

Regional Plan Association

The Independent Voice for the Tri-state Region



The Tri-State Region: New York - New Jersey - Connecticut

- **One of the World's Largest Metropolitan Regions**
- **Twenty Million Residents and a nearly \$1 Trillion Economy**
- **A Global Center of Finance, Commerce, Culture and Communications**



RPA

The region is also one of the most diverse places in America, encompassing New York City and hundreds of small and mid-sized cities, suburbs and rural communities.



RPA

America's largest urban region is situated in the midst of an exceptional network of natural and scenic areas.



RPA



Despite decades of rapid growth and continual technological change, the region provides its residents with unparalleled economic opportunities, and exceptional quality of life.

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The key to the region's success has been its ability to anticipate change and invest in the world's largest metropolitan transportation and greenspace systems, and create the capacity for sustained growth in the region's cities and suburbs

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For nearly eighty years Regional Plan Association has provided the vision and leadership to anticipate change and promote these investments.

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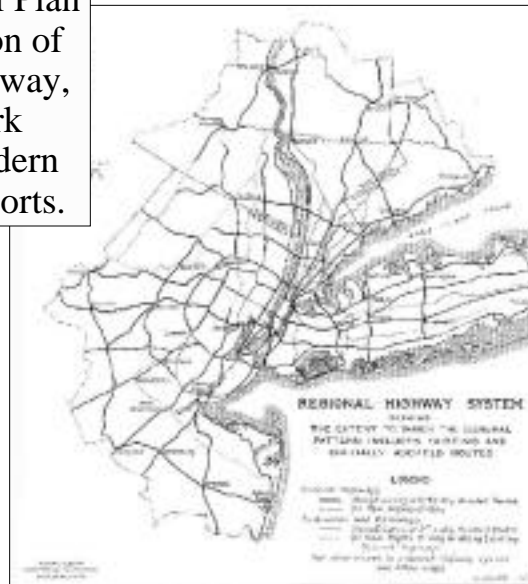
RPA was established in 1921 as an independent, non-governmental organization

RPA's Mission:

- Prepare a long-range, comprehensive, region-wide plan
- Promote regional identity and educate public on region's needs
- Mobilize business, civic and political support for investments and policy changes needed to implement plan
- Create long-term framework for region's growth

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The first Regional Plan called for creation of region-wide highway, transit and park systems and modern airports and seaports.



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The Plan also called for building improved urban and suburban centers that shaped the region's growth for much of the 20th century.

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Implementing the Plan:

- RPA was incorporated as a permanent, not-for-profit organization in 1929 to carry out a sustained advocacy program for the Plan's implementation
- By 1940 most of the Plan's highway, bridge and tunnel and park improvements were largely completed through New Deal construction projects and the work of master builders, including Robert Moses.
- Only limited progress was made on the Plan's transit recommendations.



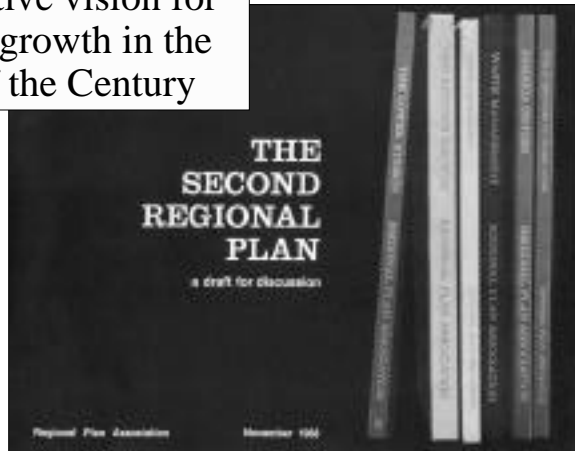
RPA



By 1940, however, RPA began to oppose damaging public works projects proposed by Moses and others.

