AREAS OF PRACTICE
Overview
4.3 Areas of Practice (30%)
What to Expect...

30% of the exam

Approximately 51 of the 170 questions
Recommended Resources


- **American Planning Association**
  - Planning Magazine

- **American Planning Association Applied Research Reports and Guides:**
Recommended Resources

- **American Planning Association PAS reports:**
Recommended Resources


Section 4.3:

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Comprehensive and Sectoral Planning
- Community, Subarea, Corridor, and Neighborhood Planning
- Current Planning
- Sustainability Planning
- Transportation Planning
- Infrastructure Planning
- Hazards, Mitigation, and Resiliency Planning
- Environmental and Natural Resources Planning
- Economic Development Planning
- Urban Design
- Housing Planning
- Parks, Recreation, and Open Space
- Historic and Cultural Resources Planning
- Institutional Planning and Siting
- Food Planning
- Health Planning
- Rural and Small Town Planning
Comprehensive and Sectoral Planning

- National
- Multi-State
- State
- Regional
- County
- Urban
- Suburban
- Rural
- Corridors
- Downtowns
- Neighborhoods

Remember that levels are NOT exclusive
Comprehensive and Sectoral Planning

- Growth Management
- Long Range Planning
- Comprehensive or General Planning
- Regional Planning
Comprehensive and Sectoral Planning

- Fiscal Impact Analysis
- Capital Improvement Planning (CIP)
- Policy Planning
Comprehensive and Sectoral Planning

Tribal Planning

- Key Tribal Information

Tribes are sovereign nations – creating their own laws, rules and regulations.

According to the 2010 U.S. Census there are over 500 recognized Tribes.

Also on the Census 5.2 million people identified as American Indian or Alaskan Native.

There are over 90 million acres of Tribal lands.
This section highlights different levels of plans. Be familiar with different elements or issues that should be taken into account in planning at each of these levels.

- Community Planning
- Subarea Planning
- Corridor Planning
- Neighborhood Planning
How to Calculate FAR
How to Calculate FAR
ARCHITECTURE 2030 CHALLENGE: GOAL FOR ZERO NET ENERGY

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Sustainability Planning

- Sustainable Processes

Diagram:
- Environmental
  - A Viable Natural Environment
  - Sustainable Natural and Built Environment
  - Sustainable Economic Development
- Social
  - Nurturing Community
- Economic
  - Equitable Social Environment
  - Sufficient Economy

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LEED for Neighborhood Development

- A rating system that integrates the principles of smart growth, urbanism and green building into a national system for neighborhood design.

- LEED certification provides independent, third-party verification that a development’s location and design meet accepted high levels of environmentally responsible, sustainable development.

- A collaboration among USGBC, the Congress for the New Urbanism and the Natural Resources Defense Council.
Transportation Planning

- **Mobility** – the ability and level of ease of moving goods and services.

- **Accessibility** – the quality of travel. At the local levels, access management techniques can be used to provide access to various land uses.

- **Connectivity** – the quality of linkages between destinations.

**Shared Mobility (PAS 583) By Adam Cohen, Susan Shaheen**

This PAS Report talks about how in the “shared economy,” shared and for-hire vehicle services such as ridesharing, carsharing and bikesharing are on a roll. But what are the rules of the road for these new services?

_Source: https://www.planning.org/publications/report/9107556/

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Traffic Circles & Roundabouts

- 32 Vehicle to vehicle conflicts
- 24 Vehicle to pedestrian conflicts
- 8 Vehicle to vehicle conflicts
- 8 Vehicle to pedestrian conflicts
Traffic Circles & Roundabouts
Transportation Planning

- Land Use and Transportation Demand
- Transportation Modes
- Complete Streets
- Pedestrian and Bicyclists
- Transit
- Parking
Level of Service Categories

• **LOS A** – highest quality of service.

• **LOS B** – stable flow.

• **LOS C** – stable flow but drivers are becoming restricted in their freedom to select speed, change lanes, or pass.

• **LOS D** – approaching unstable flow.

• **LOS E** – unstable flow with wide fluctuations in speed.

