

WHAT WE DO: COUNTY PLANNING & ZONING

Wetlands, Wildlife Habitat, & Flood
Hazards in the Cedar River Basin

May 16, 2012

COUNTY ZONING IN IOWA

The “Typical” County Zoning Office

More Than One Hat!

Planning & zoning (all aspects)	44%
E911	4%
Weed control	1%
Environmental Health	14%
Personnel/Human Relations	4%
GIS	6%
Information Technology	2%
Office Manager	16%
Building & Grounds Mgr	1%
Safety Officer	1%
HIPPA compliance officer	2%
Emergency Management	2%
Non-county duties	3%
	100%

Giving It All He's Got

▣ Planning & zoning	35%
▣ E911	2%
▣ Weed control	1%
▣ GIS	2%
▣ Building Official	30%
▣ Economic development	15%
▣ Tourism	15%
▣ Tax Deeds	<u>10%</u>
▣ <i>Total</i>	<i>110%</i>

Zoning Administrators in Iowa...

- ▣ Usually wear more than one hat
- ▣ Face a number of challenging issues
- ▣ Are asked to accomplish a lot with (typically) limited resources
- ▣ *Give you 110%*

Emerging Issues

- ▣ Low Impact Development (LID) / “green” building
- ▣ Alternative energy/renewable fuels
- ▣ Regional planning / watershed management
- ▣ Local food systems
- ▣ Aggregate resources

THE IOWA SMART PLANNING PRINCIPLES

Smart Planning Principles

- ▣ Origins in the Rebuild Iowa Office “green paper” *Recovering from the Storms, Planning for the Future: A Safer, Smarter, Stronger Iowa*
- ▣ Passed during the 2010 legislative session, Senate File 2389 established ten smart planning principles.
- ▣ The bill states state agencies and local governments “shall consider and may apply” these principles when making planning, zoning, & development decisions.

Iowa Smart Planning – Ch. 18B

- ▣ Four primary components of the bill:
 1. Iowa Smart Planning Principles
 2. Optional Plan Elements
 3. Iowa Smart Planning Task Force
 4. \$30 Million Disaster Mitigation Grant Program

The 10 Smart Planning Principles

1. Collaboration.
2. Efficiency, Transparency and Consistency.
3. Clean, Renewable and Efficient Energy.
4. Occupational Diversity.
5. Revitalization.
6. Housing Diversity.
7. Community Character.
8. Natural Resources and Agricultural Protection.
9. Sustainable Design.
10. Transportation Diversity.

Optional Plan Elements

There are 13 elements that *may* be included in a local comprehensive plan.

1. Public Participation
2. Issues & Opportunities
3. Land Use
4. Housing
5. Public Infrastructure & Utilities
6. Transportation
7. Economic Development
8. Agricultural & Natural Resources
9. Community Facilities
10. Community Character
11. Natural Hazards
12. Intergovernmental Collaboration
13. Implementation

Also, a plan *shall address* prevention & mitigation of, response to, and recovery from a catastrophic flood.

Smart Planning Task Force

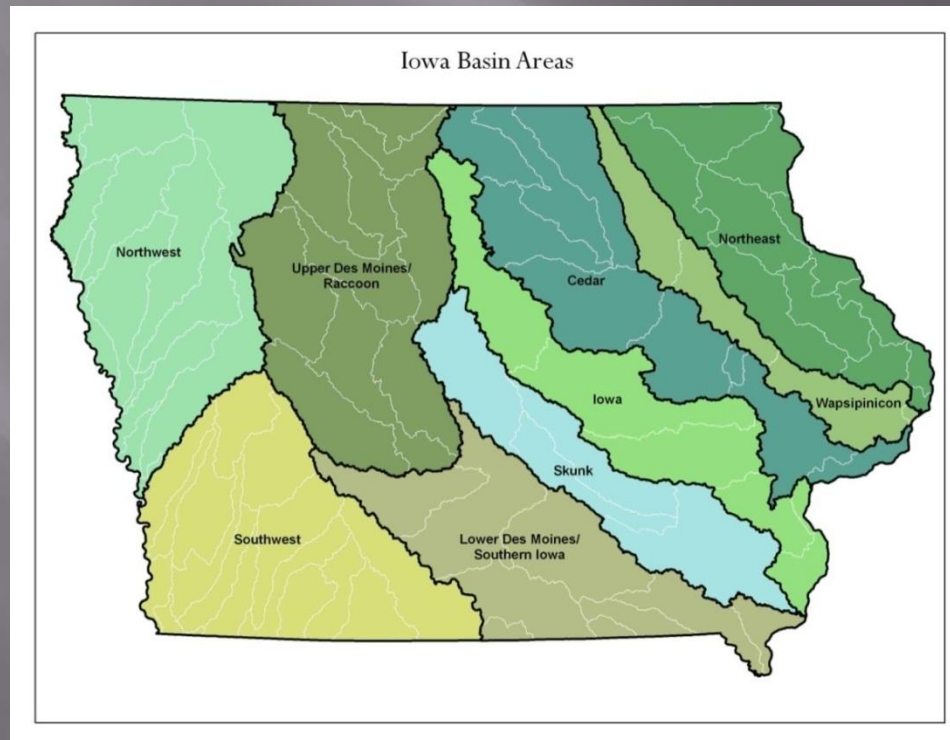
- ▣ Task Force responsibilities:
 - Integrating the Iowa Smart Planning Principles into appropriate state policies and programs.
 - Determining an effective and efficient coordination and information sharing system to support local and regional planning.
 - Suggesting appropriate technical and financial incentives to support local and regional planning.
 - Developing a framework for regional planning.
 - Develop statewide smart planning goals and a process for measuring progress toward achieving those goals.

Task Force Recommendations

- ▣ Recommendations were finalized on Nov. 10, 2010 and submitted to the Governor and General Assembly on Nov. 15, 2010
- ▣ Grouped into five categories:
 - ✓ State Level Coordination
 - ✓ Regional Planning Framework
 - ✓ Financial Incentives & Technical Assistance
 - ✓ Watershed Planning & Implementation
 - ✓ State Code Consistency

Recommendations for Watershed Planning & Implementation

4.1: Enhance watershed planning, coordination, and implementation by creating goals and strategies referencing land use for each of Iowa's six major river basins and three major river regions.



Proposed Smart Planning Framework