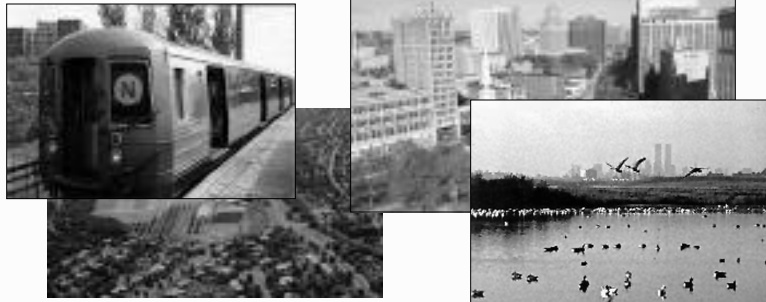
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In 1968, RPA completed the Second Regional Plan to create a positive vision for the region's growth in the last third of the Century



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The Second Plan Called for:



- Creating a 1-Million-Acre Park System
- Creating the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and Revitalizing the Subway and Commuter Rail Networks
- Focusing Job Creation in Manhattan and a Network of Regional Centers
- Controlling Suburban Sprawl

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The Plan Resulted in:

- Establishment of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and other Agencies
- Investment of more than \$30 Billion in the Rail Network
- Location of Hundreds of Thousands of New Jobs in Designated Centers
- Creation of Hundreds of Thousands of Acres of New Parkland



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In 1990, RPA began work on the Third Regional Plan to create a new framework for the region's growth in the 21st century.



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Completed in 1996, the Third Plan calls for:



- Fighting urban sprawl
- Protecting the region's environmental and water resources
- Revitalizing urban centers
- Strengthening the region's competitiveness in changing world markets
- Bringing millions of immigrants and minorities into the region's mainstream
- Creating new capacity for sustained growth in its centers and transportation systems

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The Third Plan Proposes Five Campaigns:



- *Mobility: Creating a Regional Express Rx Rail Network*
- *Greensward: Creating a Network of Protected Resource Systems*
- *Governance: Creating Institutions and Financing Needed to Implement the Plan*
- *Centers: Focusing Employment Growth in NYC and Regional Downtowns*
- *Workforce: Reforming Urban Schools and Linking Inner-City Workers to Employment and Training Opportunities*

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The Third Plan Calls for Investing:



\$75 Billion in New Transit Capacity, Environmental Protection and Revitalized Centers



An Equivalent Amount in Revitalized Urban Schools and Improved Workforce Skills

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Focus on Action:

Significant progress is being made in implementing the Third Plan's key recommendations:

- \$20 billion has been committed to transit improvements
- All three states have initiated major open space protection programs
- Improved state growth management systems are being adopted in NJ, and investigated in NY and CT
- New master plans are being prepared for several urban and suburban centers

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Focus on Rx: Regional Express Rail Network

RPA's Rx Rail proposal integrates elements of subway and commuter rail systems into an integrated system that provides new capacity, shortens travel times, and serves new destinations.

Key links include:

- Rail Connections to All Three Airports
- Long Island Railroad East Side Access
- The MetroLink Second Avenue Subway, providing new connections to Wall Street and the Outer Boroughs



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Focus on Rx:

RPA created Empire State Transportation Alliance (ESTA) - a coalition of 35 civic, environmental and business groups - to advocate for Rx investments.

Important progress has already been made:

- Newark Airlink opens 2001
- JFK AirTrain opens 2002
- East Side Access funded 1998
- MetroLink committed 2000, as part of MTA Capital Investment Program
- ESTA now promoting financing plan to support this program



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Focus on Greensward:

Key Elements of the Greensward Plan Are Being Implemented:



The 100,000-acre Long Island Pine Barrens Reserve has been established, protecting the Island's groundwater reserves

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Focus on Greensward:

Key Elements of the Greensward Plan Are Being Implemented:



RPA's plan for the New York Harbor Reserve, including Governors Island, the Hudson River Park and other parks is proceeding

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Focus on Greensward:

Key Elements of the Greensward Plan Are Being Implemented:



The New York City watershed agreement is protecting the City's million acre upstate reservoir system

