



SMART GROWTH SELF-ASSESSMENT FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES

Smart Growth Self-Assessment for Rural Communities

The Smart Growth Self-Assessment for Rural Communities is a compilation of strategies, organized by 11 common “goal areas,” that villages, towns, and small cities can use to evaluate their existing policies to create healthy, environmentally resilient, and economically robust places. This self-assessment was developed as part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Smart Growth Implementation Assistance (SGIA) project in Madison County, New York. For more information about the project, see *Smart Growth Self-Assessment for Rural Communities: Madison County, New York*, available at: <http://www2.epa.gov/smart-growth/smart-growth-self-assessment-rural-communities-madison-county>.

What does it do?

This self-assessment helps communities identify gaps in their policies, plans, codes, and zoning regulations by asking a series of “Yes” or “No” questions. All communities begin by completing the self-assessment’s Revitalize Village and Town Centers section, which gives a baseline indication of smart growth development policies within the jurisdiction. It goes beyond regulatory issues to help communities take stock of their local initiatives, strategies, and plans. Rural communities are not all the same, and this tool shares practices that a variety of rural places have used to improve their economies, environment, health, and quality of life. It includes resources and examples from communities around the country.



Figure 1: The main street in the town of Chittenango.

Photo credit: Renaissance Planning Group

Who should use it?

This self-assessment tool is broad and interdisciplinary. Each section focuses on a specific set of issues and will likely require input from multiple parts of the local government, as well as from community residents and other stakeholders. Although a community does not necessarily need to complete all sections of the self-assessment, this tool works best when communities use it comprehensively and a local leader facilitates the process, such as a mayor, city manager, town planner, or anyone with a broad community focus.

How can this tool help rural places?

This tool addresses the challenges that face smaller communities. Rural communities often lack staff capacity and resources. This tool helps prioritize strategies and identify low-hanging fruit that can move a community closer to its economic, social, and environmental goals. Because rural communities often do not have zoning or development codes, this self-assessment focuses on policies, programs, and initiatives rather than strictly regulatory measures.

Goal Areas

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| I. <u>Revitalize Village and Town Centers (mandatory)</u> | VII. <u>Meet Housing Needs for Different Ages and Incomes</u> |
| II. <u>Strengthen the Local Economy</u> | VIII. <u>Preserve Historic and Cultural Resources</u> |
| III. <u>Engage and Connect Community Members</u> | IX. <u>Provide Transportation Choices</u> |
| IV. <u>Improve Health and Promote Active Living</u> | X. <u>Invest in Efficient Public Infrastructure Systems and Operations</u> |
| V. <u>Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems</u> | XI. <u>Use Energy Efficiently and Provide Renewable Energy</u> |
| VI. <u>Support Productive Agriculture for a Variety of Markets</u> | |

Instructions

This self-assessment is a checklist of smart growth strategies that are relevant to a wide variety of small cities and rural communities. Users can use it to identify gaps in existing policies, codes, and programs; or simply to learn more about common smart growth practices.

The self-assessment has 11 sections. Each section represents a common goal of small cities and rural communities. Each community must begin the self-assessment with the Revitalize Village and Town Centers section (mandatory). After completing that mandatory section, a community can complete only those that are relevant to the community's goals. The other sections are optional.

The self-assessment provides the 11 sections described below separately from these instructions:

- I. [Revitalize Village and Town Centers \(mandatory\)](#)
- II. [Strengthen the Local Economy](#)
- III. [Engage and Connect Community Members](#)
- IV. [Improve Health and Promote Active Living](#)
- V. [Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems](#)
- VI. [Support Productive Agriculture for a Variety of Markets](#)
- VII. [Meet Housing Needs for Different Ages and Incomes](#)
- VIII. [Preserve Historic and Cultural Resources](#)
- IX. [Provide Transportation Choices](#)
- X. [Invest in Efficient Public Infrastructure Systems and Operations](#)
- XI. [Use Energy Efficiently and Provide Renewable Energy](#)

As a community completes the sections, it is important to keep the following in mind:

- Wherever possible, coordinate across relevant departments and agencies to provide accurate responses.
- Reference relevant plans and policy documents where appropriate.
- Identify instances in which there may be conflicting perspectives or policies on an issue.
- Note when information for a response is not available.

The self-assessment is not intended to rate the planning efforts of a community. It does not enable a user to score policies, codes, or programs based on adherence to smart growth strategies. The following sections provide some additional information on how to use the self-assessment.

Preparing to Use the Self-Assessment

A user should select the sections of the self-assessment that are most relevant to your community's needs. After selecting the sections, it is important to identify which policy or planning documents to review. These documents will likely fall under two broad categories – plans and codes. Some specific examples of the kind of documents included in each category are listed below. Many sections of the tool, however, go beyond plans and codes to ask questions about policies, programs, initiatives, and

public outreach within the community. For these questions, there may not be a document to reference, and responses may come from a variety of municipal offices or community-led groups.

Plans

- Comprehensive Plan
- Area Wide Growth Strategy
- Systems Plan (such as a Long-Range Transportation Plan)
- Sustainability Plan (or Local Energy Action Plan)
- Public Outreach Plan
- Interagency Coordination Agreements

Codes

- Zoning Ordinance
- Subdivision or Land Development Ordinance
- Engineering Standards
- Design Standards
- Building or Energy Code

Structure

The self-assessment organizes each section by three levels of content. The broadest level is goal. These are color coded to indicate whether the sub-topic (under that goal) is most likely to be addressed through a community's codes (blue), policies (green), or programs (orange).

Under each sub-topic are one or more questions that are shaded in grey. To the right of each question are three important columns.

- **“Adopted: Yes or No?”** Provides a space to indicate if a community has adopted the code, policy, or program in question.
- **“Add or improve: Yes or No?”** Provides a space where to indicate if this should be an area of focus for a community. A user should complete this column based on whether or not the community has already adopted the strategy and whether or not it is consistent with the community's goals. Cost and technical feasibility are limiting factors to consider. A user may choose to label each strategy as a high, medium, or low priority based on their judgment and knowledge of the community. Beneath each question is a series of strategies that can help a community implement smart growth approaches. The columns to the right provide a space where a user can indicate if this is an adopted strategy, and if not, if it is a strategy that the community may want to consider.
- **Context.** The self-assessment is comprehensive. As a result, some communities, particularly those with smaller populations, will find a lot of strategies that do not apply to them as they are for much larger jurisdictions. The rightmost column helps a community find strategies that are most likely to apply to the community's context. A “1” in this column indicates that the strategy likely applies to a large town or small city with about 10,000 people or more. A “2” in this

column indicates that the strategy likely applies to a small town or village with about 10,000 people or less. A “3” in this column indicates that the strategy likely applies to a rural area, such as low density working lands or open spaces outside of towns and cities.

While the self-assessment helps a community evaluate existing codes, policies, and programs, it also provides some examples and resources for communities that want to work towards implementing new approaches. They are described in the footnotes and are often accompanied by a link to additional information.

Applying the Findings

The self-assessment assists a community identify strengths and gaps in policies, codes, and programs. While it provides examples of specific suggested strategies, the tool does not emphasize prescribing strategies to address shortcomings. Small cities and rural communities are diverse, which means the ideal solutions will vary from community to community. After the self-assessment, a community may find it helpful to hold a workshop to identify strategies that respond to a community’s unique goals, challenges, and needs. The workshop will focus on the high and medium priority strategies identified through the self-assessment, plus additional strategies that may come up during discussions with the community.

A workshop is an opportunity to review these strategies with the community, key stakeholders, and elected officials. However, a workshop is not necessary to move forward on implementing the strategies of the self-assessment. Ultimately, the user should aim to create an action plan that for each high priority strategy that identifies:

- Which official, staff person, or department of the local government will take the lead on advancing the strategy?
- Which documents (such as a comprehensive plan or zoning law) need to be amended to advance the strategy?
- Which decision-making bodies (such as a planning board) will need to adopt the strategy?
- What is a reasonable time frame to adopt the strategy?

Glossary of Key Terms

The self-assessment includes several terms that planners commonly use. This section provides definitions and information for some key terms.

- **Accessory Dwelling Units** – The American Planning Association uses the following definition: “accessory dwelling units (ADUs) are small, self-contained living units that typically have their own kitchen, bedroom(s), and bathroom space. Often called granny flats, elder cottage housing opportunities (ECHO), mother-daughter residences, or secondary dwelling units, ADUs are apartments that can be located within the walls of an existing or newly constructed single-family home or can be an addition to an existing home. They can also be freestanding cottages on the same lot as the principal dwelling unit or a conversion of a garage or barn.”¹
- **Cluster Development** – Cluster development is a technique where homes are clustered on a portion of a site and the rest of the land is preserved as open space. This can be an effective technique for creating a buffer between new development and rural land uses, such as agriculture, but cluster developments are often stand-alone subdivisions in the countryside surrounded by open space and requiring residents to drive long distances to get to daily destinations. Learning from this experience, local governments are beginning to direct cluster development to the periphery of existing towns and villages or are limiting their size (e.g., no more than 10 residential lots) to control the impact they have on rural character, agricultural operations, and wildlife habitat.
- **Form Based Codes** – The Form-Based Codes Institute uses the following definition: “A form-based code is a land development regulation that fosters predictable built results and a high-quality public realm by using physical form (rather than separation of uses) as the organizing principle for the code. A form-based code is a regulation, not a mere guideline, adopted into city, town, or county law. A form-based code offers a powerful alternative to conventional zoning regulation.”²
- **Priority Growth Areas** – Rural communities may decide to identify specific areas intended for growth and those that are to be preserved. The community should identify these areas through a public process, and they may be described in the community’s comprehensive plan. Communities can then review individual development proposals with an eye toward how they connect to comprehensive planning goals.
- **Planned Unit Development** – Local zoning codes in many areas permit negotiated developments, usually called Planned Unit Developments (PUDs). Communities often use PUDs for large areas that are master-planned by single or multiple property owners or developers. PUDs typically allow greater flexibility in layout, design, and land use than existing zoning and subdivision regulations. But PUDs can also present problems. For example, rural jurisdictions may lack staff capacity to negotiate development agreements; and codes may have insufficient standards or processes for governing PUDs and lack controls to ensure they are properly located, well designed, provide adequate infrastructure and community benefits, or are linked to the rest of the community.

¹ American Planning Association. Accessory Dwelling Units. QuickNotes #19.

² Form-Based Codes Institute. Form-Based Codes Defined. <http://formbasedcodes.org/definition>. Accessed Feb. 27, 2015.

I. Revitalize Village and Town Centers

Infill development³ brings new residents and jobs to existing neighborhoods and village or town centers, sparing farmland and open space on the periphery of the community that might otherwise develop to accommodate them. By placing new houses, offices, and shops in village and town centers, communities can reduce the amount people must drive to meet their daily needs while also spending less on infrastructure by getting more out of existing streets, water pipes, and sewer lines. Thriving town centers also drive local economic development and make it easier for people to walk to stores and services. Village and town centers are unique aspects of rural communities that contribute to a sense of place for visitors and residents.

Goal: Revitalize Village and Town Centers	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁴
Using Codes to Encourage Infill Development			
Do codes define the requirements for infill development?			
Strategy 1: Codes specifically identify infill / redevelopment areas and set clear standards for evaluating and approving development within these areas.” ^{5, 6}			1,2,3
Strategy 2: Codes and ordinances differentiate between areas with and without existing infrastructure by requiring developer participation in the cost of extending infrastructure to serve new development. ^{7,8}			1,2,3
Do development policies provide incentives for infill development?			
Strategy 3: In close consultation with the public, designate growth areas for future development. ⁹			1,2
Strategy 4: Impact fees are set and/or public utilities are priced according to the project’s distance from the downtown core and designated growth areas. ^{10,11}			1,2

³ Infill development is development on vacant or underused land in previously developed areas.

⁴ Self-Assessment topics and policy options apply to one or more of the following scales: 1 – large town/small city (population is approximately 10,000 or greater); 2 – village/small town (population is typically under 10,000); 3 – rural (very low-density places, working lands, and natural areas outside of towns, villages, and cities).

⁵ Jupiter, Florida Zoning Definitions (<http://www.jupiter.fl.us/index.aspx?NID=693>).

⁶ Infill development can be difficult if it is subject to requirements for new development (e.g., on-site parking minimums, on-site stormwater facilities, and large setbacks).

⁷ Explanation of Development Exactions and Incentives (<http://www.mdt.mt.gov/research/toolkit/m1/ftools/dei.shtml>).

⁸ Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances (<http://www.rockvillemd.gov/index.aspx?nid=214>).

⁹ Designated Growth Area policy guidance (<http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/guides/smart-growth-at-the-state-and-local-level/comprehensive-approaches/require-state-facilities-to-be-located-within-designated-growth-areas-and-downtowns/>).

¹⁰ The Georgia Development Impact Fee Act (<http://www.dca.state.ga.us/development/PlanningQualityGrowth/programs/impactfees.asp>).

¹¹ Explanation of Impact Fees, Duncan Associates (<http://impactfees.com/>).

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Goal: Revitalize Village and Town Centers	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁴
Strategy 5: Provide density bonuses for mixed-use and/or residential development in downtowns and village centers. ^{12,13,14}			1,2
Strategy 6: Expedited permit review and/or lower development fees encourage mixed-use, residential, or infill development in downtowns and village centers. ^{15,16}			1,2
Strategy 7: Use overlay zoning to encourage mixed-use and infill development. ^{17,18}			1,2
Strategy 8: Provide property tax abatements for mixed-use and residential development in downtowns and village centers. ¹⁹			1,2
Strategy 9: Provide incentives to rehabilitate existing structures. ²⁰			1,2
Do zoning regulations remove barriers to infill development?			
Strategy 10: Establish minimum lot size that aims to preserve the rural character of the community for permitted development in agricultural areas, and encourage clustering of housing units. ^{21,22,23}			2,3
Strategy 11: Adopt agricultural/open space zone policies that ensure developed parcels are large enough to preserve the character and function of farms and sensitive lands. ²⁴			1,2
Strategy 12: Sites identified for new schools are within municipal service areas. ²⁵			1,2

¹² Density bonuses allow more development on a site in exchange for an amenity.

¹³ Planning Implementation Tools: Density Bonus (<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/clue/Pages/publications-resources/PlanImplementation.aspx>).

¹⁴ Woodlake Zoning Ordinance: Density Bonus (<http://www.cityofwoodlake.com/planning-documents/>).

¹⁵ Phoenix Priority Expedited Plan Review Policy (<https://www.phoenix.gov/pdd/topics/priority-expedited-plan-review>).

¹⁶ San Diego Affordable/In-Fill housing and Sustainable Buildings Expedite Program (<http://www.sandiego.gov/development-services/news/archive/ah.shtml>).

¹⁷ Infill Development Overlay District Bylaw: Town of Ware (http://www.townofware.com/pages/warema_planning/siteplanapproval).

¹⁸ City of Chesapeake: Mixed Use and Infill Development in the Suburban Overlay District. Chapter 2 (http://www.cityofchesapeake.net/government/City-Departments/Departments/Planning-Department/Planning-Library/plans_studies/design-guidelines.htm).

¹⁹ Cincinnati Community Reinvestment Area Residential Tax Abatement (<http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/community-development/housing-assistance/residential-property-tax-abatement/>).

²⁰ Vermont Downtown and Village Tax Credit (http://accd.vermont.gov/strong_communities/opportunities/funding/downtown_village_tax_credit).

²¹ Explanation of Large Lot Zoning, Vermont Natural Resources Council (<http://vnrc.org/resources/community-planning-toolbox/tools/large-lot-zoning/>).

²² The American Farmland Trust has developed guides to planning for agriculture in several states. An explanation of zoning tools for preserving greenfields and farmland begins on page 35 of *Planning for Agriculture in New York*. <http://www.farmland.org/resources/publications/default2.asp>.

²³ Cluster provisions in rural areas often focuses on securing expanses of open space consistent with rural character, or protecting environmentally sensitive areas and natural resource lands. Clustered development in rural areas remains compact and rural in character, while the open space tracts are generally permanently preserved. Spokane County, Washington, presents issues for rural residential cluster development (<http://www.spokanecounty.org/bp/content.aspx?c=2639>).

²⁴ Fauquier County Rural Land Use Plan (<http://www.fauquiercounty.gov/government/departments/commdev/index.cfm?action=compplan1>).

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Goal: Revitalize Village and Town Centers	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁴
Strategy 13: Zoning requires a minimum density in mixed-use districts. ²⁶			1,2
Strategy 14: Reduce or eliminate minimum lot sizes in areas targeted for infill development. ^{27,28}			1,2
Encouraging Mixed Land Uses in Villages and Town Centers			
Do codes allow mixed land uses in appropriate areas?			
Strategy 15: Clearly define the downtown area.			1,2
Strategy 16: Zoning defines “mixed-use development.” ²⁹			1,2
Strategy 17: Designate mixed-use zones in town and village centers. ³⁰			1,2
Strategy 18: A form-based code or performance-based standards regulate the design and orientation of new buildings, allowing more flexibility in the uses. ^{31,32}			1,2
Encouraging Street-Level Activity in Village and Town Centers			
Do codes require pedestrian-oriented design in village and town centers?			
Strategy 19: Minimize setback of buildings from sidewalks in village and town centers. ^{33,34}			1,2

²⁵ Maryland Smart Growth Planning for Public School Construction (<http://www.mdp.state.md.us/OurWork/publicSchoolConstruction.shtml>).

²⁶ Williston, Vermont: Mixed Use Residential Zoning District Standards – Chapter 38 (http://www.town.williston.vt.us/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC={26EA4BDF-4482-4523-B051-394E7ACEDA5C}&DE={4F5C3286-90D3-4CA7-A1F1-315C465E42BE}).

²⁷ “Relaxing zoning restrictions to reduce or eliminate minimum lot-size requirements gives developers the flexibility to build smaller, more affordable homes on smaller, more affordable lots for a variety of consumer groups who need and desire such options, including empty nesters, elderly adults, younger individuals with disabilities, young single workers, childless couples, and others” (Livable New York Resource Manual <http://www.aging.ny.gov/LivableNY/ResourceManual/Index.cfm>).

²⁸ Explanation of Residential Infill Development from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs: Planning & Quality Growth (<https://www.dca.ga.gov/development/PlanningQualityGrowth/programs/documents/Part7gResidentialInfillDevelopment.doc>).

²⁹ Model Downtown Mixed-Use District: provides basic language for creating a deliberately mixed use and dense development pattern geared to urban downtown areas (<http://greenstep.pca.state.mn.us/modelOrdinances.cfm>).

³⁰ Salem, Oregon: Draft Neighborhood Center Mixed-Use (NCMU) Zone: a planning project intended to encourage the development of appropriately scaled and pedestrian friendly neighborhood center developments (http://www.cityofsalem.net/Departments/CommunityDevelopment/Planning/mixed-use_neighborhood_center_zone/Pages/default.aspx).

³¹ Form Based Codes: Implementing Smart Growth (<http://www.lgc.org/form-based-codes>).

³² City of Winters Form Based Code for Downtown (http://www.cityofwinters.org/community_dev/community_reports.htm).

³³ Design Guidelines for Pedestrian-Oriented Business Districts (<http://www.codepublishing.com/wa/kirklandpreview/html/KirklandZ92/KirklandZ92.html>).

³⁴ City of Lathrup Village, Michigan: Design Guidelines (<http://www.lathrupvillage.org/DocumentCenter/View/1021>).

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Goal: Revitalize Village and Town Centers	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁴
Strategy 20: Codes encourage ground-floor retail space in village and town centers through tools such as density bonuses.			1,2
Strategy 21: Policies and codes ensure windows or active uses on building facades in village and town centers.			1,2
Strategy 22: Codes establish appropriate sizes and aesthetic standards for signs in village and town centers.			1,2
Do codes specify parking lot design and placement standards?			
Strategy 23: Screen parking areas from sidewalks with landscaping and/or use green infrastructure techniques to make parking lots more attractive.			1,2
Strategy 24: Locate parking lots behind or alongside buildings in pedestrian-oriented areas.			1,2
Do codes allow outdoor markets or street festivals?			
Strategy 25: Codes allow street closures for outdoor markets or street festivals.			1,2
Do codes allow outdoor dining areas?			
Strategy 26: Codes allow outdoor dining. ³⁵			1,2
Strategy 27: Codes allow mobile food vendors. ³⁶			1
Improving Pedestrian Safety in Village and Town Centers			
Do codes require pedestrian-oriented street design?			
Strategy 28: Minimize curb cuts and driveways in village and town centers. ³⁷			1,2
Strategy 29: Encourage alleys in new residential and mixed-use development to reduce the number of curb cuts and driveways. ^{38,39}			1,2
Strategy 30: Codes set a maximum number of curb-cuts per block in pedestrian-oriented or mixed-use districts. ⁴⁰			1,2

³⁵ Alexandria, Virginia: King Street Outdoor Dining Regulations / Design Guidelines (http://alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/planning/outdoor_dining_ordinance.pdf).

³⁶ City of Longmont, Colorado: Mobile Retail Food Vending Permit (<http://longmontcolorado.gov/departments/departments-n-z/planning-and-development-services/development-applications-and-permits/mobile-retail-food-vending-permit>).

³⁷ Fayetteville, Arkansas: Case Study on Eco Modern Flats with Design Standards (<http://uli.org/case-study/uli-case-studies-eco-modern-flats-fayetteville-arkansas/>).

³⁸ Example: alley widths are 10 to 12 feet for residential, 24 feet for commercial.

³⁹ Overland Park, Kansas: Planned Residential Neighborhood Design Guidelines (<http://www.opkansas.org/wp-content/uploads/downloads/planned-residential-design-guidelines.pdf?&redir=1>).

