Green Development: *What role for Urbanism?*

Harriet Tregoning District of Columbia Office of Planning

Can Urbanists become the New Eco-heros?

- The move to Green is snowballing
- Climate/Carbon is gaining currency
- Role of urbanism/settlement patterns underplayed
- Reasons to believe past behavior not a good predictor
- Urbanist communities -
 - Communities of choice(s)
 - Affinity
 - Options
 - Cachet
 - Aggregators of benefits

District of Columbia Green Building Act of 2006























COST PREMIVMS "



" COST PREMIVMS "





" COST PREMIVMS "





" COST PREMIVMS "





New Green Building Legislation

Public Buildings

- Initially Funded in FY'08
 - District or Instrumentality; New Construction, Disposition by Lease
 - Meet LEED NC or CS, Silver
 - Schools
 - Residential (10,000+ sf)
 - Green Communities Standard
 - Initially Funded in FY'09

 Projects receiving > 15%
 public financing



Private Sector

- Beginning January 1, 2009
 - Non-Residential (50,000+ sf)
 - Submit LEED Checklist to DCRA (at time of any permit app.)
- First Building Permit submitted after January 1, 2010
 - Public Property Disposed by Sale (50,000+ sf)
 - Meet LEED NC or CS, Basic Certification
- Beginning January 1, 2012
 - All Non-Residential (50,000+ sf)
 - Meet LEED NC or CS, Basic Certification
 - Performance Bonds (after Jan. 1, 2012)



7th and H Street, NW – Gallery Place

LEED Projects in DC

- LEED Certified : 20 (6)
- LEED Registered: 150 (40)
- LEED ND Pilots: 8









Office of Planning ~ December 7, 2007

This map was created for planning purposes from a variety of sources. It is neither a survey nor a legal document. Information provided by other agencies should be verified with them where appropriate.

LEED Certified & LEED Registered Buildings

SOURCE: U.S. Green Building Council



Focus on Greening Neighborhoods

- Neighborhood-level strategies to facilitate sustainable design (Neighborhood LEED) Low impact development and storm water management best practices
- Individual development projects with building design to meet or exceed LEED standards
- Energy strategies that encompass conservation and generation measures and save \$\$
- Public realm redesigns-Larger tree boxes, planting areas on public sidewalks and reduction in impervious paving
- Green roofs to insulate buildings, absorb storm water and keep it out of the sewer system



ASLA Green Roof



ASLA National Headquarters Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates



Logan Station





Washington, DC: 2002

Washington, DC: 2025

Mount Vernon Triangle Transportation and Public Realm Project



K Street Promenade

Green and Sustainable Development Practices



DC Streetcars are designed and undergoing tests in Europe







Critical Mass of Green Projects

- DCPS Energy Retrofit Program
- Green Collar Jobs
- Carbon Footprint Analysis
- Bike and Pedestrian Master Plans
- CapitalSpace
- Clean & Affordable Energy Legislation
 - Sustainable Energy Utility
- Lead Paint Abatement
- Carbon Offset Program
- Stormwater Regulations Update
- Healthy By Design
- Green Roof Pilot Program
- Car Free Day & GoLoco





Attributes of a Globally Sustainable City



Distinctive Neighborhoods and Districts

Example: Southeast / Capitol Riverfront Plan

Multiple Transportation Options, Including Transit

Example: DC Circulator and Great Streets Program

A Walkable Urbanity

Example: Proposed Eye Street, Hines development at Old Convention Center



Attributes of a Globally Sustainable City



Green and Sustainable Development Practices

Example: Hines LEED-certified development at Old Convention Center site

Shared Social and Economic Prosperity

Example: City Vista (under construction); 20% affordable housing at 20-80% AMI

Quality Environments and Access to Nature

Example: Proposed Canal Blocks Park, Capitol Riverfront SE





Three Policy Levers

Cleaner fuel

Less CO2 produced for each gallon.

□ Fuel technology.

Better fuel efficiency

□ More miles traveled per gallon.

□ Vehicle technology.

Drive less

• Fewer miles traveled.

□ Reduce travel demand. Change behavior.

