

City Of Plano

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

PUBLIC SERVICES AND FACILITIES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	7-1
MAJOR PROPOSALS	7-1
Service/Facility Planning	7-1
Police Protection	7-1
Fire Protection/Emergency Medical Service (EMS)	7-1
Library Services	7-2
Solid Waste Collection Service	7-2
Public Buildings	7-2
POLICE PROTECTION	7-2
Conditions/Trends/Issues	7-2
Goals/Objectives/Policies	7-3
Recommendations	7-4
FIRE PROTECTION/EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE (EMS)	7-4
Conditions/Trends/Issues	7-4
Goals/Objectives/Policies	7-5
Recommendations	7-6
LIBRARY SERVICES	7-6
Conditions/Trends/Issues	7-6
Goals/Objectives/Policies	7-7
Recommendations	7-8
SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES	7-8
Conditions/Trends/Issues	7-8
Goals/Objectives/Policies	7-8
Recommendations	7-9
PUBLIC BUILDINGS	7-9
Conditions/Trends/Issues	7-9
Goals/Objectives/Policies	7-10
Recommendations	7-10
FACILITY LOCATION GUIDELINES	7-11
FIGURES	
Figure 1: Police and Fire Station Locations	7-2
Figure 2: Library Services Area	7-6

City Of Plano

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

PUBLIC SERVICES AND FACILITIES ELEMENT

INTRODUCTION

This element of the Comprehensive Plan addresses a wide range of services and facilities provided by the City, including police protection, fire protection and emergency medical services, library services, solid waste collection services, and public buildings. Each is an important aspect of the quality of life enjoyed by Plano residents and property owners.

This chapter is organized according to service/facility. Each section describes conditions, trends and issues affecting a particular functional area; defines goals, objectives and policies; and provides specific recommendations to supplement the policies. Listed below are the major proposals for public services and facilities.

MAJOR PROPOSALS

Service/Facility Planning

The pattern and intensity of growth directly impact each of the five functional areas in this chapter. Therefore, programs are needed that will provide for both long and short term needs. First, a long-range Master Plan identifying anticipated needs at "build-out" should be developed. Second, to provide for more immediate needs while ensuring that long term goals and objectives can still be met, a five-year, short-range plan with annual updates is proposed.

The public services and facilities chapter includes a series of Facility Location Guidelines covering police protection, fire protection/EMS, library services, and solid waste collection.

Police Protection

The City should continue its emphasis on expanding crime prevention and public education programs for residents and businesses. Neighborhood Crime Watch units should be organized throughout the City, and a business crime prevention program should be developed to meet the needs of Plano's economic sector. Expansion of police force and should also be supported as Plano grows.

Fire Protection/Emergency Medical Service

The City should continue to support the Fire Department's program of reducing fire loss through fire prevention, public education and training. This includes requiring proper construction techniques, strict adherence to fire codes, and use of sprinkler systems and other modern technologies to reduce manpower needs. It is also recommended that a special study be undertaken to determine the relationship of roofing standards to fire protection and prevention, insurance, and public safety.

Primarily a single-family residential community, Plano has experienced predominantly residential-associated property crimes such as burglary and larceny. A major City strategy has been crime prevention and the development of neighborhood watch programs. These programs provide an effective cooperative effort between the Police Department and the citizenry, and also serve as an excellent community relations tool.

Increases in population and employment, changes in population makeup, changes in residential densities, and changes in the balance between residential and business land uses will all affect police protection. Additional personnel, equipment and facilities will be needed to continue effective service.

Plano's transition from a bedroom community to a multi-faceted city with 360,000 residents and a strong employment base will increase the potential for larceny thefts and corporate crime. During the same time there will probably be no corresponding decrease in residential crime.

Goals/Objectives/Policies

Goal

Provide high quality police protection to the community in a cost-efficient, coordinated and effective manner.

Objectives And Policies

OBJECTIVE 1.100 Provide for the coordination of development with the provision of police protection. (See Land Use Plan for information regarding development.)