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Goal: Revitalize Village and Town Centers	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁴
Strategy 31: Street design standards set appropriate lane widths and use traffic-calming measures to ensure safe vehicle speeds in pedestrian-Oriented areas. ⁴¹			1,2
Providing Appropriate Parking Options in Village and Town Centers			
Do codes set parking requirements based on community context and actual parking demand?⁴²			
Strategy 32: Allow on-street parking in village and town centers.			1,2
Strategy 33: Count shared or off-site parking toward parking minimums.			1,2
Strategy 34: Buildings can reduce the amount of parking they need to supply if they are close to public transit or have bicycle parking, nearby public parking, or on-street parking. ⁴³			1,2
Strategy 35: Waive or reduce parking minimums in village and town centers and mixed use districts. ^{44,45}			1,2
Do codes require amenities that encourage bicycling?			
Strategy 36: Encourage new development in village and town centers to include bike racks or other bike parking facilities. ⁴⁶			1,2
Revitalizing Village and Town Centers Through Comprehensive Plans and Local Government Policies			
Are financing mechanisms available to promote development in village and town centers?			
Strategy 37: A business improvement district or similar special taxing district funds enhanced services, such as landscaping, maintenance, and marketing, for village and town centers. ⁴⁷			1,2

⁴⁰ Prince William County, Virginia requires a special use permit for drive-throughs (<http://www.pwcgov.org/government/dept/planning/Pages/Forms,-Permits-and-Applications.aspx>).

⁴¹ The Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission includes recommendations for slowing traffic speeds on page 12 of its report "Design Manual for Small Towns" (<http://www.tipdc.org/community/designManual.asp>).

⁴² EPA offers a Parking Spaces / Community Places guide through its Smart Growth Program (<http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/parking.htm>).

⁴³ City of Cheyenne "Unified Development Code – Article 6 Design Regulations" (<http://www.cheyennecity.org/index.aspx?nid=1824>).

⁴⁴ Reducing Off-Street Parking Requirements Application (<http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@cped/documents/webcontent/wcms1p-137879.pdf>).

⁴⁵ Nashville, Tennessee removed parking requirements for downtown development. Downtown Code (<http://www.nashville.gov/Planning-Department/Community-Planning-Design/Community-Plans/Downtown.aspx>).

⁴⁶ City of Cambridge Bicycle Parking Guide (<http://www.cambridgema.gov/CDD/Transportation/gettingaroundcambridge/bybike/Parking.aspx>).

⁴⁷ The Heart of Brevard in western North Carolina is a business improvement district that supports downtown revitalization and organizes events that attract visitors (<http://brevardnc.org>).

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Goal: Revitalize Village and Town Centers	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁴
Strategy 38: Value capture strategies, such as tax-increment financing, provide financial assistance for redevelopment in village and town centers and other specified areas with significant redevelopment potential. ⁴⁸			1,2
Strategy 39: Local government has adopted one or more strategies to address the issue of vacant properties including affordable home repair funds, land banks, and Vacant Property Registration Ordinances (VPROs) ⁴⁹			1,2
Do plans and policies support constructing or relocating municipal buildings in village and town centers?			
Strategy 40: Identify potential central sites for major civic destinations such as city hall, a library, a post office, or a performing arts center. ⁵⁰			1,2
Strategy 41: Locate public facilities, particularly destinations that attract visitors, in developed areas rather than on the fringes of the community. ⁵⁰			1,2
Do plans and policies promote efficient use of infrastructure?			
Strategy 42: Infrastructure policies prioritize rehabilitation or improvement of existing systems over system expansion. ⁵¹			1,2,3
Strategy 43: Upgrade utilities and public amenities in infill locations to make them more attractive for development. ⁵²			1,2
Strategy 44: Level of service standards for public facilities guide rezoning applications. ⁸			1,2
Strategy 45: Prices or time limits encourage a sufficient turnover of parking spaces and availability in village and town centers. ⁵³			1,2
Strategy 46: A parking inventory identifies the number and location of parking spaces in village and town centers. ⁵⁴			1,2
Do plans and policies support infill development?			

⁴⁸ Tax Increment Financing Districts in Vermont are used as a public infrastructure financing tool (http://accd.vermont.gov/strong_communities/opportunities/funding/tif).

⁴⁹ Mayor's Resource Guide on Vacant and Abandoned Properties (<http://community-wealth.org/content/united-states-conference-mayors-resource-guide-vacant-and-abandoned-properties>).

⁵⁰ City of Aspen, Colorado: Civic Master Plan (<http://www.aspenpitkin.com/Portals/0/docs/businessnav/ApprovaltoDevelop/Civic%20Master%20Plan.pdf>).

⁵¹ Strategies for Enhancing Community Character, Mississippi Gulf Coast (<http://smartgrowth.dmr.ms.gov/community-character>).

⁵² Lafayette, Louisiana: Infill Development Incentives (<http://mrsc.org/Home/Explore-Topics/Planning/Development-Types-and-Land-Uses/Infill-Development-Completing-the-Community-Fabric.aspx>).

⁵³ City of Redwood, California: Downtown Parking Management Plan (<http://www.redwoodcity.org/bit/transportation/parking/parkingbigpicture.htm>).

⁵⁴ Puget Sound Regional Council: Parking Inventory Analysis (<http://www.psrc.org/data/transportation/parking-inventory/>).

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Strategy 47: Purchase and make available tax-delinquent properties for rehabilitation or redevelopment. ⁵⁵			1,2
Strategy 48: Financial incentives are available for brownfield redevelopment. ⁵⁶			1,2
Strategy 49: New schools are located as close as possible to existing development. ²⁵			1,2,3
Strategy 50: Identify preferred areas for development or revitalization. ⁵⁷			1,2
Are a variety of transportation options supported?			
Strategy 51: Adopt a multimodal mobility plan that includes policies and strategies for all modes including bicycling, walking, transit, and driving. ⁵⁸			1,2
Strategy 52: Convert one-way streets to two-way streets to improve access, reduce car speeds, and encourage greater pedestrian and bike mode-share. ⁵⁹			1,2
Strategy 53: Wayfinding signs help pedestrians and bicyclists find key destinations. ⁶⁰			1,2
Strategy 54: Install pedestrian-scale signs and lighting in pedestrian-oriented areas. ⁶¹			1,2
Revitalizing Village and Town Centers Through Programs and Services			
Are there programs to improve or preserve the aesthetics of village and town centers?			
Strategy 55: Establish a Main Street program to promote and enhance the town center.			1,2
Strategy 56: A program provides funds and assistance for building façade renovations. ⁶²			1,2
Strategy 57: A fund provides matching grants or low-interest loans for storefront façade improvements and/or interior renovations. ⁶³			1,2

⁵⁵ Facilitate Reuse of Abandoned, Vacant, and Tax-Delinquent Properties (http://www.housingpolicy.org/policy_print.php?policyid=63).

⁵⁶ Brownfield Redevelopment Financial Incentives in Michigan (http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,4561,7-135-3311_4109_29262---,00.html).

⁵⁷ City of Syracuse, New York: Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area Plan (http://www.syracuse.ny.us/neighborhood_and_business_development.aspx).

⁵⁸ City of Evanston Multi-Modal Transportation Plan (<http://www.cityofevanston.org/public-works/transportation-engineering/multi-modal-transportation-plan/>).

⁵⁹ Converting One-way Streets to Two-way (<http://www.preservationnation.org/main-street/main-street-news/2002/06/converting-one-way-to-two-way.html>).

⁶⁰ Rochester, New York: Center City Visitor Circulation and Pedestrian Wayfinding Study (<http://www.cityofrochester.gov/article.aspx?id=8589948735>).

⁶¹ Medford, Oregon: Street Lighting and Pedestrian-Scale Street Lighting (<http://www.ci.medford.or.us/CodePrint.asp?CodeID=3927>).

⁶² Village of Hamburg, New York: Façade improvement program (http://www.townofhamburgny.com/Hamburg_Development_Corporation_-117158.html). Funding came in part from New York's Main Street Program (<http://www.nyshcr.org/Programs/NYMainStreet/>).

⁶³ Portland, Maine: Façade Improvement Program (<http://portlandmaine.gov/557/Facade-Improvement-Program>).

I. Revitalize Village and Town Centers

Goal: Revitalize Village and Town Centers	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁴
Strategy 58: Identify vacant and underused buildings, and collect data to help market the properties for occupancy or redevelopment.			1,2
Strategy 59: The local government partners with businesses or civic groups for small beautification projects, such as flower plantings or holiday decorations. ⁶⁴			1,2

⁶⁴ Junction, Texas: Main Street Beautification Project Grant Assistance (<http://www.cityofjunction.com/jtedc/financial-assist.html>).

II. Strengthen the Local Economy

Encouraging development in traditional downtowns and town centers reduces a community's infrastructure costs by maximizing the use of existing systems, which allows communities to invest in other needs or keep tax rates stable. Local governments can support development that meets their goals by streamlining the development review process for such proposals. Incentives to attract and maintain local businesses help create a strong commercial corridor that adds to the tax base and helps keep dollars spent within the community.

Goal: Strengthen the Local Economy	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁶⁵
Strengthening the Local Economy Through Efficient Current Planning Practices⁶⁶			
Do development review procedures efficiently process development proposals?			
Strategy 1: Development review procedures have an established and well-publicized timeline for processing and review milestones. ⁶⁷			1,2,3
Strategy 2: New development proposals go through a coordinated interdepartmental review procedure. ^{68,69}			1,2,3
Strategy 3: Development review procedures have an established and expedited timeline for processing and review milestones. ⁶⁷			1,2,3
Strategy 4: Pre-submittal counseling to educate applicants about local requirements is available and encouraged. ⁷⁰			1,2,3
Strategy 5: The municipality's website includes information and educational materials to help applicants learn about the review process. ⁷¹			1,2,3
Strengthening the Local Economy Through Comprehensive Plans and Local Government Policies⁷²			
Is economic development adequately covered in communitywide and comprehensive plans?			

⁶⁵ Self-Assessment topics and strategies likely apply to: 1 – large town or small city (approximately 10,000 or more residents); 2 – village or small town (typically under 10,000 residents); 3 – rural (very low-density place, working lands, and natural areas outside of towns, villages, and cities).

⁶⁶ Developers prefer a clear, predictable development proposal review process because an unclear process and unanticipated delays cost them money. Having a coordinated interdepartmental review process helps the local government keep the process moving smoothly and ensure that all relevant departments have their chance to review the proposal.

⁶⁷ Portland, Oregon Development Services Process and Timelines for zoning and land use reviews (<http://www.portlandonline.com/bds/index.cfm?c=37275>).

⁶⁸ A team of designated staff from different departments convenes to discuss and coordinate review comments for applicants seeking development permits.

⁶⁹ Hamilton, Ohio Interdepartmental Review Committee for development and site plans (<http://www.hamilton-city.org/index.aspx?page=164>).

⁷⁰ Snohomish County, Washington Land Use Pre-Application Meeting (<http://snohomishcountywa.gov/1303/Pre-Application-Meeting>).

⁷¹ Pleasanton, California Development Review Application and Informational Guides (<http://www.cityofpleasantonca.gov/gov/depts/cd/permit/process/planning.asp>).

⁷² Targeting growth areas and identifying conservation areas in a comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance indicate to developers and private investors the long-range vision for land use and industry. By identifying priorities and strategies for achieving goals, cities can make private investments less risky and more attractive for developers and business owners.

II. Strengthen the Local Economy

Goal: Strengthen the Local Economy	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁶⁵
Strategy 6: The comprehensive plan includes an economic development element covering the issues and opportunities for strengthening the local economy. ⁷³			1,2 ⁷⁴
Strategy 7: Communitywide plans include performance measures that demonstrate the financial benefits and costs of project recommendations. ^{75,76}			1,2
Is there an inventory of local products, resources, or areas prime for development?			
Strategy 8: Align local policy documents with county or regional economic development strategies and targeted industries or industry clusters. ⁷⁷			1,2
Strategy 9: The local economic development strategy includes an inventory of “shovel-ready” development sites with relevant details and contact information. ⁷⁸			1,2
Strengthening the Local Economy Through Programs and Services⁷⁹			
Do local government officials meet regularly with business groups to discuss the local business climate?			
Strategy 10: Local government staff visit local businesses periodically to discuss their needs, challenges, and opportunities, which the local government could address with a business retention and expansion program. ^{80,81}			1,2,3
Strategy 11: The local government participates in chamber of commerce and other local business organizations’ events to build connections with the business community. ⁸²			1,2,3
Strategy 12: Local and regional planning agencies keep track of local development projects and incorporate them into their planning efforts.			1,2,3
Strategy 13: The local government has quantitatively assessed key existing employment sectors to understand the industry mix and the sectors’ relative importance.			1,2,3

⁷³ The city of Ranson, West Virginia, updated its comprehensive plan in 2012. The new plan includes economic development trends, objectives, and actions (pp. 91-102) http://ransonrenewed.com/?page_id=348.

⁷⁴ States do not always require comprehensive plans, but many large towns and small cities in rural areas have them. Villages and small towns typically do not have comprehensive plans unless required by states.

⁷⁵ Jefferson County 2012 Adopted Budget (<http://jeffco.us/budget-and-risk-management/adopted-budgets/2012-adopted-budget/>).

⁷⁶ City of Middletown Master Plan: Future Land Use (<http://www.cityofmiddletown.org/planning/masterplan.aspx>).

⁷⁷ Eugene, Oregon Regional Economic Development Plan (<http://www.eugene-or.gov/index.aspx?NID=815>).

⁷⁸ The Caldwell County, North Carolina, Economic Development Commission has information about target sectors and shovel-ready development sites (<http://www.caldwelledc.org>).

⁷⁹ Municipalities can create programs and services to help local businesses thrive and expand. By creating public/private partnerships of offering incentives, localities can boost their local economy and benefit from ongoing feedback from business owners and would-be investors.

⁸⁰ A business retention plan can be designed and implemented by a local government, economic development agency, or business association.

⁸¹ Richland, Washington Business Retention and Expansion Survey Analysis and Report (<http://www.ci.richland.wa.us/documentcenter/view/941>).

⁸² Stafford, Virginia Business Support (<http://www.gostaffordva.com/existing-business-support>).

II. Strengthen the Local Economy

Goal: Strengthen the Local Economy	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁶⁵
Are funding mechanisms or incentives available for business owners, property owners, or developers?			
Strategy 14: Local government or a governmental entity such as a redevelopment authority has a low-interest, revolving loan fund for businesses that want to expand or locate in the community, or for other economic development purposes. ⁸³			1,2,3
Strategy 15: Local government or a redevelopment authority offers gap financing for new development projects or building rehabilitation projects, and this policy is well communicated. ⁸⁴			1,2
Strategy 16: The local government offers temporary property tax or one-time fee abatement for projects in desired growth areas or established centers. ⁸⁵			1,2
Strategy 17: The local government or a partner organization offers and funds a program to help property owners make façade improvements in the downtown area. ⁸⁶			1,2
Are there business assistance programs to promote local businesses and jobs?			
Strategy 18: The municipality or other public- or private-sector entities have workforce development programs such as job training.			1,2,3
Strategy 19: Organize local business alliances to foster community-wide marketing, networking, new business development, and governmental coordination.			1,2,3
Strategy 20: Local government contracting procedures include incentives or requirements to buy local products and services. ⁸⁷			1,2,3
Strategy 21: A local vendor program exists to encourage and help local companies pursue government contracts. ⁸⁸			1,2,3
Strategy 22: Business incubator space is available with reduced or temporarily abated rent for startup companies. ⁸⁹			1

⁸³ Brown County, Wisconsin, has established an economic development revolving loan program capitalized with federal Community Development Block Grant funds (<http://www.co.brown.wi.us/departments/?department=2317176c7f00&subdepartment=56759f503d09>). Another example comes from Binghamton, New York, which has established a revolving fund that provides “gap” financing and a micro enterprise loan program (<http://www.cityofbinghamton.com/departments.asp?zone=dept-economic-development&pid=6&pm=page>).

⁸⁴ Washtenaw County, Michigan Gap Financing for Manufacturing Company Expansion (<http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/community-and-economic-development/workforce-development/economic-development-programs/news/eastern-washtenaw-county-gap-financing-fund-pilot-program>).

⁸⁵ Cincinnati Community Reinvestment Area Residential Tax Abatement (<http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/community-development/housing-assistance/residential-property-tax-abatement/>).

⁸⁶ Portland, Maine Façade Improvement Program (<http://www.portlandmaine.gov/557/Facade-Improvement-Program>).

⁸⁷ Cedar Rapids, Iowa Local Preference Purchasing Policy (<http://www.cedar-rapids.org/government/departments/purchasing/pages/buylocal.aspx>).

⁸⁸ Santa Barbara Association of Governments Local Vendor Program (<http://www.sbcag.org/documents.html>).

II. Strengthen the Local Economy

Goal: Strengthen the Local Economy	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁶⁵
Is there an organized and developed system to foster community development through public-private partnerships?			
Strategy 23: The local government works with a local nonprofit organization focused on implementing programs and projects independently and through public-private partnerships. ⁹⁰			1,2
Strategy 24: The community has adopted a Main Street Program as a strategy for downtown revitalization. ^{91,92}			1,2
Strategy 25: A volunteer, staff person, or nonprofit organization is responsible for tracking grant opportunities and applying for appropriate funding sources to advance community development.			1,2,3
Does the community have business educational programs?			
Strategy 26: Training programs for skills that are in demand are available through local employers, community colleges, and other state and local vocational resources. ⁹³			1,2,3
Strategy 27: Local high schools and employers have cooperative educational programs to provide on-the-job experience for students who do not plan to attend college. ⁹⁴			1,2,3
Is there a local or regional marketing or promotion program?			
Strategy 28: A “buy local” program is established to promote shopping at locally owned businesses. ^{95,96}			1,2
Strategy 29: Encourage former residents to return to the region through events such as job fairs held during holiday periods (i.e., “reverse brain drain”). ⁹⁷			1,2,3
Strategy 30: The community has monthly, bimonthly, or weekly farmers’ markets or street fairs featuring local businesses, goods, and services. ⁹⁸			1,2,3

⁸⁹ Neshoba County, Mississippi: business incubator that provides space to startup businesses for up to 3 years (<http://www.neshoba.org/businessenterprise.html>).

⁹⁰ St. Louis Community Development Administration (<http://stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/community-development/>).

⁹¹ The National Trust for Historic Preservation’s Main Streets Program helps small towns and cities revitalize their downtowns (<http://www.preservationnation.org/main-street/about-main-street/#.URqfkx1OzdM>).

⁹² Montpelier Main Street Program, Montpelier Alive (<http://www.montpelieralive.com/>).

⁹³ Commonwealth of Massachusetts Workforce Training Fund Program (<http://www.mass.gov/lwd/employment-services/business-training-support/wtfp/>).

⁹⁴ The Upper Valley Career Center provides career and technical education to students and adults (<http://www.uppervalleycc.org/>).

⁹⁵ Examples include the 3/50 Project (<http://www.the350project.net/home.html>) or ShopCity (<http://www.shopcity.com/>).

⁹⁶ This program can also help connect residents to their community; see the “Engage and Connect Community Members” tool section.

⁹⁷ Asheville, North Carolina, held a “homecoming job fair” on January 3, 2013, that targeted former residents in town during the holiday season, among other groups (<http://www.ashevillechamber.org/asheville/work/job-fair>).

⁹⁸ Norwich, Vermont Farmers Market (<http://www.norwichfarmersmarket.org/>).

III. Engage and Connect Community Members

Well-designed roads, sidewalks, buildings, public spaces, and other elements of the built environment support interaction among community members. New communications tools, cultural events and festivals, and opportunities to participate in local government can also build capital, creating a sense of ownership and pride in a community.

Goal: Engage and Connect Community Members	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁹⁹
Engaging the Public in the Planning Process			
Are public participation activities required during the planning process?			
Strategy 1: The City/Town establishes a formal group and a robust and meaningful public engagement process to provide good planning advice to elected officials. ^{100,101,102}			1,2,3
Strategy 2: A public design meeting or charrette is required for planned unit development projects. ¹⁰³			1,2,3
Strategy 3: Codes require abutting property owners to be notified about potential rezoning, subdivision, or redevelopment proposals so that they can attend the public meetings if they have opinions or concerns. ¹⁰⁴			1,2,3
Strategy 4: A public review process is required for rezoning. ¹⁰⁵			1,2,3
Strategy 5: Public participation is required in development of neighborhood plans, comprehensive plan updates, and long-range transportation plans. ^{106,107}			1
Using Design Elements That Encourage Interaction			
Do codes require design elements that promote community interaction?			
Strategy 6: Zoning includes a traditional neighborhood zoning overlay district that requires design elements that encourage interaction such as sidewalks, front porches, and community parks. ¹⁰⁸			1,2

⁹⁹ Self-assessment topics and recommendations apply to one or more of the following scales: 1 – large town/small city (population of approximately 10,000 or greater); 2 - village/small town (population typically under 10,000); 3 – rural (very low density places, working lands, and natural areas outside of towns, villages, and cities).

¹⁰⁰ New York's Department of State, Division of Local Government Services has developed a set of local government planning guidance documents. One provides information on conducting public meetings.

Another describes establishing a Zoning Board of Appeals. They are available at: (<http://www.dos.ny.gov/lg/publications.html#Planning>).

¹⁰¹ Jacksonville, Florida Citizens Planning Advisory Committee ([http://www.coj.net/departments/housing-and-neighborhoods/neighborhood-initiatives-\(1\)/citizen-planning-advisory-committees-\(cpacs\).aspx](http://www.coj.net/departments/housing-and-neighborhoods/neighborhood-initiatives-(1)/citizen-planning-advisory-committees-(cpacs).aspx)).

The Mayor appoints CPAC members. Members are nominated through a variety of community, civic, or government organizations located in their district. Eligibility for appointment is determined by the Chief of the Housing and Community Development Division, Planning and Development Department. Committee chairs meet with and advise the Mayor.

¹⁰² Primer on Local Government Citizen Advisory Boards (<http://mrsc.org/getmedia/72061479-9BA8-48B4-AB1F-CFA62CF7D4F1/lgcab08.aspx>).

¹⁰³ Bartlesville Metropolitan Planning Area Planned Unit Development Procedure (<http://www.cityofbartlesville.org/page.php?page=1150>).