US VMT Growth Projected to Outpace Vehicle & Fuel Improvements



Senate CAFE (35 mpg) + CA Fuel Standards (-10%): 40% <u>above</u> 1990 Levels in 2030



45 mpg CAFE in 2030 & -15% Fuel GHGs: 24% <u>above</u> 1990 in 2030 (Fig 2-5)





Friday, December 15, 2006



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Smart Growth at the Ballot Box

The movement for forward-looking, people-oriented planning and dev



Governors in at le platforms with st investment on ex affordable housir

ballot box this fal

transportation investments; and protecting of 30 transportation initiatives, citizens vo billion in transit and other transportation than \$5.7 billion for land conservation, a 7 rate since the Trust for Public Land began 1

Perhaps most encouraging, voters in three and Idaho – rejected anti-taxpayer measur efforts to protect property value and make d development. For more, see **SGA's post**-

New Transportation Resources

With anxiety over oil security mounting alc over traffic congestion, even as most states transportation funding, the nation is reach decision point over transportation policy, a **points out in this excellent column**. (**his follow-up column**.)

The Surface Transportation Policy Partners and local communities aren't left out of tha interactive sessions with communities acro Growing Cooler: The Evidence on Urban Development and Climate Change



Reid Ewing, Keith Bartholomew, Steve Winkelman, Jerry Walters and Don Chen

with Barbara McCann and David Goldberg

Growing Cooler

- What reduction in vehicle-miles traveled (VMT) is possible in the United States with compact development rather than continuing urban sprawl?
- What reduction in CO2 emissions will accompany such a reduction in VMT?
- What policy changes will be required to shift the dominant land development pattern from sprawl to compact development?

AND DO COMMUNITIES **WANT** IT?

20-40% VMT Reduction for Each Increment of Compact Development

7-10% Reduction in Total CO₂ Emissions

How do we Reduce Vehicle Travel?

- Carrots make options more viable
 - Increase transit service / facilities
 - Transit price incentives (passes, lower fares)
 - Investments in pedestrian and cycling facilities bike sharing services, sidewalks, crosswalks, bicycle lanes/parking
 - Supportive land use changes (e.g. closer destinations, mix of uses)
- Sticks—increase costs to drive
 - Taxes (gas, carbon, VMT, etc)
 - Cordon Charges (London, Singapore, NYC?)
 - Distance-based vehicle insurance
 - Distance-based development impact fees
 - Road pricing



Disconnected Connected Crow-Fly Buffer Network Buffer **Proximity** Sample Household Single Family Residential Multi Family Residential Commercial Office Industrial Institutional Greenspace/Recreational Parking Unknown 2 KM 1 KI Connect**ivity**

Larry Frank, University of British Columbia

Walkability



Mixed Use
Density
Street Connectivity
Amount of Retail

Census Block Groups

Larry Frank, University of British Columbia

CO2 and Housing Density CO2 (KG) -- mean daily per North Redmond Queen Anne 12.5 12 person 11.5 11 10.5 10 0 - 4 4 - 7 7 - 10 10 - 15 15+ **Net Residential Density** (housing units per residential acre) Source: LUTAQH final report, King County ORTP, 2005

CO2 & Street Connectivity



Intersections per acre

Source: LUTAQH final report, King County ORTP, 2005



Built Environment versus Individual Preferences





Causation and Self-Selection: SMARTRAQ Results

"Results suggest that the built environment is a stronger predictor of driving and preferences are a stronger predictor of walking." Only those predisposed to being more active Showed lower levels of Body Mass Index in more walkable environments.

"Both neighborhood preferences and built environments matter."

Larry Frank, University of British Columbia



Obesity-related results: Driving and Walking

- Every additional 30 minutes spent driving per day translates into a 3 percent increase in the likelihood of obesity
 - Time spent driving increases as walkability decreases
- Every additional kilometer (.6 miles) walked translates into 4.8 percent reduction in the likelihood of being obese
 - Distances walked increases with walkability

Frank, L., Andresen, M., and Schmid, T., Obesity Relationships With Community Design, Physical Activity, and Time Spent in Cars. <u>American Journal of Preventive Medicine</u>. June 2004.



Conclusions – Pull All Three Levers

- Fuels
- Vehicle Technology
- Demand Reduction
 - Pricing Strategies
 - Pay as you drive Insurance
 - Distance Based Impact Fee Systems
 - Peak Hour Congestion Pricing
 - Prioritize Funding for Energy Efficient Modes of Trave
 - Make seamless linkages between walk, bike (local) an
 - Put Wider Range of Housing Types and Prices Points in N
 - Bring Residential, Commercial/Retail, Office, Institutional, Closer Together
 - Tie federal transportation dollars to projects that are of approved and enforced growth plan



But Will It Happen?

