



Local Policy Types and Descriptions

PLANS	Plans are a compilation of policy statements, goals, standards, maps, and action programs for guiding future activities or development. Although plans do not always create enforceable legal requirements, they are an important tool for driving and shaping legal policy decisions. They may also identify laws and policies that need to be created, reviewed or amended to help implement the plan. Examples include comprehensive plans and pedestrian master plans.
RESOLUTION	Resolutions are used to formally express “the sense, will, or action of a deliberative assembly” such as a city council or county board. They may be used to formally adopt an administrative policy.
ORDINANCE	An ordinance is an authoritative law or decree, at the municipal level, that forbids, authorizes, and/or regulates an activity. Ordinances are typically incorporated into a jurisdiction’s code.
MUNICIPAL CODE	A municipal code is the systematic compilation or revision of ordinances, laws, rules, or regulations of a town, city, or other local government unit.
AGREEMENTS BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS	These are memoranda of understanding; joint powers agreements; joint ventures; service contracts; mutual aid agreements; cooperative agreements; and other types of agreements. These agreements create mutual obligations and benefits between the participating governments.
FISCAL	Indicates a policy or plan that is predicated on price or tax adjustments.
VARIABLE	Could be implemented through a variety of these policy types.

This is an excerpt from the [Survey of Local Policy Opportunities Related to Healthy Eating and Active Living for Stakeholder Consideration](#) Policy Brief.