¹⁰⁴ Fayetteville Code of Ordinances: Notification and Public Hearings (http://www.cityoffayetteville.org/planning_department/rezoning.aspx?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1).

¹⁰⁵ Gwinnett County Rezoning and Special Use Permit Application Process (<http://www.gwinnettcounty.com/portal/gwinnett/Departments/PlanningandDevelopment/Rezoning-SUP/Process>).

¹⁰⁶ Public Participation Plan for the Town of Farmington Comprehensive Plan Process (<http://www.co.washington.wi.us/departments.iml?Detail=281&Detail=290&Detail=289>).

¹⁰⁷ Southeastern Wisconsin RPC: Public Participation in the Transportation Planning Process (<http://www.sewrpc.org/SEWRPC/Transportation/PublicParticipationintheTransp.htm>).

III. Engage and Connect Community Members

Goal: Engage and Connect Community Members	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁹⁹
Strategy 7: Subdivision regulations require sidewalks on new streets. ¹⁰⁹			1,2
Strategy 8: Subdivision regulations ensure good street connectivity by requiring connections in and between neighborhoods. ¹¹⁰			1,2
Strategy 9: Codes establish minimum standards for parks and open space in new developments, which includes developing around existing civic gathering spaces. ^{111,112,113}			1,2
Engaging and Connecting Community Members Through Planning and Policies			
Do planning documents or local government policies support development of community-shared spaces?			
Strategy 10: Plans identify potential areas for traditional neighborhood development. ¹¹⁴			1,2
Strategy 11: Plans encourage a mix of uses and space for social gatherings, such as parks, churches, community centers, schools, and other facilities, in new neighborhood developments. ¹¹⁵			1,2
Strategy 12: The community owns or has a long-term lease on properties for a centrally located venue such as a stage, farmers' market, park, or other gathering space.			1,2
Strategy 13: Identify or provide public space for a community garden. ¹¹⁶			1,2
Do planning processes or government policies promote strong community engagement?			
Strategy 14: Hold regular community meetings, in locations and at times that allow people on different schedules and in different parts of the community to attend, to encourage public participation in developing plans and other land use regulations. ¹¹⁷			1,2,3
Strategy 15: Translate public meeting materials into the languages used by predominant minority populations in the community.			1,2,3
Strategy 16: Translation services are available for meetings where attendees speak English as a second language.			1,2,3

¹⁰⁸ The town of Dryden, New York's zoning ordinance includes a traditional neighborhood development overlay district. The zoning ordinance is available at: (<http://dryden.ny.us/departments/planning-department>).

¹⁰⁹ Model Sidewalk Regulations – Zoning & Subdivision (http://www.pvpc.org/val_vision/html/toolbox/Part%20III%20Strategies/Model%20Bylaws/Model%20Sidewalk%20Regulations.rtf).

¹¹⁰ Street Connectivity: Zoning and Subdivision Model Ordinance (http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/processes/land_use/land_use_tools/page04.cfm).

¹¹¹ Model Conservation Subdivision / Open Space Development Ordinance (<http://www.sewrpc.org/SEWRPC/communityassistance/ModelOrdinancesGuides.htm>).

¹¹² Madison County, Idaho: Open Space Development Ordinance (<http://www.co.madison.id.us/index.php/depts/planning-a-zoning/41-ordinances>).

¹¹³ Open Space Incentive Zoning in Saratoga Springs, New York (http://www.saratoga-springs.org/index.php?option=com_remository&Itemid=67&func=startdown&id=1345).

¹¹⁴ Madison, Wisconsin: Pumpkin Hollow Neighborhood Development Plan (<http://www.cityofmadison.com/planning/pumpkinhollow.html>).

¹¹⁵ Parkville, Missouri: Master Plan: Park, Civic and Open Spaces (<http://parkvillemo.gov/departments/community-development-department/master-plan/>).

¹¹⁶ Williamson, West Virginia, has provided public land for a community garden through its Sustainable Williamson program (<http://cityofwilliamson.org/Projects.html>).

¹¹⁷ Clackamas County Land Use Meetings Best Practices (<http://www.clackamas.us/citizenin/communicating.html>).

III. Engage and Connect Community Members

Goal: Engage and Connect Community Members	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁹⁹
Strategy 17: The local government or a partner conducts community assessments, such as walking audits, to collect information about local needs and opportunities. ¹¹⁸			1,2,3
Strategy 18: Form citizen advisory councils community-wide, or for individual neighborhoods to provide input on development review and policy decisions. ¹⁰²			1,2
Strategy 19: Surveys elicit feedback from residents on various community issues. ¹¹⁹			1,2,3
Strategy 20: Websites, social media tools, or public access television stations provide broadcasts or recordings of community meetings for those unable to attend in person. ¹²⁰			1,2,3
Strategy 21: The local government or a partner distributes a weekly bulletin of community meetings via email, local paper, direct-mailers, or others forms of communication accessible to everyone. ¹²¹			1,2,3
Engaging and Connecting Community Members Through Programs and Services			
Are community, cultural, or business coordination events supported through programs or services?			
Strategy 22: Local school clubs or groups engage in civic activities to build interest in and commitment to improving the community. ¹²²			1,2,3
Strategy 23: The local government designates a special events coordinator to support seasonal community activities. ¹²³			1,2
Strategy 24: The local government works with local civic youth groups (e.g., YMCA or Big Brothers) to identify community health and social needs. ¹²⁴			1,2,3
Strategy 25: The community provides programs and incentives to help residents share resources, co-produce, and create their own jobs through a sharing economy. ^{125, 126}			1,2,3
Are there programs to facilitate better community interaction?			

¹¹⁸ The Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center provides information on walking audits (<http://www.walkinginfo.org/problems/audits.cfm>).

¹¹⁹ Benson Hill Community Plan and Survey Results (http://rentonwa.gov/uploadedFiles/Business/CED/planning/2013/1120_BensonPlan_DRAFT_2013-03-11.pdf).

¹²⁰ Plan 2040 Public Outreach will Utilize Online Public Meetings (<http://landmatters.wordpress.com/2010/04/22/plan-2040-public-outreach-will-utilize-online-public-meetings/>).

¹²¹ Kirkland Planning Public Meeting Calendar with email updates (http://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/planning/Planning_Public_Meeting_Calendar.htm).

¹²² In Brownsville, Pennsylvania, the Students in Action club at the high school is leading a project to transform a vacant lot downtown into a community park with a performing arts space. Many small towns and rural communities are concerned about retaining younger residents. Groups like Student in Action can help young people feel invested in their community (<https://sites.google.com/site/ofrstudentsinaction/>).

¹²³ Examples of seasonal community activities include Trail Days in Damascus, Virginia; Rib Fest in Salamanca, New York; and the Johnny Race in Independence, Virginia. A coalition of groups often supports such events that include the local government and the chamber of commerce.

¹²⁴ Ann Arbor YMCA: Youth in Government program (<http://www.annarborymca.org/youth-government.php>).

¹²⁵ Local Governments and the Sharing Economy Project (<http://www.oneearthweb.org/local-governments-and-the-sharing-economy.html>).

¹²⁶ Policies for Shareable Cities: A Sharing Economy Policy Primer for Urban Leaders (<http://www.shareable.net/blog/new-report-policies-for-shareable-cities>).

III. Engage and Connect Community Members

Goal: Engage and Connect Community Members	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁹⁹
Strategy 26: The local government or a partner hosts periodic community meals to bring together residents to discuss topical local issues. ¹²⁷			1,2, 3
Strategy 27: Local events such as fairs or school sports games include a kiosk or information booth to provide information about upcoming planning activities or other community issues. ¹²⁸			1,2,3
Strategy 28: Bulletins and newsletters of local organizations, such as churches, provide information about upcoming planning activities or other community issues. ¹²⁹			1,2,3
Strategy 29: The community has walking tours to inform residents about community history and assets. ¹³⁰			1,2,3
Strategy 30: Coordinate with downtown merchants on seasonal or locally relevant downtown window display themes. ¹³¹			1,2
Strategy 31: The community has buy-local and community gardening educational programs. ^{132,133}			1,2,3
Strategy 32: The community hosts monthly cleanup days. ¹³⁴			1,2,3
Does the local government have an online presence to educate residents and visitors about available services and foster communication?			
Strategy 33: The local government offers online information such as agendas, meeting minutes, contact information, and land use information through multiple platforms (e.g., website or Facebook) and formats (e.g., PDF documents or GIS map application). ^{135,136}			1,2
Strategy 34: The local government uses social media and a website to communicate with the public and solicit feedback. ¹³⁷			1,2,3

¹²⁷ Richmond, California Dinner Dialogue (<http://bbk-richmond.org/iron-triangle-residents-engage-in-crucial-conversations-at-dinner-dialogues/>).

¹²⁸ Lawrence, Kansas Farmers' Market Community Booth (http://www.lawrencefarmersmarket.com/community_booth.php).

¹²⁹ Gleason Public Library Community Bulletin Board (<http://www.gleasonlibrary.org/displays.htm>).

¹³⁰ Orange Community Historical Society: Historical Walking Tours (<http://www.historicalorange.org/historical-walking-tours/>).

¹³¹ Ambler Main Street Annual Window Display Contest (http://www.montgomerynews.com/articles/2014/12/09/ambler_gazette/news/doc548735df3cc3b135054104.txt).

¹³² Sullivan County Shop Local Campaign (<http://sullivancountynyprod.weblinkconnect.com/shop-local.html>).

¹³³ Somerville, Massachusetts Community Gardens (<http://www.somervillema.gov/departments/concom/gardens>).

¹³⁴ Bethlehem, New York Community Cleanup Days (<http://www.townofbethlehem.org/317/Community-Clean-Up-Days>).

¹³⁵ A Local Official's Guide to Online Public Engagement (<http://www.ca-ilg.org/public-engagement-technology>).

¹³⁶ Institute for Local Government Public Engagement and Technology (<http://www.ca-ilg.org/PEandTechnology>).

¹³⁷ Chapel Hill, North Carolina Social Media (<http://www.townofchapelhill.org/town-hall/news-events/social-media>).

IV. Improve Health and Promote Active Living

Building walkable and bikeable communities helps people live more active lives and supports better health. Improving transportation options and bringing different land uses, such as houses, parks, medical facilities, offices, and stores closer together improves access to recreational facilities, health care facilities, and healthy foods. More compact development patterns also protect ecosystems that are critical to clean air, soil, and water. Setting aside land for parks and green space, better connecting streets in new development to make walking and biking easier, and reducing stormwater runoff that can pollute water supplies help achieve these goals.

Goal: Improve Health and Promote Active Living	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ¹³⁸
Supporting Agriculture in Cities, Towns, and Villages for Easier Access to Healthy Foods			
Do codes allow appropriately scaled food production in residential areas?			
Strategy 1: Zoning permits gardening or other small-scale plant cultivation and associated structures. ^{139,140}			1,2
Strategy 2: Zoning permits small-scale animal husbandry, including chickens, goats, ducks, rabbits, and bees, and associated structures in appropriate areas. ¹⁴⁰			1,2
Strategy 3: Zoning permits on-site composting and associated structures. ¹⁴¹			1,2
Strategy 4: Opportunities for community gardening exist on public land. ^{142,143,144}			1,2
Encouraging Opportunities for Stores That Sell Healthy Food			
Do codes encourage stores that sell healthy food?			
Strategy 5: Zoning incentives encourage healthy food retailers to locate in villages and activity centers. ^{145,146,147,148}			1,2

¹³⁸ Self-assessment topics and recommendations apply to one or more of the following scales: 1 – large town/small city (population of approximately 10,000 or greater); 2 - village/small town (population typically under 10,000) 3 – rural (very low density places, working lands, and natural areas outside of towns, villages, and cities).

¹³⁹ Promoting Urban Agriculture Through Zoning (<http://www.sustainablecitiesinstitute.org/topics/food-systems/urban-agriculture/promoting-urban-agriculture-through-zoning>).

¹⁴⁰ Cleveland, Ohio: Urban Agriculture Policies (<http://www.sustainablecitiesinstitute.org/topics/food-systems/urban-agriculture/urban-agriculture-policies-city-of-cleveland-ohio>).

¹⁴¹ Urban Agriculture, Composting, and Zoning (<http://cccfoodpolicy.org/document/ohio-epa-urban-agriculture-composting-and-zoning-zoning-code-model-promoting-composting-and>).

¹⁴² Establishing Protections for Community Gardens (<http://changelabsolutions.org/publications/establishing-protections-community-gardens>).

¹⁴³ Cleveland and Cuyahoga County Food Policy Coalition Land Use & Planning policy brief (<http://cccfoodpolicy.org/working-group/land-use-planning>).

¹⁴⁴ Community gardens can also help connect residents to each other and their community; see the “Engage and Connect Community Members” tool section.

¹⁴⁵ Promoting Food Access with Comprehensive Planning and Ordinances (<http://designforhealth.net/food-access/>).

¹⁴⁶ Getting to Grocery: Tools For Attracting Healthy Food Retail to Underserved Neighborhoods (<http://changelabsolutions.org/publications/getting-grocery>).

¹⁴⁷ Opportunities for Increasing Access to Healthy Foods in Washington, Chapter 4 (http://depts.washington.edu/waaction/tools/featured_resources/access_report.html).

IV. Improve Health and Promote Active Living

Goal: Improve Health and Promote Active Living	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ¹³⁸
Strategy 6: Zoning allows farmers' markets, farm stands, and community-supported agriculture distribution in appropriate locations. ^{149, 150, 151, 152}			1,2
Promoting Access to Open Space and Recreational Opportunities			
Do codes ensure access from residential areas to open space and recreation opportunities?			
Strategy 7: New residential developments are required when practical to include public open space or provide access to adjacent open space. ^{153, 154, 155}			1,2,3
Strategy 8: Zoning, expedited review, and other incentives encourage private recreational facilities to locate in villages and activity centers. ^{156, 157}			1,2,3
Promoting Active Transportation			
Do codes make it safe and convenient to walk, bike, and take public transit?			
Strategy 9: Zoning requires compact, mixed-use development in key activity centers for new development and redevelopment. ^{158, 159, 160, 161, 162}			1,2,3
Strategy 10: Pedestrian, bicycle, and transit infrastructure is required to be considered for inclusion in all new road construction, reconstruction, or maintenance projects. ^{163, 164}			1,2,3

¹⁴⁸ Community Design for Healthy Eating: How Land Use and Transportation Solutions Can Help (<https://folio.iupui.edu/handle/10244/561>).

¹⁴⁹ Farmers' markets can also help support local farmers; see the "Strengthen the Local and Regional Economies" tool section.

¹⁵⁰ From the Ground Up: Land Use Policies to Protect and Promote Farmers' Markets (<http://changelabsolutions.org/publications/land-use-farmers-markets>).

¹⁵¹ Commonwealth of Massachusetts: Farm Stand Zoning Law (<https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleVII/Chapter40a/Section3>).

¹⁵² Urban Food Zoning Code Update (<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/article/402598>).

¹⁵³ Metropolitan North Georgia: Model Conservation Subdivision/Open Space Development Ordinance (<http://www.northgeorgiawater.org/stormwater/model-ordinances>).

¹⁵⁴ Madison County, Idaho: Open Space Development Ordinance (<http://www.co.madison.id.us/index.php/depts/planning-a-zoning/41-ordinances>).

¹⁵⁵ Open Space Incentive Zoning in Saratoga Springs, New York (http://www.saratoga-springs.org/index.php?option=com_remository&Itemid=67&func=startdown&id=1345).

¹⁵⁶ Georgia Department of Community Affairs Opportunity Zones (<http://www.dca.ga.gov/economic/DevelopmentTools/programs/opportunityZones.asp>).

¹⁵⁷ City of Elba, Alabama: Planning and Zoning (<http://www.elbaalabama.net/government/planning-and-zoning>).

¹⁵⁸ Essential Smart Growth Fixes for Rural Planning, Zoning, and Development Codes (http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/essential_fixes.htm).

¹⁵⁹ Sustainable Planning & Zoning Handbook (<http://vibrantneo.org/news/learn-and-act-sustainable-planning-and-zoning-in-stark-county/>).

¹⁶⁰ Innovative Land Use Planning Techniques Handbook: Section 1.5 Village Plan Alternative (http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/repp/innovative_land_use.htm).

¹⁶¹ Form-Based Zoning for Small Towns and Historic Neighborhoods (<http://mrsc.org/Home/Explore-Topics/Planning/Development-Types-and-Land-Uses/Traditional-Neighborhood-Development-and-Form-%281%29.aspx>).

¹⁶² Vermont Natural Resources Council: Mixed Use Development (<http://vnrc.org/resources/community-planning-toolbox/tools/mixed-use-development/>).

IV. Improve Health and Promote Active Living

Goal: Improve Health and Promote Active Living	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context¹³⁸
Strategy 11: Zoning requires new developments to include pedestrian- and bicyclist-friendly features, including sidewalks, maximum setbacks from the street, reduced parking, and bicycle parking. ^{165, 166, 167, 168}			1,2,3
Strategy 12: Emphasize increased connectivity when expanding the street network by limiting cul-de-sacs and dead ends, which are disconnected and inefficient elements of urban form.			1,2,3
Strategy 13: Traffic calming and context-sensitive street design guidelines are adopted and apply to streets in downtowns, around schools, in residential neighborhoods, and in other key activity centers. ^{169, 170}			1,2,3
Strategy 14: All new private sidewalks are constructed to ADA standards. ^{171, 172}			1,2,3
Strategy 15: Property owners are required to keep sidewalks clear and free of obstructions, including vehicles, landscaping, and snow and ice. ^{173, 174}			1,2,3
Encouraging Land Use and Building Design That Promote Health			
Do codes encourage health-related facilities to locate in villages and activity centers and communities?			
Strategy 16: Zoning, expedited review, and other incentives encourage health care providers, housing for older adults, assisted living facilities, and rehab centers to locate in villages and activity centers with transit and pedestrian facilities.			1,2
Strategy 17: Adopt healthy building design standards. ^{175, 176, 177}			1,2

¹⁶³ Complete Streets Local Policy Workbook (<http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/guides/complete-streets-local-policy-workbook/>).

¹⁶⁴ Model Local Ordinance on Complete Streets (<http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/complete-streets/changing-policy/model-policy/>).

¹⁶⁵ Georgia Pedestrian & Streetscape Guide (<http://www.pedbikeinfo.org/data/library/details.cfm?id=87>).

¹⁶⁶ Design Guidelines for Pedestrian-Oriented Business Districts (<http://mrsc.org/Home/Explore-Topics/Planning/Specific-Planning-Subjects,-Plan-Elements/Design-Review/Design-Review-Guidelines-and-Code-Provisions.aspx>).

¹⁶⁷ Design Guidelines: Village and Gateway Districts, Town of Coventry (<http://www.coventryct.org/index.aspx?nid=189>).

¹⁶⁸ Design Guidelines for Traditional Neighborhood Developments (http://www.mass.gov/envir/smart_growth_toolkit/pages/mod-tnd.html).

¹⁶⁹ Evaluation of Gateway and Low-Cost Traffic Calming Treatments for Major Routes in Small, Rural Communities (<http://www.ctre.iastate.edu/research/detail.cfm?projectID=-226410767>).

¹⁷⁰ Town of Moraga Traffic Calming Guide (<http://www.moraga.ca.us/committees/tsac/about>).

¹⁷¹ 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design (<http://www.ada.gov/regs2010/2010ADASTandards/2010ADASTandards.htm>).

¹⁷² Designing Sidewalks and Trails for Access (http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/sidewalks/).

¹⁷³ Common Pedestrian Problems and Solutions: Sidewalks (<http://www.walkinginfo.org/problems/problems-sidewalks.cfm>).

¹⁷⁴ Carrboro Town Code: Chapter 7 - Streets and Sidewalks (<http://www.ci.carrboro.nc.us/139/Carrboro-Town-Code>).

¹⁷⁵ Healthy Buildings, Healthy People - an EPA publication addressing the future of indoor environmental quality (<http://www.epa.gov/iaq/pubs/hbhp.html>).

¹⁷⁶ Housing and Building Codes (http://www.nchh.org/Portals/0/Contents/Coalition_briefing_paper_standards.pdf).

¹⁷⁷ Laws, Rules, and Codes for Healthier Homes (<http://www.healthyhometraining.org/codes/index.htm>).

IV. Improve Health and Promote Active Living

Goal: Improve Health and Promote Active Living	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ¹³⁸
Improving Health and Promoting Active Living Through Comprehensive Plans and Local Government Policies			
Do local officials perform studies to identify, analyze, and reduce health threats?			
Strategy 18: City health officials conduct Health Impact Assessments on major developments and infrastructure projects to promote healthy design and reduce potential negative health and environmental impacts. ^{178, 179, 180}			1,2,3
Strategy 19: Identify and mitigate environmental threats such as air pollution, water pollution, toxic and chemical exposures, noise pollution, brownfield sites, and wildlife threats. ¹⁸¹			1,2,3
Do policies support community collaboration on plans, investments, and policies?			
Strategy 20: Local and regional planning, school, recreation, transit, transportation, and public health departments and agencies collaborate on plans, investments, and policies. ¹⁸²			1,2,3
Strategy 21: An accessible public involvement process engages residents in local health-related planning decisions. ¹⁸³			1,2
Strategy 22: The local government offers publicly owned space or establishes a shared-use agreement with a private or nonprofit facility for a community kitchen that improves access to healthy foods for low-income people and engenders community interaction. ^{184, 185, 186}			1,2
Strategy 23: Seek grant funding, loans, and other financial support to build or attract medical facilities. ^{187, 188, 189}			1,2

¹⁷⁸ CDC's Health Impact Assessment (<http://www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces/hia.htm>).

¹⁷⁹ Health Impact Assessment: A Guide for Practice (<http://www.sfhealthequity.org/component/jdownloads/finish/18/89>).

¹⁸⁰ National Association of County and City Health Officials' Health Impact Assessment: (<http://www.naccho.org/topics/environmental/health-impact-assessment/>).

¹⁸¹ EPA's Human Health Risk Assessment (http://www.epa.gov/risk_assessment/health-risk.htm).

