

800 - REGIONAL PLANNING ACTIVITIES

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Objective

To provide for sustainable development through planning services, data resources, and other information useful to the government, business, and civic sectors.

Previous Work

OKI's Decision Resources Center, which lists numerous data resources and services, continues to centralize regional data and planning services to support local government and business research needs.

As it implements the Strategic Regional Policy Plan, OKI continues to address the region's quality of life by promoting a unified approach to economic vitality and land development by addressing the region's competitive disadvantage caused by: 1) the number of local governments and special districts which operate with little or no coordination; 2) few shared goals or development tools; 3) the weak connection between land use and transportation planning systems; and 4) the cost of sprawl. Accordingly, OKI provides technical assistance on issues related to land use, zoning, economic development, housing, water and sewer infrastructure, intergovernmental coordination, capital budgeting, and natural systems.

The OKI-funded Greenspace office continues to work as part of OKI's Regional Planning Division and, in addition to developing a natural systems inventory, has assisted OKI's land use and greenspace conservation efforts by addressing natural resources issues.

Methodologies

- 1) Decision Resources Center (DRC) features and operations will be refined to improve its use to local governments and businesses. The DRC will provide all available information in the OKI region such as maps, census data, traffic information and OKI reports. A product catalog featuring available data resources and services including related fees provided through the DRC will be kept current as resources permit.
- 2) Address development issues through research and technical assistance strategies, including working with the public, private, and civic sectors. The beneficiaries of this effort will be government agencies, taxpayers, and local businesses as each improves its capacity to evaluate and direct sustainable growth and development.
- 3) The OKI Greenspace office will promote the conservation of greenspace for the social, economic and environmental vitality of the region.

Products

- 1) Provision of various products and information.
- 2) Analyses of national and regional land development trends, conditions, and issues; and technical assistance on issues including land use, zoning, economic development, housing, water and sewer infrastructure, intergovernmental coordination, capital budgeting, and natural systems. (Ongoing)
- 3) Documentation of progress made by the regional greenspace office. (As appropriate)