

The general purpose of a master plan is to guide and accomplish, through planning, development that:

- Is coordinated, adjusted, harmonious, efficient, and economical;
- Considers the character of the planning jurisdiction and its suitability for particular uses, judged in terms of such factors as trends in land and population development;
- Will, in accordance with present and future needs, best promote public health, safety, morals, order, convenience, prosperity, and general welfare, and
- Includes, among other things, promotion of or adequate provision for one or more of the following:
 - 1) A system of transportation to lessen congestion on streets
 - 2) Safety from fire and other dangers
 - 3) Light and air
 - 4) Healthful and convenient distribution of population
 - 5) Good civic design and arrangement and wise and efficient expenditure of public funds
 - 6) Public utilities such as sewage disposal and water supply and other public improvements
 - 7) Recreation
 - 8) The use of resources in accordance with their character and adaptability

The master plan must include maps, plats and charts, and should show the planning commission's recommendations for the physical development of the unincorporated area of the township. The plan should include those of the following subjects that are reasonably considered pertinent to the future development of the township:

- 1) A land use plan and program, in part consisting of a classification and allocation of land for agriculture, residence, commerce, industry, recreation, ways and grounds, public buildings, schools, soil conservation, forest, wildlife refuges, and other uses and purposes.
- 2) The general location, character and extent of streets, roads, highways, railroads, bridges, waterways and waterfront developments; flood prevention works, drainage, sanitary sewers and water supply systems; works for preventing pollution maintaining water levels; and public utilities and structures.
- 3) Recommendations as to the general character, extent and layout for the redevelopment or rehabilitation of blighted districts and slum areas, and the removal, relocation, widening, narrowing, vacating, abandonment, changes of use or extension of ways, grounds, open spaces, buildings, utilities or other facilities.
- 4) Recommendations for implementing any of the plan's proposals. (MCL 125.3833)

When a township has a master plan, no street, square, park or other public way, ground or open space, or public building or structure may be constructed or authorized in the township until its location, character and extent has been submitted to and approved by the planning commission. (MCL 125.3861)