¹⁸² Intergovernmental Collaboration Goals and Objectives (<http://www.dubuquesmartplan.org/chapters/intergov/goals.cfm>).

¹⁸³ Developing Effective Citizen Engagement: A How-To Guide for Community Leaders (http://www.rural.palegislature.us/publications_reports.html).

¹⁸⁴ Community Kitchen Program Manual (http://66.51.166.128/toolbox_kitchens07.htm).

¹⁸⁵ Shared-use Kitchen Planning Toolkit (<http://www.leopold.iastate.edu/news/09-22-2014/shared-use-kitchen-toolkit>).

¹⁸⁶ Playing Smart: Maximizing the Potential of School and Community Property through Joint Use Agreements (http://kaboom.org/resources/joint_use).

¹⁸⁷ Capital Assistance Funding: A Rural Health Resource Guide (http://www.nal.usda.gov/ric/ricpubs/capital_assistance.htm).

¹⁸⁸ Manning Regional Healthcare Center Celebrates Groundbreaking (<http://rurdev.sc.egov.usda.gov/STELPRD4017629.html>).

¹⁸⁹ Rural Health Funding Sources: National Foundations (<http://www.nal.usda.gov/ric/ricpubs/foundat.htm>).

IV. Improve Health and Promote Active Living

Goal: Improve Health and Promote Active Living	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ¹³⁸
Are plans in place that support and improve walking and bicycling?			
Strategy 24: Shared-use agreements expand public access to recreational facilities at schools, churches, and other locations. ^{190,191}			1,2
Strategy 25: The community offers recreational opportunities in parks, indoor facilities, and access to natural recreation opportunities. ¹⁹²			1,2,3
Strategy 26: Critical gaps in pedestrian and bicycle networks are identified and filled in downtowns, around schools, in residential neighborhoods, and in other key activity centers. ^{193,194}			1,2
Strategy 27: Sidewalks and trails between downtowns, schools, residential neighborhoods, and other activity centers connect to form a regional pedestrian and bicycle network. ^{195,196}			1,2,3
Strategy 28: High-risk locations for pedestrians and cyclists are identified and targeted for improvement in community or neighborhood plans. ^{197,198,199}			1,2,3
Strategy 29: The local government encourages walking and biking to school by collaborating with local schools on Safe Routes to School programs. ²⁰⁰			1,2
Strategy 30: Provide transit service (equipped to transport bicycles) between village, activity, and residential centers, and users can safely and conveniently reach transit stops. ²⁰¹			1,2
Strategy 31: New school facilities are located in village centers or near existing communities. ²⁰²			1,2

¹⁹⁰ Model Joint Use Agreement Resources (<http://changelabsolutions.org/publications/model-JUAs-national>).

¹⁹¹ Best Practices Tool Kit for Shared Use Agreements in Mississippi (<http://www.communitycommons.org/saresources/best-practices-tool-kit-for-shared-use-agreements-in-mississippi/>).

¹⁹² Planning for Parks and Open Space in Your Community (<http://mrsc.org/Home/Explore-Topics/Parks-and-Recreation/Parks,-Open-Space,-and-Trails-Planning/Park-Planning,-Design,-and-Open-Space.aspx>).

¹⁹³ Bicycle and Pedestrian Sample Plans (http://www.pedbikeinfo.org/planning/sample_plans.cfm).

¹⁹⁴ Kane County Pedestrian Design Guide (<http://www.manualmake.com/system/854080/>).

¹⁹⁵ Wisconsin Rural Bicycle Planning Guide (<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/bike.htm>).

¹⁹⁶ Scott County Rural Regional Trail Development & Design Guidelines (<http://www.co.scott.mn.us/PropertyGISLand/2030CompPlan/DetailedAreaPlanStudy/Pages/DAPRuralTrailAnalysis.aspx>).

¹⁹⁷ Factors Contributing to Pedestrian and Bicycle Crashes on Rural Highways (<http://www.trb.org/Main/Blurbs/163774.aspx>).

¹⁹⁸ Pedestrian Safety Guide and Countermeasure Selection System (<http://www.walkinginfo.org/pedsafe/>).

¹⁹⁹ Bicycle Safety Guide and Countermeasure Selection System (http://www.pedbikeinfo.org/training/webinars_PBIC_LC_021915.cfm).

²⁰⁰ Introduction to Safe Routes to School: the Health, Safety, and Transportation Nexus (<http://guide.saferoutesinfo.org/introduction/>).

²⁰¹ Toolkit for Rural Transit Planning (<http://nationalcenterformobilitymanagement.org/by-topic-rural-transportation/>).

²⁰² Planning for Schools and Livable Communities: The Oregon School Siting Handbook (http://www.ncef.org/rl/site_selection.cfm).

IV. Improve Health and Promote Active Living

Goal: Improve Health and Promote Active Living	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ¹³⁸
Strategy 32: Health care providers, transit providers, taxi services, and nonprofits collaborate to establish reliable transportation to medical appointments for people who do not drive. ^{203,204}			1,2,3
Improving Health and Promoting Active Living Through Programs and Services			
Are there programs for health providers and employers to improve residents' access to health care?			
Strategy 33: Local and regional coalitions of government agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and institutions pool resources and expertise to design healthier communities and encourage healthier living. ^{205,206,207}			1,2,3
Strategy 34: Major employers provide health insurance, incentives for healthy living, and health promotion programs. ²⁰⁸			1,2,3
Strategy 35: Local employers, health care providers, state agencies, and insurance providers provide incentives/subsidies to expand health insurance coverage as broadly as possible.			1,2,3
Strategy 36: Provide health services, with an emphasis on health promotion and preventative services, to the under- or un-insured, either directly or through local care providers.			1,2,3
Strategy 37: Encourage local health care providers to establish regularly scheduled clinics in villages or activity centers near underserved populations. ²⁰⁹			1,2,3
Are there programs promoting access to healthy food?			
Strategy 38: Incentives ensure economic access to healthy foods for low-income residents. ²¹⁰			1,2,3
Strategy 39: Local farmers have program vehicles to serve fresh food in school lunches. ²¹¹			1,2

²⁰³ Medical Transportation Toolkit and Best Practices (<http://trid.trb.org/view.aspx?id=846197>).

²⁰⁴ Senior Transportation: Toolkit and Best Practices (<http://webbuilder.nationalrtap.org/findanything/FreeandLowCostResources/InformationandBestPractices.aspx>).

²⁰⁵ Gold Country Region Healthy Eating Active Living Collaborative (<https://healthcouncil.org/programs/nutrition-fitness/>).

²⁰⁶ Mount Ascutney Prevention Partnership, a prevention coalition focused on policy and community environment improvements (<http://www.mappvt.org/>).

²⁰⁷ California Healthier Living Coalition (<http://www.cahealthierliving.org/healthier-living-coalition/>).

²⁰⁸ Workplace Health Promotion Toolkit (<http://www.cdc.gov/workplacehealthpromotion/>).

²⁰⁹ Mobile Health Clinics Association (<http://www.mobilehca.org/>).

²¹⁰ 3 SquaresVT, a federal USDA program for stretching food budgets (<http://dcf.vermont.gov/esd/3SquaresVT>).

²¹¹ Getting Started with Farm to School (<http://www.farmtoschool.org/get-started>).

IV. Improve Health and Promote Active Living

Goal: Improve Health and Promote Active Living	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context¹³⁸
Strategy 40: Local retailers and restaurants increase fresh & healthy food offerings while limiting stock, sizes, and advertising for unhealthy food and beverages, alcohol, and tobacco products. ^{212,213}			1,2
Strategy 41: Healthy eating and cooking programs are available to the community. ^{214,215}			1,2
Are there programs supporting recreation and fitness?			
Strategy 42: Recreational equipment such as bikes, snowshoes, and cross-country skis is available through a community center, school, library, or commercial partner for residents to rent or borrow. ²¹⁶			1,2
Strategy 43: Schools provide afterschool physical activity programs for students.			1,2
Strategy 44: The community has recreational or exercise clubs and programs.			1,2
Strategy 45: Encourage or incentivize landowners to provide recreational trails and access to or through private lands. ²¹⁷			3
Strategy 46: The local government offers education, encouragement, and incentives for residents to walk, bike, use transit, or carpool. ²¹⁸			1,2,3

²¹² Healthy Corner Stores Network: New Orleans (<http://www.healthycornerstores.org/tag/new-orleans>).

²¹³ State Initiatives Supporting Healthier Food Retail: An Overview of the National Landscape (<http://www.healthyfoodaccess.org/resources/library/state-initiatives-supporting-healthier-food-retail>).

²¹⁴ Community-Based Nutrition Awareness Program (<https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/topic/educational-and-community-based-programs>).

²¹⁵ Eat Your Way to Good Health (<http://www.rocklandsteps.org/nutrition-program>).

²¹⁶ Organizers say bike rental program for low-income adults a success (<http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2010/08/26/bike-lending-program>).

²¹⁷ Model Trail Easement Agreement and Commentary (http://conservationtools.org/libraries/1/library_items/324).

²¹⁸ Alternative Transportation Incentive Program (<http://www.smc.edu/StudentServices/transportation/Pages/STIP-FAQ.aspx>).

V. Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems

Directing development away from critical natural habitats and ecosystems and minimizing impacts from new development, such as increased stormwater runoff, help rural communities protect the waterways, forests, mountains, view sheds, and farmlands that are critical to their economic health, especially in places valued for their scenic or recreational assets. Providing incentives to use green infrastructure and preserve open space, along with programs to educate residents on the importance of land conservation, helps communities maintain their valuable natural resources.

Goal: Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ²¹⁹
Using Water More Efficiently			
Do codes require water efficiency and stormwater runoff reduction in new development and redevelopment?			
Strategy 1: Codes require new homes to meet at least the minimum requirements of a program designed to use water more efficiently and improve water quality. ²²⁰			1,2,3
Strategy 2: Codes encourage re-use of gray water where some or all water used in a building is captured, treated, and used or reused on site. ²²¹			1,2,3
Strategy 3: Codes include incentives or requirements for green infrastructure including permeable pavement, vegetated swales near roadways, green roofs, and rain gardens. ^{222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227}			1,2,3
Strategy 4: The code includes guidelines for stormwater runoff reduction strategies, such as green infrastructure and building standards. ^{228, 5,9,6,4,11}			1,2,3
Strategy 5: In mitigating site stormwater loads, stormwater runoff reduction strategies can be used to calculate offsets to stormwater requirements using conventional strategies such as retention ponds. ²²⁹			1,2,3

²¹⁹ Self-assessment topics and recommendations apply to one or more of the following scales: 1 – large town/small city (population of approximately 10,000 or greater); 2 - village/small town (population typically under 10,000); 3 – rural (very low density places, working lands and natural areas outside of towns, villages and cities).

²²⁰ One example of a program is EPA's WaterSense New Homes Specification (http://www.epa.gov/watersense/new_homes/index.html).

²²¹ US EPA Region 9 Water Recycling and Reuse: The Environmental Benefits (<http://www.epa.gov/region9/water/recycling/>).

²²² Greater Elkhart County Stormwater Partnership: Rain Garden and Rain Barrel Incentive Program (http://www.stormwaterelkco.org/pages.php?section=homeowners&item=Rain_Garden_and_Rain_Barrel_Incentive_Program).

²²³ Portland EcoRoof Incentive Program (<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/48724>).

²²⁴ Plant Connection - Green Roof Legislation, Policies, and Tax Incentives (<http://www.myplantconnection.com/green-roofs-legislation.php>).

²²⁵ Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District: Stormwater BMP Incentive Program: Vegetated Swales (http://www.rwmwd.org/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC=%7BAAF12B9B-AF31-48C8-B303-86C8ECA92851%7D).

²²⁶ Burlington, Vermont pervious pavement incentive program (<http://www.burlingtonvt.gov/docs/4083.pdf>).

²²⁷ US EPA Green Infrastructure Library (<http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/greeninfrastructure/index.cfm>).

²²⁸ Dakota County, Minnesota Low Impact Development Standards (<http://www.dakotaswcd.org/lowimpact.html>).

V. Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems

Goal: Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ²¹⁹
Do codes promote reduced water use in landscaping?			
Strategy 6: Codes provide incentives for rain barrels and cisterns. ²³⁰			1,2,3
Strategy 7: Climate-appropriate and native plants that use less water are encouraged or required. ^{231,232}			1,2,3
Strategy 8: Guidelines exist for climate-appropriate and native landscape design. ²³³			1,2,3
Regulating Development Near Water Resources			
Do codes limit new development or redevelopment on wetlands or in flood plains?			
Strategy 9: Local land use regulations require riparian and wetland buffer areas. ^{234,235, 236}			1,2,3
Strategy 10: New development is prohibited in flood plains unless it is a use that can be flooded without threatening property or human life. ^{237,238}			1,2,3
Strategy 11: Local governments evaluate development proposals near rivers for upstream and downstream impacts.			1,2,3
Strategy 12: Prohibit development on previously undeveloped land where the elevation is lower than the elevation of the 100-year flood as defined by FEMA.			1,2,3
Strategy 13: Regulations require restoration of degraded riparian or wetland areas of a development site. ²³⁹			1,2,3
Do codes regulate uses to protect source water for wellheads or sensitive aquifers?			

²²⁹ City of Sandy, Oregon Stormwater Management Incentive Program (<http://www.ci.sandy.or.us/Stormwater-Management-Incentive-Program/>).

²³⁰ Cisterns can be permanent structures underground or above ground or non-permanent manufactured vessels that are typically above ground.

²³¹ Lake County, Florida Model Landscape Ordinance Requiring the Use and Preservation of Appropriate Native Vegetation.

(https://www.lakecountyfl.gov/departments/public_resources/agricultural_education/soil_and_water_conservation_district/model_landscape_ordinance.aspx).

²³² Austin, Texas WaterWise Landscape Rebate program (<http://www.austintexas.gov/department/waterwise-landscape-rebate>).

²³³ USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Living Landscapes in Minnesota: A Guide To Native Planting

(<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/publications/plantmaterials/pmc/central/ndpmc/pub/>).

²³⁴ An example of a buffer would be a 50-foot undisturbed buffer from the top of bank.

²³⁵ River Basin Center. Model Riparian Buffer Ordinance (http://www.rivercenter.uga.edu/research/tools/buffers/model_buffer_ordinance.htm).

²³⁶ Association of State Wetland Managers. Model Ordinances for Regulating Wetlands and Riparian Habitats/Stream Buffers (<http://www.aswm.org/watersheds/streams/897-publications>).

²³⁷ Knox County, Tennessee Floodplain Management Regulations (<http://www.knoxcounty.org/stormwater/volume2.php>).

²³⁸ US EPA. Planning for Flood Recovery and Long-Term Resilience in Vermont: Smart Growth Approaches for Disaster-Resilient Communities (<http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/disaster-recovery-resilience.htm>).

²³⁹ Pima County, Arizona Regulated Riparian Habitat Mitigation Standards and Implementation Guidelines (http://webcms.pima.gov/government/flood_control/rules_and_procedures/).

V. Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems

Goal: Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ²¹⁹
Strategy 14: The community has wellhead and/or aquifer protection regulations or zones to prevent incompatible development and uses. ^{240,241}			1,2,3
Do codes require stormwater management and monitoring on site in new developments or redevelopments?			
Strategy 15: Codes include provisions exist to minimize or reduce the amount of impervious surface. ²⁴²			1,2,3
Strategy 16: Stormwater quality and quantity performance standards exist for development sites. ^{243,244}			1,2,3
Strategy 17: Measures are required to limit waste during construction from flowing into water bodies and the stormwater system to protect water quality. ²⁴⁵			1,2,3
Strategy 18: Pollution monitoring and mitigation strategies reduce harm to natural resources during construction. ²⁴⁶			1,2,3
Protecting Open Spaces for Agriculture, Recreation, and Wildlife			
Do codes require land use regulations to protect open spaces or natural resources?			
Strategy 19: Critical water resource areas cannot be counted in calculating allowable density on a site. ²⁴⁷			1,2
Strategy 20: Prohibit development on previously undeveloped land within a setback to any endangered or protected fish and wildlife habitat or wetland conservation area. ²⁴⁸			1,2,3
Strategy 21: Land development regulations protect steep slopes, hillsides, and other sensitive areas. ^{249,250}			1,2,3
Strategy 22: Street lights and commercial lighting directs light to the streets to preserve dark skies. ²⁵¹			1,2,3

²⁴⁰ Norway, Maine Wellhead Protection Ordinance for Norway Maine (http://norwaymaine.com/n/?page_id=301).

²⁴¹ Town of Canton, Connecticut Aquifer Protection Regulations (<http://www.townofcantonct.org/content/19174/120/17179/3546/default.aspx>).

²⁴² Town of Washington, Connecticut Zoning Regulations, Maximum Lot Coverage (http://www.riversalliance.org/ModelOrdinances/Town_of_Washington_Zoning_Reg_Impervious_Surface.htm).

²⁴³ An example would be the restriction on sedimentation levels.

²⁴⁴ Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District. Model Ordinance for Post-Development Stormwater Management for New Development and Redevelopment.

(<http://www.northgeorgiawater.org/stormwater/model-ordinances>).

²⁴⁵ Wisconsin Construction Site Storm Water Permits (<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/stormwater/construction/>).

²⁴⁶ City of Gilroy, California Storm Water & Urban Runoff Management (http://www.cityofgilroy.org/cityofgilroy/city_hall/community_development/engineering/storm_water/default.aspx).

²⁴⁷ EPA Water Quality Scorecard: Incorporating Green Infrastructure Practices at the Municipal, Neighborhood, and Site Scale (http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/water_scorecard.htm).

²⁴⁸ Clallam County, Washington Critical Areas Code (<http://www.clallam.net/Permits/criticalarea.html>).

²⁴⁹ For example, by limiting development on slopes greater than 30 percent or requiring large lot sizes in sensitive areas.

²⁵⁰ Town of Boone, North Carolina Steep Slope Regulations Brochure. (http://www.townofboone.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=94:planning-a-inspections&catid=82:important-links&Itemid=463).

V. Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems

Goal: Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context 219
Are there open space creation or preservation requirements?			
Strategy 23: The local government uses open space or recreation impact fees to preserve open space. ²⁵²			1,2,3
Strategy 24: Open space dedication and/or set-aside requirements exist and are based on the demand generated by new development. ^{253,254}			1,2
Do codes support appropriate development in agricultural areas?			
Strategy 25: There are agricultural, ranching, or forestry zoning districts that allow large minimum lot size. ^{255,256}			1,2,3
Protecting the Tree Canopy			
Do codes require tree protection strategies during construction?			
Strategy 26: Public trees removed or damaged during construction of private development are required to be replaced on- or off-site with an equivalent amount of tree caliper. ^{257,258}			1,2
Strategy 27: Construction protection rules exist, covering all public trees. ^{259,260}			1,2,3
Protecting Natural Habitats and Ecosystems Through Comprehensive Plans and Local Government Policies			
Does the local government provide incentives to landowners to conserve land?			
Strategy 28: A transfer of development rights program exists and enables transactions between well-defined sending and receiving areas. ²⁶¹			1,2,3

²⁵¹ The Maricopa County, Arizona Dark Sky Ordinance is a zoning ordinance controlling use of outdoor artificial illuminating devices (<http://www.maricopa.gov/planning/Resources/Ordinances/DarkSkyOrdinance.aspx>).

²⁵² Town of Cumberland, Maine Recreational Facilities and Open Space Impact Fee Ordinance (http://cumberlandmaine.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/08/Impact_Fee_2nd_Amendments_current_adopted_7_23_12_fillable_application1.pdf).

²⁵³ For example, the National Parks and Recreation Association recommends 10 acres of community and neighborhood parks for every 1,000 persons in a development.

²⁵⁴ Creating Open Space in Clifton Park (<http://www.cliftonpark.org/townhall/open-space-trails-and-riverfront-advisory-committee/>).

²⁵⁵ Ranges for minimum lot sizes could vary from 5 to 80 acres depending on the context and the purpose behind establishing the particular development pattern.

²⁵⁶ Farmland Information Center. Agricultural Protection Zoning (<http://www.farmlandinfo.org/agricultural-protection-zoning>).

²⁵⁷ For example, if a developer removes a 24-inch diameter tree, he would replace it with six 4-inch diameter trees.

²⁵⁸ Round Rock, Texas Tree Ordinance (<http://www.roundrocktexas.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/forestry/tree-ordinance/>).

²⁵⁹ Construction protection rules might include fencing around trees and avoiding cutting into root zones.

²⁶⁰ Norfolk, Virginia Zoning Ordinance, Trees and Other Vegetation (https://www.municode.com/library/va/norfolk/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=COCL_CH45TROTV).

²⁶¹ King County, Washington Transfer of Development Rights Program (<http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/stewardship/sustainable-building/transfer-development-rights/overview.aspx>).

V. Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems

Goal: Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ²¹⁹
Strategy 29: Local tax credits are available for land conservation. ²⁶²			1,2,3
Are there policies to create designated growth areas and preserve rural areas?			
Strategy 30: Designated growth areas and preservation areas are defined by a municipal services area, municipal development area, or similar designation. ^{263, 264}			1,2,3
Strategy 31: Urbanized, town center policies allow for more dense development in the core downtown area of the community. ²⁶⁵			1,2,3
Strategy 32: Designate and protect critical natural lands outside of the town centers, identifying areas that have a strong rural legacy. ²⁶⁶			3
Are there cleanup or restoration requirements to preserve or restore biological diversity?			
Strategy 33: Brownfield and other contaminated sites have been successfully remediated. ²⁶⁷			1,2,3
Strategy 34: Consider restoration and preservation of regional biodiversity in plans, with a focus on promoting native species and avoiding and eliminating invasive species. ²⁶⁸			1,2,3
Strategy 35: Measures are in place to minimize the use of water pollutants, including pesticides, herbicides, and chemical fertilizers by both public and private entities. ^{269, 270}			1,2,3
Are there regional and local green infrastructure investments?			
Strategy 36: Inventory the community's current tree cover, and complete plans to protect and expand the tree canopy. ²⁷¹			1,2
Strategy 37: A green infrastructure plan, developed with a range of public- and private-sector partners, connects habitats to protect habitat. ²⁷²			1,2,3

²⁶² Land Trust Alliance. Tax Incentives (<http://www.landtrustalliance.org/policy/tax-matters/campaigns/state-tax-incentives>).

