

The Right Way to Get There

Case studies in smart growth implementation

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Nashville-Davidson County Tenessee

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Nashville/Davidson County

- 525.4 sq. miles with development patterns from farmland to urban core of Downtown Nashville
- Population 595,714
- Joint city/county Metro government since 1963
- Government includes Mayor and 40-member Council
- Separate departments of Planning, Public Works, Codes





Prior Status of Smart Growth

- · No public sector effort
- · Limited private sector effort

Succesful Efforts to Coalesce Support

- 1. Educating Community, Council members, media
- 2. Winning support of key advocates -
 - Tie to Mayor's agenda for neighborhoods
 - Council members with greenfields
 - Fieldtrips to see Smart Growth
 - Focus staff time on planning in these Council districts





Successful Efforts (con't.)

- 3. Tying Smart Growth to other current movements
 - Demand for higher design standards
 - Revitalized neighborhood groups
 - Downtown and inner-ring suburb redevelopment
- 4. Develop a Vision Use of the Transect
 - Fourteen Community Plans
 - Dozens of Detailed Neighborhood Design Plans







Successful Efforts (con't.)

- 5. Two-tiered regulatory strategy
 - Slowly demand better conventional development
 - Make Smart Growth easier
 - Urban Design Overlays and Specific Plan Districts
 - Conservation and Walkable Subdivisions









How Did SGLI Tools Help?

- SGLI grant translating the Transect from idea to regulatory tool
 Foundation for Subdivision Regulation revision
- Community education and stakeholder engagement

Next Steps

- · General Plan update
- Create new tools to make Smart Growth easier and rewarding
- Continued education and engagement of stakeholders

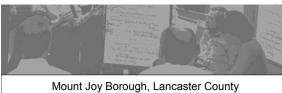




Lessons learned from Nashville

Harriet Tregoning
Executive Director
Smart Growth Leadership Institute





Mount Joy Borough, Lancaster County Pennsylvania

> Jennifer Luciani Community Development Director Mount Joy Borough



Mount Joy Borough



- pop. 6,765
- · western part of Lancaster County
- Main Street Community (Sept. 2002)
- 11,245.74 acres of preserved farmland around the borough
- Upgrading the water and sewer infrastructure to support the growth of 2,000+ new homes in the next 8–10 years.
- Plans for a new Amtrak rail station
- A taskforce of citizens has been formed to connect all of the parks and open space

Prior Status of Smart Growth

- · Numerous organizations but no joint effort
- A community visioning meeting was held in 1999
 smart growth practices needed to be implemented
- The Community did not understand what smart growth was
 - Public education was vital





Succesful Efforts to Coalesce Support

- Main Street Community (State funding provided)
- The "pressure" of development
- County-wide Comprehensive Plan
 - defined boroughs as the center of all their growth areas
 - revitalization of boroughs was essential to the viability of the Countynow and in the future.
- The citizens want more farmland to be preserved. (We are currently ranked #2 in the Nation.)



How Did SGLI Tools Help?

- · SGLI's technical support team helped to "paint a bull's-eye" on the wall
- · Interested groups organized a task force to review the SGLI recommendations.
- · Organized the Donegal Region UGA Smart Growth task force

Next Steps

- LUPTAP (Land Use Planning and Technical Assistance Program) grant from PA-DCED
- Legislative initiative grant for task force for regional greenways hiking/biking trail
 - A community survey
- · DOT to complete a TOD at the site of the Amtrak station
- Traditional neighborhood (Florin Hill) was approved
 - density bonus for workforce housing
 - narrow streets
 - Architectural design guidelines
- community design charette
 \$1,000 per DU to the borough for a regional recreational facility
 Currently assisting other communities with their Smart Growth agendas





Mount Joy Borough

Deepak Bahl Associate Director Center for Economic Development
School of Policy, Planning, and Development
University of Southern California





