

Land Use in Greenville City

Problems dealing with Land Use

What to develop, where to develop, and how much land should be appropriated to a certain type of use are all types of problems facing land use planning. With the population of Greenville increasing dramatically, it is important to determine how land is going to be used. Without proper land use management, the city would become disorganized. Also, it would be impossible to set aside land for parks and other "green spaces." Therefore, proper land use management is quite important.

Research

South Carolina ranks third to last in the nation in land use protection. Greenville itself contributed nearly thirty percent less towards parks and other recreation areas than other metropolitan areas in South Carolina. However, the city of Greenville has begun attempts to change this, by heading up the Reedy River project. This project is a grand overhaul of the Reedy River area as well as downtown as a whole. Another project is being conducted by the South Carolina Growth Initiative, which is a program, "brought together by stakeholders to evaluate land use patterns and trends, explore impediments to quality growth and identify potential quality growth solutions for the state." "It works through more efficient land use that decreases the amount of land developed to accommodate population growth, and offers more variety in how people live and work." "The state should create a state-level Office of Planning Resources and Coordination to provide technical assistance to local governments on planning issues and to coordinate state agency decisions that affect land use and infrastructure investments."

GIS Implementation and Use

To help aid this problem, GIS could be used to first off, map all the zoned areas in the city to have a background to work with. After an idea of what has already been zoned has been determined, future developments would be planned using GIS. Using GIS-created maps, planners could examine land use, utilities, etc. to help determine what should be zoned for. Data sets that include information on utilities, types of land use, demographics, and the like would be needed to create a new map. GIS can be used to analyze objects spatially as well as create posters that are needed for public presentations.

Goals

Goals of this study would be to help in the future to properly manage how land is used and how land use is planned in advance. Using the proper data sets, demographics, utilities, and the like can help developers determine if land should be deemed commercial, residential, industrial, public, etc. Being able to determine these lots in advance can help the city of Greenville become more organized, more eco-friendly and aware, as well as avoid slums and vacant lots.

Sources

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