



Neighborhood Planning Initiative

Informational Update

Land Use, Transportation, and Infrastructure Committee

November 12, 2019

Today's Presentation

1. Overview of the NPI Program
2. Schedule and Current Status
3. Lessons Learned & Ideas for Improvement

NPI Program Overview



Why Plan?

Create a shared vision that addresses the diverse needs and concerns of the community



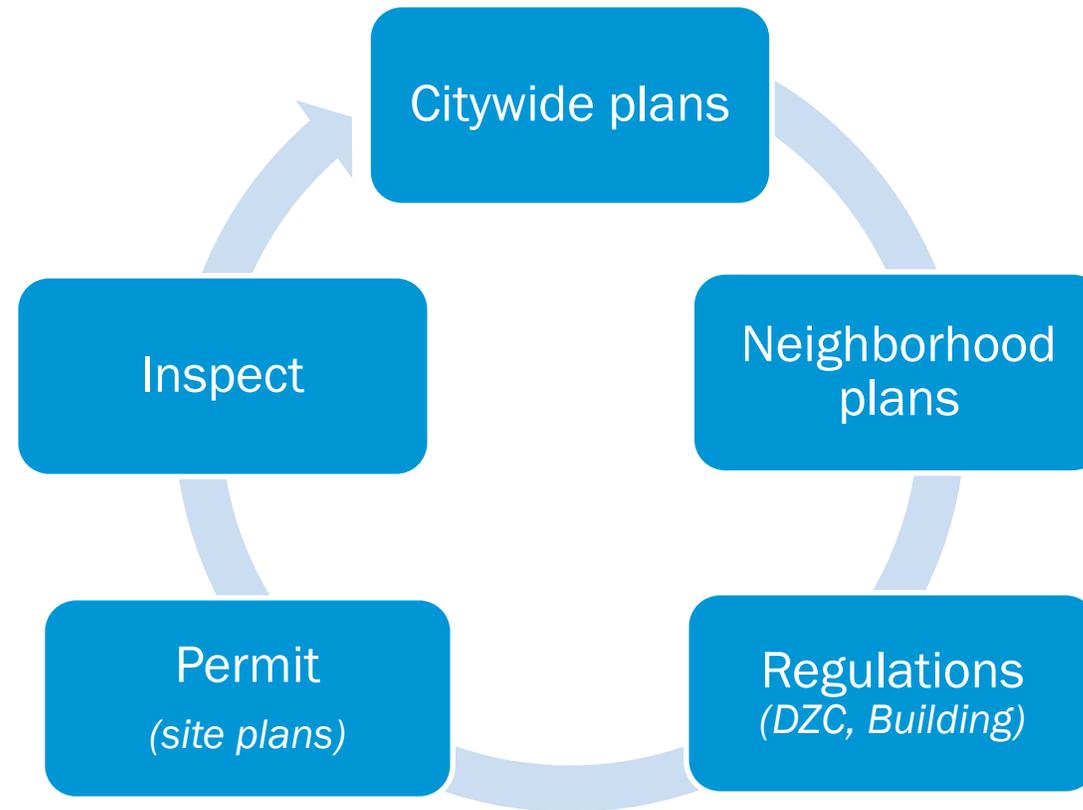
What Do Plans Do?

Plans inform how things should evolve in the future for the benefit of the community

- Engage people in a dialog about the future
- Define a vision and recommend strategies to achieve it
- Inform decision-making (public & private)

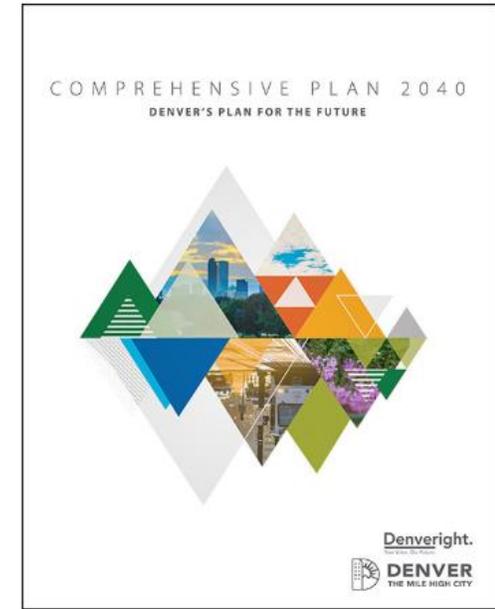
As Denver's popularity continues to grow, plans allow us to direct future growth in a responsible manner and address critical topics like equity and displacement head on.

Role & Cycle of Planning



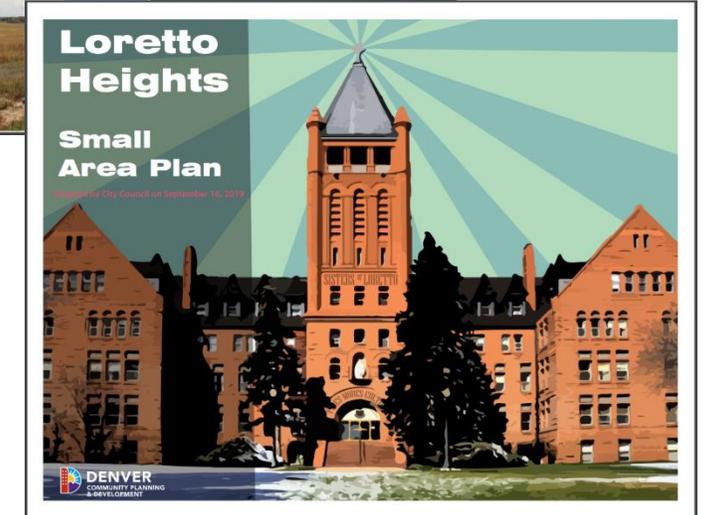
Citywide Planning

- Sets broad policies and recommendations that apply citywide
- Many citywide plans focus on a single topic:
 - Parks & Recreation Game Plan
 - Denver Moves: Pedestrians and Trails
 - Denver Moves: Transit
- Comprehensive Plan and Blueprint Denver provide citywide planning guidance