Lawrence Massachusetts

Andre Leroux
Neighborhood Planner Lawrence CommunityWorks

Maggie Super-Church Executive Director, Groundwork Lawrence



City of Lawrence

Reviviendo Gateway Initiative

- Classic "third-tier" city: population decline since WWII, 12M sq.ft. of mill space, deteriorated alleyways and canals, car theft capital and arson capital of US in late 80s and early 90s
- City of immigrants: 70% of the population from Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic; new emerging populations from Southeast Asia
- Challenges: Median household income half of state average; unemployment 2 to 3 times state average; 43% of population under the age of 25; homeownership is half of state average; 42% of residents over 25 did not graduate from high school



Smart Growth in 2000

- · Non existent
- · No significant zoning reform in over 60 years
- Single-use zoning; residential and other uses prohibited in mills
- 1100 vacant lots or abandoned buildings
- · Historically dense, small blocks and parcels



Reviviendo Gateway Initiative

- Focus Groups: 2001
- Vision Report: November 2002
- Trip to DC & Zoning Overlay Campaign: 2003
- North Canal Charrette: 2004
- Alleyways and Canals: 2005
- Citywide Zoning Reform and Linkage Campaign: 2006



SGLI Tools

- · Charrette presentation by SGLI
- · Connection to broader smart growth movement
- Smart Sites Tool helped us think systematically about ways to package incentives
- · Challenge: Lack of municipal capacity



Next Steps

- · Citywide Public Policy Agenda
- Citywide zoning reform and district improvement financing
- Investments in people: linkage of smart growth incentives to family and community asset building



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Harriet Tregoning
Executive Director
Smart Growth Leadership Institute





William Towler, AICP Community Development Director



Coconino County

- 18,617 square miles
- 38% Indian reservation, 40% federal, 9% state, 13%
- Population of 130,000, about 20% in unincorporated, off-reservation county
- · Limited water
- · Characterized by low density rural development
- · Subdivision vs. lot split issue



Status of Smart Growth	
1998 Flagstaff 2020 Vision1998 Greater Flagstaff Open Space Plan2001 Flagstaff Area Regional Land Use and	
Transportation Plan—urban growth boundaries, minimum densities, planning reserve areas 2003 County Comprehensive Plan—conservation based, with many smart growth principles and	
guidelines	
Events Leading to Smart Growth	
Desire to protect open space, as captured in the Open Space plan	
 Collaboration that led to 2020 Vision and Regional Plan 	
 Desire for accessibility to public open space lands Move toward walkable neighborhoods Community interest in sustainability, conservation- 	
oriented development	
SGLI Tools	
Report is brand new (December 21, 2005)Conservation subdivisions	
 Streamline process Incorporate smart growth principles in community area plans 	
Design guidelinesCollaboration with Flagstaff and with NAU	
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Next Steps to Implement Smart Growth

- · Adoption of zoning and subdivision ordinance amendments to implement the comp planconservation design, clustering by right, more housing choices
- · Environmentally sensitive lands ordinance
- · Review the 1998 Vision
- · Work on one key project with conservation principles and sustainability features



Lessons learned from Coconino

Susan Weaver President Weaver Research and Consulting Group



Strategy Clinics

(1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.)

Governor's Square 12 with Greenville and Coconino

Where do you start?
How to begin a smart growth implementation program.
What do you do when people in your community don't even know what smart growth is?

Picking up speed and building on political will. You've got the political leadership, they've got the political will, you've even got the policies. What do you tackle next? How do you generate a quick win?

Governor's Square 14 with Nashville, Lawrence & Mount Joy Borough

Facing the hurdles. (How to handle opposition)

Major organized opposition, or very stubborn opponents -how do you get around them?

Getting bogged down in the details, how do you keep up the winning streak?

Someone keeps moving the finish line. (Leadership for the long term) We've had a big victory, should we celebrate or plan our next implementation project? How do you build on past successes to keep your momentum?