

Projections versus Forecasts

The case for projections

- Projections are safer, appear more professional and scientific
- Projections can be easily updated
- Projections (can) appear apolitical
- Projections can be prepared quickly with little forethought
- Sometimes projections represent the best forecasts

Projections versus Forecasts

The case against projections

- Overuse of poor, technically produced projections
- A focus on projections within planning has ceded forecasting to other fields - planning has ceded its claim to think (in compelling ways) about the future
- Failure to criticize theory and models that underly projections or their assumptions