• **LOS F** – forced-flow operations.
Infrastructure Planning

• Utilities
• Community Facilities
• Energy
• Green and Blue Infrastructure
• Communications
• Concurrency
Hazard Mitigation

- **Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000)** provides the legal basis for FEMA mitigation planning requirements for State, local and Indian Tribal governments as a condition of mitigation grant assistance.
Hazard Mitigation

DMA 2000 also established a new requirement for local mitigation plans

- Goal of plan is to reduce probability of damages from natural hazards
- Plan should allow community to “bounce back” quickly
- Typical components of a Local Mitigation Plan
  - Explanation of how it was created
  - Existing conditions and problems
  - Alternatives
  - Identify best actions
  - Implementation
  - How Plan will be monitored, evaluated and updated
Environmental Impact Analysis (EIS)

- When do you do an EIS?
- What is involved in completing an EIS?
Environmental and Natural Resources Planning

Environmental Impact Analysis (EIS)

- According to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) whenever the U.S. Federal Government takes a "major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment" it must first consider the environmental impact in a document called an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
EIS typically has four sections:

1. An Introduction including a statement of the Purpose and Need of the Proposed Action.
3. A Range of Alternatives to the proposed action. Alternatives are considered the "heart" of the EIS.
4. An analysis of the environmental impacts of each of the possible alternatives.
Shoreline Management Act (SMA)

- Washington’s Shoreline Management Act was passed by the State Legislature in 1971 and adopted by voters in 1972.
- Its goal is "to prevent the inherent harm in an uncoordinated and piecemeal development of the state’s shorelines."
- Each city and county with "shorelines of the state" must prepare and adopt a Shoreline Master Program.
Economic Development Planning

- Economic Analysis and Forecasting
- Tourism
- Workforce Development
- Business Development
- Resiliency
- Sharing Economy
Economic Development Planning

Examples of Incentives

- State or local taxable bond financing
- Tax increment financing
- Refundable or non-refundable state income tax credits for job creation or retention, or capital investment, by private enterprises.
- Enterprise or development zones
- State and local low interest or forgivable loans
- State and local grants for the rehabilitation of brownfield sites
- Utility incentives
- Local property tax exemptions
Urban Design

- Importance on placemaking
- Integral part of mixed-use development
- Supports walkability, wayfinding, infill development, and mixed uses
- Streetscaping/improving the public real
- Design guidelines
Housing Areas of Focus

- Homelessness
- Affordability
- Fair Housing
- Micro-Housing
- Universal Design
- Co-Housing
- Accessory Dwelling Units
Micro-Housing
Co-Housing
Parks, Recreation, and Open Space

- Park Standards
- Incentives for Developers
- Greenways and Trails
- Tourism
- Important for health
- Strengthen community and sense of place
Historic and Cultural Resources Planning

- Historic Preservation
- Adaptive Reuse
- Arts District
Dallas Arts District
The scope of historic preservation practice has broadened to protect a greater array of cultural resources including historic districts, buildings, structures, sites, public works, transportation corridors, archaeological sites, heritage areas and corridors, cultural landscapes, objects and related built forms.

Planners conduct these activities as part of a comprehensive planning framework that combines the benefits of preservation with other community planning objectives.

A principle noted in the Policy Guide states that the APA strives to see planners have “an increased commitment to the principle of adaptive reuse, ensuring that architectural and historic resources are economically viable contributors to their communities.”

Institutional Planning and Siting

- Schools, universities/colleges
- Hospitals
- Jails and prisons
- Military bases
- Religious facilities (RLUIPA)
APA Policy Guide on Community and Regional Food Planning

The following are factors that explain the heightened awareness among planners that the food system is significant:

1. Take up a significant amount of land
2. Play a role to help reduce the rising incidence of hunger and obesity
3. Important part of community and regional economies
4. Takes a considerable amount of fossil fuel energy to produce, process, transport, and dispose of
5. Farmland being lost at a strong pace
6. Overuse of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, adversely affects drinking water
7. Access to healthy foods in low-income areas
8. Many benefits emerge from stronger community and regional food systems

Health impact assessment (HIA) is a tool that can help communities make choices that improve public health through community design.

