WHAT WE DO:
COUNTY PLANNING &
ZONING

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

May 16, 2012
COUNTY ZONING IN IOWA

The “Typical” County Zoning Office
STATUS OF ZONING IN IOWA COUNTIES 2006

Legend:
- Yes
- Partially Zoned
- Subdivision Only
- Zoning Pending
- Subdivision Pending
- No

Prepared by Kay Mocha
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February 28, 2006
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Planning &amp; zoning (all aspects)</td>
<td>44%</td>
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<tr>
<td>E911</td>
<td>4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weed control</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environmental Health</td>
<td>14%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personnel/Human Relations</td>
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<td>Information Technology</td>
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<td>Safety Officer</td>
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<td>Non-county duties</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
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<tr>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planning &amp; zoning</td>
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<tr>
<td>E911</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Tax Deeds</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>110%</strong></td>
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Zoning Administrators in Iowa...

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

- Low Impact Development (LID) / “green” building
- Alternative energy/renewable fuels
- Regional planning / watershed management
- Local food systems
- Aggregate resources
THE IOWA SMART PLANNING PRINCIPLES
Origins in the Rebuild Iowa Office “green paper” *Recovering from the Storms, Planning for the Future: A Safer, Smarter, Stronger Iowa*

Passed during the 2010 legislative session, Senate File 2389 established ten smart planning principles.

The bill states state agencies and local governments “shall consider and may apply” these principles when making planning, zoning, & development decisions.
Four primary components of the bill:
1. Iowa Smart Planning Principles
2. Optional Plan Elements
3. Iowa Smart Planning Task Force
4. $30 Million Disaster Mitigation Grant Program
The 10 Smart Planning Principles

2. Efficiency, Transparency and Consistency.
4. Occupational Diversity.
5. Revitalization.
6. Housing Diversity.
7. Community Character.
8. Natural Resources and Agricultural Protection.
10. Transportation Diversity.
There are 13 elements that may be included in a local comprehensive plan.

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

Also, a plan shall address prevention & mitigation of, response to, and recovery from a catastrophic flood.
Task Force responsibilities:

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

- Recommendations were finalized on Nov. 10, 2010 and submitted to the Governor and General Assembly on Nov. 15, 2010
- Grouped into five categories:
  - State Level Coordination
  - Regional Planning Framework
  - Financial Incentives & Technical Assistance
  - Watershed Planning & Implementation
  - State Code Consistency
4.1: Enhance watershed planning, coordination, and implementation by creating goals and strategies referencing land use for each of Iowa’s six major river basins and three major river regions.
Proposed Smart Planning Framework

Local Planning & Decision-Making

- Local

Investment Coordination, Funding & Technical Assistance

State

Regional Planning & Technical Assistance

Region

Achieve a high level of horizontal and vertical coordination