²⁶³ Albemarle County, Virginia Urban/Development Area (<http://www.albemarle.org/departments.asp?department=cdd&relpage=3214>).

²⁶⁴ Montgomery County, Virginia Urban Development Areas (<http://www.montgomerycountymva.gov/content/15989/16031/16767/default.aspx>).

²⁶⁵ Dennis Township Master Plan – Land Use Plan (<http://www.dennistwp.org/pdfdoc2012/DTMasterPlanRevisedFinal2012-12-12.pdf>).

²⁶⁶ Albemarle County, Virginia Rural Areas Plan (<http://www.albemarle.org/departments.asp?department=cdd&relpage=3213>).

²⁶⁷ Missouri Department of Natural Resources Brownfields/Voluntary Cleanup Program (<http://www.dnr.mo.gov/env/hwp/bvcp/hwpcvp.htm>).

²⁶⁸ Honeoye, New York Lake Watershed Management Plan (<http://www.co.ontario.ny.us/DocumentCenter/View/1276>).

²⁶⁹ Oceanside, California Pesticides and Fertilizers effects on water quality (http://www.ci.oceanside.ca.us/gov/water/services_programs/clean/residential/pesticides.asp).

²⁷⁰ Connecticut General Assembly. State Laws Banning Phosphorous Fertilizer Use (<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2012/rpt/2012-R-0076.htm>).

²⁷¹ Austin, Texas Urban Forestry Program (<http://austintexas.gov/departments/urban-forestry>).

V. Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems

Goal: Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ²¹⁹
Strategy 38: Encourage green infrastructure strategies to collect and treat stormwater runoff, such as rain gardens, vegetated swales, and permeable pavements, through incentives in new developments or redevelopments.			1,2,3
Strategy 39: Road construction or reconstruction projects implement green infrastructure strategies when possible. ²⁷³			1,2,3
Protecting Natural Habitats and Ecosystems Through Programs and Services			
Are there programs to allow community-managed land?			
Strategy 40: Public programs exist to support fee simple acquisition of sensitive land. ²⁷⁴			1,2,3
Strategy 41: The community has transfer of development rights or purchase of development rights programs for conservation easements. ²⁷⁵			1,2,3
Strategy 42: A community land trust supports managed open space. ²⁷⁶			1,2,3
Strategy 43: Prioritize community-owned lands, such as community gardens or community open space held in a land trust, to be protected from development.			1,2,3
Is there a water quality and preservation program?			
Strategy 44: The local government has a system for ongoing monitoring and reporting of water quality in the watershed. ²⁷⁷			1,2,3
Strategy 45: The community has systems for reclaiming and reusing water. ²⁷⁸			1,2
Are there conservation education programs in place?			
Strategy 46: The school system teaches students about water quality and conservation. ²⁷⁹			1,2,3

²⁷² Kansas City, Missouri/Kansas MetroGreen Regional Greenway System (<http://www.terrain.org/unsprawl/26/>).

²⁷³ Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning. Green Infrastructure (<http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/green-infrastructure>).

²⁷⁴ San Antonio Water System. Sensitive Land Acquisition Program (http://www.saws.org/environment/ResourceProtComp/aquifer_protection/acquisition.cfm).

²⁷⁵ Northhampton County, Virginia Purchase of Development Rights Program (http://www.co.northampton.va.us/departments/Purchase_of_Development_Rights.html).

²⁷⁶ Upper Valley Land Trust (New Hampshire) community based land conservancy (<http://www.uvlt.org/>).

²⁷⁷ Tomales Bay (California) Water Quality Monitoring Plan (<http://www.tomalesbaywatershed.org/library.html>).

²⁷⁸ Manatee County, Florida Reclaimed Water Program (<https://www.mymanatee.org/home/government/departments/utilities/wastewater-system/reclaimed-water.html>).

²⁷⁹ Redwood City, California Water Conservation Education for Schools (<http://www.redwoodcity.org/publicworks/water/conserve%20water%20education.html>).

V. Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems

Goal: Protect Natural Habitats and Ecosystems	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context²¹⁹
Strategy 47: The school system teaches students about the unique natural habitat in which they live. ²⁸⁰			1,2,3
Strategy 48: The school system teaches students about waste reduction, recycling, and the effects of polluting. ²⁸¹			1,2,3
Strategy 49: The local government provides online information on green infrastructure, energy efficiency, and water conservation. ²⁸²			1,2,3

²⁸⁰ US Fish and Wildlife Service Pacific Southwest Region. Schoolyard Habitat Program (<http://www.fws.gov/cno/conservation/schoolyard.cfm>).

²⁸¹ Boulder/Broomfield County, Colorado School Recycling and Environmental Education Program (<http://www.ecocycle.org/schools/overview>).

²⁸² US EPA. Why Green Infrastructure? (http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/greeninfrastructure/gi_why.cfm).

VI. Support Productive Agriculture for a Variety of Markets

Preserving working agricultural lands supports the rural economy and can also help direct growth away from far-flung lands and back towards already-developed areas. Communities have found success through agritourism programs and developing new markets for local produce, such as local or regional farmers markets. Supporting small-scale agriculture and gardening in neighborhoods is also important for improving quality of life and providing access to fresh fruits and vegetables, especially in more rural areas where larger grocery stores are often only accessible via car.

Goal: Support Productive Agriculture for a Variety of Markets	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context 283
Preserving Agricultural Lands and Open Space			
Do zoning regulations and plans identify and preserve agricultural lands and uses?			
Strategy 1: Zoning includes an agricultural district with established permitted uses. ^{284,285,286}			2,3
Strategy 2: Zoning defines “agriculture,” “agricultural land,” “farm,” “farm building,” “farm dwelling,” “livestock,” “crops,” and other important terms. ²⁸⁷			1,2,3
Strategy 3: Zoning does not limit the size of the parcel on which agricultural uses are allowed, thereby enabling smaller scale production of vegetables, fruits, and other products close to local markets where they may be consumed. ²⁸⁸			1,2,3
Strategy 4: Zoning allows small-scale farming of crops in developed areas. ^{289,290,291}			1,2,3
Strategy 5: Define and allow uses that support the regional food system in land use plans and development regulations. ²⁹²			1,2,3

²⁸³ Self-assessment and recommendations apply to one or more of the following scales: 1 – large town/small city (population of approximately 10,000 or greater); 2 - village/small town (population typically under 10,000); 3 – rural (very low density places, working lands, and natural areas outside of towns, villages, and cities).

²⁸⁴ Lancaster County Planning Commission. Agricultural and Rural Lands Planning Program (<http://www.lancastercountypartnership.org/137/Agricultural-Rural-Lands-Planning-Progra>).

²⁸⁵ New Hampshire Agricultural Incentive Zoning (<http://www.nh.gov/oep/resource-library/agriculture/index.htm>).

²⁸⁶ Plainfield, Illinois Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 9, Article VIII, is an example (<http://www.plainfield-il.org/pages/municipalcode.php>).

²⁸⁷ North Hampton, New Hampshire Agricultural Zoning Ordinance (http://www.northhampton-nh.gov/Public_documents/NorthHamptonNH_PZDept/article5).

²⁸⁸ Urban Farming and the Michigan Right to Farm Act (http://www.bsmlawpc.com/blog/Municipal_Law_Grand_Rapids_Michigan/post/Urban_Farming_and_the_Michigan_Right_to_Farm_Act/).

²⁸⁹ The purpose of this strategy is to enable small-scale farming or community gardening on vacant property in small cities and towns. Often, local ordinances prohibit these uses.. The local government can require that at least one other viable use is allowed by right if it wants to ensure that agricultural uses do not preclude future development.

²⁹⁰ North Carolina Cooperative Extension. Urban Agriculture – Policy (<http://localfood.ces.ncsu.edu/localfood-urban-ag-policy/>).

²⁹¹ National League of Cities. Sustainable Cities Institute. Promoting Urban Agriculture through Zoning. (<http://www.sustainablecitiesinstitute.org/topics/food-systems/urban-agriculture/promoting-urban-agriculture-through-zoning>).

²⁹² Uses include cold storage, processing and aggregation facilities, value-added processing, farmers’ markets, and composting operations, among others.

VI. Support Productive Agriculture for a Variety of Markets

Goal: Support Productive Agriculture for a Variety of Markets	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ²⁸³
Strategy 6: Agricultural district zoning establishes minimum lot size large enough to avoid fragmentation of farming areas. ²⁹³			2,3
Strategy 7: Agricultural district zoning establishes a maximum number of dwelling units permitted on each lot. ²⁹⁴			2,3
Strategy 8: Protect existing farms from nuisance complaints through tools such as a “Right to Farm” ordinance. ^{295, 296}			2,3
Strategy 9: New developments are assessed impact fees that are used to preserve open space and productive agricultural lands. ²⁹⁷			1,2,3
Supporting Agritourism			
Do codes and policies promote agritourism?			
Strategy 10: Ordinance defines “agritourism” and encourages standards for an agritourism enterprise related to parking, signs, food and beverage sales, hours of operation, and other considerations. ²⁹⁸			1,2,3
Strategy 11: Codes and policies allow roadside farm stands to sell produce directly to consumers. ²⁹⁹			1,2,3
Strategy 12: Zoning allows farmers markets as a primary or secondary use. ³⁰⁰			1,2
Supporting Agriculture Through Comprehensive Plans and Local Government Policies			
Are systems in place to support informed decisions on agricultural preservation?			
Strategy 13: Establish a board or commission to address agricultural issues in the community. ³⁰¹			1,2,3
Strategy 14: Parcel-level information about agricultural land use is available in a GIS database. ³⁰²			2,3

²⁹³ Plainfield, Illinois Zoning Ordinance, Chapter 9, Article VIII, is an example (<http://www.plainfield-il.org/pages/municipalcode.php>).

²⁹⁴ Ibid.

²⁹⁵ Farmland Information Center. Right to Farm Laws (<http://www.farmlandinfo.org/right-farm-laws>).

²⁹⁶ Seneca, New York Right to Farm Law (<http://www.townofseneca.com/town-laws.html>).

²⁹⁷ Cheyenne, Wyoming allows developers to meet open space requirements by dedicating land to a public entity. Article 4.2 of the city’s Unified Development Code approved in 2012 details these rules (<http://www.cheyennecity.org/index.aspx?nid=1824>).

²⁹⁸ Franklin County, North Carolina Agritourism Zoning Ordinances (<http://www.farmlandinfo.org/franklin-county-nc-agritourism-zoning-ordinances>).

²⁹⁹ New York Model Zoning Law for Roadside Stands and Farm Markets (<http://www.farmlandinfo.org/new-york-model-local-zoning-law-roadside-stands-and-farm-markets>).

³⁰⁰ Michigan Healthy Communities. Establishing Land Use Protections for Farmers’ Markets (<http://mihealthtools.org/mihc/FarmersMarkets.asp>).

³⁰¹ Town of Dartmouth, Massachusetts Agricultural Commission - Smart Growth Smart Energy Toolkit: Agricultural Preservation Case Study (http://www.mass.gov/envir/smart_growth_toolkit/pages/CS-ag-dartmouth.html).

VI. Support Productive Agriculture for a Variety of Markets

Goal: Support Productive Agriculture for a Variety of Markets	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context 283
Are there financial incentives for preserving agricultural lands?			
Strategy 15: Tax agricultural land at current use value, rather than at its highest value on the real estate market, to help agriculture remain economically viable. ³⁰³			2,3
Strategy 16: Use purchase of development rights to protect farmland. ^{304,305}			1,2,3
Are there marketing strategies or policies to support local agriculture?			
Strategy 17: A marketing strategy or plan for local farming identifies potential markets and addresses potential gaps in production or processing (for example, lack of cool storage, transportation, or processing facilities). ³⁰⁶			1,2,3
Strategy 18: The local government has established programs to promote consumption of locally grown food. ³⁰⁷			1,2,3
Supporting Agriculture Through Programs and Services			
Are there programs that support local produce and agritourism?			
Strategy 19: Establish an agricultural district program. ³⁰⁸			1,2,3
Strategy 20: Establish a food policy council for the county or region. ³⁰⁹			1,2,3
Strategy 21: Agricultural tourism is supported through marketing, facilities development, and local education. ^{310,311}			1,2,3
Strategy 22: The local government targets local purchasing of agricultural products (for example, school lunches). ^{312,313}			1,2,3

³⁰² North Dakota Digital Parcel File Standards for Agricultural Property Assessment (<http://www.nd.gov/gis/resources/standards/docs/11-13-2007-version-1.1-nd-digital-parcel-file-standard.doc>).

³⁰³ Okanogan County, Washington Current Use/Open Space Agriculture (<http://www.okanogancounty.org/Assessor/designat.htm>).

³⁰⁴ Farmland Information Center. Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements (<http://www.farmlandinfo.org/purchase-agricultural-conservation-easements>).

³⁰⁵ Peninsula Township, Michigan Purchase of Development Rights Ordinance (<http://www.peninsulatownship.com/ordinances.html>).

³⁰⁶ Pierce County, Washington Agriculture Strategic Plan Summary Report (<http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/index.aspx?NID=3257>).

³⁰⁷ Center for Environmental Farming Systems. The North Carolina 10% Campaign is a strategy for building a sustainable local food economy (<http://www.cefs.ncsu.edu/whatwedo/foodsystems/10percent.html>).

³⁰⁸ Agricultural district laws provide incentives to farmers who enroll their land in special areas where commercial farming is encouraged and protected. Incentives typically include property tax relief and protection from private nuisance lawsuits, among other things. For more information, visit the Farmland Information Center's page on the topic: <http://www.farmlandinfo.org/agricultural-district-programs>.

³⁰⁹ The Johns Hopkins School of Public Health Food Policy Council Directory (<http://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/johns-hopkins-center-for-a-livable-future/projects/FPN/directory/index.html>).

³¹⁰ Michigan State University Extension. The Role of Agri-Tourism in Rural Communities (http://productcenter.msu.edu/news_events/nvac_presentations_2012).

³¹¹ Oklahoma's Growing Adventure agritourism program (<http://www.oklahomaaagritourism.com/>).

VI. Support Productive Agriculture for a Variety of Markets

Goal: Support Productive Agriculture for a Variety of Markets	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ²⁸³
Strategy 23: A farmers market sells locally grown food. ³¹⁴			1,2,3
Strategy 24: The community's products are marketed in nearby metropolitan areas. ^{315,316}			1,2,3
Strategy 25: A local food hub connects local producers with retail outlets and local institutional buyers, such as school districts, universities, and hospitals. ³¹⁷			1,2,3
Strategy 26: Market local farms, farm stands, and products through a website, maps, brochures, and other educational materials. ³¹⁸			1,2,3
Strategy 27: Encourage and support community gardening and farming by making public land in cities, towns, and villages available to local groups. ³¹⁹			1,2,3

³¹² National Farm to School Network. Getting Started with Farm to School (<http://www.farmtoschool.org/resources-main/getting-started-with-farm-to-school?A=SearchResult&SearchID=524728&ObjectID=4647144&ObjectType=35>).

³¹³ The Sustainable Food Purchasing Policy Project helps institutional and commercial food buyers develop purchasing policies that support social and environmental responsibility in agriculture and the food industry (<http://www.sustainablefoodpolicy.org/>).

³¹⁴ USDA Agricultural Marketing Service. How to Start a Farmers Market (<http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/getfile?dDocName=STELDEV3022129>).

³¹⁵ Penn State Extension. Farm and Food Business Marketing Strategies (<http://extension.psu.edu/business/farm/marketing>).

³¹⁶ Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection. Wisconsin Local Food Marketing Guide (<http://www.wistatedocuments.org/cdm/ref/collection/p267601coll4/id/3152>).

³¹⁷ USDA Agricultural Marketing Service. Food Hubs: Building Stronger Infrastructure for Small and Mid-Size Producers (<http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/foodhubs>).

³¹⁸ The Loudoun County, Virginia Department of Economic Development maintains the Loudoun Farms website, which provides information about local farmers markets, farm stands, producers, and wineries (<http://www.loudounfarms.org>).

³¹⁹ Williamson, West Virginia has provided public land for a community garden through its Sustainable Williamson program (<http://cityofwilliamson.org/Projects.html>).

VII. Meet Housing Needs for Different Ages and Incomes

Providing a wide range of housing types in the same neighborhood and close to shops, jobs, parks, medical care, and schools helps people drive less and buy or rent housing that meets their needs within their budget. Providing a mix of housing also helps communities retain residents who want to age in place, while attracting families who might have different housing needs. Increased housing options also help communities maintain a vacation- or recreation-based economy while keeping housing affordable for local residents. These types of neighborhoods can also engender more social interaction between people of different backgrounds and incomes. Communities can accomplish these goals by allowing accessory dwelling units in residential neighborhoods and more development downtown.

Goal: Meet Housing Needs for Different Ages and Incomes³²⁰	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context³²¹
Expediting Local Government Processing of Affordable Housing Proposals			
Do codes expedite processing of affordable housing developments?			
Strategy 1: Expedited permit review and/or reduced development fees for projects that incorporate affordable housing near existing town centers. ³²²			1,2,3
Strategy 2: Older adult housing developments receive expedited permit review and/or reduced development fees. ³²³			1,2,3
Providing Incentives and Removing Barriers to Affordable Housing Development			
Do codes provide incentives for affordable housing developments?			
Strategy 3: Incentives encourage owner investment in older or historic apartment buildings or homes. ^{324, 325, 326}			1,2,3
Strategy 4: Carefully evaluate building code requirements that increase construction costs (such as requirements pertaining to exterior materials).			1,2,3
Strategy 5: Locate affordable housing in village and town centers to give residents easier access to jobs, stores, services, and amenities. ³²⁷			1,2

³²⁰ EPA's smart growth website has a page with more information and resources on smart growth and affordable housing: (<http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/topics/ah.html>).

³²¹ Self-assessment topics and recommendations apply to one or more of the following scales: 1 – large town/small city (population of approximately 10,000 or greater); 2 - village/small town (population typically under 10,000) 3 – rural (very low density places, working lands, and natural areas outside of towns, villages, and cities).

³²² Fort Collins, Colorado Affordable Housing Programs (<http://www.fcgov.com/socialsustainability/other.php>).

³²³ Gardena, California Senior Citizen Housing Incentives (<http://www.codepublishing.com/CA/Gardena/mobile/?pg=Gardena18/Gardena1843.html>).

³²⁴ For more strategies to encourage reinvestment in historic buildings, please see the "Preserve Historic and Cultural Resources" tool section.

³²⁵ Gresham, Oregon Apartment Rehabilitation Grant Program (<http://greshamoregon.gov/city/city-departments/urban-renewal/grant-programs/template.aspx?id=7308>).

³²⁶ Westminster, Maryland 2009 Comprehensive Plan: Housing & Neighborhood Revitalization (<http://www.westgov.com/162/Comprehensive-Plan>).

VII. Meet Housing Needs for Different Ages and Incomes

Goal: Meet Housing Needs for Different Ages and Incomes ³²⁰	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ³²¹
Supporting Development of Affordable Housing for Older Adults			
Do codes facilitate housing types that accommodate older adults?			
Strategy 6: Allow accessory units in single-family residential areas. ³²⁸			1,2,3
Strategy 7: Allow age-restricted communities, including facilities with varying levels of care. ³²⁹			1,2,3
Strategy 8: Allow elder cohousing development and retrofitting buildings for cohousing. ³³⁰			1,2,3
Do codes require ADA accessibility?			
Strategy 9: Commercial and residential properties are accessible by wheelchair, which encourages "visitability." ³³¹			1,2,3
Strategy 10: Codes identify the concept of universal design in new buildings, calling for features that allow everyone, regardless of age, ability, or circumstance, to live in or use the building. ³³²			1,2,3
Allowing a Mix of Housing Types and Lot Sizes			
Do codes allow a wide range of housing types?			
Strategy 11: Codes allow townhomes. ³³³			1,2
Strategy 12: Codes allow two-family housing units. ³³⁴			1,2,3
Strategy 13: Codes allow multifamily housing in villages and town centers. ³³⁵			1,2,3
Strategy 14: Allow manufactured homes in all zones where residential uses are allowed. ³³⁶			1,2,3

³²⁷ Altamonte Springs City Plan 2030: Housing Element (<http://www.altamonte.org/index.aspx?NID=410>).

³²⁸ Medford, Oregon: Accessory Dwelling Units (<http://www.ci.medford.or.us/Code.asp?CodeID=3942>).

³²⁹ East Norriton, Pennsylvania. Creation of Age-Targeted Residential District (<http://www.eastnorritontwp.org/home/resources/ordinances/ordinances-400-present.aspx>).

³³⁰ The Cohousing Association of the United States provides information about cohousing on its website: (http://www.cohousing.org/what_is_cohousing).

³³¹ The Access Board's ADA Standards are available at its website: (<http://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/buildings-and-sites/about-the-ada-standards>).

³³² North Carolina State University's Center for Universal Design provides resources on universal design: (http://www.ncsu.edu/ncsu/design/cud/quicklinks_q/qlquicklinks.htm).

³³³ Belgrade, Montana Zoning Ordinance: Townhouse Standards (<http://ci.belgrade.mt.us/zoning/11-32.htm>).

³³⁴ Keller, Texas Zoning Districts (<http://www.cityofkeller.com/index.aspx?page=531>).

³³⁵ Pierce County, Washington Development Regulations (<https://www.co.pierce.wa.us/DocumentCenter/View/5333>).

³³⁶ Longview, Washington Manufactured Homes permitted in all Single Family Districts (<http://www.codepublishing.com/wa/longview/html/Longview16/Longview1638.html>).

