DCA’s COMMUNITY VISIONING SOFTWARE

Model Task Force

Land Use Subcommittee

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163.3177 (13) and (14), F.S. encourage local governments to adopt a community vision and a 10-year urban service boundary.

Local governments implementing these provisions are granted regulatory relief from state review on future land use map amendments within the designated 10-year urban service boundary.
What is Community Visioning?

- A structured way for citizens to meet and discuss important issues affecting their community
- A shared concept for growth and community development
- Visual representations depicting desired land use patterns and community character during a 10-year time frame
Community Visioning Requirements

- A local government must hold at least one public workshop.
- A local government also must hold at least two public meetings, with at least one of those meetings before the local planning agency.
Community Visioning
Requirements

- The workshops and public meetings must address at least 5 of the following 9 topics and discuss strategies for addressing each topic:
  1. Future growth using BEBR population projections;
  2. Priorities for economic development;
  3. Preservation of open space, environmentally sensitive lands, and agricultural lands;
Community Visioning Requirements

• Areas and standards for mixed-use development;
• Areas and standards for urban development;
• Areas and standards for economic-development opportunities and employment centers;
• Provisions for adequate workforce housing;
• An efficient, interconnected multimodal transportation system; and
• Opportunities to create land use patterns that accommodate the issues listed in number 1-8.
10-Year Urban Service Boundary

- An area appropriate for compact, contiguous urban development.
- The area will accommodate the projected population growth.
- The area must be served or planned to be served with adequate public facilities and services.
- The area must be shown on the Future Land Use Map
Action Plan

- **Short Term**
  - Promulgate the use of an existing community visioning software application for use by local governments to support local visioning process

- **Long Term**
  - Develop an integrated software package that can serve multiple community visioning, planning and impact analysis functions
Action Plan Status

- Defined specifications for the software for consistency with legislation
- Developed and advertised an Invitation to Negotiate
- Contacted nine vendors of existing software packages
- Criterion Planners awarded contract
  - Index/Plan Builder Software
What is INDEX?

INDEX is a suite of interactive GIS-based planning support tools that:

- Enhances the visioning process
- Provides visual effects (3-D)
- Compares and evaluates land use scenarios in real time
- Provides a library of quality indicators
- Can be scaled for regions or small communities
INDEX Paint the Region

- Supports regional visioning
  - Large scale - 1 to 2 mile grid system to represent planning areas
- Allocates population and employment based on predefined land use mixes/intensities
- Can be preloaded with available statewide data
- Exports land use scenarios to other tools
Contract Tasks

1. Create statewide database on CD
   - FDOT employment data
   - FDGL data library
   - FDOR parcel data

2. Define compatibility requirements with other state tools
   - FSUTMS
   - Fiscal Impact Analysis Model (FIAM)
   - Water Assessment Model (WAM)
Contract Tasks

3. Equip, Train, and Assist DCA, FDOT, and DEP with licensed copies of INDEX

4. Equip, Train, and Assist Pilot Communities
   - 4 Regional Planning Councils
   - 6 Local Governments

5. Evaluate Pilots

6. Build a Florida-specific INDEX tool
   - Include stand alone Urban Service Boundary extension
Contract Schedule

- Data CD          February 2006
- State Tools Review January 2006
- Train State Agencies February 2006
- Pilot Communities  April 2006
- Evaluate Pilots    May 2006
- Build Florida Tool June 2006
Relationship to MTF and MPOs

- FDOT to be provided INDEX software, training and evaluation
- MPOs integral part of land use visioning scenario development and testing
- Coordinate visioning software development for compatibility with FSUTMS and future enhancements
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