



# Balancing Decisions Using the Comprehensive Plan

Planning and Sustainability Commission  
January 27, 2015 Work Session



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# A. Scope of the Plan

- **Question:** What types of decisions must comply with the Comprehensive Plan?
- **Proposal:** Clarify the types of decisions that must comply with the Plan.
  - Legislative and quasi-judicial amendments to elements of the Comprehensive Plan, supporting documents, and certain implementation tools



## B. Compliance with the Plan

- **Question:** What does it mean to comply with the Comprehensive Plan?
- **Proposal:** Define a standard for compliance.  
“Amendments must be evaluated against the Comprehensive Plan’s Guiding Principles and applicable goals and policies and on balance be equally or more supportive of the Comprehensive Plan as a whole than the existing language or designation.”



# C. Guiding Principles

- **Question:** How would one show compliance with the Guiding Principles?
- **Proposals:**
  - Clarify that Guiding Principles are **applied to legislative amendments** to Plan elements, supporting documents, and implementation tools
  - Clarify that Principles are **considered on balance.**
  - Create and maintain a **separate guidance document.**



# D. Verbs

- **Question:** How does the use of different verbs impact outcomes?
- **Proposal:** Describe how verbs are intended to be used in the “About the Plan” section.
  - in keeping with the “on balance” standard for compliance.



# E. Organization

- **Question:** Is the organizational structure of Chapters 1 and 10 as clear as possible?
- **Proposal:** Reorganize Chapters 1 and 10 to improve clarity and readability.
  - Chapter 1: the Plan, its implementation and administration
  - Chapter 10: Comprehensive Plan Map's land use designations and application of zoning.



# F. Metrics and Targets

- **Question:** Does the plan have numerical goals or targets?
- **Proposal:** Add more information to the plan describing specific numerical targets or goals.





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