CDC’s Healthy Community Design Initiative helps states and communities integrate health considerations into transportation and community planning decisions.

Source: CDC https://www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces/hia.htm
Rural and Small Town Planning

Challenges:
• Including rapid growth at metropolitan edges
• Declining rural populations
• Loss of farms and working lands

Looking to:
• Strengthen their economies
• Provide better quality of life
• Build on local assets
EPA Recommends Smart Growth Strategies

- Smart growth can help rural areas achieve their goals for growth while maintaining their rural character.
- Planning where development should go can help encourage growth in town along the main street.
- A thriving and walkable main street will help families live close to their daily destinations which discourages the need to frequently drive.

- Policies that support walking and biking help reduce air pollution while saving gas money.
- Smart Growth policies that protect the rural landscape help preserve open space, protect air and water quality, provide places for recreation, and create tourist attractions that bring investments.

AICP Exam Prep
Spring 2012
Functional Areas of Practice

FYI...

Technical Help: Use the question box on your Gotowebinar menu or call 1-800-263-6317

Content Question: Use the question box on your Gotowebinar menu

All attendees will be muted, please submit questions using the question box and we will respond as time permits

The session will begin at 9:00 AM EST
AICP Exam Prep

Spring 2012

Functional Areas of Practice

Exam Prep Chapters:
   Illinois
   Maryland
   North Carolina
   Pennsylvania
Today’s Agenda

- Functional Areas of Practice – 25%

There is considerable overlap between the test content areas of functional, spatial, and plan making. When studying in one area, consider its implications in the other test content area. For example, think about the spatial planning perspective of natural resources, or consider the plan making perspective of growth management.

Always keep public participation, social justice, and ethics in the back of your mind when reviewing scenario or process/approach questions.
Functional Areas of Practice – 25%

- Community development
- Comprehensive or long range planning
- Development regulation or administration
- Economic development and revitalization
- Economic analysis and forecasting
- Educational, institutional, or military facilities planning
- Energy policy
- Food system planning
- Growth management
- Hazard mitigation and disaster planning
- Historic preservation
- Housing

- Infrastructure
- Labor force or employment
- Land use
- Natural resources and the environment
- Parks, open space, and recreation
- Planning law (not addressing today)
- Policy planning
- Public services
- Social and health services
- Transportation
- Urban design

Understand the history, legislative background, terminology, and implementation tools for these topics – and how to plan for them!
## Functional Areas of Practice

### Comprehensive Planning vs Policy Planning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comprehensive Planning</th>
<th>Policy Planning</th>
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<tr>
<td>❖ Geographic Scope</td>
<td>❖ Development and Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>❖ Longer Time Frames</td>
<td>❖ Short Time Frames</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❖ Substantive (Topical) Scope</td>
<td>❖ Specific Topic (or closely related topics)</td>
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Functional Areas of Practice

Land Use

- Zoning ordinances (Euclidean, Cumulative, Noncumulative, Form-based, Performance, Spot)
- SLDO
- Exactions (dedication of land, construction or installation of infrastructure, or fees to finance these improvements - fees in lieu of or impact fees)
- Types of development (TOD, mixed-use, brownfield, greenfield, infill, leapfrog, homogeneous)
- APA Policy Guides: Smart Growth, Agricultural Lands Preservation, Sustainability
Functional Areas of Practice

Growth Management

- Methodologies and Techniques
- Annexation and ETJ
- Community Identity
- APA Policy Guides: Impact Fees, Smart Growth, Sustainability
Functional Areas of Practice

Community Development

- Economic, social, and infrastructure components
- Main Street Models
- Housing and Urban Development
- Grassroots Success
- APA Policy Guides: Public Redevelopment, Neighborhood Collaborative Planning
Functional Areas of Practice

Urban Design

- Major Traditions of Urban Design (Monumental City Design, Garden Suburb and Garden Cities, Modernism, Megastructure)