Neighborhood & Small Area Plans

- Detailed recommendations that apply only to specific areas
 - Ex: neighborhoods, corridors, transit station areas
- Address many topics and show how systems inter-relate at the local level
- Adopted as supplements to the Comprehensive Plan
- Must be consistent with citywide plans



Neighborhood & Small Area Plans

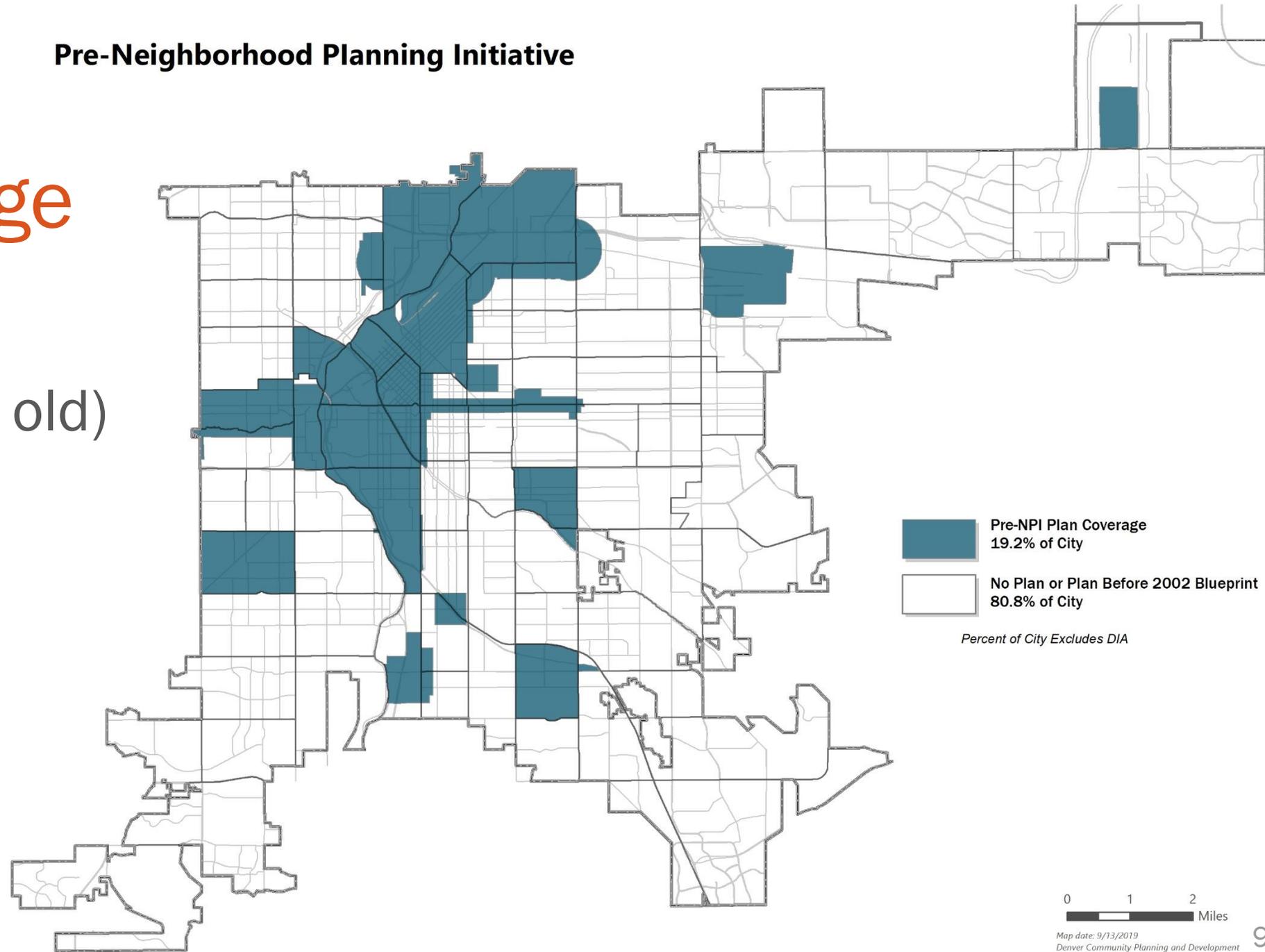
- Update Blueprint Denver mapping
- Can't contradict citywide goals, but can identify customized strategies for achieving them
- Provide detailed guidance for use in rezonings & other policy decisions
- Recommend capital projects and facilities
- Identify strategies for future implementation projects