VII. Meet Housing Needs for Different Ages and Incomes

Goal: Meet Housing Needs for Different Ages and Incomes ³²⁰	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ³²¹
Strategy 15: Allow home-sharing ³³⁷ on single-family lots.			1,2,3
Strategy 16: Zoning encourages a mix of housing types and sizes to accommodate households with a wide range of income levels. ³³⁸			1,2,3
Do codes allow varied lot and dwelling unit sizes?			
Strategy 17: Reduce or eliminate minimum single-family lot sizes.			1,2,3
Strategy 18: Reduce or eliminate multifamily development parking requirements in pedestrian-oriented districts such as town and village centers. ³³⁹			1,2
Strategy 19: Codes encourage a variety of dwelling unit sizes to allow smaller, affordable units. ^{340,341}			1,2,3
Allowing a Mix of Uses in New Development			
Do codes allow a mix of uses?			
Strategy 20: Zoning regulations allow residential units above commercial uses in appropriate districts. ³⁴²			1,2
Strategy 21: Zoning regulations allow residential units by right in commercial districts. ³⁴³			1,2
Meeting Housing Needs Through Comprehensive Plans and Local Government Policies			
Do new developments for older adults consider access to everyday needs?			
Strategy 22: Older adult housing developments are encouraged in locations where residents can reach shops, amenities, and services by walking or taking transit. ³⁴⁴			1,2,3

³³⁷ Home-sharing is generally defined as people who are not from the same immediate family living in one house. Many towns, especially college towns, restrict unrelated people from living together to prevent student housing from taking over neighborhoods. Communities should implement this practice with an understanding of how shared housing is affected. The National Shared Housing Resource Center provides additional information about shared housing: (<http://nationalsharedhousing.org>).

³³⁸ Mendocino County, California General Plan: Housing Element - a required element designed to facilitate the development of housing capable of meeting the needs of all County residents (<http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/planning/plans/planGeneralTOC.htm>).

³³⁹ Niwot, Colorado Rural Community District (<http://www.bouldercounty.org/property/build/pages/lucodeupdatedc120004.aspx>).

³⁴⁰ Albemarle County, Virginia Neighborhood Model: Mixture of Housing Types and Affordability (<http://www.albemarle.org/departments.asp?department=cdd&relpage=3981>).

³⁴¹ Sacramento, California Mixed Income Housing Ordinance (<http://www.shra.org/Housing/MultifamilyHousing/InclusionaryHousing.aspx>).

³⁴² Wake Forest, North Carolina Unified Development Ordinance Handbook (<http://www.wakeforestnc.gov/planning.aspx>).

³⁴³ Montgomery County, Maryland Commercial Residential Zones (http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/development/com_res_zones.shtm).

³⁴⁴ Atlanta Regional Commission's Lifelong Communities Program (<http://www.atlantaregional.com/aging-resources/lifelong-communities>).

VII. Meet Housing Needs for Different Ages and Incomes

Goal: Meet Housing Needs for Different Ages and Incomes ³²⁰	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ³²¹
Are there programs to inventory locations of new affordable housing developments?			
Strategy 23: Publicly owned land is identified that could be used for affordable homes. ^{345,346}			1,2,3
Strategy 24: Affordable homes are encouraged in locations near employment centers and with good transit access to reduce residents' transportation costs. ³⁴⁷			1,2
Does the local government encourage more rental housing to meet demand?			
Strategy 25: The local government encourages inclusion of affordable units in new market-rate rental housing to increase the supply and reduce rents. ³⁴⁸			1,2,3
Meeting Housing Needs Through Programs and Services			
Are tax incentive programs available?			
Strategy 26: The local government offers property tax abatements, rehabilitation funding, and/or other financial support to existing mixed-income rental housing in return for a commitment to affordable rent levels. ³⁴⁹			1,2,3
Strategy 27: A property tax abatement program is available for lower-income homeowners. ³⁵⁰			1,2,3
Strategy 28: Affordable housing developments receive support applying for Low Income Housing Tax Credits. ³⁵¹			1,2,3
Are there educational or technical assistance programs that help residents buy a home?			
Strategy 29: Homebuyer education programs are available. ³⁵²			1,2,3
Strategy 30: Provide support for nonprofit housing organizations that address housing needs, affordability, provide education and training for renters and first time homebuyers, etc. ³⁵³			1,2,3

³⁴⁵ Center for Housing Policy. Prioritize the use of suitable publicly-owned land for affordable homes (http://www.housingpolicy.org/toolbox/strategy/policies/public_land.html?tierid=157).

³⁴⁶ Washington State Legislature. Affordable Housing – Inventory of State-Owned Land (<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=43.63A.510>).

³⁴⁷ The Center for Neighborhood Technology's Housing + Transportation Affordability Index provides information on the combined cost of transportation and housing for several regions across the United States. More information on the index is available on their website: (<http://htaindex.cnt.org/about/>).

³⁴⁸ Minnesota House of Representatives. Tools for Increasing and Preserving the Current Supply of Affordable Rental Housing (<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/fiscal/moneymatters.asp>).

³⁴⁹ Buncombe County, North Carolina Workforce Housing Incentive Policy for Rental Development (<http://www.buncombecounty.org/Governing/Depts/Planning/Housing.aspx>).

³⁵⁰ New Hampshire Low and Moderate Income Homeowner's Property Tax Relief Program (<http://revenue.nh.gov/assistance/low-moderate.htm>).

³⁵¹ Michigan State Housing Development Authority. Low Income Housing Tax Credits (http://www.michigan.gov/mshda/0,1607,7-141-5587_5601---,00.html).

³⁵² Neighborhood Housing Services of San Antonio, Texas. Home Buyer Education Program (<http://www.nhsofsa.org/en/home-buyer-resources/homebuyer-education-program.aspx>).

VII. Meet Housing Needs for Different Ages and Incomes

Goal: Meet Housing Needs for Different Ages and Incomes³²⁰	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context³²¹
Strategy 31: A homeowner assistance program helps owners comply with code enforcement requirements if they cannot afford to comply on their own. ³⁵⁴			1,2,3
Are there programs that increase the supply of affordable housing stock?			
Strategy 32: A rehabilitation program invests funds in older housing stock while preserving its architectural integrity. ³⁵⁵			1,2,3
Strategy 33: The local government encourages churches and civic institutions to identify land they own that could be used for affordable housing. ³⁵⁶			1,2,3
Strategy 34: A home-sharing program allows older adults to identify people who live in centrally located, walkable, and mixed-use places near transit, and are interested in leasing space in their homes. ³⁵⁷			1,2

³⁵³ Washtenaw County, Michigan Housing Education Partners (<http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/departments/community-and-economic-development/housing-and-community-infrastructure/home-buyer-program/whelp/Homebuyer%20Education%20Program>).

³⁵⁴ Upper Darby Township, Pennsylvania Homeowner Improvement Code Compliance Program: Guidelines and Procedures (http://www.upperdarby.org/Gov/Community_Development/HICCP.html).

³⁵⁵ Cary, North Carolina's Housing Rehabilitation Program provides federal funds to assist residential property owners to undertake home repairs and improvements (http://www.townofcary.org/Departments/Planning_Department/Housing/Affordable_Housing_Initiative/Housing_Rehabilitation_Program.htm).

³⁵⁶ MWCOW Washington Area Housing Partnership: Toolkits for Affordable Housing Advocacy and Development (<http://www.wahpdc.org/>).

³⁵⁷ New Orleans, Louisiana: The Shared Housing of New Orleans program helps elderly and disabled individuals stay out of nursing homes (<http://sharedhousingofneworleans.org/>).

VIII. Preserve Historic and Cultural Resources

Reusing buildings, especially those with historic value, contributes to a community's distinctive identity, which can attract tourists and new residents. These buildings are often in the village or town center, so redeveloping them can bring new life to these places and absorb demand for residential, office, and retail space that might otherwise be satisfied at a more distant location. Preserving a community's cultural icons can also help attract tourism while promoting healthy living, beauty, and community pride.

Goal: Preserve Historic and Cultural Resources	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ³⁵⁸
Preserving Sites and Areas of Historical Significance			
Do codes create a process for designating and protecting historic properties and districts? ³⁵⁹			
Strategy 1: A local administrative body is established to oversee historic preservation. ^{360,361}			1,2,3
Strategy 2: Codes or guidelines establish criteria for designating a property or neighborhood as historic. ³⁶²			1,2
Strategy 3: A local historic district or overlay zone has been adopted by ordinance. ^{363,364}			1,2
Strategy 4: The administrative body reviews proposed additions, demolitions, new construction, rehabilitation projects, or other alterations to sites or buildings in the historic district. ³⁶⁵			1,2
Strategy 5: Codes establish criteria for issuing demolition permits for historic structures. ³⁶⁵			1,2
Respecting Important Historic and Cultural Resources			
Do codes establish design guidelines for new development?			
Strategy 6: Design standards apply to new residential and commercial development in historic or cultural districts to require design features that are consistent with the historic architecture or natural features of the area. ^{366, 367}			1,2

³⁵⁸ Self-assessment topics and recommendations apply to one or more of the following scales: 1 – large town/small city (population of approximately 10,000 or greater); 2 - village/small town (population typically under 10,000); 3 – rural (very low density places, working lands, and natural areas outside of towns, villages, and cities).

³⁵⁹ The New York State Historic Preservation Office provides information on a wide range of topics related to historic preservation (<http://nysparks.com/shpo/>).

³⁶⁰ This body is typically a historic preservation review commission or design review board for a designated historic district. An administrative review by local government staff is also an option.

³⁶¹ Montpelier Historic Preservation Commission (<http://www.montpelier-vt.org/group/68/Historic-Preservation-Commission.html>).

³⁶² Rockville, Maryland Historic Designation Criteria (<http://www.rockvillemd.gov/index.aspx?NID=625>).

³⁶³ A Model Historic District Ordinance for Local Governments in Pennsylvania (http://conservationtools.org/libraries/1/library_items/944-A-Model-Historic-District-Ordinance-for-Local-Governments-in-Pennsylvania).

³⁶⁴ Lynchburg, Virginia Historic Districts Ordinance, Guidelines, Descriptions, and Maps (<http://www.lynchburgva.gov/historic-districts-ordinance-guidelines-descriptions-and-maps>).

³⁶⁵ Boulder County, Colorado: Permit Process for Demolition and Alteration of Historic Structures (<http://www.bouldercounty.org/property/build/pages/historicdemo.aspx>).

VIII. Preserve Historic and Cultural Resources

Goal: Preserve Historic and Cultural Resources	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ³⁵⁸
Strategy 7: Design standards apply to the renovation of historic properties to ensure complementary features are integrated into new elements of the building. ^{368,7}			1,2
Do codes and policies encourage reuse or redevelopment of historic buildings?			
Strategy 8: Codes allow rezoning to allow historic buildings be repurposed for a mix of uses. ³⁶⁹			1,2
Do codes protect views of natural, historic, or culturally significant features?			
Strategy 9: Establish a review process for development in protected viewsheds (areas with views of attractive features such as ridge lines, water bodies, or landmarks). ³⁷⁰			1,2,3
Strategy 10: Local codes regulate the height and size of signs and billboards in protected viewsheds. ³⁷¹			1,2,3
Strategy 11: Subdivision codes encourage techniques, such as cluster subdivisions, to protect viewsheds. ^{372,373}			1,2,3
Preserving Historic and Cultural Resources Through Comprehensive Plans and Local Government Policies			
Have significant historic or cultural features been identified?			
Strategy 12: Develop an inventory of historic buildings, landmarks, and neighborhoods. ³⁷⁴			1,2
Strategy 13: The local government has established a historic district recognized by the National Register of Historic Places. ³⁷⁵			1,2

³⁶⁶ The Town of Dryden, New York has developed commercial and residential design guidelines. They are available from the town's website (<http://dryden.ny.us/departments/planning-department/planning/design-guidelines>).

³⁶⁷ Context sensitive zoning and development standards based on analysis of historic development patterns (http://www.ci.benicia.ca.us/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC={D87C20DD-AE9B-41D5-84A7-D29CAD93E9F3}).

³⁶⁸ The strategy refers to renovations of historic buildings, where substantive changes to or additions of doors, windows, façade elements, ceilings, and interior materials need to complement, but not necessarily match, the structure's historic elements.

³⁶⁹ Duvall, Washington Old Town – Mixed Use Zoning District (<http://www.duvallwa.gov/DocumentCenter/Home/View/519>).

³⁷⁰ Napa, California has a Viewshed Protection Program that aims to protect views of the area's ridges. Chapter 18.06 of the city's zoning ordinance describes it and it can also be found in the viewshed permit (<http://www.countyofnapa.org/pages/departmentscontent.aspx?id=4294968649>).

³⁷¹ Keuka Lake Waterfront Revitalization and Scenic Viewshed Protection Plan (http://www.stcplanning.org/usr/Program_Areas/Water_Resources/KeukaLake/Waterfront%20Revitalization%20and%20Scenic%20Viewshed%20Protection%20Plan_opt.pdf).

³⁷² Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. Model Zoning Ordinance for Rural Cluster Development (<http://www.sewrpc.org/SEWRPC/communityassistance/ModelOrdinancesGuides.htm>).

³⁷³ Conservation Subdivision Design Handbook (http://conservationtools.org/libraries/1/library_items/349-Conservation-Subdivision-Design-Handbook).

³⁷⁴ Santa Monica, California: Historic Resources Inventory (<http://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Historic-Resources-Inventory/>).

VIII. Preserve Historic and Cultural Resources

Goal: Preserve Historic and Cultural Resources	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ³⁵⁸
Strategy 14: Develop an inventory of significant viewsheds. ³⁷⁶			1,2,3
Strategy 15: Develop an inventory of cultural heritage tourism sites. ³⁷⁷			1,2,3
Preserving Historic and Cultural Resources Through Programs and Services			
Does the local government promote the rehabilitation and enjoyment of historic and cultural resources?			
Strategy 16: Historic structures and sites have interpretative signs and are included in the community's wayfinding signs. ³⁷⁸			1,2,3
Strategy 17: A self-guided historical walking tour is available to the community. ³⁷⁹			1,2,3
Strategy 18: A façade improvement and landscaping grant program is available for historic properties. ^{380,381}			1,2,3
Strategy 19: A tax credit or tax abatement is available to buy and/or renovate historic properties. ³⁸²			1,2,3
Strategy 20: A revolving loan fund is available to buy and/or renovate historic properties. ³⁸³			1,2,3
Strategy 21: Offer tax incentives to developers who redevelop historic buildings in city and town centers and maintain their historic character. ³⁸⁴			1,2

³⁷⁵ The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the Nation's historic places worthy of preservation. Authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places is part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect America's historic and archeological resources (<http://www.nationalregisterofhistoricplaces.com/>).

³⁷⁶ Hancock County Scenic Assessment Inventory and Analysis (<http://www.hcpcme.org/environment/view/>).

³⁷⁷ State of Utah Cultural Heritage Tourism Planning (<http://www.planning.utah.gov/CRMPHeritageTourism.htm>).

³⁷⁸ Best Practices for Developing Interpretive Signs (<http://www.watershedco.com/blog/interpretive-program-from-start-to-finish/>).

³⁷⁹ Alexandria Walking & Guided Tours (<http://www.visitalexandriava.com/things-to-do/tours/>).

³⁸⁰ Portland, Maine Façade Improvement Program (<http://www.portlandmaine.gov/557/Facade-Improvement-Program>).

³⁸¹ City of Yreka, California: The Miner Street Grant Program (<http://ci.yreka.ca.us/business/miner-street-grant-program>).

³⁸² Rockville, Maryland: Historic Tax Credit Program (<http://www.rockvillemd.gov/index.aspx?NID=627>).

³⁸³ City of Dubuque Historic Preservation Revolving Loan Fund (<http://www.cityofdubuque.org/index.aspx?NID=773>).

³⁸⁴ Creating American Prosperity through Preservation Act of 2013 (<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/113/s1141>).

IX. Provide Transportation Choices

Compact and mixed-use town and village centers can encourage walking and bicycling, and they can be served more effectively by intercity public transportation and paratransit. Making it safer and easier for people to walk and bike also helps people stay healthy and allows older residents the ability to stay within their homes and neighborhoods. Walkable, accessible downtown areas also help local economic development, as people can more easily reach their daily needs without having to leave town. Communities can provide more transportation choices through the design of new development and by retrofitting existing transportation facilities.

Goal: Provide Transportation Choices	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ³⁸⁵
Making Areas Walkable, Bikeable, and Accessible to People with Disabilities and Mobility Challenges			
Is pedestrian-oriented site design required for new development and redevelopment? ^{386,387,388,389}			
Strategy 1: The installation of sidewalks is required when new development is constructed. ^{390,391}			1,2
Strategy 2: At least one entrance is required on the side of the building that faces the street, and public or private sidewalks connect to that entrance. ³⁹²			1,2
Strategy 3: Sidewalk paths are clear of obstructions such as utility poles or mailboxes, allowing minimum clearance in pedestrian-oriented areas in new developments. ^{393,394}			1,2
Strategy 4: In pedestrian-oriented areas, maximum setbacks ensure that new buildings are close to sidewalks. ³⁹⁵			1,2
Strategy 5: Building façades have a minimum percentage of window space, ³⁹⁶ such as clear glass on at least 50 percent of the façade between 3 and 8 feet above grade. ³⁹⁷			1,2

³⁸⁵ Self-assessment topics and recommendations apply to one or more of the following scales: 1 – large town/small city (population of approximately 10,000 or greater); 2 - village/small town (population typically under 10,000) 3 – rural (very low density places, working lands, and natural areas outside of towns, villages, and cities).

³⁸⁶ Georgia DOT Pedestrian & Streetscape Guide: Toolkit 10 – Site Design for Pedestrians (http://www.bikewalk.org/pdfs/sopgeorgia_ped_streetscape_guide.pdf).

³⁸⁷ Kirkland, Washington Design Guidelines for Pedestrian-Oriented Business Districts (<http://www.kirklandwa.gov/Assets/Planning/Planning+PDFs/Design+Guidelines.pdf>).

³⁸⁸ Green Valley Institute. Design Guidelines: Village and Gateway Districts, Town of Coventry (http://www.greenvalleyinstitute.org/planning_design.htm).

³⁸⁹ Westminster, Colorado Design Guidelines for Traditional Mixed Use Neighborhood Developments (<http://www.ci.westminster.co.us/CityGovernment/CommunityDevelopment/PlanningDivision/RegulationsandDesignGuidelines.aspx>).

³⁹⁰ Smart Growth America. Complete Streets: Local Policy Workbook (<http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/complete-streets/changing-policy>).

³⁹¹ Change Lab Solutions. Creating Complete Streets (<http://changelabsolutions.org/publications/laws-resolutions-cs>).

³⁹² Fort Worth, Texas Zoning Ordinance: Urban Design/Form Based Districts (<http://fortworthtexas.gov/zoning/>).

³⁹³ In general, sidewalks need to be at least six feet wide for two people to pass comfortably.

³⁹⁴ Carrboro, North Carolina Town Code: Streets and Sidewalks (<http://www.ci.carrboro.nc.us/139/Carrboro-Town-Code>).

³⁹⁵ Ideally the maximum setback is 20 feet. The ideal sidewalk zone is 10 to 15 feet in “main street” areas, to include tree planting and furniture zone at the back of curb.

³⁹⁶ Commerce, Michigan Zoning Ordinance: Building Form and Composition (<http://www.commercetwp.com/sites/default/files/zoning/Article%2027%20-%20Form%20&%20Composition.pdf>).

IX. Provide Transportation Choices

Goal: Provide Transportation Choices	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context³⁸⁵
Strategy 6: Windows, doors, and murals are encouraged, on the sides of buildings that extend along sidewalks. ³⁹⁸			1,2
Strategy 7: Screen parking areas from sidewalks with landscaping or low walls. ³⁹⁹			1,2
Strategy 8: Require shared driveways for adjacent commercial properties.			1,2
Strategy 9: Parking lots are behind buildings in pedestrian-oriented areas.			1,2
Strategy 10: Apply designs that improve access for the disabled to sidewalks, crosswalks, and transit facilities when reconstruction or redevelopment takes place ⁴⁰⁰			
Strategy 11: Clear guidance indicates what entity is responsible for maintaining sidewalks.			1, 2
Strategy 12: Allow and encourage a mix of uses in pedestrian-oriented areas.			1,2
Do codes require bicycle parking?			
Strategy 13: Secure, public bicycle parking is required for new developments or redevelopments in village and town centers. ^{401,402}			1,2
Do codes set parking requirements based on demand and community context?			
Strategy 14: Shared, off-site, or reduced parking for new development and rezoned uses is allowed in village and town centers. ^{403,404}			1
Strategy 15: Buildings can reduce the amount of parking they need to supply if they are close to public transit or have bicycle parking, nearby public parking, or on-street parking. ⁴⁰⁵			1,2
Making Street Connections Within New Developments and Redevelopments and to Adjacent Neighborhoods			
Do codes require or encourage adequate pedestrian connections?			

³⁹⁷ Avoiding large stretches of windowless walls is important to creating sidewalks that feel safe and inviting.

³⁹⁸ When blank wall space is present, use murals or other façade improvements to create interest.

³⁹⁹ Park Ridge, Illinois Landscaping and Screening Ordinance (http://www.parkridge.us/assets/1/Documents/Section_13_Landscaping_and_Screening.pdf).

⁴⁰⁰ Boulder, Colorado Transportation Master Plan (<https://bouldercolorado.gov/transportation/tmp>).

⁴⁰¹ Bicycle racks will ideally have a minimum of three spaces in a given location. Larger developments or parking decks will have somewhere between one per 20 vehicle spaces and one per 50 vehicle spaces.

⁴⁰² Victoria Transport Policy Institute. Bicycle Parking (<http://www.vtpi.org/tdm/tdm85.htm>).

⁴⁰³ Madison, Mississippi Shared Parking Ordinance (<http://www.madisonthecity.com/communitydevelopment/planninganddevelopment.html>).

⁴⁰⁴ Shared parking fact sheet (<https://alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/planning/info/SharedParkingFactSheet.pdf>).

⁴⁰⁵ Cheyenne, Wyoming Unified Development Code – Article 6 Design Regulations (<http://www.cheyennecity.org/index.aspx?nid=1824>).

