

3B. Long-Range Planning Committee Policy
Plymouth Congregational Church

Article I. Forward

As described by the Plymouth Church Constitution, the Long-Range Planning Committee exists as a permanent committee of the church. As such, its members are appointed by the Church Council in consultation with the senior minister. The constitution leaves it to Church Council to define the size, role and composition of the committee and the length of term of its members. This policy fulfills that purpose.

Article II. Role of the Long-Range Planning Committee

The primary purpose of the Long-Range Planning Committee is to perform the planning of church facilities to fulfill the long-range program plans of Church Council. While the term "Long-Range Planning" is broad enough to describe many possible roles within church government, it is believed that other long-range planning issues such as planning and coordination of church programs are the primary responsibility of Church Council, and should not be delegated to a committee.

Specific responsibilities of the committee include:

- A. Obtaining from Church Council a clear time-line and priorities for future programs and growth.
- B. Working with church committees and the Trustees to determine specific needs associated with the priorities, and assessing the ability of current facilities to meet those needs.
- C. Translating the priorities, needs, and timelines into long-range plan for the evolvement of the church facilities, and, as requested by Church Council, periodically bringing this plan to council for review and vote. It is expected that Church Council would direct the order in which plan components need to be addressed.
- D. "Fleshing out" the most-current stage of the plan sufficiently enough so that it can be integrated into the current-year planning of Church Council. This would include cost estimates and sufficient description for the Council to review with the church congregation.
- E. Determining any short-term "windows of opportunity" that are essential to achieving long-term needs, and bringing them to Church Council for review and vote. Examples of this include potential land purchases and rights-of-refusal on adjacent land.

All facility plans developed by this committee are subject to approval by Church Council. It is also the role of council to coordinate all communication with the congregation.

Article III. Composition and Term

There shall be six members of the Long-Range Planning Committee, each serving a term of three years, two being appointed each year by Church Council. The committee shall choose its chair each year when it is re-constituted.

Article IV. Appointment of Members

Nominations to this committee, which require approval by vote of Council, shall be provided by the following group:

Council President,
President-elect,
Recording Secretary
Treasurer
Senior Minister