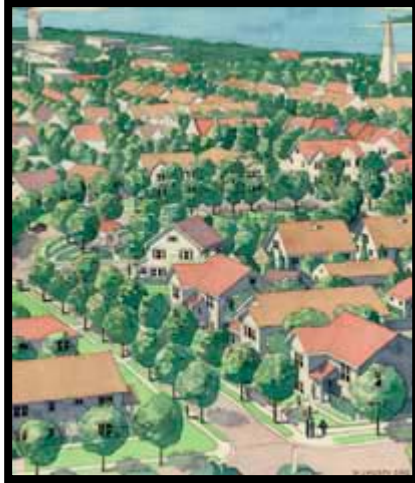


Visualization Tools



There are a variety of tools that can help in the visualization of a community's future.

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There are a number of tools available to help make the visualization process move more smoothly. Almost every design firm has a little different way of turning the visioning session into a visual representation of what is to come. Some of these visual representations are interactive, or at the least can be adjusted in real time by technicians or designers, making them a real asset in the short, intensive time frame that a charrette studio is open.

Visualization tools also make it easier for stakeholders to understand the true meaning of design *guidelines*. Stakeholders then find it easier to talk about what they like and do not like about the current draft during the design process, and changes can be made. Once the designers feel that they have interpreted what the stakeholders have said, visioning tools lay out that interpretation in an easy to understand visual language, overcoming a major hurdle towards stakeholder acceptance of the vision.