Planning and Minnehaha County

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What is planning?

Helps guide how a community grows and develops
- 2010 US Census: Minnehaha County 169,468 .

Considers *all* resident needs

Looks at the "big picture"
- What are the community's current and future needs?

Examines issues from all angles
- Social, environmental, hazard, physical

What is planning?

Planning is *comprehensive and community-focused,* and enables greater **choices** for residents.

Let's look at how planning impacts you.

How do you get to work?

Do you:

- Drive (solo or car pool)
- Walk
- Bicycle
- Other

Where do you live?

Do you live in an:

- Urban setting
- Suburban neighborhood
- Rural community

What is your residence?

- Stand-alone home
- Apartment
- Condominium
- Town house
- Other

Planning gives you choices

- Where you want to live
- How you want to commute
- The type of house you live in
- Where you play or spend your leisure time

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Planning benefits your community

- Maintains neighborhood character
- Reduces environmental impacts
- Provides protection from natural and man-made disasters
- Preserves parks and open space
- Helps determine where buildings, businesses, homes, and roads will be located (or sited)

Who are your planners?

- Professionally educated and trained
- Visionaries with a comprehensive view
- Ability to address the challenges of growth and change within a community
- Many achieve certification
    - By the American Planning Association's professional institute, the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)

Planners address challenges

- Compatible Uses
- Commute times
- Pollution and air quality
- Safety concerns
- Recreation

Planning Department Responsibilities

Land Use Planning

Zoning

Construction and Building Permits

Subdivision Planning

Platting and Property Division

Wastewater (Septic)

Solid Waste Disposal

Flood Plain Administration

Drainage

Rural Addressing

Code Enforcement

Nuisances

Street Vacations

Public Service

Some planning tools

Comprehensive plan
- Guides overall community growth and development

Zoning
- Classifying land uses into different 'zones'
  - Residential, Commercial, industrial

Design standards
- Set of guidelines regarding the architectural appearance of a building
  - Red Rock Corridor

Graphic Information System (GIS)
- Computer-based system for generating maps
- Think of Google Earth

Get involved!

- Serve on the planning commission or attend the meetings.
- Participate in forums, visioning sessions, growth discussions in your community.
- Keep informed of planning issues in your community.