

Department Name	Planning Board
Account(s)	1996

Description
The Albany County Planning Board is established pursuant to the Albany County Charter Article 11 Section 1103 to advise, upon request, and to make recommendations when deemed appropriate to the Legislature regarding such matters related to comprehensive metropolitan, regional, county, and municipal planning, and perform the duties and responsibilities conferred upon a County Planning Board by Article 12-B of the General Municipal Law of New York State. New York State General Municipal Law (Article 12-B, §239-1, m, and n) requires that local communities refer certain development applications, proposed zoning changes, and comprehensive plans to the County Planning Board for review, comment, and recommendations before taking final action. The purpose of this law is to encourage local decision-makers to consider the inter-community and countywide impacts of local land use changes and to add a regional perspective to local land use decisions. The process also allows communities without the benefit of professional planning staff to take advantage of the planning expertise at the County level and help the County Planning Board follow developmental trends throughout the County.