



**FARMERS BRANCH**  
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# AI in Planning

Planning and Zoning Commission | April 13, 2026

Requested By Vice Chair Marcus Miller





# Purpose

- Provide an overview of AI and its presence in the planning field.
- Present general research by Staff.
- Provide informational references.



## AI in Planning

# Background

- 1** AI is used across modern technologies, from websites to autonomous vehicles.
- 2** It simulates abilities such as reasoning and pattern recognition.
- 3** AI research dates back to the 1950s.
- 4** AI systems rely heavily on algorithms.

*Summarized from Artificial Intelligence and Planning Practice by David Wasserman, AICP, and Michael Flaxman, PhD.*

# Application



## AI can be used to:

- ✓ **Assess and analyze data**
- ✓ **Identify patterns**
- ✓ **Interpret and translate patterns**
- ✓ **Develop predictions**
- ✓ **Automate repetitive or analytical tasks**
- ✓ **Create visualizations**
- ✓ **Assist with conceptual design**
- ✓ **Analyze complex datasets**
- ✓ **Support digitization**



AI in Planning

# Conclusion

AI systems depend on data, which may be incomplete or inaccurate.

AI can increase efficiency in routine or repetitive planning tasks.

Transparency and human oversight remain essential.

No AI tools are currently implemented in the Planning Department.

# Sources

Artificial Intelligence and Planning Practice  
by David Wasserman, AICP and Michael  
Flaxman, PhD.

AI in Planning: Opportunities and  
Challenges and How to Prepare

AI in Planning: Why Now Is the Time  
By Thomas Sanchez, AICP

Planning With Artificial Intelligence By  
Thomas Sanchez, AICP

“What Is Artificial Intelligence?” Coursera  
article (used for informational research  
only)

*AI in Planning: Opportunities and Challenges and How  
to Prepare* By Clinton Andrews, AICP, Keith Cooke,  
Alexsandra Gomez, Petra Hurtado, PhD, Thomas  
Sanchez, AICP, Sagar Shah, AICP;PhD, Norman Wright,  
AICP

# Questions

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