POLICY 1.101 Prepare a Master Plan for Police Protection.

POLICY 1.102 Prepare a five-year plan for provision of police protection as an element of

the five-year plan for public services and facilities, coordinated with the Comprehensive Plan, and the Master Plan for Police Protection.

OBJECTIVE 1.200 Ensure the safety and security of all persons and property in plano through provision of high quality police protection services.

POLICY 1.201 Strive to meet the police response time standard of the Facility Location Guidelines (see Page No. 7-13).

POLICY 1.202 Maintain a crime prevention program.

POLICY 1.203 Organize neighborhood Crime Watch areas throughout the City.

POLICY 1.204 Organize a business crime prevention program.

OBJECTIVE 1.300 Incorporate safety and security provisions into the development review process.

POLICY 1.301 Lighting plans for non-residential developments should be reviewed by the Police Department for security effectiveness.

POLICY 1.302 In residential developments, provide visibility to all parks and common open space areas from city streets, alleys or other vehicular access ways to ensure proper police patrol capability.

OBJECTIVE 1.400 Achieve the efficient provision of police protection through provision of adequate facilities at appropriate locations.

POLICY 1.401 Provide additional police headquarters facilities, satellite facilities (branch facilities with provision for walk-in traffic) or assembly points as growth of Plano continues.

POLICY 1.402 Sites should be located on arterial or major collector streets, with consideration given to sites in close proximity to major expressways such as U.S. 75, the Dallas North, State Highway 190 and State Highway 121, or to major arterials such as Spring Creek Parkway and Preston Road.

POLICY 1.403 Strive to locate satellite police stations in accordance with the Facility Location Guidelines (see Page No. 7-11).

POLICY 1.404 Strive to locate police assembly points in accordance with the Facility Location Guidelines (see Page No. 7-11).

Recommendations

The following recommendations for police protection supplement proposals contained in the goals, objectives and policies.

Plano should continue to strengthen crime prevention and public education programs for residents and businesses. Plano's high reputation for police protection is partly due to its emphasis on prevention.

The proposed Master Plan for Police Protection should identify service areas and possible site locations for police facilities. It should be coordinated with the Master Plan for Fire Protection to provide for the joint use of facilities and/or sites where appropriate.

F I R E P R O T E C T I O N / E M E R G E N C Y M E D I C A L S E R V I C E (E M S)

Conditions/Trends/Issues

The Plano Fire Department maintains a staff of 154 fire fighters and 23 support

personnel, and operates from six fire stations with a seventh station presently being planned for construction in 1988 in the development area (see Figure 1). Administration personnel are housed in Municipal Center South. The City uses the Mayfield-Russell Fire Training Center, which is owned by the City of Richardson and operated jointly by Richardson and Plano.

Responsibilities of the Plano Fire Department include fire suppression, fire prevention, emergency medical services, public education, and community relations. The Fire Department operates under the Master Plan for Fire Protection. This plan, prepared by the Citizen's Fire Protection Master Planning Committee, addresses the various elements of fire protection and emergency medical services, and provides recommendations for short- and long-range issues. Its findings have been incorporated into the objectives and policies of this section.

Emphasis of the Fire Department is placed on fire prevention, timely response to fire alarms, requirement of proper construction, and adherence to fire codes to lessen the need for additional costly manpower. Through the use of modern technology, the City can provide better or equal levels of safety at a lower cost to the citizenry.

The department has been involved in the delivery of emergency medical service for many years. The City has been providing mobile intensive care service since 1982, and presently operates under an agreement with Plano General Hospital. The hospital serves as the base station for communications and provides medical control via Emergency Room physicians.

As Plano continues to grow, the changing character of the City requires different responses for fire protection. The wide variety

of building and development types, such as higher density residential concentrations, tall office buildings of eight or more stories, hotels and motels, serves to increase the complexity of providing appropriate fire protection.

Continued growth in residential and business development also requires additional facilities, personnel and equipment to expand geographic areas of service, as well as tactics of fire protection.

