

CHAPTER 4A

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC AND LONG-RANGE PLANNING

4A 01	Office of strategic and long-range planning	4A 06	Firearms report required.
4A 02	State demographer	4A.07	Sustainable development for local government.
4A 03	Population estimates and projections, submission by state agencies	4A 08	Community-based planning goals
4A.04	Cooperative contracts	4A 09	Technical assistance.
4A 05	Land management information center.	4A 10	Plan review and comment.

4A.01 OFFICE OF STRATEGIC AND LONG-RANGE PLANNING.

The office of strategic and long-range planning is created, with a director appointed by the governor.

The office of strategic and long-range planning must develop an integrated long-range plan for the state. The office must coordinate activities among all levels of government and must stimulate public interest and participation in the future of the state.

The office must act in coordination with the commissioner of finance, affected state agencies, and the legislature in the planning and financing of major public programs.

History: 1991 c 345 art 2 s 2

4A.02 STATE DEMOGRAPHER.

(a) The director shall appoint a state demographer. The demographer must be professionally competent in demography and must possess demonstrated ability based upon past performance.

(b) The demographer shall:

- (1) continuously gather and develop demographic data relevant to the state;
- (2) design and test methods of research and data collection;
- (3) periodically prepare population projections for the state and designated regions and periodically prepare projections for each county or other political subdivision of the state as necessary to carry out the purposes of this section;
- (4) review, comment on, and prepare analysis of population estimates and projections made by state agencies, political subdivisions, other states, federal agencies, or nongovernmental persons, institutions, or commissions;
- (5) serve as the state liaison with the United States Bureau of the Census, coordinate state and federal demographic activities to the fullest extent possible, and aid the legislature in preparing a census data plan and form for each decennial census;
- (6) compile an annual study of population estimates on the basis of county, regional, or other political or geographical subdivisions as necessary to carry out the purposes of this section and section 4A.03;
- (7) by January 1 of each year, issue a report to the legislature containing an analysis of the demographic implications of the annual population study and population projections;
- (8) prepare maps for all counties in the state, all municipalities with a population of 10,000 or more, and other municipalities as needed for census purposes, according to scale and detail recommended by the United States Bureau of the Census, with the maps of cities showing precinct boundaries;
- (9) prepare an estimate of population and of the number of households for each governmental subdivision for which the metropolitan council does not prepare an annual estimate, and convey the estimates to the governing body of each political subdivision by May 1 of each year;
- (10) direct, under section 414.01, subdivision 14, and certify population and household estimates of annexed or detached areas of municipalities or towns after being notified of the order or letter of approval by the Minnesota municipal board; and

(11) prepare, for any purpose for which a population estimate is required by law or needed to implement a law, a population estimate of a municipality or town whose population is affected by action under section 379.02 or 414.01, subdivision 14:

(c) A governing body may challenge an estimate made under paragraph (b) by filing their specific objections in writing with the state demographer by June 10. If the challenge does not result in an acceptable estimate by June 24, the governing body may have a special census conducted by the United States Bureau of the Census. The political subdivision must notify the state demographer by July 1 of its intent to have the special census conducted. The political subdivision must bear all costs of the special census. Results of the special census must be received by the state demographer by the next April 15 to be used in that year's May 1 estimate to the political subdivision under paragraph (b).

History: 1991 c 345 art 2 s 3; 1992 c 511 art 5 s 1; 1997 c 87 s 1

4A.03 POPULATION ESTIMATES AND PROJECTIONS; SUBMISSION BY STATE AGENCIES.

Each state agency shall submit to the director for comment all population estimates and projections prepared by it before:

- (1) submitting the estimates and projections to the legislature or the federal government to obtain approval of grants;
- (2) the issuance of bonds based upon those estimates and projections; or
- (3) releasing a plan based upon the estimates and projections.

History: 1991 c 345 art 2 s 4

4A.04 COOPERATIVE CONTRACTS.

(a) The director may apply for, receive, and expend money from municipal, county, regional, and other planning agencies; apply for, accept, and disburse grants and other aids for planning purposes from the federal government and from other public or private sources; and may enter into contracts with agencies of the federal government, local governmental units, the University of Minnesota, and other educational institutions, and private persons as necessary to perform the director's duties. Contracts made pursuant to this section are not subject to the provisions of chapter 16C, as they relate to competitive bidding.

(b) The director may apply for, receive, and expend money made available from federal sources or other sources for the purposes of carrying out the duties and responsibilities of the director relating to local and urban affairs.

(c) All money received by the director pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the state treasury and is appropriated to the director for the purposes for which the money has been received. The money shall not cancel and is available until expended.

History: 1992 c 513 art 4 s 27; 1998 c 386 art 2 s 6

4A.05 LAND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION CENTER.

Subdivision 1. Purpose. The purpose of the land management information center is to foster integration of environmental information and provide services in computer mapping and graphics, environmental analysis, and small systems development. The director, through the center, shall periodically study land use and natural resources on the basis of county, regional, and other political subdivisions.

Subd. 1a. Statewide nitrate database. The director, through the center, shall maintain a statewide nitrate database containing the data described in section 103A.403.