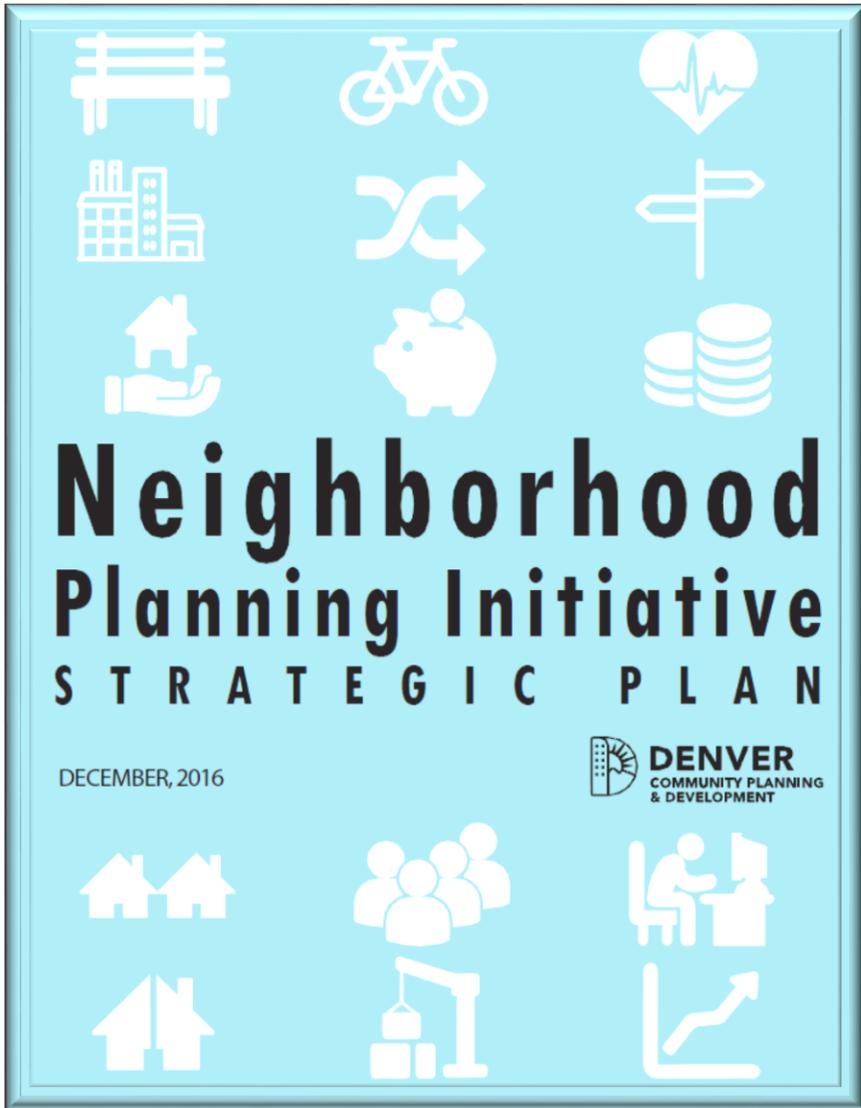


Small Area Plan Coverage in 2016

(Plans <15 years old)