RCLCo Consumer Research

- 12 studies for builders and developers as input to planning new communities
 - Consumer surveys in Atlanta, Phoenix, Denver, Provo, Albuquerque, Boise, and Chattanooga conducted in the early part of this decade
 - More recent studies conducted in Tampa, Orlando, Phoenix, Charlotte and Savannah
 - Phoenix, Charlotte and Savannah
 Both urban and suburban locations
- Surveys measuring the interest in new urbanism communities
 - Indicate the market for smart growth
- Consistently find one third respondents prefer new urbanism communities and housing product



Gregg Logan, Managing Director, Robert Charles Lesser & Co., LLC "The Market for Smart Growth," January 2007

Findings: 1/3 want smart growth products

- Reviews of existing studies on consumer demand...
- Survey's conducted by Robert Charles Lesser & Co. LLC...
 - Consistently find that about a third of the market prefers smart growth products
 - Demand increases with shorter commute
- Snare of the market growing due to
 - Demographic trends and
 - Changing buyer preferences (lifestage changes)









Market Acceptance of Smart Growth

Kentlands, Lakelands, and 20878 zip code 4,744 resales between 1997 - 2005 Kentlands 16.1% price premium Lakelands 6.5% price premium

1997-2005 year-over-year:Kentlands - sustained premiumLakelands - sustained and growing (9.5% between 2002 - 2005)

Source: EPA: Market Acceptance of Single-Family Housing Units in Smart Growth Communities. Mark Eppli, Charles Tu. 2007.

Strong Returns for Smart Growth Investment

Hi-Pros Expanding Their Urban Brands

- Centex Homes Cityhomes
- K. Hovnanian Metro Living
- KB Homes KB Urban
- Toll Brothers City Living



People Turning 65 Annually 1996-2025



Decline in Households with Kids

Household196020002025With Children48%33%28%Without Children52%67%72%Single13%26%26%

Source: Census for 1960 and 2000, 2025 adapted from Martha Farnsworth Riche, How Changes in the Nation's Age and Household Structure Will Reshape Housing Demand in the 21st Century, HUD (2003). Attached Small Lot Large Lot



Growing Demand for TOD



- Residential demand could grow from 6 million to 16 million households by 2030
- Regions with extensive and growing transit systems offer the greatest TOD potential.
- Growth is likely to be modest through 2010 and accelerate in later years as transit systems are constructed and expanded
- TOD Capture Rates are driven by household type and system size

Source:

Reconnecting America, Hidden in Plain Sight, 2005

Transit Systems are Exceeding Expectations

	Ridership	Target	Ridership	Measurement
Transit System	Estimate	Year	Estimate	Date
Minneapolis				
Hiawatha	24,800	2020	31,000	August 2006
Houston Metrorail	40,000	2020	40,000	September 2006
Salt Lake City Trax	34,600	2020	55,000	October 2006
Portland Streetcar	3,000	2001	8,800	October 2006
San Diego Green				
Line	10,800	2015	18,455	December 2005
St. Louis St. Clair Ext	13,502	2010	14,083	November 2003
Tacoma Link	2,000	2010	2,880	March 2006
Portland Westside				
Max	27,100	2005	32,700	October 2005

Source: Reconnecting America

Three-fourths of Americans believe public transportation and smarter development will do more to cure traffic than building new roads.

3

"Which of the following proposals is the best long-term solution to reducing traffic in your area?"



Americans embrace transit and walkable communities as solutions to climate change.

"Now thinking about the environment... Climate change and energy security are of increasing concern to many people. I will read you a list of approaches to reducing energy use. After each one please tell me if you would approve or disapprove of these approaches to reducing energy use?"



Eighty-one percent of voters want to redevelop older areas rather than building new.

"The population of the United States is expected to increase from 300 million to 400 million by 2050. I am going to read you two statements, please tell me which approach do you prefer to accommodate this growth... Continue to build new suburbs on the edge of the existing suburbs ...or... Redevelop older urban and suburban areas with additional development, that is, build new housing and commercial development in already developed areas. Which approach do you prefer?"





Any reason to believe behavior will change?



1101 New York Avenue, NW



65