

***Pedestrians are the lost measure of a community, they set the scale for both the center and edge of our neighborhoods.***

--Peter Calthorpe  
The Next American Metropolis

## **Create Walkable Communities**



**1. Do you require sidewalks and trails in new developments?**

**2. Does your street design enable pedestrian traffic?**

**3. Has your community designated or established safe routes for children to walk or bike to school?**

**4. Do people have easy walking access to public parks and playgrounds?**

**5. Do people have easy walking access to goods (such as housing, offices, and retail) and services (such as transportation, schools, libraries)?**



## Enhance Natural Capital, Open Space & Agricultural Lands

1. Has your community identified its natural assets (rivers, mountains, mesas, open space, agricultural lands, viewsheds, agricultural lands) and taken steps to restore or protect them?
2. Do local regulations provide for open space in new development?
3. What densities of development does your zoning permit on farm and ranch lands?

*Environmental quality has become a central element of local economic bases and a central determinant of local economic vitality. A community won't show much vitality if no one wants to live there.*

--Thomas Power  
Economist  
University of Montana



**4. Does your community offer open space / cluster development options for a planned unit development (PUD) and for smaller acreage (less than 80 acres)?**

**5. How much conservation-easement and/or land trust activity is occurring in your area?**

**6. Is there local support for farming and ranching through tax abatements and/or a dedicated town fund to help purchase or protect prime working land?**

**7. Is there a voluntary transfer of development rights (TDR) program?**

**8. Is there a water conservancy active in your area?**

# Encourage Business Diversity

**1. Does your community regularly track local and regional economic information and trends?**

**2. Can townspeople meet most daily shopping need – shopping, hardware, etc. – in town?**

*People always ask me what the biggest industry is going to be and I always say small businesses. That's where all the jobs are coming from.*

--Ray Rasker  
Economist  
Sonoran Institute

**3. How does your town support existing downtown business and attract new ones?**

**4. How do local regulations encourage business development in the downtown?**

**5. Does your community have high-speed Internet access?**

**6. Is there local farming and/or ranching marketing or diversification program?**

**7. Are local groups active in promoting locally owned businesses?**



## Conduct Impact Analysis

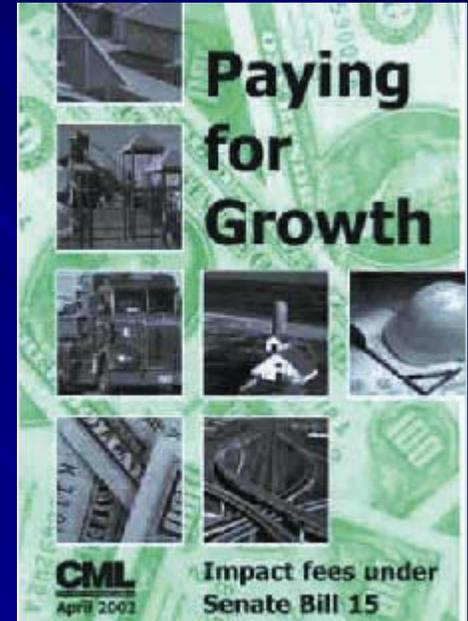
1. Does your community require fiscal impact statements for new development proposals?
2. Does your community conduct a periodic buildout analysis as part of the comprehensive planning process?
3. To what extent does your community require development impact fees?

*Awareness of the fiscal realities of development is always essential but is particularly important during periods of economic downturns and in states with statutory revenue restraints such as Colorado.* --Paying for Growth,2002  
Colorado Municiple League



**4. Does your community conduct periodic cost of services studies to better understand who is paying for and who is receiving public services?**

**5. Does your community tie impact fees to its Capital Improvement Plan?**



# Regional Cooperation

1. Do elected and appointed board members and staff in your area have opportunities to meet and network with each other on a regular basis?

2. Do the towns, cities, and counties in your area share land use data?

3. Do the towns, cities, and counties in your area have any formal cooperative agreements on issues such as land use, transportation, housing, etc.?

*We are organized to address challenges and deliver services at the federal, state, and local levels, but the tough challenges are not respecting jurisdictional boundaries. They are primarily emerging at the neighborhood, regional, and global levels. --William Dodge*

4. Does your county support/ encourage / direct growth toward the existing infrastructure of towns and cities?  
law