Goals/Objectives/Policies

Goal

Provide high quality fire protection and emergency medical service to the community in a cost-efficient, coordinated and effective manner.

Objectives And Policies

OBJECTIVE 2.100 Provide for the coordination of development with the provision of fire protection and EMS.

POLICY 2.101 Maintain and periodically update the Master Plan for Fire Protection Services.

POLICY 2.102 Prepare and annually update a five-year fire protection and EMS plan as an element of the five-year plan for public services and facilities, coordinated with the Comprehensive Plan, and the Master Plan for Fire Protection Services.

OBJECTIVE 2.200 Provide high quality fire protection services in accordance with the master plan for fire protection, City Of Plano.

POLICY 2.201 Reduce fire loss through an effective fire prevention, public education and training program.

POLICY 2.202 Strive to meet the fire response time standard of the Facility Location Guidelines (see Page No. 7-11).

POLICY 2.203 Establish an automated traffic signal system to reduce travel time for fire protection vehicles.

POLICY 2.204 Maintain mutual aid fire protection agreements with adjacent municipalities.

POLICY 2.205 Encourage, through the code review and enforcement process, the provision of fire protection facilities (such as fire sprinkler systems) in commercial and industrial developments.

POLICY 2.206 Regularly inspect all commercial, industrial and high fire hazard occupancies.

POLICY 2.207 Review all proposed construction and development to determine fire flow requirements, and coordinate with the Code Enforcement, Planning and Engineering Departments to ensure adequate fire protection is provided as the City develops.

POLICY 2.208 Require a minimum of two access points for new development to provide safe and convenient access for emergency vehicles. These access points may be in the form of a double or divided entry.

POLICY 2.209 Review codes and ordinances with the Code Enforcement, Planning and Engineering Departments to ensure development is consistent with fire flow requirement guidelines.

POLICY 2.210 Maintain disaster and emergency preparedness programs, and coordinate procedures with all appropriate levels of government.

POLICY 2.211 Strive to meet the emerging medical service response time standard of the Facility Location Guidelines (see Page No. 7-11).

OBJECTIVE 2.300 Locate fire protection facilities to achieve the efficient provision of fire protection and emergency medical services.

POLICY 2.301 Provide fire stations to meet guidelines of the Master Plan for Fire Protection.

POLICY 2.302 Fire station sites should be in reasonable proximity to a major intersection, should provide maximum coverage to concentrations of commercial and industrial uses, and should be located in accordance with the Facility Location Guidelines (see Page No. 7-11). Combined use of facilities should be encouraged.

Recommendations

The Master Plan for Fire Protection provides immediate, short-term and long-term recommendations for fire protection

in Plano. Key recommendations are listed below:

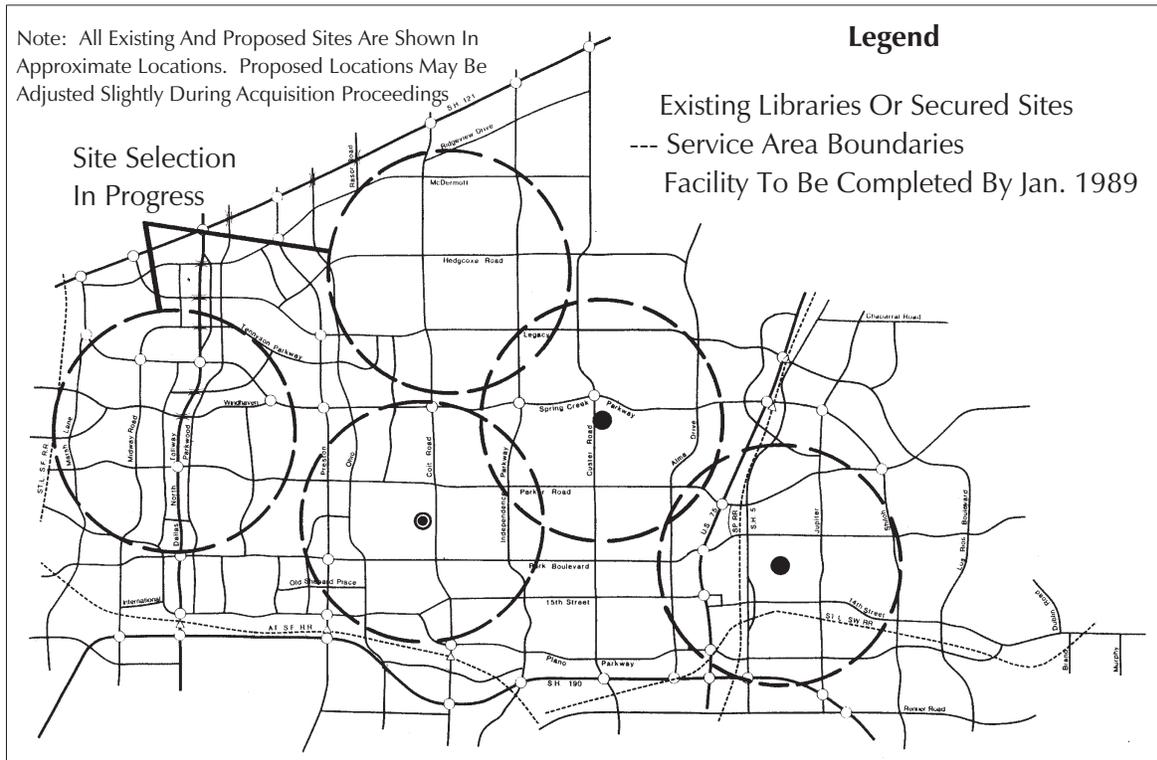
- Acquire land and construct new fire stations in accordance with the Master Plan for Fire Protection. A total of 10 to 12 fire stations will be required, depending upon the density of future development;
- Continue programs of code development and improvement; and
- Continue programs to develop increased public awareness and education.

LIBRARY SERVICES

Conditions/Trends/Issues

The Plano library system currently consists of two community libraries, the Harrington Library and the Library, totaling 36,000 square feet of space (see Figure 2).

Figure 2
Library Service Areas



The system currently has 1.2 books per capita in its libraries. This is less than national standards, and also less than standards adopted by the City.

The early concept of the library plan for Plano was to provide a system of community libraries rather than a main facility with branches. However, with the rapid growth occurring in Plano and the extremely high cost of land for library facilities, the Library Development Plan has been revised to include five libraries, one of which would serve as a central library with 60,000 to 75,000 square feet of space at full development.

The library system presently has resource agreements with 18 of the Northeast Texas Library System (NETLS) libraries.

As with other public facilities, growth has exceeded the City's ability to provide library facilities. With intense competition for financial resources, library systems have traditionally fallen behind and Plano is no exception. This does not mean that Plano's library system is not trying to meet the needs of residents, but that additional resources are needed. It is not unusual for a city experiencing Plano's rapid growth rate to fall behind initially, but quick response is imperative for the City to successfully regain an acceptable level of service. Plano recognizes the value of sharing resources with other library systems and resource units, and taking advantage of the technological advances in computers, and is currently moving in these directions.

Goals/Objectives/Policies

Goal

Provide high quality library service to the community in a cost-efficient, coordinated and effective manner.

Objectives And Policies

OBJECTIVE 3.100 Provide for the coordination of development with the provision of library services.

POLICY 3.101 Maintain and periodically update the Master Library Development Plan.

POLICY 3.102 Prepare and annually update a five-year library services plan as an element of the five-year plan for public services and facilities, coordinated with the Comprehensive Plan, and the Master Plan for Library Services.

OBJECTIVE 3.200 Provide high quality library services and facilities to the residential and business communities. develop a system of easily accessible, highly visible libraries, well located to serve the long-range growth of Plano to a population of 360,000.

POLICY 3.201 Strive to provide library facilities in accordance with the Facility Location Guidelines (see Page No. 7-11).

POLICY 3.202 Strive to locate library facilities in areas of high visibility and good access, and in accordance with the Facility Location Guidelines (see Page No. 7-11).

