its open space inventory as the city's population increases.
3. Plano **should not** spend any additional resources on open spaces or preserves.



Conclusion

- Questions/Comments?
- What's Next?
 - Summary of discussion and direction presented at next meeting
 - The Economic Environment on April 7th