Pre-Neighborhood Planning Initiative

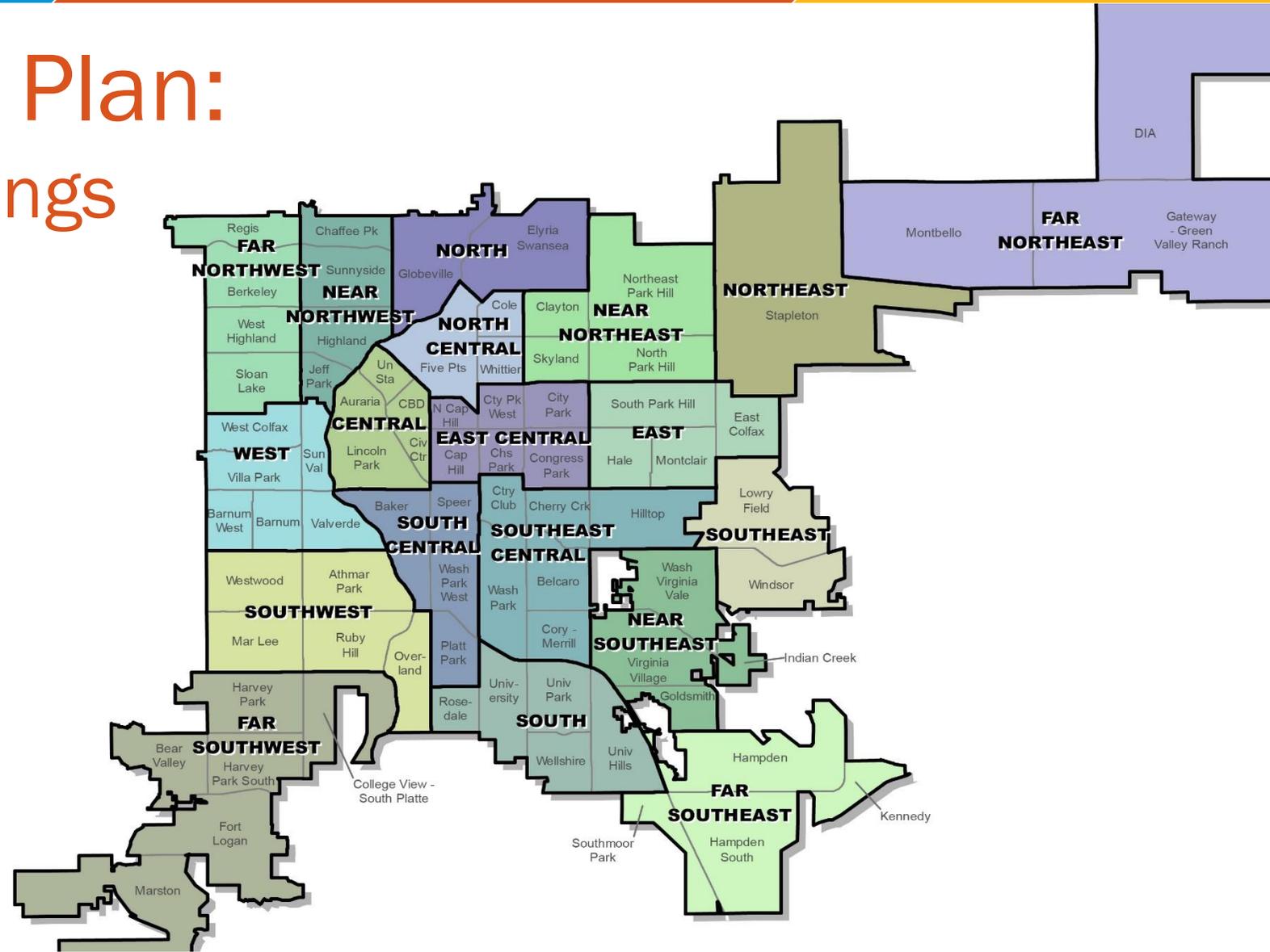


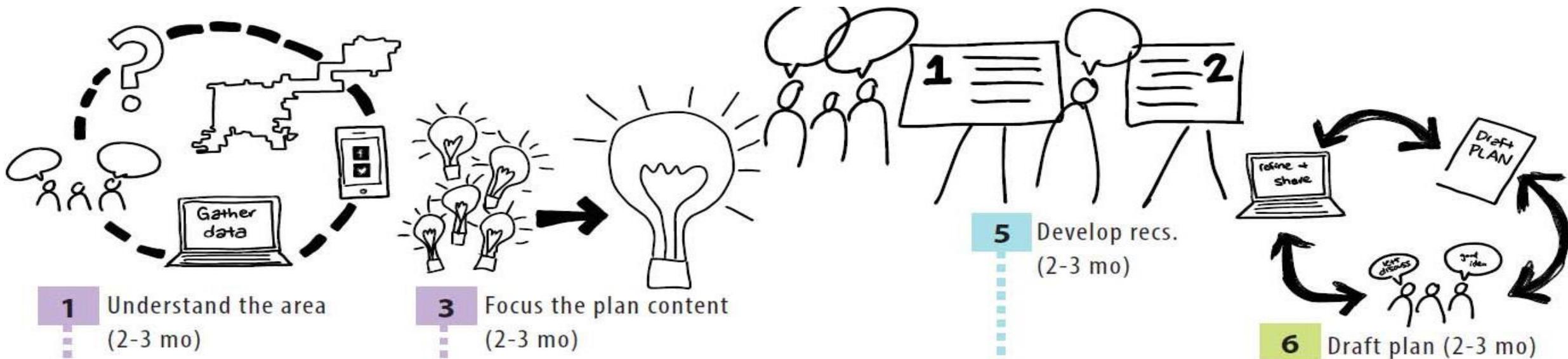


The NPI Approach: Use Resources More Efficiently

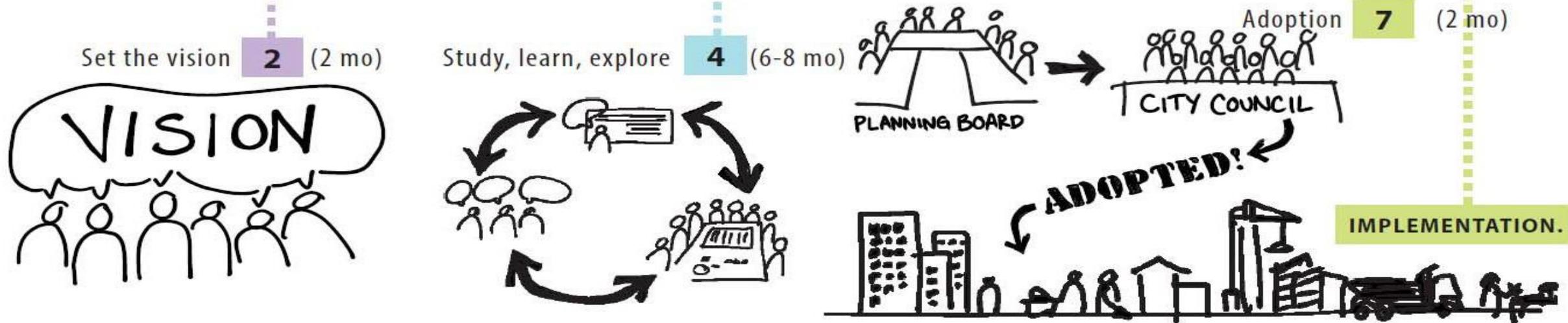
1. Group Neighborhoods Together
 - 19 areas, up to 6 neighborhoods per area
2. Multiple Plans in Process
 - 3 at a time
3. Standardized Timeline for Each Plan
 - 18-24 month process
4. Standardized Plan Content
 - Always topics + high priority issues
5. Ongoing/Rolling Process
 - New plans kickoff as others are completed

NPI Strategic Plan: Plan Area Groupings





STEPS IN THE PLANNING PROCESS:



Overall Schedule & Next Steps

NPI Phases

Complete:

