

Denver Sustainable Development Initiative

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www.denvergov.org/sustainability

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Introduction to Denver

- Mile High City, the "Queen City of the Plains"
- Population 555,000, approx. 2.5 million metro
- 155 square miles
- Highest % college-educated population in the country
- 75% anglo; 12% african american; 13% latino
- 10-14 % in poverty
- Median income \$48,195; median age 35
- 30% growth in region in 1990s; 200% in areas

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Denver's Legacy : All Action, No Talk

- Regional Air Quality success in 1990s
- Green Fleet leader
- ICLEI/PTI charter members/ CCP
- Water "Xeriscape" 25 years old
- Energy Conservation programs - \$2million/year
- Stapleton Redevelopment
- Comp Plan 2000 + Blueprint Denver
- DIA ISO 14001 in '04

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Denver Sustainable Development Initiative

Launched by Mayor Hickenlooper in 2005 to:

- Communicate links between resource use, public health, economic benefits and quality of life
- Integrate into city's policies and priorities
- Consider economic and social impacts/ opportunities of resource practices
- Develop metrics and report card
- Leave a positive legacy for the future

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*"It runs on its conventional gasoline-powered engine until it senses guilt,
at which point it switches over to battery power."*

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Key Aspects:

- Citywide SD Council
- “Quick Wins”
- Long Term Plan: Inventory, BMPs, Goals and Strategies, Metrics
- Green Cities Forum

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Key issues: Water, Energy, Land Use

- **Water** : Supply, Conservation and Quality
- **Energy**: Cost, Conservation, Emissions, Economic opportunities
- **Land Use/ Transportation**: Blueprint Denver, FasTracks and TOD, Denver Union Station; multimodal opportunities, protecting neighborhoods.

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Water



- **Conservation**
- **Quality**
- **Supply**

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Energy/ Emissions



- DSM/LED programs
- **Green building**
 - Citywide policy
 - Affordable Housing
 - Private incentives
- Seattle Pledge
- Global Oil Forum



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Land Use/ Transportation



- Urban infill/ redevelopment
- Blueprint Denver
- FasTracks
- Regional TOD potential



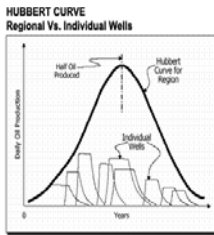
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Lo and Behold...



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Peak Oil



- Denver Global Oil Forum Nov '05
- First major event in a decade
- Bi-partisan, high profile
- Focus on positive change potential

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Peak Oil: Why a Local Issue?

- Cheap Energy/ Oil Assumption
- “Oil Tribe”
- Impact on average citizen
- Economic opportunities
- UCD Study: Oil Flow through City
- Cost of Doing Business; risk management for city organization

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Peak Oil and Local Government



- What happens when oil costs \$100/barrel?
1. End of the World as we know it?
 2. Cities get denser and more robust OR
 3. Everyone moves “back to the Land”

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Stapleton: A New Model

- Stapleton plan/ community investment
- Integrates of new urbanism, brownfield redevelopment, innovative open space, Active Living Partnership, green building program + more.
- Model/ testing ground for other city development/ patterns and partnerships

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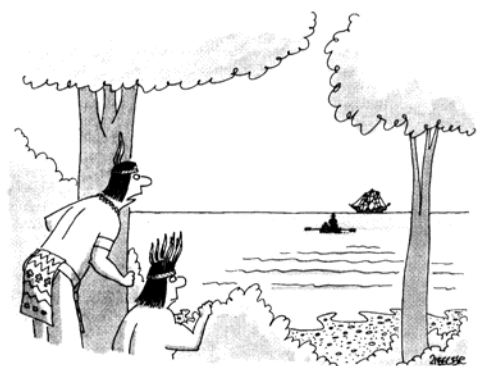
The New Frontier...

Preparing as a city and region for the future

- Water
- Energy
- Land Use and Transportation
- Economic Development
 - MDEDC efforts
 - City's business development focus
 - Public-Private partnerships

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Ma
Su:

"Dude! I am so not prepared for this!"

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