

What is Comprehensive Planning?

Comprehensive Planning is **a process that determines community goals and aspirations** in terms of community development. The outcome of comprehensive planning is the comprehensive plan which acts as a statement of what a community wants to become. **A comprehensive plan is a collection of principles based on community defined vision; and an assembly of concepts which have been established to support the principles and the vision of the community.**

Typically a comprehensive plan will provide general policy guidelines regarding transportation, utilities, land use, recreation, and housing meant to be considered within a long term time horizon.

Therefore comprehensive plans deal more with concepts patterns and visions than specific rules and ordinances.



Comprehensive Plans often reflect the combined efforts of mayors, City Council members, Planning Commission Members, Parks Commissions, Heritage Preservation Commissions, and other community-based organizations that comprise the community's comprehensive planning task force or planning team.

How Does Region Five Assist with Comprehensive Planning?

The Region Five Development Commission has successfully completed numerous comprehensive plans for communities throughout the region and has most recently finished plans for the cities of Browerville and Menahga. Region Five assists local units of governments in all aspects of comprehensive planning by:

- **Working with elected city officials, city staff and city commissions to understand goals and outcomes.**
- **Conducting public workshops and planning meetings**
- **Developing a local planning task force**
- **Facilitating the local planning task force meetings**
- **Compiling and updating most current demographic data**
- **Drafting comprehensive plan document**
- **Launching public input and informational meetings to ensure an equitable process.**
- **Assisting elected officials and city staff regarding adoption and recording the final approved plan.**

