

Travel would be to the locality to meet and work with local officials. That portion of the fee would be negotiated based upon the location and the estimated number of trips.

The cost of the initial visit would be borne by Extension.

The locality would also be expected to help provide the necessary information and data for a thorough examination of the situation.

Interns:

Various departments at WVU have students available for internship activities. Depending upon community interest, the type of plan, and the availability of students, interns may be used to help with the plans. Student internship costs would be computed separately. Generally, graduate interns receive a stipend of \$800 per month. Also, where there is an intern, additional money may be required to cover associated expenses.

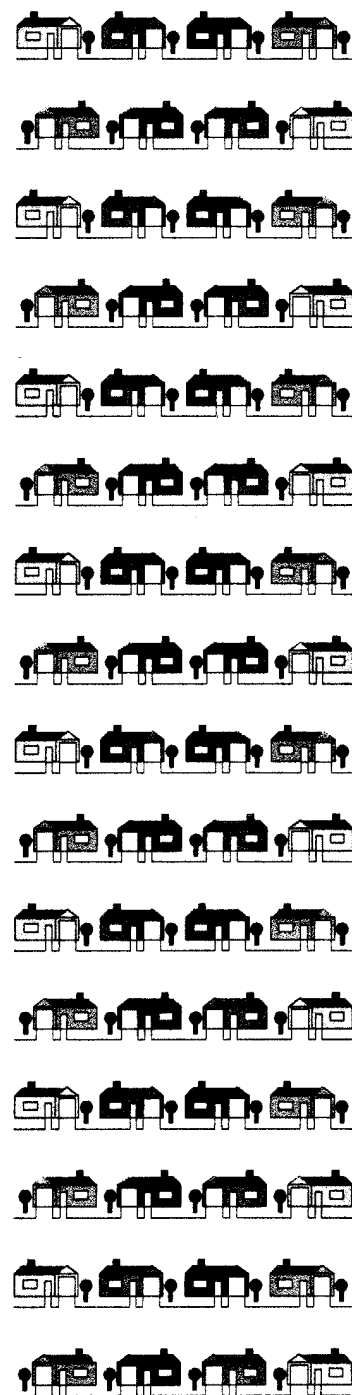
For information...

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Community Planning

Community Planning

- Are you a local government official or member of a planning commission?
- Do you feel your area needs a plan to better prepare for the future?

The purpose of the Community Planning program is to provide technical assistance and guidance to localities that are creating or updating plans. This will be accomplished by providing education and training, consulting with local officials, reviewing existing plans, and helping coordinate local activities for the project.

This program can be tailored to meet the specific needs of any county, municipality, authority, or organization requesting assistance. When used properly, the plan that is developed can serve as a blueprint to guide the locality in the future.

Planning Education

Process:

Public officials and others interested in planning would be educated through a variety of means. These range from statewide open workshops to direct discussions with government leaders in a city, town, or county. The form would fit the function for this activity.

Results:

Local decision-makers and residents in general have a better understanding and knowledge regarding the process of and reasons for undertaking planning. This will help to make their communities a better place to live and a more attractive place for business and industry.

Resources:

To benefit from this effort, people must be willing to learn. They must want to work for the betterment of their community. They must be ready to try new and different things. And they must bring with them the knowledge of what is happening where they live and what they think would improve the situation. Anything that would help with providing direct guidance, especially in a consultative situation, would also be useful. These include maps, statistics, and applicable local ordinances. These activities are usually short term in duration.

Strategic Plans

Process:

Strategic plans begin by developing a vision for the future (usually expressed in a mission statement). From the mission, goals, measurable objectives, strategies for meeting those objectives, and tactics for the various strategies are produced. Once it is in place, the strategic plan can become the springboard for other planning efforts and the guiding force for other activities in the community or group.

Results:

These plans set a direction for the future of the locality or organization. They help to bring about agreement on the future by working to create a shared common “vision.”

Resources:

Involvement is a must for successful strategic plans. This means getting public officials, community leaders, residents, stakeholders, etc., to take part (as appropriate). Meeting space and background information on the community or organization also need to be provided. It is anticipated that it would take 6-12 months to complete such a plan.

Local Plans

Process:

These plans can cover a wide range of topics, so establishing guidelines for the plan is very important. Then in-depth study would be performed on specified areas. This type of plan is specifically designed for local governments, especially those working on improving their overall situation.

Result:

Local plans involve a variety of subjects, such as land use, development activities, infrastructure capacity, and capital needs. The plans can be comprehensive or subject specific. They also provide a direction for the future. Thus they incorporate elements from other types of plans.

Resources:

The community would be expected to provide maps, background information and data, and input on the plan. What else is needed would depend on the issues to be examined in the plan. It is anticipated 12-24 months would be needed to complete such a plan, depending upon the previous planning experience in the locality.

Program Details

Costs:

There is a base fee, plus travel and intern costs for this program, if applicable.

The base fee would be used to help defray costs associated with the assistance. This might include maps, surveys, reference materials, computer software and typical office expenses such as long distance phone calls, photocopying, postage, etc.