

Choices for Growth
Quality of life
and the metropolitan environment

As our towns and cities grow



many sense that we are losing our historic heritage,



our wild and natural areas,



our sense of community,



even our health and safety.



We are losing easy access to the prairies,



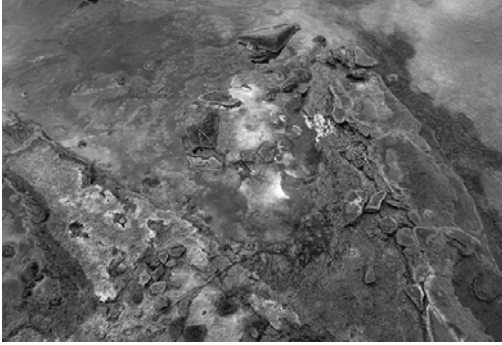
rivers,



and forests that are part of our sustenance,



When we get to them, we often find them scarred and struggling.



Our towns and cities,



which not long ago were convenient and interesting,



now create stress and even fear.



American consensus:

- ☐ *"Let's keep the good things we have.*

*We have choices to make:
we can use up natural areas and
farmland, or we can keep them.
We can abandon buildings and let our
infrastructure fall into disrepair, or
we can fix, reuse, and conserve them."*

(found in a year of research, surveys, and focus groups across the nation)

American consensus:

- ☐ ☐ *"Let's take care of our assets and
solve existing problems, instead of
running off to build new problems
somewhere else.*

*No one wants to let our neighborhoods
and infrastructure fall apart in one part of
town in favor of new construction at the
edges."*

One over-riding value takes precedence:



Conservation of what we have.



We must find ways to stop the waste and neglect



of important community assets.



The solution is to make better decisions



About what, where, and how to build next.



If we are to preserve the things that are important



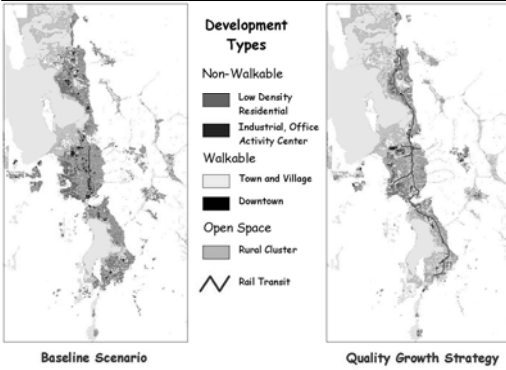
to us and to our children,



we need to think about the pattern of future growth.

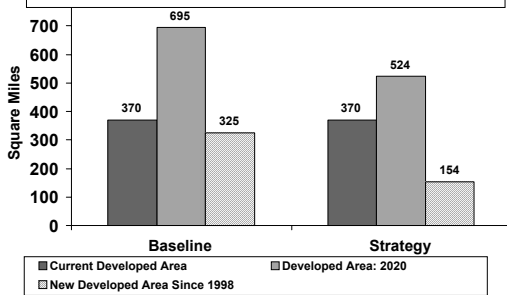


We have choices. To make wise ones,



we have to look at the big picture and think through

Land Consumption



the consequences of our decisions.



We have to know what our choices are.

Scenario A



Scenario B



How can citizens engage in the tough and complex job



of creating great cities, towns, villages and neighborhoods?



How can we match land use and transportation strategies



to provide safe, efficient access to places for people and goods?



Our decisions for the future must look at all the available options



On the basis of fairness and maximum benefit.



This is about improving our communities, our homes.



Every decision is an opportunity to make them even better.





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