

Appendix A

Principles and Guidelines

Principles and guidelines are provided to facilitate coordination with other units of government and to serve to reinforce the goals, objectives and policies of the Intergovernmental Coordination Element.

PRINCIPLE A: In order to maximize intergovernmental coordination, organizations designed to promote coordination and cooperation among all levels of government should be established and actively supported.

Guidelines:

- a) Increase the general public's understanding of and support for the establishment of coordinative organizations and activities.
- b) Explore all possible funding sources which may be utilized for the establishment and support of coordinative organizations and activities.
- c) Attempt to formally establish the roles and responsibilities of all participating government entities.

PRINCIPLE B: The establishment and refinement of procedures designed to enhance intergovernmental coordination should be a continuous and flexible process.

Guidelines:

- a) Reevaluate, on a periodic basis, all established procedures intended to promote intergovernmental coordination among all levels of government.
- b) Encourage the establishment of and support procedures which enhance intergovernmental coordination.
- c) Provide continuous support to coordinative organizations with regard to improving and implementing their operating procedures.
- d) Evaluate existing coordinative procedures in relation to their effectiveness at promoting adopted goals and objectives.
- e) Improve or abolish those operating procedures which are not or have not been highly effective.

PRINCIPLE C: Effective intergovernmental coordination mandates the active participation of all affected government entities on matters which transcend jurisdictional boundaries.

Guidelines:

- a) Strive to maximize intergovernmental coordination and cooperation among federal, state and local government entities.
- b) Participate, to the greatest extent possible, in intergovernmental coordination activities and organizations.
- c) Promote among all public and private citizens an awareness of and an appreciation for intergovernmental coordination.
- d) Promote the coordination of programs and activities which are of mutual concern and benefit in order to reduce procedural fragmentation and duplication of effort.
- e) Evaluate the potential impacts proposed programs and activities may have on adjacent government entities before actively pursuing implementation.

PRINCIPLE D: Technical and policy coordination prior to plan or program development reduces those conflicts which may arise during implementation and contributes to greater operational efficiency.

Guidelines:

- a) Encourage coordination and communication among the general public, the elected officials and the professional staffs of all government entities with respect to current and/or future programs and activities.
- b) Increase the general public's understanding of and support for policy planning on the federal, state and local level.
- c) Encourage discussions aimed at resolving current or potential areas of disagreement which pertain to existing and/or proposed technical standards and policies.
- d) Establish and support technical advisory committees which are responsible for promoting uniform technical standards and policies.
- e) Provide technical assistance to and exchange information with other government entities on matters of mutual concern.

PRINCIPLE E: The continuous dissemination of information pertaining to current and/or future programs and activities, especially those related to comprehensive planning, is essential for meaningful intergovernmental coordination.

Guidelines:

- a) To every extent possible, the comprehensive plan and elements thereof shall be consistent with those of state, regional and other local government entities.
- b) Transmit all comprehensive plan elements and other relevant documents for review and comment prior to their adoption and implementation.
- c) Notify and offer an opportunity for comment to all government entities which might be affected by proposed and/or revised programs and activities.
- d) Consider all comments received by affected/concerned government entities pertaining to transmitted comprehensive plan elements or other relevant documents.
- e) Consider the programs and activities of surrounding jurisdictions before making decisions which may have multi-jurisdictional effects.