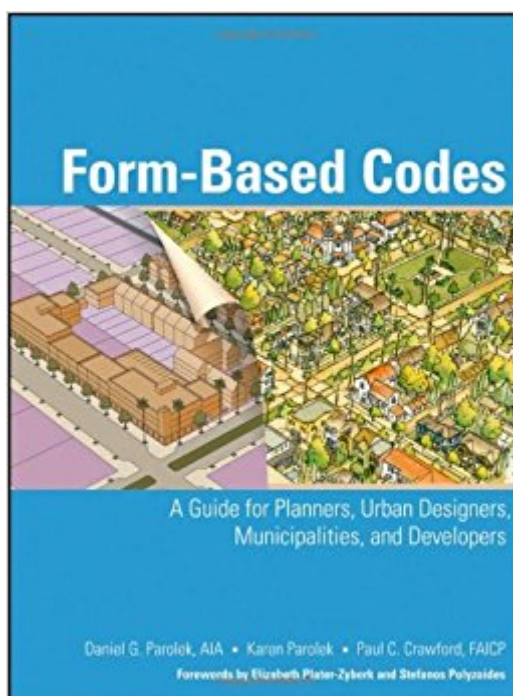


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# Form Based Codes: A Guide For Planners, Urban Designers, Municipalities, And Developers



## Synopsis

A comprehensive, illustrative guide to Form-Based Codes "This volume describes in clear argument and significant detail the issues and techniques associated with the design and management of Form-Based Codes as an antidote to zoning and sprawl. Reading it and putting it to practice is an excellent point of departure for individuals and municipalities to safeguard and to grow their communities." - From the Foreword by noted architect and urbanist Stefanos Polyzoides

Form-Based Codes are the latest evolutionary step in the practice of development and land-use regulation. A growing alternative to conventional zoning laws, Form-Based Codes go beyond land use to address not just the physical form of buildings but also surrounding streets, blocks, and public spaces in order to create, protect, and revitalize sustainable communities. Written by three recognized leaders in the field of New Urbanism, including an urban planner and an architect, this book is the first to address this subject comprehensively. After defining Form-Based Codes and explaining why they are a necessary alternative to conventional zoning regulations, the authors detail the various components of Form-Based Codes and then go step by step through the process of creating and implementing them. Finally, a series of case studies illustrates best practice applications of Form-Based Coding at various scales from county-wide to site specific, and various project types from city-wide development code replacement to the preservation or evolution of downtowns. This timely and accessible text features:

- \* More than 200 clear illustrations of Form-Based Codes
- \* Studies of real-world applications of Form-Based Coding by leading planners, urban designers, and architects

Form-Based Codes is a must-read for today's urban designers, urban planners, architects, and anyone with a vested interest in utilizing the latest regulatory tool to help create compact, walkable, and sustainable communities.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Measured and thoughtful, *Form-Based Codes* is an intelligent how-to. Like a good textbook, the thoughts build one upon the other until you can see the clarity and wisdom of shedding your city's zoning and moving to an enlightened future based on form rather than use." (Planetizen.com; 11/24/08) "The term form-based, though coined in 2001, actually evolved from the seminal Seaside, Florida, design of 1981. But fundamental misunderstandings about eh specifics of its components, visioning process, and implementation continue to this day because no comprehensive reference source has been available. The purpose of this book is to fill that gap, and it succeeds admirably. In essence what the authors have presented is a step-by-step, highly detailed textbook." (Urban Land, June 2009) "â explains the purposes of form-based codes (FBCs) and explores the ins and outs of their creation, authorization, and implementation." (New Urban News, April-May 2008)

A comprehensive, illustrative guide to *Form-Based Codes* "This volume describes in clear argument and significant detail the issues and techniques associated with the design and management of *Form-Based Codes* as an antidote to zoning and sprawl. Reading it and putting it to practice is an excellent point of departure for individuals and municipalities to safeguard and to grow their communities." #151; From the Foreword by noted architect and urbanist Stefanos Polyzoides *Form-Based Codes* are the latest evolutionary step in the practice of development and land-use regulation. A growing alternative to conventional zoning laws, *Form-Based Codes* go beyond land use to address not just the physical form of buildings but also surrounding streets, blocks, and public spaces in order to create, protect, and revitalize sustainable communities. Written by three recognized leaders in the field of New Urbanism, including an urban planner and an architect, this book is the first to address this subject comprehensively. After defining *Form-Based Codes* and explaining why they are a necessary alternative to conventional zoning regulations, the authors detail the various components of *Form-Based Codes* and then go step by step through the process of creating and implementing them. Finally, a series of case studies illustrates best practice applications of *Form-Based Coding* at various scales from county-wide to site specific, and various project types from city-wide development code replacement to the preservation or evolution of downtowns. This timely and accessible text features: More than 200 clear illustrations of

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This book serves as a great introduction to Form Based Codes. It presents the fundamentals of Form Based Codes, separates them from other Code types, and presents a step by step process for developing a Code for your community.

The version I received requires a good magnifier to see the charts and other exhibits. Unless you plan to pore over the pages, close up, this is not the book for you. The information is outstanding but the presentation is difficult at best.

very informative, clear-cut guide for creating a form based code

On a recent project my assignment was to create a FBC for a local community that did not have codes. This book was informative, and helped me write codes for the town. It is a good step by step process book in order to do a great FBC and TOD (Transportation Orientated Design) community

A good form-based code depends on sophisticated design insights. But the book's reason for being is to explain the job to people without sophisticated design insights. (How else to change an entire built environment in a hurry?) Hence its incredible level of detail, right down to the best typography to use in presenting the proposed code. The book sets a floor: followed faithfully, it can enable diligent but uncreative professionals to produce a better form-based code than they might otherwise. That form-based code in turn will enable diligent but uncreative professionals to produce a better town or neighborhood than they might otherwise. But will that floor over time become a ceiling? Predictable outcomes are what residents want; but creativity isn't predictable. Full review at [...]

This is a good book rich with resources to easily understand why Form-Based Codes are needed to improve the formless nature of sprawl. The book does an excellent job of making practitioners understand how to go about putting together a Form-Based Code. The materials in the book are well-organized and presented with clear graphics. For the case studies -- especially where the Form-Based Codes have been implemented -- it would have been great to see images of what

improvements in the built environment were actually achieved. Regardless, if you are an architect, planner or urban designer, get this book as it will enable you to write effective Form-Based Codes and help create better public realms.

Form Based Codes provides an excellent ways to understand how design codes works in various stages in urban design field. I think this book guides very clear description in terms of preparing design codes and the management process. The material in this book illustrates excellently relationship between design and planning principles towards high quality environment. As an Urban Designer and Landscape Architect, I would like to express a great appreciation and many thanks to all authors.

This is an excellent introduction to the history and implementation of Form Based Codes. Only complaints: many of the graphics are way too small to read without a microscope, and misspellings of Olmsted and rights-of-way in Polyzoides foreword.

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