

# What is a Comprehensive Plan?



- **Mandated by the Code of Virginia**

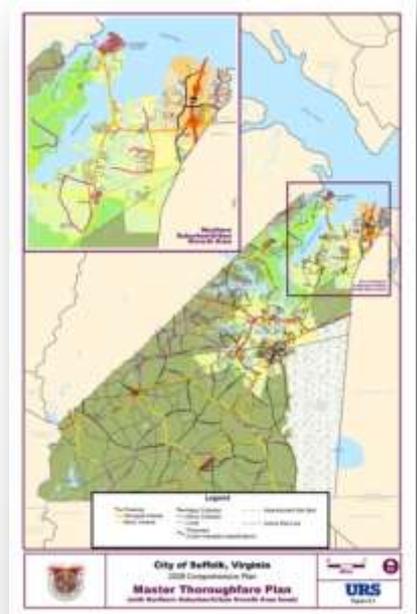


- **Purpose**

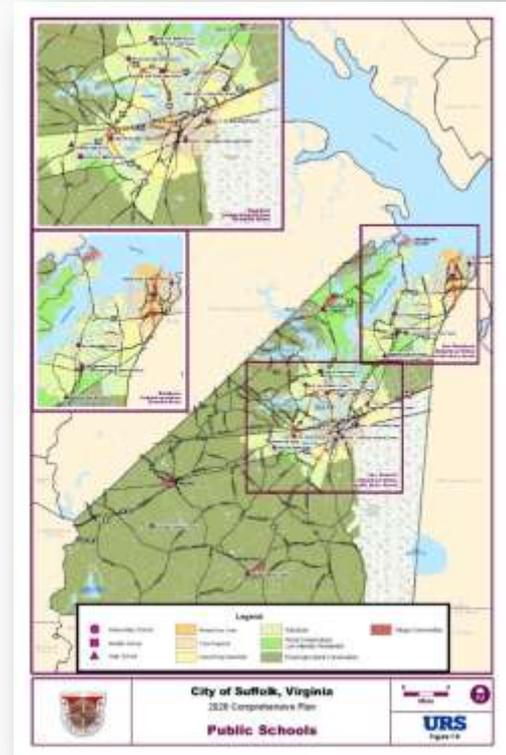
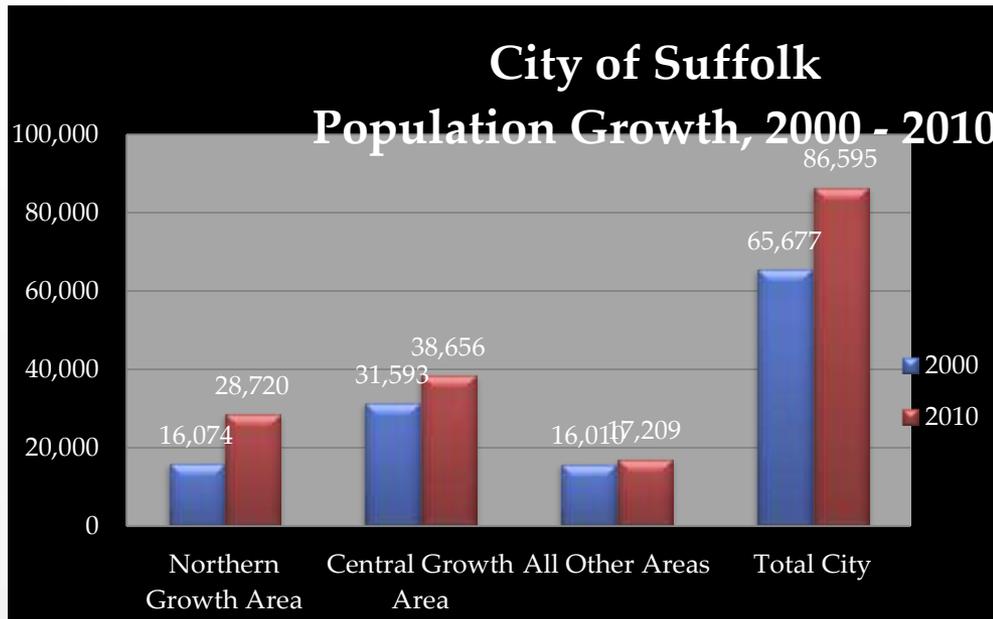
- **Guide the physical development of the City**
- **Promote the public health, safety and welfare**
- **Manage growth, change and renewal**
- **Improve the quality of life of the City's citizens**



- Covers a 20-year horizon
- Is to be general in nature
- Required to contain a transportation plan which identifies needs and recommendations.
- Required to have maps showing road and transportation improvements



- Depicts the City's recommendations for long-range development by using maps, charts, and text.



- The comprehensive plan can include areas designated for:

Housing

Businesses

Industry

Agriculture

Recreation and open space

Environmental resource  
protection

Schools

Public buildings/services

Historical and urban renewal  
areas



- The comprehensive plan must also designate areas and the means for the construction, rehabilitation, and maintenance of affordable housing.
- The comprehensive plan is implemented through a series of policies and action steps associated with each topic area which in turn, guide the decision-making process



- City of Suffolk's comprehensive plan was developed following the themes of:

Balanced growth  
Environmental protection  
Core area revitalization  
Responsible regionalism  
Preserve rural character  
Enhance economic vitality

