

**PLAN EL PASO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS
IN COLLABORATION WITH DOVER, KOHL & PARTNERS**

HPE RESPONSIBILITY:

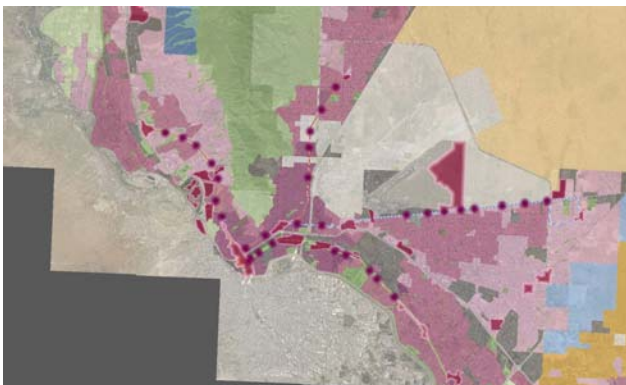
Developed Strategic Transportation and Infrastructure Planning Procedures

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**Proposed Multi-Way Boulevard for Zaragoza Road
(Computer image by Urban Advantage)**



City-wide Context Map showing existing compact urban, future compact urban, suburban and rural places (graphic by Dover, Kohl & Partners)

Hall Planning & Engineering, Inc. participated as a subconsultant with Dover, Kohl & Partners to assist in developing transportation conceptual designs for the El Paso Comprehensive Plan update. HPE critiqued street designs and local and regional circulation patterns for El Paso and addressed ways transportation systems could be altered to enhance the walkability of the area. This was done by designing streetscapes that enhance pedestrian safety and comfort while providing for efficient automobile travel. Experience with walkable street design in other areas enabled HPE to work effectively within the team to plan slower speed streets with adequate vehicle capacity. These well connected walkable streets were also designed to encourage the other non-automobile modes such as cycling and transit.

Results included the following:

- Enhanced opportunity for sustainable redevelopment of the downtown area and surrounding subareas by reintroducing pedestrian scale design features
- Taming of high-speed, suburban arterials by repurposing as walkable, multi-way boulevards
- Augmentation of the conventional transportation Functional Classification System to include a third area type, Compact Urban, which provides the legal framework for walkable design. With the Compact Urban area designation, city policy bridges the gap between planning policy and engineering design
- Analysis indicating the one-way street system should be further studied for reversion to two-way operation, based on initial analysis that two-way operation would be sufficient for traffic movement and much better for walkability

HPE prepared recommended cross sections for area streets and design guidance consistent with the adopted Institute of Transportation Engineers' Recommended Practice, *Designing Walkable Urban Thoroughfares: A Context Sensitive Approach*. HPE also applied the HPE Walkability Index to existing and proposed thoroughfares to quantify the impact of recommended designs.