Subd. 2. Fees. The director shall set fees under section 16A.1285 reflecting the actual costs of providing the center's information products and services to clients. Fees collected must be deposited in the state treasury and credited to the land management information center revolving account. Money in the account is appropriated to the director for operation of the land management information system, including the cost of services, supplies, materials, labor, and equipment, as well as the portion of the general support costs and statewide indirect costs of the office that is attributable to the land management information system. The

director may require a state agency to make an advance payment to the revolving fund sufficient to cover the agency's estimated obligation for a period of 60 days or more. If the revolving fund is abolished or liquidated, the total net profit from operations must be distributed to the funds from which purchases were made. The amount to be distributed to each fund must bear to the net profit the same ratio as the total purchases from each fund bear to the total purchases from all the funds during a period of time that fairly reflects the amount of net profit each fund is entitled to receive under this distribution.

History: 1993 c 192 s 73,74; 1995 c 233 art 2 s 4

4A.06 FIREARMS REPORT REQUIRED:

The criminal justice statistical analysis center of the office of strategic and long-range planning shall report to the legislature no later than January 31 of each year on the number of persons arrested, charged, convicted, and sentenced for violations of each state law affecting the use or possession of firearms. The report must include complete statistics, including the make, model, and serial number of each firearm involved, where that information is available, on each crime committed affecting the use or possession of firearms and a breakdown by county of the crimes committed.

History: 1994 c 636 art 3 s 44

4A.07 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) "Local unit of government" means a county, statutory or home rule charter city, town, or watershed district.

(b) "Sustainable development" means development that maintains or enhances economic opportunity and community well-being while protecting and restoring the natural environment upon which people and economies depend. Sustainable development meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Subd. 2. **Planning guide.** The office of strategic and long-range planning must develop and publish a planning guide for local units of government to plan for sustainable development, based on the principles of sustainable development adopted by the environmental quality board with advice of the governor's round table on sustainable development. The office must make the planning guide available to local units of government within the state.

Subd. 3. **Model ordinance.** The office of strategic and long-range planning, in consultation with appropriate and affected parties, must prepare a model ordinance to guide sustainable development.

Subd. 4. **Specificity and distribution.** The model ordinance must specify the technical and administrative procedures to guide sustainable development. When adopted by a local unit of government, the model ordinance is the minimum regulation to guide sustainable development that may be adopted. Upon completion, the office of strategic and long-range planning must notify local units of government that the model ordinance is available, and must distribute it to interested local units.

Subd. 5. **Periodic review.** At least once every five years, the planning office must review the model ordinance and its use with local units of government to ensure its continued applicability and relevance.

History: 1996 c 454 s 1

4A.08 COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING GOALS.

The goals of community-based planning are:

(1) **Citizen participation.** To develop a community-based planning process with broad citizen participation in order to build local capacity to plan for sustainable development and to benefit from the insights, knowledge, and support of local residents. The process must include at least one citizen from each affected unit of local government;

(2) **Cooperation.** To promote cooperation among communities to work towards the most efficient, planned, and cost-effective delivery of government services by, among other means, facilitating cooperative agreements among adjacent communities and to coordinate

planning to ensure compatibility of one community's development with development of neighboring communities;

(3) **Economic development.** To create sustainable economic development strategies and provide economic opportunities throughout the state that will achieve a balanced distribution of growth statewide;

(4) **Conservation.** To protect, preserve, and enhance the state's resources, including agricultural land, forests, surface water and groundwater, recreation and open space, scenic areas, and significant historic and archaeological sites;

(5) **Livable community design.** To strengthen communities by following the principles of livable community design in development and redevelopment, including integration of all income and age groups, mixed land uses and compact development, affordable and life-cycle housing, green spaces, access to public transit, bicycle and pedestrian ways, and enhanced aesthetics and beauty in public spaces;

(6) **Housing.** To provide and preserve an adequate supply of affordable and life-cycle housing throughout the state;

(7) **Transportation.** To focus on the movement of people and goods, rather than on the movement of automobiles, in transportation planning, and to maximize the efficient use of the transportation infrastructure by increasing the availability and use of appropriate public transit throughout the state through land-use planning and design that makes public transit economically viable and desirable;

(8) **Land-use planning.** To establish a community-based framework as a basis for all decisions and actions related to land use;

(9) **Public investments.** To account for the full environmental, social, and economic costs of new development, including infrastructure costs such as transportation, sewers and wastewater treatment, water, schools, recreation, and open space, and plan the funding mechanisms necessary to cover the costs of the infrastructure;

(10) **Public education.** To support research and public education on a community's and the state's finite capacity to accommodate growth, and the need for planning and resource management that will sustain growth; and

(11) **Sustainable development.** To provide a better quality of life for all residents while maintaining nature's ability to function over time by minimizing waste, preventing pollution, promoting efficiency, and developing local resources to revitalize the local economy.

History: 1997 c 202 art 4 s 1.

4A.09 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

The office shall provide local governments technical and financial assistance in preparing their comprehensive plans to meet the community-based planning goals in section 4A.08.

History: 1997 c 202 art 4 s 2

4A.10 PLAN REVIEW AND COMMENT.

The office shall review and comment on community-based comprehensive plans prepared by counties, including the community-based comprehensive plans of municipalities and towns that are incorporated into a county's plan, as required in section 394.232, subdivision 3.

History: 1997 c 202 art 4 s 3