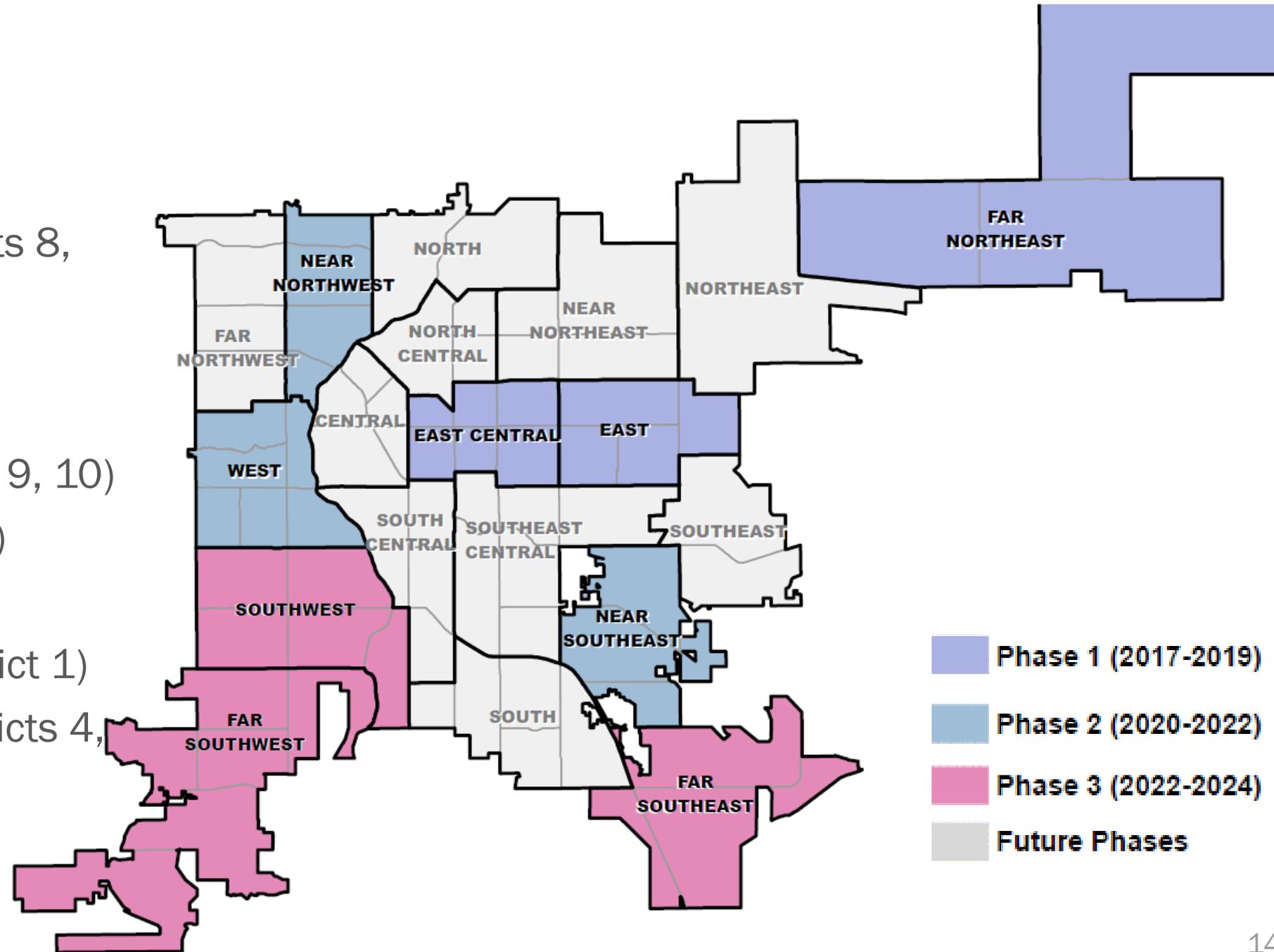
- Far Northeast (Districts 8, 11)

In-Process:

