Alignment Planner Workspace with Roadmap Planning

Align investments and teams to strategy
Executives, portfolio managers, and other stakeholders struggle with outcome-driven planning as they lack the means to plan products and projects effectively. To be successful they need to create high-level plans by sequencing Agile and traditional work across the enterprise. They also need to track the progress of work to make adjustments when priorities shift.

ServiceNow’s Alignment Planner Workspace provides intuitive roadmap planning by giving you the ability to drive meaningful conversations, adjust work on the fly and validate common understandings.

The Roadmap Planning has an interactive user interface that enables you to display and group plans based on any criteria. You can connect the entire enterprise, ensuring everyone in the organization is aligned to deliver shared outcomes. You can also plan agile, traditional, and hybrid work in a single roadmap.

The Alignment Planner Workspace Roadmap Planning functionality enables you to:

- Create a roadmap based (projects, epics, or demands)
- Group, sub-group, and color items based on any data attribute
- Drag and drop items directly in the roadmap – automatically updating task details
- Connect your work to strategy by cascading plans from top down
- Plan traditional and agile work in a single roadmap
- Focus on key deliverables and milestones with Tracking mode

Plan and visualize demands, projects, and epics from a single roadmap for hybrid project management.

Start with a clear plan
Plan your roadmap top-down with a simplified user experience. Build a high-level roadmap and, once complete, break it down further into projects or epics supporting how you manage and communicate the work.

Deliver outcomes with confidence
Portfolio managers, product managers, service owners, application owners, Agile, portfolio managers and others can track roadmaps intuitively. Stakeholders can plan both agile and traditional work from a single roadmap and focus on key deliverables and milestones with tracking mode.

Achieve more when you align work to strategy
Connect work to strategy by cascading plans from top down from enterprise Portfolio Manager Office (ePMO) to teams. Get the whole team collaborating directly within roadmaps by sharing plans and facilitate collaboration among stakeholders across the business.
Simple roadmap setup
You can select from existing items out of the box as a starting point from which you can base your roadmap. This includes program, project, demand, epic, SAFe epic, and SAFe feature. Once selected, simply title the roadmap and a planning period with a start and end date.

Customize your roadmap visuals
Once you have your visual roadmap, it’s simple to modify the view and make adjustments with grouping and drag and drop to support your high-level planning needs. For example, you can group roadmaps by strategic programs and then color-code for simple visual cues.

Surface the data that meets your business needs
In each roadmap view there are roadmap items that are configurable. For each item, you can assign each member of your team as an owner, manager or team member. You can select the numeric fields and currency you want to display in the view.

Roadmap Item details with better usability
When you select a roadmap item, you see the item details in a windowpane on the right column. Depending upon your selection, you can view details such as assignment, any related projects or stories, unscheduled items such as backlog of epics, and relevant conversations. For better usability and efficiency you can quickly edit roadmap items on the side panel.

Connected roadmaps
Before creating your roadmaps you need to setup your hierarchies and then you can cascade your roadmaps from top down to teams making sure every roadmap in the organization is connected and aligned to the top strategy roadmap.

Plan agile and traditional work
You can plan traditional and agile work in a single roadmap. Having one single roadmap regardless of work delivery is critical for organizations that are using hybrid project management. So every work regardless of the delivery method can be tracked and connected to the high-level strategy.

APW integration with Microsoft Azure DevOps
This integration that includes import, export and bi-directional synchronization between Microsoft Azure DevOps (ADO) and APW, enables those users that use Microsoft ADO as their current work execution system, to do planning and tracking in Alignment Planner workspace.

APW integration with SAFe
The Scaled Agile Framework (SAFe) integration enables customers to manage their SAFe portfolio in APW by creating roadmaps and planning epics. Once the portfolio planning is done, planners can break epics down into features and plan program increments in the SAFe boards. This results in enhanced planning and tracking no matter the work delivery method.

Common planning items across different levels
Users at any level of the organization can plan and track using the common planning items. For example, when product managers plan epics, portfolio managers can view and track these epics in their portfolios. Portfolio managers can also create epics within their plans and assign them to product managers. This enables a common planning structure as organizations decompose work from strategy to the lowest work item.

Roadmap Milestones
You can create and manage milestones at the work-item level (project, demand, and epic) or at your planning organization level. This capability enables you to focus on your deliverables and sequence your work effectively.

Roadmap Tracking
You can toggle into the tracking mode view to monitor the progress of work and get up to speed on status with green, yellow, and red visuals and percentage complete. Since the Alignment Planner Workspace supports both agile and traditional work in a single roadmap, the tracking capability is designed to normalize the status updates and show percentage completion.

Value to product, project, agile teams
A roadmap provides a top-down guide to the delivery teams and other stakeholders allowing them to visualize and communicate cross-functional plans to drive strategy to maximize outcomes.

To Learn More
To learn more about this solution, visit our Strategic Portfolio Management Page:
https://www.servicenow.com/spm

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