

## **Why does Hamilton County have a growth plan?**

The State of Tennessee passed a law in May 1998 requiring all Tennessee counties to develop a comprehensive 20-year growth boundary plan by July 2001. The purpose of this plan was to efficiently manage future residential, commercial and industrial growth and to provide needed public services for that growth while maintaining the character of Tennessee's rural areas.

*Note: Hamilton County's growth plan is often called the 2020 Plan or the Urban Growth Plan.*

## **What did this law require?**

The law required that:

- Each municipality (there are 10 in Hamilton County) and the county must develop its own individual 20-year growth boundary plan.
- Once adopted, these 11 plans were combined into one comprehensive growth boundary plan for the entire county.
- The final comprehensive growth boundary plan be ratified by the legislative bodies of each individual municipality and the county.
- The plan had to be approved by the state.

## **What kind of geographical areas does the growth boundary plan address?**

The law requires the creation of a countywide growth boundary plan for three distinct types of areas in the county based on a 20-year projection of growth and anticipated development:

Urban growth boundaries (UGBs) are regions which contain the corporate limits of a municipality and the adjoining territory where growth is expected

Planned growth areas (PGAs) are sections outside incorporated municipalities where growth is expected and where new incorporations may occur

Rural areas (RAs) are any territory not within one of the other two categories which are to be preserved for agriculture, recreation, forest, wildlife or uses other than high-density commercial or residential development.

## **Where can I get more information about the planning process for the growth plan?**

Contact the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency at (423) 757-5216.

## **Where can I get information about specific annexation plans for each municipality?**

Municipality information sheet: (LINK to each municipality town hall and their attorneys)

## **Where do I get a copy of the growth boundary plan?**

A downloadable map is available: Map (LINK)

OR

An online map is available at [www.hamiltontn.gov](http://www.hamiltontn.gov). The boundaries may be accessed by choosing "View GIS maps online", then under the "Municipal" heading, the user can choose to show the Urban Growth Plan on the map.