

Comprehensive Policy Plan
"Living Spaces"

Policy Letter 214: Planning Coordination

BACKGROUND:

A critical link in effectively promoting a small community atmosphere and the idea that a school is a neighborhood focal point is to integrate the various governmental and civic entities into planning coordination. In respect to residential neighborhoods and their development, the City Planning Department, the Fargo Parks and Recreation Department, and the Fargo Public School System greatly impact the community by their individual land use policy or practices. The perception of this committee is that not all three entities are collectively sharing information and assets, and a certain amount of counterproductive independent institutional thinking and acting is hindering orderly development.

What may be missing is some kind of common cooperative planning process that focuses on identifying the citizen needs and desires for development in residential areas, and strives to meet them in a more collective manner. The system of accountability for each entities actions is already in place through the individual elected boards, but to a certain degree, public awareness, understanding, and involvement in defining land use policy needs to be improved.

POLICY STATEMENT:

The City of Fargo should stage and guide development and redevelopment of residential neighborhoods by promoting open and regular communication related to planning and development issues. Coordination between representatives at different levels of various government and civic entities must occur to ensure the community's interests are best met.

CONCLUSION:

Staff from the City of Fargo Planning Department may serve as the "vehicle" to ensure proper communications will develop to promote and continue cooperative efforts associated with the park-school-city concept of orderly development in residential neighborhoods. All three parties involved, the Parks, Schools, and the City sincerely believe they are doing the right thing from their point of view and this policy is not meant to offend anyone. By effectively sharing information and assets related to land use policy, planning, and development of our residential neighborhoods, the City of Fargo can move in the direction most desired by the citizens.