- Social Aspects of Urban Design

- Neotraditional Movement/New Urbanism

- People and places are critical – 1929 *Regional Plan for New York City and Its Environs* and its explanation of the neighborhood unit concept by Clarence Perry for example
Which of the following are characteristics of New Urbanism:

I. Higher Density and Mixing of Uses
II. Variety of Housing Choices and Grid Street Patterns
III. Economies of Scale and Euclidean Zoning
IV. Pedestrian Scale and Multi-Modal Transportation Systems

A. I and IV only
B. I, II, and IV only
C. I, III, and IV only
D. All of the Above

*Answer: B. Note the question format, you will see this on the exam.*

*Source: Planning Institute of Colorado.*
Functional Areas of Practice

Housing

- New York City
- Federal Involvements
- State and Local Government Roles
- The “Rural Slum” Phenomenon
- Senior, Affordable, Multi-Family, Mixed Use Housing...issues and opportunities
- APA Policy Guides: Housing, Factory Built Housing, Community Residences, and Homelessness

Keep in mind the exam has not been updated since 2008
Functional Areas of Practice

Energy Policy

- Energy Policies (National, State, and Local)
- Fossil fuels versus Renewables
- APA Policy Guides: Energy, Climate Change

What are the implications of the different energy sources? Infrastructure required? Land use? Transmission lines? Pollution? Wildlife impact?
Functional Areas of Practice

Break for Questions
Functional Areas of Practice

Food System Planning

- What is the food system? What is a foodshed?

- Implications on land use as well as: public health, energy, pollution, economic development, labor force

- APA Policy Guides: Food Planning and Agricultural Lands Preservation
Functional Areas of Practice

Hazard Mitigation & Disaster Planning

- Prepare, Respond, Recover
- Agency coordination
- Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000
- APA Policy Guide: Security

The language of disaster planning and response:
- National Incident Management System (NIMS)
- Incident Command System (ICS)
- National Response Framework (NRF)
- National Response Plan (NRP)
- Emergency Support Function (ESF)
Functional Areas of Practice

Historic Preservation


- Tax Reform Act of 1986

- Local preservation efforts

- APA Policy Guide: Historic & Cultural Resources

Link back to:

First historic preservation efforts (commission: New Orleans 1921, ordinance: Charleston 1931)

Case law (Penn Central v New York, 1978 for example)
Functional Areas of Practice

Parks, Recreation, and Open Space

- Inventory of Facilities and Needs
  - Types of parks: community, neighborhood, pocket, tot lots, gardens, greenways

- Consider costs versus benefits, active versus passive recreation, public versus private open space, what the community’s demographics call for, linkages, etc.

Link back to:
Case law (Overton Park v Volpe, 1971 for example)
Legislation (Section 4(f) of the Dept of Transportation Act)
Functional Areas of Practice

Natural Resources & Environment

- 1960s/70s legislation: NEPA, Clean Air, Clean Water, ESA, RCRA, CERCLA; EPA established
- The entire spectrum of natural resources: ground and surface water, wetlands, forests, endangered species, coastal areas, floodplains...
  HOW DOES PLANNING DIFFER BY RESOURCE TYPE?

Link back to:
Case law (TVA v Hill, 1978; Rapanos v US, 2006 as examples)
People & books (Rachel Carson’s Silent Spring, Ian McHarg’s Design with Nature)
An urban municipality has received grant funding to restore riparian buffers in order to improve the untreated water quality of the municipality's public water, which is drawn partially from surface waters. Which of the following steps is not necessary to get the project underway?

A. Research existing databases for information on water quality within the source waters' watershed.
B. Determine ownership of parcels along all surface waters within the municipality.
C. Review aerial photography to assess conditions adjacent to waterways within the source waters' watershed.
D. Research the most effective riparian buffer restoration methods for water quality improvement (such as differing buffer widths and vegetation type).
E. Contact adjacent municipalities that contain any of the source waters' watershed.

Answer: B. This exact step is not needed. Determining ownership for certain parcels in the source watershed will likely be needed later in the process.
Between 1986 and 1997, which of the following activity accounts for the highest percentage of wetlands losses?