POLICY 3.203 Provide a high level of materials in library facilities, and seek agreements with other libraries to expand materials available to patrons in a cost-effective manner.

POLICY 3.204 Strive to provide library materials in accordance with the ratio noted in the Facility Location Guidelines (see Page No. 7-11).

POLICY 3.205 Continue to participate in the Northeast Texas Library System (NETLS) resource-sharing project, and endeavor to develop a resource-sharing system with the University of Texas - Dallas (UTD) and other libraries.

POLICY 3.206 Provide an online data base catalog for maximum utilization of library resources.

Recommendations

As pointed out in the Conditions/Trends/Issues section, the Plano library system has fallen behind the standard of 0.45 square feet per capita. Therefore, a major effort is needed to increase its facilities and enhance their capability to serve the residents. The following plan of action (as noted in the Revised Library Development Plan - Oct. 1985) is proposed:

- Provide for short-term needs in two ways. First, construct a third library having 20-25,000 square feet, with expansion capability of 60-75,000 square feet, that can ultimately become Plano's central facility. Second, expand the Gladys Harrington Library from 10,000 to 30,000 square feet.
- Address long-term facility needs by beginning the process of site selection for the fourth and fifth libraries, and by scheduling the acquisition and construction of these facilities before population peaks within their proposed service areas.
- Study the need for small store-front or branch libraries to fill in service gaps for areas that cannot be reasonably covered within the one and a half to two mile service radius for community libraries (i.e., the Los Rios area, and southcentral Plano).
- Seek a grant or donation to develop a regional automated library system including resources of the Dallas Library System.

SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES

Conditions/Trends/Issues

The North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) has responsibility for provision and operation of solid waste landfill sites and transfer stations for its members, including Plano. The City provides for collection and transportation of waste to the transfer stations.

The present landfill being used by Plano has limited useful life. Additional acreage has been acquired to extend its useful life another 10 to 15 years. Plano is making arrangements for additional landfill space to meet needs beyond 15 years.

East Plano is within the service area of the Lookout Transfer Station in north Richardson. The remainder of Plano generally uses the Parkway Station on Plano Parkway. The district has purchased a third transfer station site in the vicinity of Custer Road and State Highway 121.

The rapid growth of Plano and neighboring communities, resulting in increasing volumes of solid waste generated by residences and businesses, has made it difficult to stay ahead of the need for solid waste facilities.

In addition, opposition by citizens and reluctance of governmental units to approve sites within their own jurisdiction has hampered the approval of long-range landfill sites.

Goals/Objectives/Policies

Goal

Provide for the collection and disposal of solid waste in a cost-efficient, coordinated and effective manner.

Objectives And Policies

OBJECTIVE 4.100 Provide for the coordination of development with the provision of solid waste services and facilities.

POLICY 4.101 Prepare a Master Plan for Solid Waste Services.

OBJECTIVE 4.200 Provide solid waste services in a manner which is economically feasible and environmentally responsible.

POLICY 4.201 Continue to work with to ensure adequate landfill capacity and transfer stations for the long-range growth of Plano to a population of 360,000.

POLICY 4.202 Locate transfer stations to permit the collection to function efficiently and effectively.

POLICY 4.203 Locate transfer station sites within commercial or industrial areas, and in accordance with the Facility Location Guidelines (see Page No. 7-11).

POLICY 4.204 Provide transfer stations on a common site with a service center, where possible.

POLICY 4.205 Periodically review collection agreements with private contractors to ensure highest quality service in the most efficient manner.

Recommendations

Continue to work with to locate a regional solid waste transfer station in the northwest quadrant of Plano.

Continue to study the location of a future service center in the northwest quadrant of Plano, and consider a joint service center/transfer station location.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Conditions/Trends/Issues

City administrative staff are quartered in three buildings located in the historic business district: the Municipal Building, the Municipal Annex, and the Municipal Center South. The three buildings now total approximately 35,000 square feet of net administrative office space.