IX. Provide Transportation Choices

Goal: Provide Transportation Choices	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context 385
Strategy 16: Encourage street patterns with greater pedestrian connectivity by providing incentives for smaller blocks and more sidewalk coverage. ^{406,407}			1,2
Strategy 17: Encourage or require pedestrian connections and bicycle paths between abutting cul-de-sacs and dead-end streets. ⁴⁰⁶			1,2
Strategy 18: New subdivisions require a minimum connectivity measure for streets, such as a connectivity index, block lengths, block acreage, or length of space between intersections. ^{408,409,410}			1,2
Do codes require or encourage connections between new developments and adjacent neighborhoods?			
Strategy 19: New subdivisions require multimodal connections to adjacent neighborhoods or developments. ^{411,406}			1,2,3
Strategy 20: Dead-end street “stubs” are required to allow connections to future adjacent development. ⁴⁰⁶			1,2
Strategy 21: Access management strategies are required to connect adjacent non-residential developments along commercial corridors and to encourage shared driveways. ⁴¹²			1,2,3
Build and Retrofit Streets for All Users^{413,414,415}			
Do engineering or street design guidelines encourage or require infrastructure to support walking on new and existing streets?			
Strategy 22: Adopt sidewalk design, grading, and construction standards. ⁴¹⁶			1,2, 3
Strategy 23: Require sidewalk design based on the street’s intended use and context (for example, wider sidewalks and planting strips might be required in an activity center). ⁴¹⁷			1,2,3

⁴⁰⁶ Kentucky Transportation Cabinet. Street Connectivity Model Ordinance (<http://transportation.ky.gov/congestion-toolbox/pages/connectivity.aspx>).

⁴⁰⁷ Add Street-Connectivity Minimums into Subdivision Ordinances (<http://walksteps.org/tactics/add-street-connectivity-minimums-into-subdivision-ordinances/>).

⁴⁰⁸ Network connectivity can be measured either through a connectivity index represented by link-to-node ratio for new development. For example, VTPI identifies ratios of 1.4 and greater as desirable for improved walkability (<http://www.vtpi.org/tdm/tdm116.htm>). Alternatively, some communities have required minimum spacing standards intersections, where the average intersection for local streets cannot average greater than 300 to 400 feet.

⁴⁰⁹ Litman, Todd. “Evaluating Accessibility for Transportation Planning.” (<http://www.vtpi.org/tdm/tdm84.htm>).

⁴¹⁰ Cheyenne, Wyoming Unified Development Code – Article 4 Subdivision Regulations (<http://www.cheyennecity.org/index.aspx?nid=1824>).

⁴¹¹ Victoria Transport Policy Institute. Roadway Connectivity (<http://www.vtpi.org/tdm/tdm116.htm>).

⁴¹² FHWA. Access Management. Access management techniques, such as shared driveways and inter-parcel connections, are particularly important along linear commercial corridors, both for safety and preserving roadway function (http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/access_mgmt/what_is_accsmgmt.htm).

⁴¹³ This section pertains primarily to street construction or reconstruction rather than requirements for site development.

⁴¹⁴ Smart Growth America. Overview of the National Complete Streets Coalition (<http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/complete-streets>).

⁴¹⁵ Florida Department of Transportation Quality/Level of Service Handbook (<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/planning/systems/programs/sm/los/>).

⁴¹⁶ FHWA Designing Sidewalks and Trails for Access (http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/publications/sidewalk2/contents.cfm).

IX. Provide Transportation Choices

Goal: Provide Transportation Choices	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context 385
Strategy 24: Require minimum sidewalk setbacks from the curb or pavement edge when adjacent to a road with a greater than 35 mph posted speed, and not separated by street parking. ^{418,419}			1,2,3
Strategy 25: Require sidewalks on both sides of the streets in village and town centers. ^{420,421}			1,2
Strategy 26: Require signalized intersections to include walk signals that give pedestrians adequate crossing time. ⁴²²			1,2
Strategy 27: Intersections use high-visibility crosswalk striping and street signs. ^{423,424,425}			1,2,3
Strategy 28: Allow unsignalized crossings with guidance on their location and design and signs to alert drivers. ^{423,424,425}			1,2
Strategy 29: New or reconstructed bridges in cities and towns include sidewalks, as well as bicycle lanes and multimodal on/off ramps where appropriate. ⁴²⁶			1,2
Strategy 30: Permit on-street parking in pedestrian-oriented areas such as village and town centers.			1,2
Strategy 31: Require traffic calming and context-sensitive street design for streets in downtowns, around schools, in residential neighborhoods, and in other pedestrian activity centers. ^{427,428}			1
Do engineering or street design guidelines encourage or require infrastructure to support biking on new and existing streets?			
Strategy 32: New or reconstructed bridges include a wide shoulder or bicycle lane on both the bridge and on/off ramp. ⁴²⁶			1,2,3
Strategy 33: Bicycle facilities, such as dedicated lanes, share-the-lane markings, and/or signs are required on roads heavily used by bicycles and potential bike routes. ^{429,390,391}			1,2

⁴¹⁷ Institute of Transportation Engineers and Congress for the New Urbanism. "Designing Walkable Urban Thoroughfares: A Context Sensitive Approach." (<http://www.ite.org/css/>). Table 6.4 offers Design Parameters for Walkable Urban Thoroughfares based on place type.

⁴¹⁸ Kane County, Illinois Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (<http://kdot.countyofkane.org/Publications/Forms/AllItems.aspx>).

⁴¹⁹ Durham, North Carolina DurhamWalks Pedestrian Plan: Standards and Guidelines (http://www.bikewalkdurham.org/BPAC_pedplan.html).

⁴²⁰ Kirkland, Washington Design Guidelines for Pedestrian-Oriented Business Districts (<http://www.kirklandwa.gov/Assets/Planning/Planning+PDFs/Design+Guidelines.pdf>).

⁴²¹ Cookeville, Tennessee Sidewalk Requirements (<http://www.cookeville-tn.gov/planning/zoning-code/>).

⁴²² Tucson, Arizona Traffic Signal Design Manual (<http://www.tucsonaz.gov/tdot/traffic-engineering-division>).

⁴²³ Boulder, Colorado Pedestrian Crossing Treatments website (<https://boulder.colorado.gov/transportation/pedestrian-crossing-treatments>).

⁴²⁴ Massachusetts Highway Department. Traffic Safety Toolbox Series: Crosswalks (<http://www.mhd.state.ma.us/safetytoolbox/>).

⁴²⁵ North Central Section Institute of Transportation Engineers. Guidance for the Installation of Pedestrian Crossing Facilities (http://www.nc-ite.org/images/files/Crosswalk-Guidelines-w-appendices_021909.pdf).

⁴²⁶ Oregon DOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Design Guidelines (<http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/BIKEPED/Pages/planproc.aspx>).

⁴²⁷ Iowa State University Institute for Transportation. Evaluation of Gateway and Low-Cost Traffic Calming Treatments for Major Routes in Small, Rural Communities (<http://www.ctre.iastate.edu/research/detail.cfm?projectID=-226410767>).

⁴²⁸ Moraga, California Traffic Calming Guide (<http://www.moraga.ca.us/Default.aspx?PageID=6957156&A=SearchResult&SearchID=11070014&ObjectID=6957156&ObjectType=1>).

IX. Provide Transportation Choices

Goal: Provide Transportation Choices	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context³⁸⁵
Strategy 34: Rural highways include shoulders that provide sufficient space for bicyclists and have “share the road” signs to alert drivers. ⁴³⁰			3
Do engineering or street design guidelines encourage or require infrastructure to support transit use?			
Strategy 35: Provide shelters at bus stops. ⁴³¹			1
Strategy 36: Locate transit stops near crosswalks. ⁴³²			1
Strategy 37: Placement of a transit stops ensures pedestrian and bicycle safety by reducing interactions with high volume / high speed roads. ^{431,432}			1
Are impact fees assessed to help pay for multimodal transportation improvements in existing town centers?			
Strategy 38: An impact fee program or parking district revenues allocate funds to pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure improvements. ⁴³³			1
Strategy 39: An impact fee program or parking district revenues allocate funds to transit infrastructure and service improvements. ^{434,435}			1
Creating a Comfortable Environment for Walking and Biking			
Do codes require or encourage pedestrian- and bicyclist-oriented street lighting and signs?			
Strategy 40: Require pedestrian-oriented street lighting, with bases designed to reduce risk of injury to vehicle occupants and pedestrians, in village and town centers. ⁴³⁶			1,2
Strategy 41: Business signs hang perpendicular to sidewalks and streets so they can be seen more easily.			1,2
Strategy 42: Scale commercial and wayfinding signs to the pedestrian environment. ⁴³⁷			1,2,3

⁴²⁹ NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide (<http://nacto.org/cities-for-cycling/design-guide/>).

⁴³⁰ Valley Transportation Authority. Bicycle Technical Guidelines: Bikeways on Major Roads (<http://www.vta.org/projects-and-programs/planning/bikes-bicycle-technical-guidelines-btg>).

⁴³¹ Pima County, Arizona DOT Transit Guidelines for Roadway Design and Construction (http://webcms.pima.gov/UserFiles/Servers/Server_6/File/Government/Transportation/Roadway%20Design/Transit%20Guidelines.pdf).

⁴³² American Public Transportation Association. Bus Stop Design and Placement Security Considerations (<http://www.apta.com/resources/standards/Documents/APTA-SS-SIS-RP-008-10.pdf>).

⁴³³ Bellingham, Washington Transportation Impact Fees (<http://www.cob.org/services/planning/transportation/transportation-impact-fees.aspx>).

⁴³⁴ Teton County, Wyoming Transit Impact Fee Study (<http://www.tetonwyo.org/plan/docs/SpecialReports/TransitImpactFeeStudy.pdf>).

⁴³⁵ Municipal Research and Services Center. Impact Fees (<http://mrsc.org/Home/Explore-Topics/Planning/Land-Use-Administration/Impact-Fees.aspx>).

⁴³⁶ Medford, Oregon Street Lighting and Pedestrian-Scale Street Lighting Requirements (<http://www.ci.medford.or.us/CodePrint.asp?CodeID=3927>).

⁴³⁷ Rochester, New York Center City Tourist – Visitor Circulation and Pedestrian Wayfinding Study (<http://www.cityofrochester.gov/article.aspx?id=8589948735>).

IX. Provide Transportation Choices

Goal: Provide Transportation Choices	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context 385
Do codes include requirements for street trees?			
Strategy 43: Specify appropriate locations for street trees, including surrounding development context and placement within the right of way. ⁴³⁸			1,2
Strategy 44: Require street tree planting to be appropriate type and size so that they have enough space to grow and not disturb the sidewalk. ⁴³⁹			1,2
Strategy 45: Designate minimum sizes for street tree planting areas. ⁴³⁹			1,2
Improving Transportation Choices Through Comprehensive Plans and Local Government Policies			
Do planning documents call for the integration of multimodal improvements in all infrastructure projects?			
Strategy 46: Require projects to consider pedestrian, bicycle, and transit infrastructure for inclusion in all road construction, reconstruction, or maintenance projects. ^{390,391}			1,2,3
Strategy 47: Prepare a greenway trails plan in conjunction within transportation or parks and recreation plans. ^{440,441}			1,2,3
Strategy 48: Develop a pedestrian master plan to prioritize future investments. ^{442,443}			
Strategy 49: Develop a bicycle master plan to prioritize future investments. ^{444,445}			
Do planning documents identify priority areas for multimodal improvements?			
Strategy 50: Prioritize financing pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure improvements in downtowns and activity centers, around transit stops, and in areas that connect activity centers. ^{446,447}			1,2,3
Strategy 51: Amenities such as lighting, route and system maps, benches, and landscaping are provided at transit stops. ^{50,51}			1

⁴³⁸ Orange, California Master Street Tree Master Plan (http://www.cityoforange.org/depts/publicworks/street_tree_information.asp).

⁴³⁹ Burlington, Vermont Street Design Guidelines (<http://www.burlingtonvt.gov/DPW/Transportation-Plan>).

⁴⁴⁰ Wisconsin DOT Rural Bicycle Planning Guide (<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/bike.htm>).

⁴⁴¹ Scott County, Minnesota Rural Regional Trail Development & Design Guidelines (<http://www.co.scott.mn.us/PropertyGISLand/2030CompPlan/DetailedAreaPlanStudy/Pages/DAPRuralTrailAnalysis.aspx>).

⁴⁴² Conduct a sidewalk inventory to assess areas lacking sufficient sidewalks, and focus investment in sidewalks in these areas.

⁴⁴³ Lee's Summit, Missouri Public Sidewalk Inventory Analysis Report (<http://cityofls.net/Public-Works/Street-Programs-and-Maintenance/Sidewalk-Maintenance.aspx>).

⁴⁴⁴ Conduct a bicycle facilities inventory to assess areas lacking sufficient bicycle facilities, and focus investment in bicycle facilities in these areas.

⁴⁴⁵ Penfield, New York Bicycle Facilities Master Plan (http://www.penfield.org/index.php?pr=Plans_and_Studies).

⁴⁴⁶ Boulder, Colorado Multimodal Corridor Prioritization (<https://boulder.colorado.gov/transportation/multimodal-corridors-prioritization>).

⁴⁴⁷ Wheat Ridge, Colorado Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (<http://www.ci.wheatridge.co.us/1204/Bicycle-Pedestrian-Master-Plan>).

IX. Provide Transportation Choices

Goal: Provide Transportation Choices	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context 385
Do planning documents make connections between land development and transportation?			
Strategy 52: Clearly prioritize development in areas already served by existing transportation infrastructure in policy documents. ⁴⁴⁸			1,2,3
Improving Transportation Choices Through Programs and Services			
Are sidewalk improvements allocated funding on a regular basis?			
Strategy 53: Sidewalk construction and maintenance programs identify and invest in areas in need of improvements on a regular basis. ⁴⁴⁹			1,2
Strategy 54: Perform an audit and create a follow-up program to rebuild older sidewalks and crosswalks to better meet the needs of disabled users. ^{450,400}			1,2
Strategy 55: Perform an annual walkability audit for streets in town and village centers. ⁴⁵¹			1,2
Are there walking and biking educational programs and incentives?			
Strategy 56: Offer cycling safety and operational education programs for children. ⁴⁵²			1,2
Strategy 57: Provide pedestrian safety campaigns for pedestrians and motorists. ⁴⁵³			1,2
Strategy 58: Encourage employers to provide incentives or accommodations for walking or bicycling to work including incentive payments and showers in office buildings for bike commuters. ^{454,455}			1,2
Strategy 59: Establish, publish, and promote walking and biking routes in the community.			1,2,3
Strategy 60: Adopt a program to work with businesses in town centers to update and improve their street.			1,2

⁴⁴⁸ Carroll County, Maryland Rural Villages: Boundaries & Villages Designated as Priority Funding Areas (<http://ccgovernment.carr.org/ccg/compplan/ruralvillage/>).

⁴⁴⁹ Naperville, Illinois 2015 Sidewalk Removal and Replacement Program (<http://www.naperville.il.us/sidewalkreplace.aspx>).

⁴⁵⁰ United States Access Board. Public Rights of Way (<http://www.access-board.gov/provac>).

⁴⁵¹ Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center. Audits (http://www.pedbikeinfo.org/planning/tools_audits.cfm).

⁴⁵² Bicycle Coalition of Maine. Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Education Program (<http://www.bikemaine.org/safety-education/bike-ped-safety-education>).

⁴⁵³ North Carolina Department of Transportation. Watch For Me NC, statewide pedestrian and bicycle safety campaign (<http://www.watchformenc.org/>).

⁴⁵⁴ Pima Association of Governments (Arizona) Travel Reduction Program (<http://www.pagnet.org/Programs/TransportationPlanning/TravelReductionProgram/tabid/220/Default.aspx>).

⁴⁵⁵ US DOT Commuter Choice Primer (http://ntl.bts.gov/lib/jpodocs/repts_pr/13669.html).

X. Invest in Efficient Public Infrastructure Systems and Operations

Compact development allows existing infrastructure to serve more people and uses public funds more efficiently. Encouraging growth in village and town centers can help reduce the need for costly infrastructure extensions into undeveloped areas and can reduce maintenance and repair costs. Many communities also use green infrastructure to reduce stormwater runoff, which brings environmental benefits and can lower costs of treating wastewater.

Goal: Invest in Efficient Public Infrastructure Systems and Operations	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁴⁵⁶
Encouraging Cluster Development			
Do codes provide incentives to developers that promote cluster development? ⁴⁵⁷			
Strategy 1: Developers receive density bonuses in exchange for clustering new development. ^{458,459}			1,2
Strategy 2: Subdivision ordinance promotes cluster subdivisions. ^{460,461}			1,2,3
Do codes encourage efficiency in water and sewer infrastructure?			
Strategy 3: Allow shared or clustered septic systems. ⁴⁶²			3
Encouraging Growth in and Next to Existing Development			
Do codes encourage development in or next to village or town centers?			
Strategy 4: Codes provide incentives for developers to develop within or next to existing village or town centers. ^{463,464}			1,2
Reducing Stormwater Runoff ⁴⁶⁵			

⁴⁵⁶ Self-assessment topics and recommendations apply to one or more of the following scales: 1 – large town/small city (population of approximately 10,000 or greater); 2 - village/small town (population typically under 10,000); 3 – rural (very low density places, working lands, and natural areas outside of towns, villages, and cities).

⁴⁵⁷ Cluster development creates efficiencies in the initial capital cost of infrastructure and the long-term maintenance costs as well.

⁴⁵⁸ Elmore County, Idaho: Zoning and Development Ordinance: Cluster Subdivision Requirements and Regulations (<http://www.elmorecounty.org/Land%20Use/Z&DOrdinance.html>).

⁴⁵⁹ Newton, New Hampshire: Zoning Ordinance: Residential Open Space – Cluster Development (http://www.newton-nh.gov/Pages/NewtonNH_Planning/zoning/Archives/2011ZoningOrdinance/index).

⁴⁶⁰ Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. Model Zoning Ordinance for Rural Cluster Development (<http://www.sewrpc.org/SEWRPC/communityassistance/ModelOrdinancesGuides.htm>).

⁴⁶¹ Conservation Subdivision Design Handbook (http://conservationtools.org/libraries/1/library_items/349-Conservation-Subdivision-Design-Handbook).

⁴⁶² EPA has case studies about how some communities in the United States are managing wastewater, including clustered wastewater treatment units (<http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/septic/demos.cfm>).

⁴⁶³ California Resources for Sustainability. Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency: Infill Development - Barriers and Incentives (<http://cares.ucdavis.edu/resource/truckee-meadows-regional-planning-agency-infill-development-barriers-and-incentives>).

⁴⁶⁴ Tulsa Development Authority. Examples of Infill Development Incentives and Projects (http://www.tulsadevelopmentauthority.org/plans_brady_infill.html).

⁴⁶⁵ EPA's "Water Quality Scorecard" is a good resource for policy options for protecting and improving water quality.

X. Invest in Efficient Public Infrastructure Systems and Operations

Goal: Invest in Efficient Public Infrastructure Systems and Operations	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁴⁵⁶
Do codes require or allow pervious surfaces in appropriate locations?			
Strategy 5: The subdivision ordinance requires strategies that reduce impervious surface cover. ⁴⁶⁶			1,2,3
Strategy 6: Street design guidelines require permeable paving for sidewalks and other appropriate surfaces such as bike lanes and parking lanes. ^{467,468}			1,2
Strategy 7: A portion of parking lots, alleys, and roads in a new development are constructed with pervious material that is based on a prescribed proportion of the square footage.			1,2,3
Do codes encourage reducing impervious surfaces?			
Strategy 8: Require green infrastructure elements (such as trees, vegetated islands, swales, and rain gardens) to manage stormwater runoff from parking lots. ^{469,470}			1,2,3
Strategy 9: Allow two-track driveways. ⁴⁷¹			3
Strategy 10: Permit shared driveways or require for single-family residential developments. ⁴⁷²			1,2,3
Strategy 11: Permit shared parking lots for a mix of commercial, office, and institutional uses. ^{473,474}			1,2
Strategy 12: Codes encourage driveway width requirements (for example, minimum driveway width is no more than 9 feet). ⁴⁷⁵			1,2,3
Do codes encourage green infrastructure to reduce stormwater runoff?			
Strategy 13: Specify the types of trees and shrubs to use in landscaped areas based on which will best reduce stormwater runoff. ⁴⁷⁶			1,2,3

⁴⁶⁶ Nashua, Massachusetts: Maximum Impervious Surface Zoning (<http://www.nashuariverwatershed.org/what-we-do/protect-communities/lid-and-stormwater.html>).

⁴⁶⁷ Olympia, Washington has used pervious pavement in several municipal projects. Cost/benefits associated with using pervious pavement can be found at: (<http://olympiawa.gov/city-utilities/storm-and-surface-water/science-and-innovations/science-and-innovations-porous-pavement>).

⁴⁶⁸ Burlington, Vermont: Low Impact Development (LID) Amendment to CDO provides incentives for pervious paving (<http://www.burlingtonvt.gov/PZ/CDO>).

⁴⁶⁹ EPA case studies on green infrastructure has been planning, design, and construction (<http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/greeninfrastructure/>).

⁴⁷⁰ EPA. Managing Wet Weather with Green Infrastructure: Municipal Handbook and Incentive Mechanisms (<http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/greeninfrastructure/index.cfm#tabs-3>).

⁴⁷¹ Minneapolis, Minnesota: Code of Ordinances: Off-Street Parking and Loading (http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/projects/cped_parking).

⁴⁷² Bolton, Massachusetts: Rules and Regulations for Single and Shared Driveways (http://www.townofbolton.com/pages/BoltonMA_Planning/Rules%20and%20Regulations?textPage=1).

⁴⁷³ City of Madison, Mississippi: Shared Parking Ordinance (<http://www.madisonthecity.com/communitydevelopment/planninganddevelopment.html>).

⁴⁷⁴ Metropolitan Area Planning Council. Shared Parking (<http://www.mapc.org/resources/parking-toolkit/strategies-topic/shared-parking>).

