



COMMUNITY PLANNING CONTEXT-BASED SOLUTIONS

SUBJECT BRIEF

What are Context-Based Solutions?

Context-based solutions are principles that capture three core concepts:

1. Serve the transportation needs of transportation system users of all ages and abilities, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, motorists, and freight handlers.
2. Provide a context-sensitive approach to transportation system design that considers local land development patterns.
3. Promote safety, quality of life, and economic competitiveness.

Context-based solutions apply to all state-owned or maintained roadways.

How Do We Implement Context-Based Solutions?

The transportation system and development patterns are closely linked and influence travel options and movement. Context-based solutions foster a network of state and local roadways to provide a foundation for safe and comfortable travel for all users. FDOT, local governments, and MPOs work together to achieve a connected roadway network.

FDOT's Role

- Manage statewide and regional movement
- Allocate and manage state/federal transportation funds
- Maintain and improve state transportation infrastructure
- Work with communities to understand their land development decisions and limitations
- Understand the community's planning and transportation goals and identify project alternatives that support these goals
- Participate in local visioning efforts

Local Governments' Role

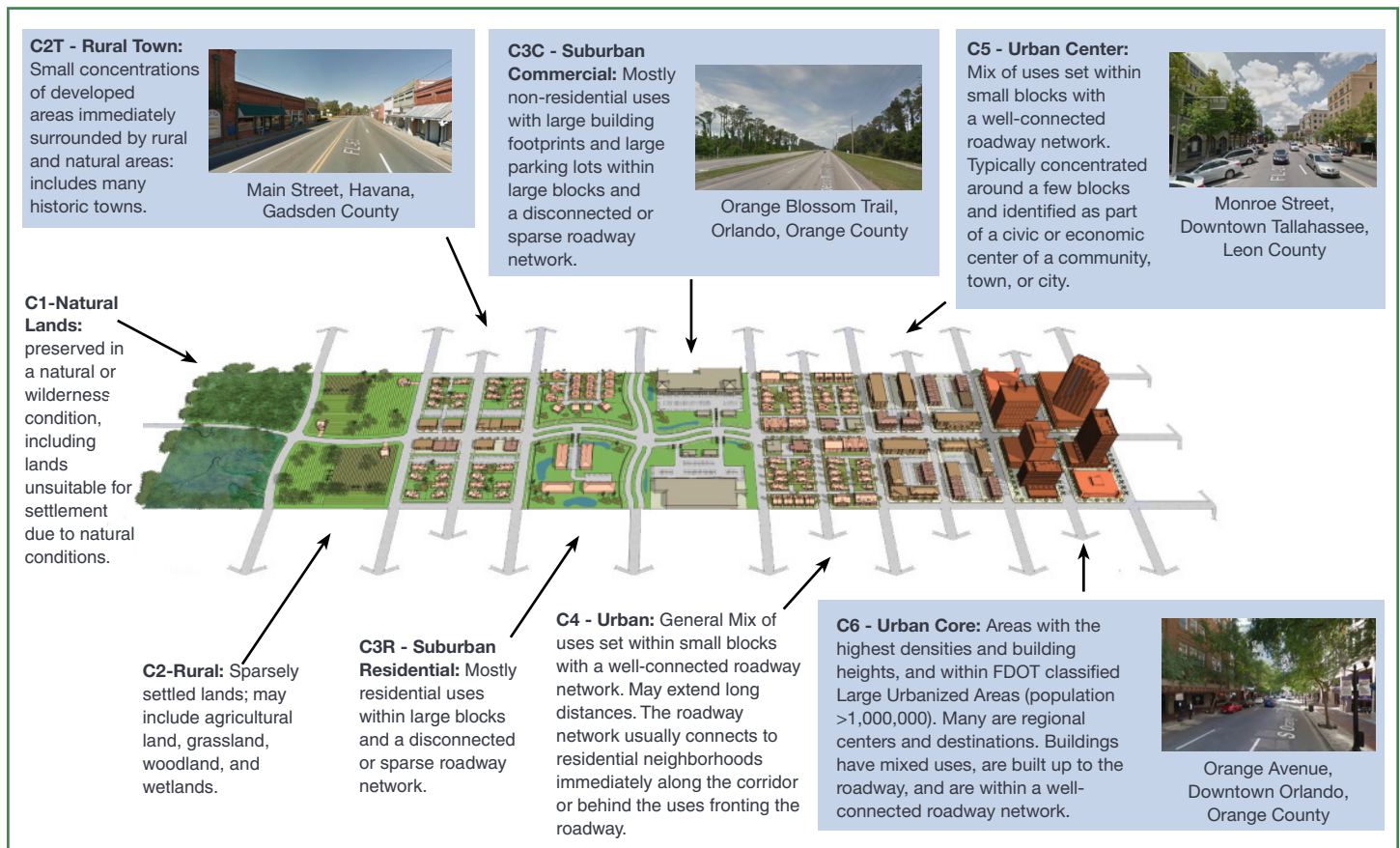
- Develop and communicate the local vision
- Plan for the community's future
- Manage local movement and connections
- Manage and control land use and development
- Address most aspects of community building – physical, social, economic
- Improve local network connections
- Encourage developments that support multimodal needs
- Consider access management
- Plan regionally and work with all levels of government
- Ensure community engagement
- Integrate context classification policies into comprehensive plans, land development regulations, and design standards

What is Context Classification and Why is it Important to FDOT?

Context classification aligns transportation decisions with land use, resulting in quality places offering transportation options. FDOT works with local governments to ensure transportation investments support a community's vision, land use, economic competitiveness, and quality of life while reinforcing safety by indicating appropriate speed ranges for roadways. Context classification fosters context appropriate transportation facilities through flexibility and innovation in the planning and design of state roadways.



FDOT's context classification system describes the general characteristics of the land use, development patterns, and roadway connections along a roadway, providing cues as to the types of uses and user groups that will likely utilize the roadway.



What is the Link Between Community Visions and Context Classification?

COMMUNITY VISIONS

Local governments develop and actively communicate their visions and goals, and provide clear direction to FDOT and public and private partners engaged in community development.



CONTEXT CLASSIFICATION

FDOT helps local governments become familiar with the context classification system to create a common language that FDOT and the local government can use to describe streets, places, and intentions.

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?

[FDOT Roadway Design Office](#) | [FDOT Design Manual](#)