

Planning 101

The Value of Planning

Montana Association of Planners
September 14, 2011



Good planning...

- Works to improve the welfare of people and their communities
- Enables civic leaders, businesses, and citizens to play a meaningful role in creating communities
- Helps create communities that offer better choices for where and how people live



What makes a great place?

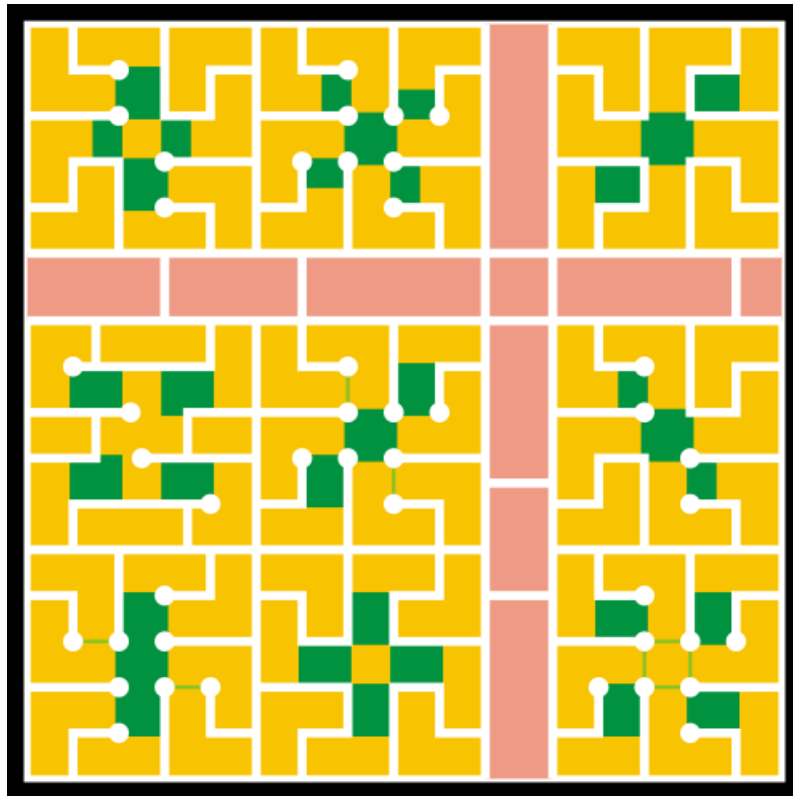
- Better choices for where and how people work and live
- Enjoyable, safe, and desirable
- What defines great places:
 - Accessibility
 - Functionality
 - Architectural features
 - People

Accessibility



- Choice
- Economics
- Dependency
- Health

Functionality



- Connectivity
- Convenience
- Availability of services
- Health and safety

Architectural Features



- Landscaping
- Street furniture
- Lighting
- Building facades
- Roof planes
- Mass
- Scale

People



- Public involvement
- Public buy-in
- Community
- Consensus



Why Plan?

- Good plans shape good decisions
- Money follows plans
- Required



A Planner is a professional...

- Knowledgeable in the history and methodology of community development
- Familiar with the U.S. Constitution and amendments
- Familiar with land use law
- Understands the consequences of growth and decline
- Compels meaningful public dialogue
- Creates solutions through a public process



A Day in the Life of a Planner

- Communicates with the public, elected officials and other affected agencies
- Researches case law, demographics, state statutes and local code
- Analyzes and reports on development impacts
- Assesses current and future needs
- Mediates conflicts
- Reaches out to the community



Daily Benefits of Planning

- The daily commute
- The work place
- A place to recreate
- A place to relax
- A safe and affordable lifestyle
- An opportunity to shape the community
- Confidence in the future



Current Planning Issues

- Sustainability
 - Energy
 - Transportation
 - Social Equity
 - Economy
- Livability
 - Transportation
 - Housing
 - Environment
 - Health
 - Food
- Recovery
 - Energy
 - Transportation
 - Housing
- Climate Change
 - Energy
 - Transportation
 - Food



The Future of Planning

- Changing demographics
- Changing lifestyles
- Disaster mitigation
- Transportation choices
- Housing choices
- Energy conservation