⁴⁷⁵ Evanston, Illinois: Driveway Policies (<http://cityofevanston.org/public-works/transportation-engineering/policies/>).

X. Invest in Efficient Public Infrastructure Systems and Operations

Goal: Invest in Efficient Public Infrastructure Systems and Operations	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁴⁵⁶
Strategy 14: The code requires a minimum percentage of parking lots to be landscaped (for example 10 percent). ⁴⁷⁷			1,2,3
Strategy 15: Permit infiltration approaches that use soil and plants, such as rain gardens, planter gardens, and permeable and porous pavements. ^{478,479}			1,2,3
Do codes encourage stormwater management infrastructure as part of buildings?			
Strategy 16: Permit green roofs. ^{479,480}			1,2,3
Strategy 17: Water-harvesting devices, such as rain barrels and cisterns, are permitted. ⁴⁸¹			1,2,3
Expanding the Tree Canopy			
Do codes require tree plantings as part of new developments and street retrofits?			
Strategy 18: Private and public developments are required to include street trees. ⁴⁸²			1,2
Strategy 19: Street designs require the necessary surface area and volume of soil for the tree species selected. ^{483,484}			1,2
Encouraging Green Infrastructure			
Do codes require the construction and expansion of green infrastructure?			
Strategy 20: A minimum amount of a local road project cost goes towards green infrastructure elements. ^{485,486}			1,2,3
Strategy 21: Codes set green infrastructure retrofit standards for street rehabilitation, streetscaping, and road widening projects. ^{487,488}			1,2,3

⁴⁷⁶ Virginia Tech's Tree Ordinance Database includes sample code language from cities and towns around Virginia, including language on desirable species: (<http://www.web2.cnre.vt.edu/vtod/>).

⁴⁷⁷ Glenview, Illinois: Parking Lot Landscaping Ordinance & Design Guidelines (<http://glenview.il.us/government/Pages/OrdinancesCodes.aspx>).

⁴⁷⁸ Virginia Department of Forestry: Rain Gardens overview (<http://www.dof.virginia.gov/manage/riparian/rain-gardens.htm>).

⁴⁷⁹ Plant Connection, Inc. Green Roof Legislation, Policies, and Tax Incentives (<http://www.myplantconnection.com/green-roofs-legislation.php>).

⁴⁸⁰ Portland, Oregon: Ecoroof Incentive Program (<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/48724>).

⁴⁸¹ Crystal Lake, Illinois: ordinances include rain barrels. The small city also has a rain barrel incentive program that provides a water/sewer utility credit for residents who purchase rain barrels (<http://www.crystallake.org/departments/engineering/green-initiatives>).

⁴⁸² City of Orange, California: Master Street Tree Plan (<http://www.cityoforange.org/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?blobid=3500>).

⁴⁸³ Seattle, Washington: Street Trees and Landscape Architectural Standards (http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/rowmanual/manual/4_14.asp).

⁴⁸⁴ Burlington, Vermont: Street Design Guidelines (<http://www.burlingtonvt.gov/DPW/Transportation-Plan>).

⁴⁸⁵ EPA. Green Infrastructure Case Studies: Municipal Policies for Managing Stormwater with Green Infrastructure (<http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/greeninfrastructure/index.cfm>).

⁴⁸⁶ Portland, Oregon: Green Streets (<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/BES/44407>).

X. Invest in Efficient Public Infrastructure Systems and Operations

Goal: Invest in Efficient Public Infrastructure Systems and Operations	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁴⁵⁶
Studying Fiscal Impacts of Development and Expediting Projects With Less Impact			
Do codes provide incentives for lower impact development?			
Strategy 22: Require a fiscal impact analysis for major development projects. ⁴⁸⁹			1,2,3
Strategy 23: Up-to-date information about the cost of government services, such as roads, water, and sewer, is available for fiscal impact analyses. ⁴⁹⁰			1,2,3
Strategy 24: Require new developments in undeveloped areas to pay the full cost of required new offsite water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure. ^{491,492}			3
Strategy 25: Projects that include green infrastructure elements can go through an expedited review process ("green tape"). ⁴⁹³			1,2,3
Investing in Efficient Public Infrastructure Through Comprehensive Plans and Local Government Policies			
Do policies direct development to areas with existing infrastructure and away from environmentally sensitive areas?			
Strategy 26: Identify and prioritize areas with existing development for infrastructure investment. ⁴⁹⁴			1,2,3
Strategy 27: Identify highly efficient locations. ⁴⁹⁵			1,2
Strategy 28: Identify priority areas for conservation or land preservation. ⁴⁹⁶			1,2,3
Strategy 29: Establish a service fee to pay for inspection and maintenance of decentralized wastewater treatment systems. ⁴⁹⁷			3

⁴⁸⁷ Seattle Department of Transportation. Green Stormwater Infrastructure (http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/rowmanual/manual/6_4.asp).

⁴⁸⁸ Center for Neighborhood Technology. Upgrade Your Infrastructure: A Guide to the Green Infrastructure Portfolio Standard and Building Stormwater Retrofits (<http://www.cnt.org/publications/upgrade-your-infrastructure-a-guide-to-the-green-infrastructure-portfolio-standard-and>).

⁴⁸⁹ The International City/County Management Association has a primer on fiscal impact analysis (http://icma.org/en/icma/knowledge_network/documents/kn/Document/301983/Fiscal_Impact_Analysis_How_Todays_Decisions_Affect_Tomorrows_Budget).

⁴⁹⁰ Hooksett, New Hampshire: Cost of Community Services Study (http://www.snhpc.org/index.php?page=eco_dev).

⁴⁹¹ Montana Department of Transportation. Development Exactions and Incentives (<http://www.mdt.mt.gov/research/toolkit/m1/ftools/dei.shtml>).

⁴⁹² PolicyLink. Developer Exactions (<http://policylink.info/EDTK/Exactions/>).

⁴⁹³ Chicago, Illinois: Overview of the Green Permit Program (http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/bldgs/provdrs/green_permit.html).

⁴⁹⁴ Mississippi Department of Marine Resources. Community Character: Fixing it First (<http://smartgrowth.dmr.ms.gov/community-character>).

⁴⁹⁵ An efficient location would be well-connected to existing development and within walking distance of activities, shopping, and services.

⁴⁹⁶ Carroll County, Maryland: priority preservation areas that identify agricultural and forestry resource land for preservation (<http://ccgovernent.carr.org/ccg/compplan/PPA/>).

X. Invest in Efficient Public Infrastructure Systems and Operations

Goal: Invest in Efficient Public Infrastructure Systems and Operations	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context⁴⁵⁶
Investing in Efficient Public Infrastructure Through Programs and Services			
Are waste and wastewater management services or programs in place?			
Strategy 30: Establish a program to manage decentralized wastewater treatment systems. ⁴⁹⁸			3
Strategy 31: The local government supports and promotes composting. ⁴⁹⁹			1,2,3
Strategy 32: The local government establishes a recycling program. ⁵⁰⁰			1,2,3
Strategy 33: The local government offers household hazardous waste collection for items such as electronics, batteries, and light bulbs. ⁵⁰¹			1,2,3
Strategy 34: A “pay-as-you-throw” waste management program encourages recycling and composting. ⁵⁰²			1,2,3
Strategy 35: Materials generated during construction, renovation, and demolition activities are salvaged, reused, and recycled. ⁵⁰³			1,2,3

⁴⁹⁷ University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture. Center for Decentralized Wastewater Management (<http://onsite.tennessee.edu/>).

⁴⁹⁸ EPA. Handbook for Managing Onsite and Clustered (Decentralized) Wastewater Treatment Systems (<http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/septic/manuals.cfm>).

⁴⁹⁹ Sonoma County Waste Management Agency. Municipal composting program operations (http://www.recyclenow.org/disposal/municipal_composting.asp).

⁵⁰⁰ United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Information Center, provides information on the alternatives to waste disposal in rural areas (<http://www.nal.usda.gov/ric/ricpubs/waste.html>).

⁵⁰¹ Hanover, New Hampshire Household Hazardous Waste & Unwanted Medicine Collection (http://www.hanovernh.org/Pages/HanoverNH_PublicWorks/Recycle/2014haz).

⁵⁰² EPA provides information on “pay as you throw” programs across the United States (<http://www.epa.gov/epawaste/conserve/tools/payt/index.htm>).

⁵⁰³ San Mateo County Salvage & Reuse of Construction Materials (http://www.recycleworks.org/con_dem/salvage.html).

XI. Use Energy Efficiently and Provide Renewable Energy

More efficient homes and offices save money for people, businesses, and local government and can improve the environment by reducing energy demand. Locally produced renewable energy can create jobs and provide a reliable energy source. Open space and agricultural land can house wind or solar energy installations, providing additional income for farmers and ranchers.

Goal: Use Energy Efficiently and Provide Renewable Energy	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ⁵⁰⁴
Improving Energy Efficiency in New Construction and Renovations			
Are energy efficiency standards required for new construction and renovations?			
Strategy 1: The building code has minimum requirements for building insulation. ^{505,506}			1,2,3
Strategy 2: The building code requires measures in new construction to limit air exchange around and through doors, windows, and where exterior walls meet to reduce indoor to outdoor air exchange. ^{506,507}			1,2,3
Strategy 3: The building code encourages high solar reflectivity in roof materials. ^{508,509}			1,2,3
Strategy 4: The building code sets standards for the energy efficiency of heating and cooling equipment. ^{510,511}			1,2,3
Strategy 5: Provide incentives for builders who install ENERGY STAR or similarly efficient appliances. ⁵¹²			1,2,3
Strategy 6: The building code requires ducts and pipes to be insulated. ^{513,514}			1,2,3
Do site development requirements promote energy efficiency?			
Strategy 7: Guidelines are available for climate-appropriate building orientation to maximize natural solar heat and minimize cooling loads in buildings. ⁵¹⁵			1,2,3

⁵⁰⁴ Self-assessment topics and recommendations apply to one or more of the following scales: 1 – large town/small city (population of approximately 10,000 or greater); 2 - village/small town (population typically under 10,000) 3 – rural (very low density places, working lands, and natural areas outside of towns, villages, and cities).

⁵⁰⁵ Minnesota State Residential Energy Code Requirements (<https://www.energycodes.gov/adoption/states/minnesota>).

⁵⁰⁶ Daly City Municipal Requirements (http://www.dalycity.org/City_Hall/Departments/ECD/building.htm).

⁵⁰⁷ U.S. Department of Energy. Guide to Air Sealing (http://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/guide_to_air_sealing.pdf).

⁵⁰⁸ EPA. Cool Roofs: Urban Heat Island Mitigation (<http://www.epa.gov/heatisland/mitigation/index.htm>).

⁵⁰⁹ California Title 24 and Cool Roofs (<http://www.title24express.com/what-is-title-24/title-24-cool-roof/>).

⁵¹⁰ New York State Heating, Ventilation, and Air-Conditioning standards (<http://www.dos.ny.gov/DCEA/>).

⁵¹¹ California Building HVAC Requirements (CEC-400-2013-001) (http://www.energy.ca.gov/2008publications/CEC-400-2008-016/rev1_chapters/RCM_Chapter_4_HVAC.pdf).

⁵¹² State Appliance Efficiency Standards (http://www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/documents/pdf/guide_action_chap4_s4.pdf).

⁵¹³ Virginia Mechanical Code: Duct Systems (http://www2.iccsafe.org/states/virginia/Mechanical/Mech_Frameset.html).

⁵¹⁴ 2012 North Carolina Residential Energy Code (<http://ncenergystar.org/energy-code>).

⁵¹⁵ U.S. Green Building Council. Solar Orientation Guidelines (<http://www.usgbc.org/credits/ea51>).

XI. Use Energy Efficiently and Provide Renewable Energy

Goal: Use Energy Efficiently and Provide Renewable Energy	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context 504
Strategy 8: Site lighting and lighted signs are required to be energy efficient. ⁵¹⁶			1,2,3
Producing Renewable Energy Locally			
Do codes allow small-scale renewable energy production?			
Strategy 9: Allow solar photovoltaics on commercial and residential structures and sites. ^{517,518}			1,2,3
Strategy 10: Allow solar water heaters on commercial and residential structures and sites. ⁵¹⁹			1,2,3
Strategy 11: Allow wind turbines on or near commercial and residential structures and sites. ⁵²⁰			1,2,3
Do codes allow large-scale renewable energy production?			
Strategy 12: Allow renewable energy production at different scales in rural, residential, commercial, and industrial districts. ^{521,522}			1,2,3
Strategy 13: Allow renewable energy production operations on agricultural land. ⁵²³			1,2,3
Using Energy Efficiently Through Comprehensive Plans and Local Government Policies			
Do land use plans and policies support compact development and redevelopment of existing town centers? ⁵²⁴			
Strategy 14: Major government offices are located in village or town centers. ⁵²⁵			1,2
Strategy 15: Require an analysis on the impact of new development on energy use prior to annexing new land into the city or town. ⁵²⁶			1,2
Strategy 16: Identify future potential areas for annexation. ⁵²⁶			1,2
Does the local government promote and monitor energy efficiency?			
Strategy 17: Implement a green roofs program to reduce the amount of energy needed to cool buildings. ⁵²⁷			1,2

⁵¹⁶ U.S. Department of Energy. Outdoor Lighting Resources (<http://energy.gov/eere/ssl/outdoor-lighting-resources>).

⁵¹⁷ Cape Coral Photovoltaic Solar Permit Guidelines (http://www.capecoral.net/departments/community_development/permitting/documents_required_for_permits.php#VPTe2fnF9gg).

⁵¹⁸ American Planning Association. Model Solar Ordinances and Commentary (<https://www.planning.org/pas/infopackets/open/eip30.htm>).

⁵¹⁹ U.S. Department of Energy. Solar Water Heaters. (<http://energy.gov/energysaver/articles/solar-water-heaters>).

⁵²⁰ Oregon Department of Energy. Residential Wind Systems (<http://www.oregon.gov/energy/renew/pages/wind/small.aspx>).

⁵²¹ Natural Resources Defense Council. Renewable Energy for America (<http://www.nrdc.org/energy/renewables/>).

⁵²² Accomack County Draft Industrial Zoning District permits alternative energy and biofuels production (http://accomackcounty.eregulations.us/code/coor_apxid1370_ch106_artvi).

⁵²³ Sonoma County. Renewable Energy: Zoning For Renewable Energy (http://www.sonoma-county.org/prmd/docs/renewable_energy/).

⁵²⁴ EPA. Study on Location Efficiency and Housing Type – Boiling it Down to BTUs (http://www.epa.gov/dced/location_efficiency_BTU.htm).

⁵²⁵ City of Aspen Civic Master Plan (<http://www.aspenpitkin.com/Results/?search=civic+master>).

⁵²⁶ Fort Worth Annexation Policy, Program, and Plan (<http://fortworthtexas.gov/planninganddevelopment/misc.aspx?id=8662>).

⁵²⁷ Portland Ecoroof Program (<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/bes/44422>).

XI. Use Energy Efficiently and Provide Renewable Energy

Goal: Use Energy Efficiently and Provide Renewable Energy	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context 504
Strategy 18: Create and institute a recommissioning plan for public facilities. ⁵²⁸			1,2
Strategy 19: Conduct a municipal energy use inventory and identify investments to improve efficiency. ⁵²⁹			1,2
Strategy 20: The local government has adopted a goal for increasing energy efficiency in public facilities. ⁵³⁰			1,2
Strategy 21: Conduct a community-wide energy use inventory and identify public or private investments to improve efficiency. ⁵³¹			1,2
Strategy 22: Adopt a community-wide goal for improving energy efficiency and track progress toward the goal over the long term. ⁵³²			1,2
Using Energy Efficiently Through Programs and Services			
Is electricity from renewable sources available locally?			
Strategy 23: Local public utilities have committed to producing a certain percentage of energy with renewable resources. ⁵³³			1,2
Strategy 24: Local public utilities provide a renewable energy purchase program. ⁵³⁴			1,2
Strategy 25: The local government produces energy from renewable sources or as a part of standard operations. ^{535,536}			1,2
Does the community support transportation using less-polluting energy sources?			
Strategy 26: Electric vehicle charging stations are available in public parking areas. ⁵³⁷			1,2
Strategy 27: The local government fleet uses alternative fuel vehicles such as natural gas or electric vehicles. ⁵³⁸			1,2

⁵²⁸ Minnesota State Public Buildings Enhanced Energy Efficiency Program Reports (<https://mn.gov/commerce/energy/businesses/financial/Energy-Savings-Programs/Government/Public-Buildings-Enhanced-Energy-Efficiency-Program/PBEEP-State-Reports.jsp>).

⁵²⁹ City of Bloomington, Indiana 2010 Local Government Operations: Energy Use and Emissions Inventory (<http://bloomington.in.gov/energyresources>).

⁵³⁰ Charles County Energy Action Plan for County Facilities (<http://www.charlescounty.org/green/>).

⁵³¹ City of Knoxville, Tennessee. Energy and Sustainability Initiative: 2014 Work Plan & Emissions Inventory Update (<http://www.cityofknoxville.org/sustainability/>).

⁵³² City of Asheville, North Carolina. Reducing Energy Use in the East of the Riverway (<http://www.ashevilenc.gov/portals/0/city-documents/communitydevelopment/community%20energy%20reduction%20policy%20analysis%2012%2006%2012.pdf>).

⁵³³ Massachusetts Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS) & Alternative Energy Portfolio Standard Programs (APS) (<http://www.mass.gov/eea/energy-utilities-clean-tech/renewable-energy/rps-aps/>).

⁵³⁴ Estes Park, Colorado Renewable Energy Purchase Program (<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/townofestespark/renewable-energy-purchase-program>).

⁵³⁵ Examples of this include solar power, wind power, yard waste to energy, solid waste to energy, and methane capture from landfills.

⁵³⁶ EPA Top 30 On-site Generation list – represents partners generating and consuming the most green power on-site within the Green Power Partnership (<http://www.epa.gov/greenpower/toplists/top30onsite.htm>).

⁵³⁷ City of Tacoma Public Electric Vehicle Charging Stations (https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/city_departments/environmentalservices/office_of_environmental_policy_and_sustainability/green_living_resources_and_map/transportation/electric_vehicles).

⁵³⁸ MARTA Sustainability Program: Compressed Natural Gas bus fleet (<http://www.itsmarta.com/textver/update.aspx?id=9981>).

XI. Use Energy Efficiently and Provide Renewable Energy

Goal: Use Energy Efficiently and Provide Renewable Energy	Adopted? (Yes or No)	Add or Improve? (Yes or No)	Context ⁵⁰⁴
Strategy 28: Natural gas fueling stations are available and open to the public. ⁵³⁹			1,2
Are energy conservation strategies considered in government programs and purchases?			
Strategy 29: Implement and establish a lighting retrofit program for public facilities and a plan for replacing fixtures with energy efficient options. ⁵⁴⁰			1,2
Strategy 30: Vehicle purchasing decisions consider the fuel efficiency of the municipal fleet. ⁵⁴¹			1,2
Strategy 31: Perform energy audits on public buildings and identify actions to improve their efficiency. ⁵⁴²			1,2
Are energy efficiency programs available to the general public?			
Strategy 32: The city or county provides energy audits through the local public utility. ⁵⁴³			1,2
Strategy 33: The local public utility provides programmable thermostats. ⁵⁴⁴			1,2
Strategy 34: Grant or revolving loan programs are available for energy-efficiency upgrades. ^{545, 546, 547}			1,2

⁵³⁹ California Natural Gas Vehicle Coalition. Fueling Station Directory and Locators (<http://www.cngvc.org/news-and-resources/fueling-stations.php>).

⁵⁴⁰ King County, Washington Energy Efficient Lighting Implementation Plan (http://www.kingcounty.gov/operations/procurement/Services/~media/operations/procurement/documents/EP_Products_Lighting.ashx).

⁵⁴¹ Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission. Green your Fleet Strategies (<http://www.morpc.org/Search/index?s=green%20your%20fleet>).

⁵⁴² New Jersey Local Government Energy Audits: Guidelines and Application Forms (<http://www.njcleanenergy.com/LGEA>).

⁵⁴³ Fort Collins Home Efficiency Audit Services and Rebates (<http://www.fcgov.com/utilities/residential/conserve/home-efficiency-program/>).

⁵⁴⁴ The Austin Energy Power Saver Program (http://powersaver.austinenenergy.com/wps/portal/psp/about/!ut/p/a1/iZBfb4lwFMU_vx7o26QUZbqkWRB1og7HiH_gxRTsElcU20Ljtx_qy0w0s8lNe3N_p-fm6KG-QsOcVGICZMpykp360FpD1EZDByK3bfcRdD3YNyd9H05dQwaCv8B0-tmC7ssXmvGz02jPiQf1d44N_9Mv9fAaubHBBbhvMXpgSTuPzHaih5x-U055o-R1OFspi1cNaAp1UgYSzLaiNleg_X0TRASAY8l3oEDBITwGAsGwMliihWNQLzBCFR0g6HjuP5gZ3dBLcOnPzXdtDUDDU5VMEW5IFXtSUoh05zmlCfHs089VoW4UFyS7PwSxekiESsloCluentnESyDKT3OhD8bqwnSPQVKkwB74O8c7525w0B46aaTSyMW6Ygsmutk2LJ-LB-INEF4aQ2P1jlt7pOT5U-NT7480CBqNriqGp0LNg0bkW0ZULqg-to9GI_X8FdK6sm9tMvtuGwUQ!!/dl5/d5/L2dBISEvZ0FBIS9nQSEh/).

⁵⁴⁵ Eligible improvements typically include insulation, weatherization, and upgrades to outdated equipment and fixtures.

⁵⁴⁶ Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. Financing and Tax Incentives for Homeowners (<http://www.mass.gov/eea/energy-utilities-clean-tech/energy-efficiency/ee-for-your-home/financing-and-tax-incentives-for-homeowners.html>).

⁵⁴⁷ Lansing, Michigan Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund Information, Guidelines, and Application.