The City also maintains two service facilities. The Parkway Service Center on the west side houses personnel, equipment, supplies and materials needed by the Public Works Department. The East Side Service Center is used by park maintenance personnel and for additional storage. The bond election approved by voters in 1985 included provision of additional administrative office space, an additional service center, replacement of the warehouse, and expansion of the City garage. A citizens' committee and City staff have made recommendations for public building improvements, and those proposals are contained in this section.

The City is proceeding with plans to construct a civic center/auditorium. Preliminary studies call for an 1,850-seat auditorium, a great hall accommodating 1,500 seats, meeting rooms, workshop space, and administrative and support facilities. The recently approved Spring Creek Parkway East Area Study provides for location of the facility near the intersection of Jupiter Road and Spring Creek Parkway (extended).

Plano's rapid growth rate has made it difficult for the City to keep up with growing space needs for personnel. Administrative space needs are estimated to increase from the present 35,000 square feet to over 66,000 by 1995. Service center needs are estimated at

34-46,000 square feet, plus an additional 19,000 square feet of warehousing. These will be provided for by the approval of the 1985 bond election.

Until recently, City administrative offices have been centrally located to serve Plano. However, as growth has proceeded westward, many residents are quite a distance away from City Hall. The question of whether to centralize or decentralize public building complexes will be an important issue in the future.

Goals/Objectives/Policies

Goal

Provide high quality public buildings, well located to serve Plano, in a cost-efficient, coordinated and effective manner.

Objectives And Policies

OBJECTIVE 5.100 Provide for the coordination of development with the provision of public buildings.

POLICY 5.101 Prepare and periodically update a Master Facilities Plan.

POLICY 5.102 Prepare and annually update a five-year public building plan as an element of the five-year plan for public services and facilities, coordinated with the Comprehensive Plan, the , and the Master Facilities Plan.

OBJECTIVE 5.200 Provide city administrative offices and service operation facilities in appropriate locations to meet the long-range growth of plano to a population of 360,000.

POLICY 5.201 Centralize City administrative offices in an administrative office center to facilitate management and communication.

POLICY 5.202 Locate buildings in the administrative office center on site(s) in or adjacent to the Historic Business District.

POLICY 5.203 Study the use of satellite offices to provide special governmental services and to make other services more accessible to the citizens while maintaining efficiency and coordination.

POLICY 5.204 Sites for satellite offices should be convenient and accessible to the population, and located on an arterial street.

POLICY 5.205 Provide service centers at locations which will facilitate the efficient management of personnel, storage of materials, and servicing of equipment.

POLICY 5.206 Service center sites should be on a major arterial street, adjacent to or within commercial or industrial areas.

Recommendations

The major emphasis on the City's efforts to provide for adequate public buildings and other facilities should be that of a well-coordinated and efficient plan that keeps pace with growth and development. Increased land and construction costs will make it necessary for joint use of sites and facilities, and for purchase of sites in advance of actual need. The proposed Master Facilities Plan would identify the long-range needs of Plano's various functional elements, and would establish a course for meeting those needs in a comprehensive, coordinated fashion.

F A C I L I T Y L O C A T I O N G U I D E L I N E S

Item Target

Police (For Locating Satellite Stations and Assembly Points)

- Response Time to a Call
 - 5 Minutes
- Driving Time for Officer from Beat to Assembly Point for Shift Change
 - 10 Minutes (One Way)
- Driving Time for Citizen to Reach Police Facility to Conduct Business
 - 20 Minutes (One Way)
- Facility Accessible to Thoroughfare Type "F" or Above

Fire (For Locating Stations)

- Response Time to a Call
 - 5 Minutes
- Facility Accessible to Thoroughfare Type "E" or Above

Library (For Locating/Equipping Libraries)

- Space per Capita
 - 0.45 Sq. Ft.
- Books per Capita
 - 2
- Service Radius
 - 1 1/2 - 2 Miles
- Facility Accessible to Thoroughfare Type "E" or Above

Solid Waste (For Locating Transfer Stations)

- Service Radius
 - 5 Miles
- Facility Accessible to Thoroughfare Type "C" or Above