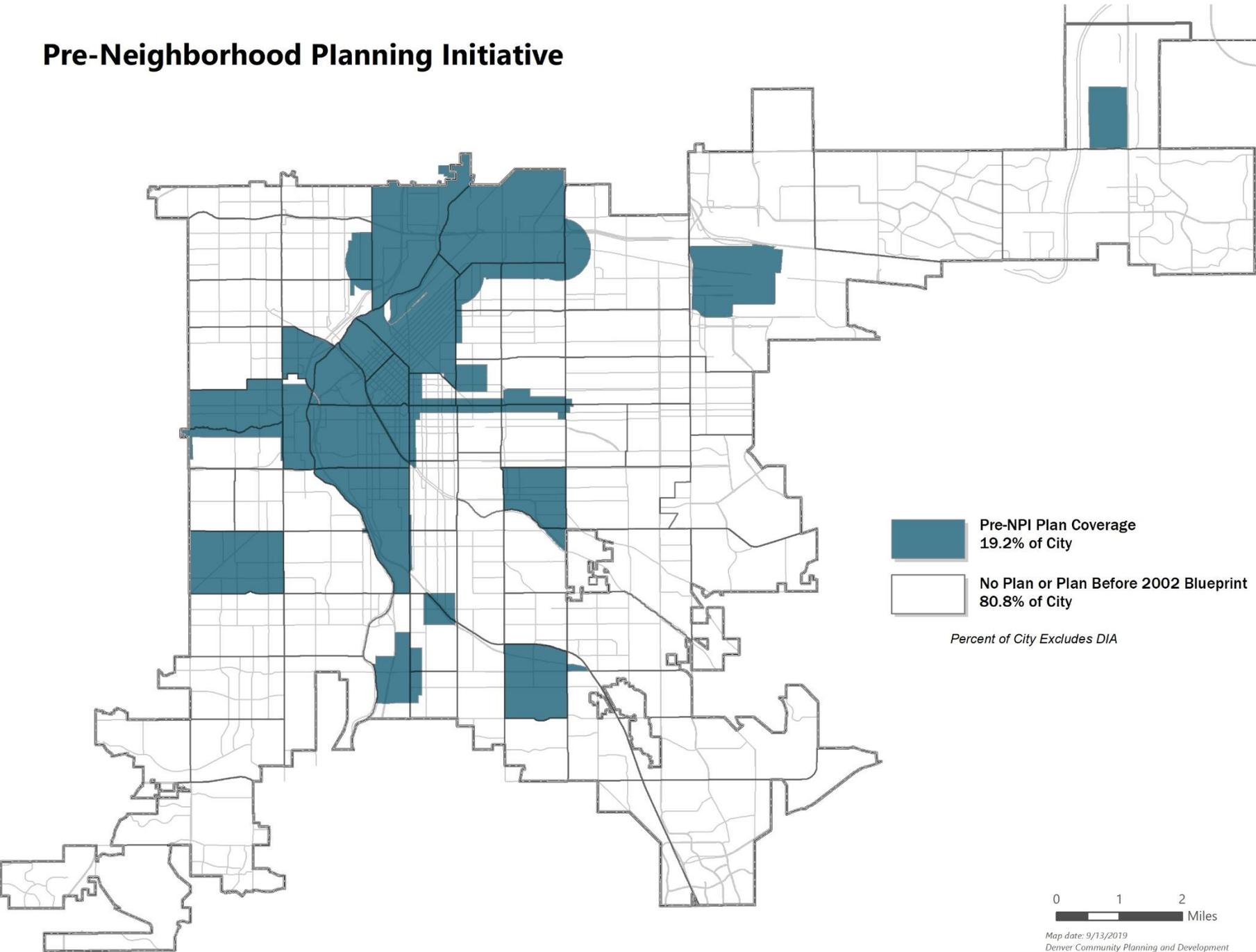
- East (Districts 5, 8)
- East Central (Districts 9, 10)
- West (Districts 1, 3, 7)

Launching in 2020:

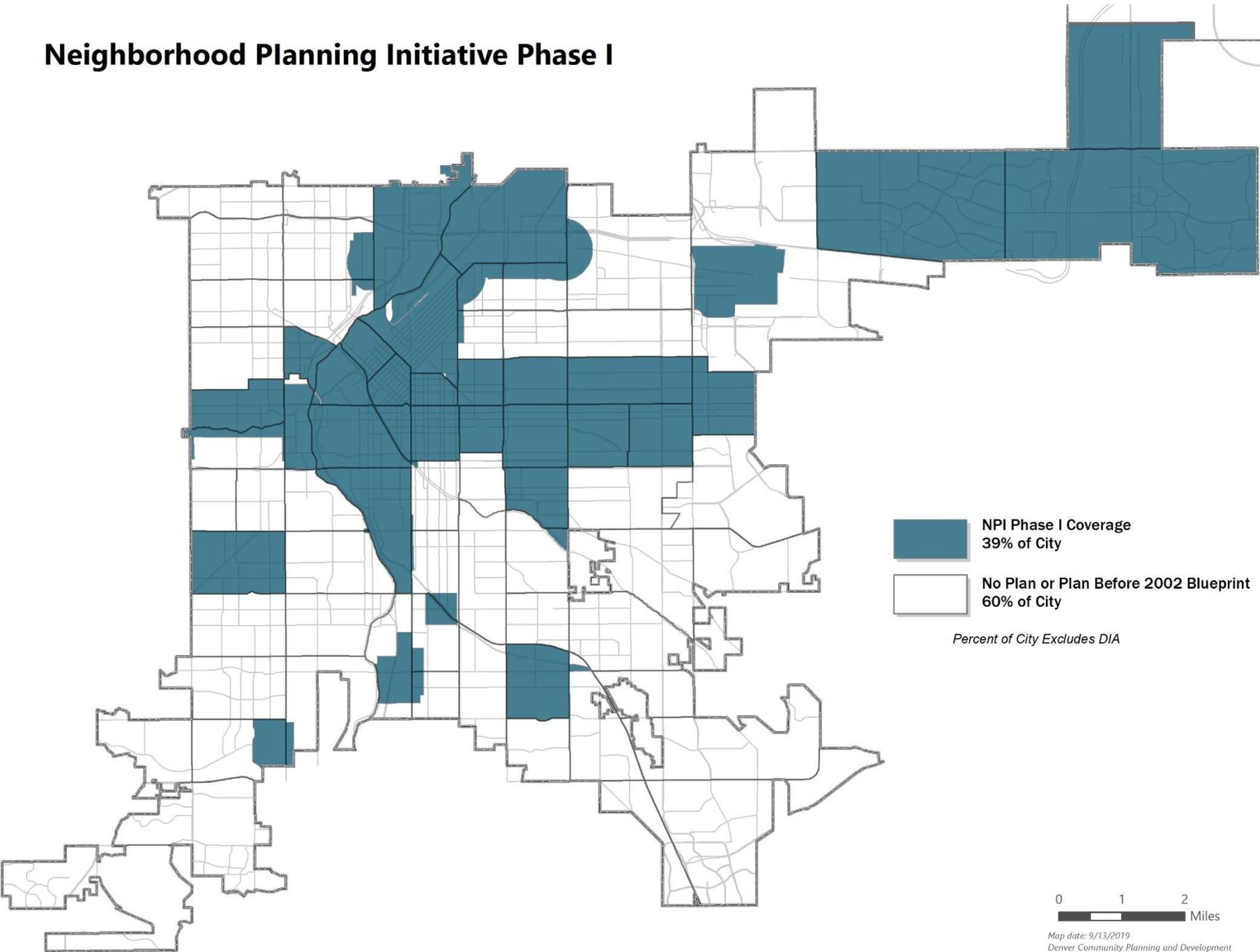
- Near Northwest (District 1)
- Near Southeast (Districts 4, 5, 6)