A. Silvicultural  
B. Urban development  
C. Rural development  
D. Agriculture  

Answer: B. The percentages are 23%, 30%, 21%, and 26%, from the 2002 APA Policy Guide on Wetlands.

Source: Colorado PDO.
Functional Areas of Practice

Infrastructure

- Pipes (water, sewer, gas, etc.)
- Wires (electricity, communications, etc.)
- Trash (collection, disposal, reuse)

Consider demand, types of systems, funding to construct and maintain, and contamination potential.
Functional Areas of Practice

Infrastructure

- Transportation (cars, buses, trains, planes, pedestrian, bicycle)
  - Think multi-modal!
  - Consider the energy and growth management implications
  - Consider the spatial planning – who plans for what areas?
  - APA Policy Guide: Surface Transportation
Which of the following is not true about a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)?

A. They are federally mandated for urbanized areas with a population over 250,000.
B. They channel federal funds for transportation projects.
C. They maintain a long-range transportation plan for a region.
D. Their decision-making committees can be comprised of a mix of local, state, and federal representatives.

Answer: A. UZA population requirement is 50,000.
Functional Areas of Practice

Institutional Facilities

- Schools (primary, secondary, and tertiary)
- Correctional institutions
- Military installations (including Base Closure and Reuse – BRAC)

Consider impacts on education levels, labor force skill sets, employment, income levels, stability (or lack) of the labor force, demographics, etc.
Functional Areas of Practice

Economic Development

- Business Attraction and Retention
- Work Force Attraction and Retention
- Quantitative Functions
- Revitalization

Tools: Business Improvement District (BID), business incubators, Tax Increment Financing (TIF)
Functional Areas of Practice

Economic Analysis & Forecasts

- Always question the data
- Economic Base Analyses
- Fiscal Impact Analyses
  - Know Location Quotient (LQ), Floor Area Ratio (FAR), economic base multiplier
  - Know differences in terminology: neighborhood shopping center versus a community or regional shopping center
The total area of permitted floor space expressed as a proportion of the site is known as the:

A. Gross Leasable Area
B. Location Quotient
C. Floor Area Ratio
D. NAICS

Answer: C.
Functional Areas of Practice

Labor Force and Employment

- Data Sources for Analysis
- Skills of the Community
- Workforce Characteristics
Functional Areas of Practice

Social and Health Services

- Federal and State Programs and Funds
- Local or Local-Regional Administration
- Health Systems Planning
- APA Policy Guides: Child Care and Homelessness
- Estimating and serving needs (health, social, mobility, recreation...)
  - Libraries
  - Schools
  - Medical facilities
  - Childcare facilities
  - Grocery stores
  - Senior living facilities
  - Sidewalks and paths
  - Safe routes to school
  - Parks and playgrounds
  - Secure bicycle lanes

Interrelatedness of these needs and areas of transportation, environment, neighborhood planning, etc.
Study Resources: 
Comprehensive Study Sources

- PA Chapter PDC Study Notes
  (www.planningpa.org, then Career Center and AICP Exam)

- PLAN 310 Planetizen AICP Exam Preparation Course ($159)

- APA AICP Exam Prep 2.0 ($195)

  *These generally review all topics noted in the APA outline of test content*

  *Planetizen and APA both include practice exams*

  *Planetizen is more interactive*

  *Practice exams are critical, but don’t memorize the specific questions – use them to understand your grasp of the topic*

  *Real questions are likely to require a mix of professional judgment and technical knowledge*
“For a majority of Americans, transportation and housing costs combine to exceed 50% of household income.”
2010 Policy Guide on Surface Transportation

“About 75 percent of the electricity used in the country goes toward heating, cooling, and lighting buildings.”
2008 Policy Guide on Planning and Climate Change

“The rate of jobs growth in the fringe counties of metropolitan areas is over twice that of the central counties of metropolitan areas.”
2006 Policy Guide on Housing

http://www.planning.org/policy/guides/
Questions?

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Next Week: Public Participation and Social Justice  
Registration: PA Chapter - www.planningpa.org/events  

Exam Prep Chapters:  
Illinois  
Maryland  
North Carolina  
Pennsylvania

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www.chesco.org/planning