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The Planning Commission Composition & Authority

In most jurisdictions, a planning commission or board comprised of officials appointed by the government's legislative entity handles the planning function.

The commission oversees the operations of the department's professional planning staff and support personnel. In addition, the commission makes recommendations to elected officials concerning land use policy and policy administration.

The planning commission is responsible for:

Approving site plans and subdivision plans

Approving building permits

Ruling on zoning issues

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Planning Management & Support Staff

Public land use management takes place within county and municipal planning departments. These departments are responsible for:

- long-term implementation of the master plan
- creating rules and restrictions that support plans and policies
- enforcing and administering land use regulation on an everyday basis