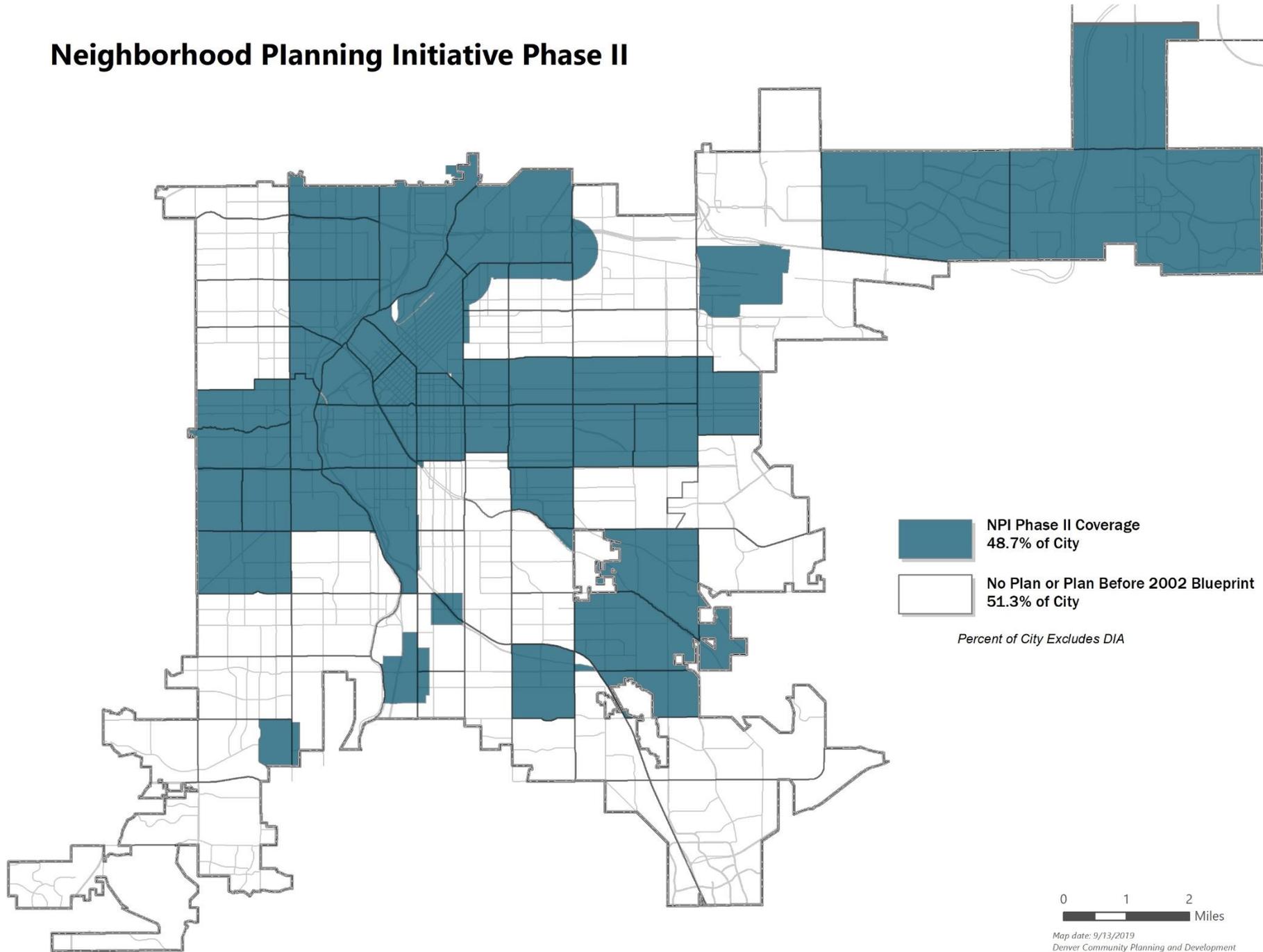
Pre-Neighborhood Planning Initiative



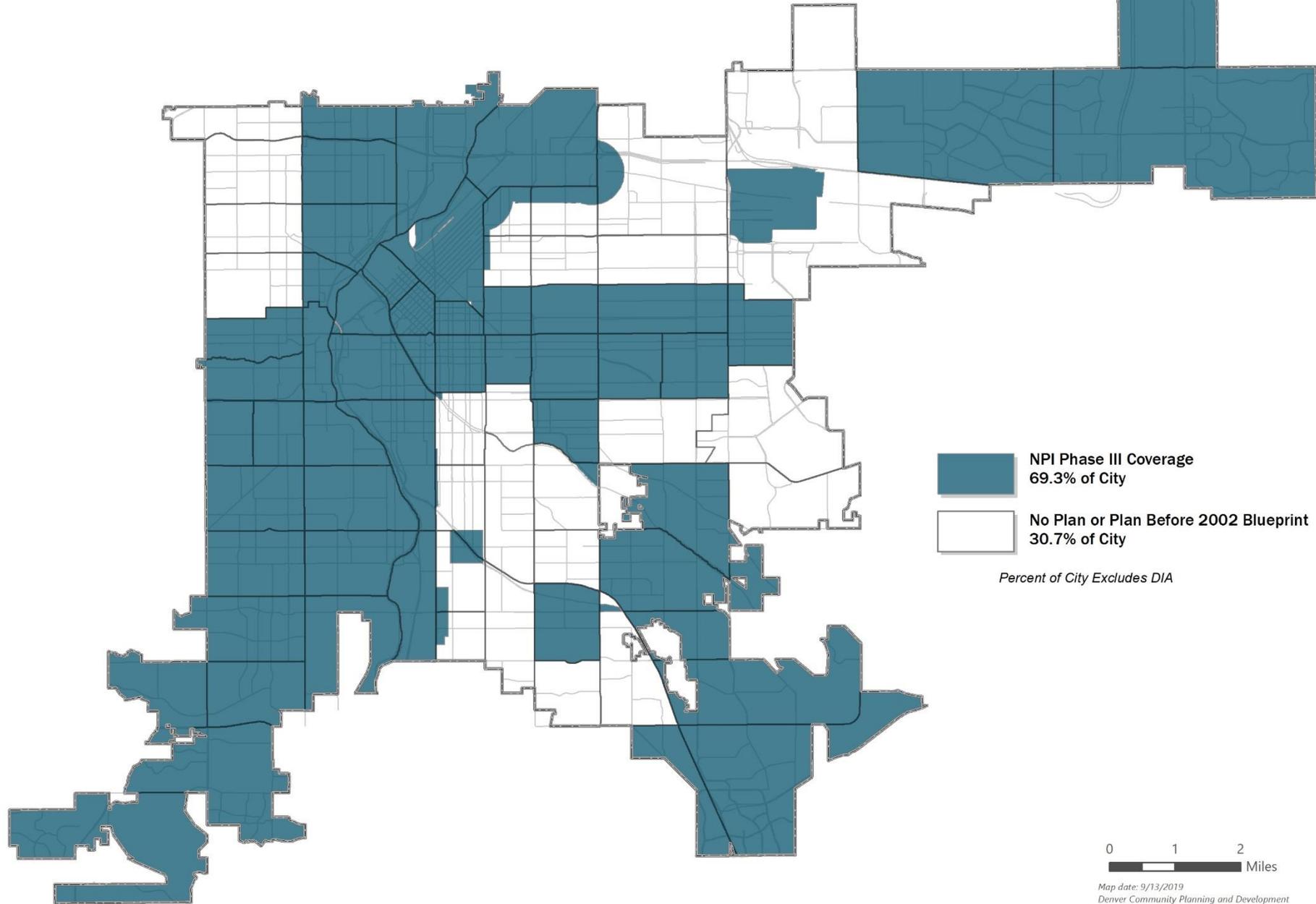
Neighborhood Planning Initiative Phase I



Neighborhood Planning Initiative Phase II



Neighborhood Planning Initiative Phase III



Next Steps for Current Projects

East Central

- Draft Plan Open House
Wed. Nov 13 6:00pm
East High School
- Draft plan online now
- Survey open now through early Jan
- Revisions Jan/Feb
- Final Steering Committee Review Feb
- Adoption Process Mar-April

East

- Community Workshop
Sat. Nov 23 10:00am
Johnson & Wales
Academic Center
- Survey open through mid-Dec
- Revisions Dec/Jan
- Draft plan online Feb-Mar
- Revisions Mar/April
- Final Steering Committee Review April
- Adoption Process May-June

West

- Community Workshop
Tues. Jan 14
Details TBD
- Plan in-process throughout 2020
- Anticipated completion Q2 2021

Lessons Learned and Ideas for Improvement

1. Rethink the Standardized Timeline

- Restructure the 18-24 month planning process
 - Shorten the initial phases (existing conditions, visioning)
 - Lengthen the later phases (options/alternatives and drafting)
 - Draft content sooner—longer public review phase

2. Community Engagement

- Increase public awareness of the planning process (social media postings, flyer distribution, postcard mailings, news media coverage).
- Direct more project resources to support community engagement.
- Improve online resources (project website, use of videos and surveys).
- Meet them where they are & reach new community members, be flexible in our approaches.
- Listen and follow up.

2. Community Engagement- continued

- Goal is to reach as wide a range of voices as possible (race, ethnicity, age, socio-economic, language spoken, etc.) and incorporate the input.
- Improve demographic data collection for all outreach activities.
- Increase the use of targeted outreach strategies to engage hard-to-reach populations.
- Assess throughout the planning process and adjust approach to reach under-represented populations.

3. Steering Committee Role

- Steering Committee engages in plan development at a detailed level and helps expand outreach.
- Increase the steering committee's role in developing a customized public engagement strategy for each plan.
- Consider adding a planning board member to each steering committee (ex-officio role).

4. Alignment with Citywide Plans

- Stronger emphasis at early stages of planning process on:
 - Existing citywide goals and policies
 - Parameters for small area plans within this framework
 - Unique roles/responsibilities of small area plans

Questions?