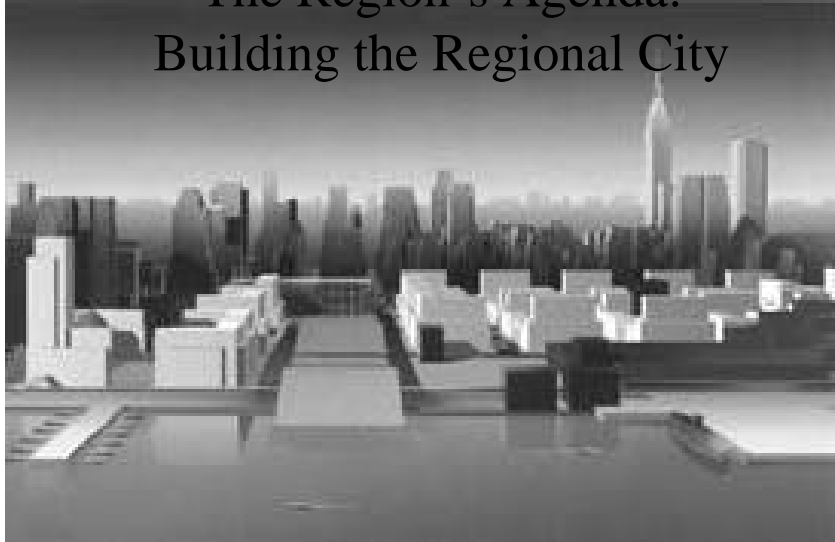
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Long-Term Outlook:

- RPA's Third Regional Plan provides a framework for the region's sustained growth and quality of life in the first decades of the 21st century.
- RPA is creating alliances with state and city governments and its civic partners to build a strong base of support for the Plan's implementation.

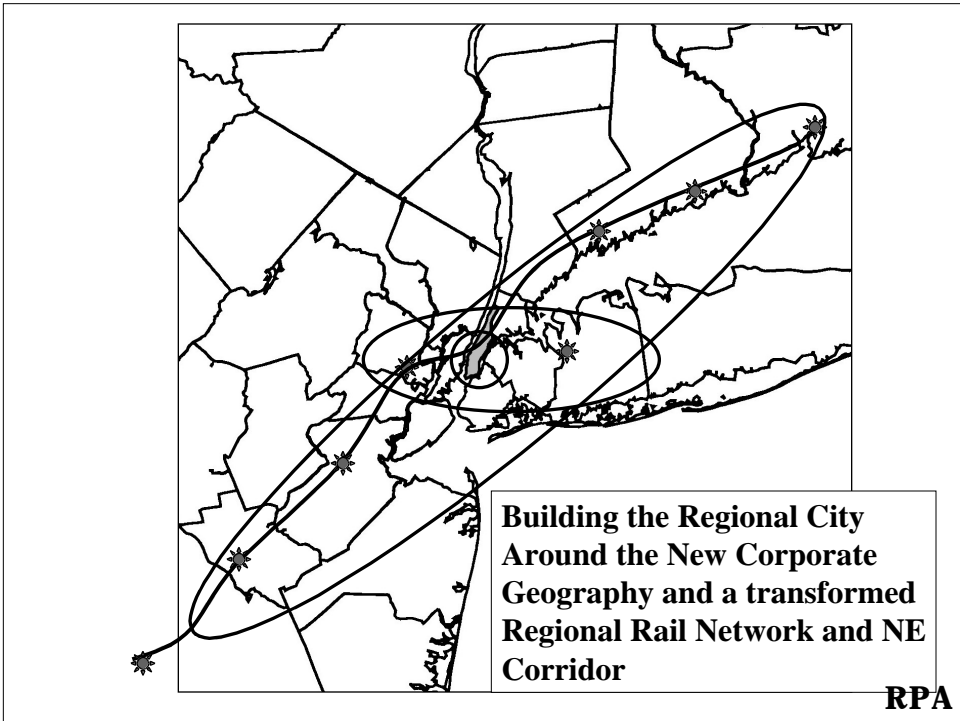
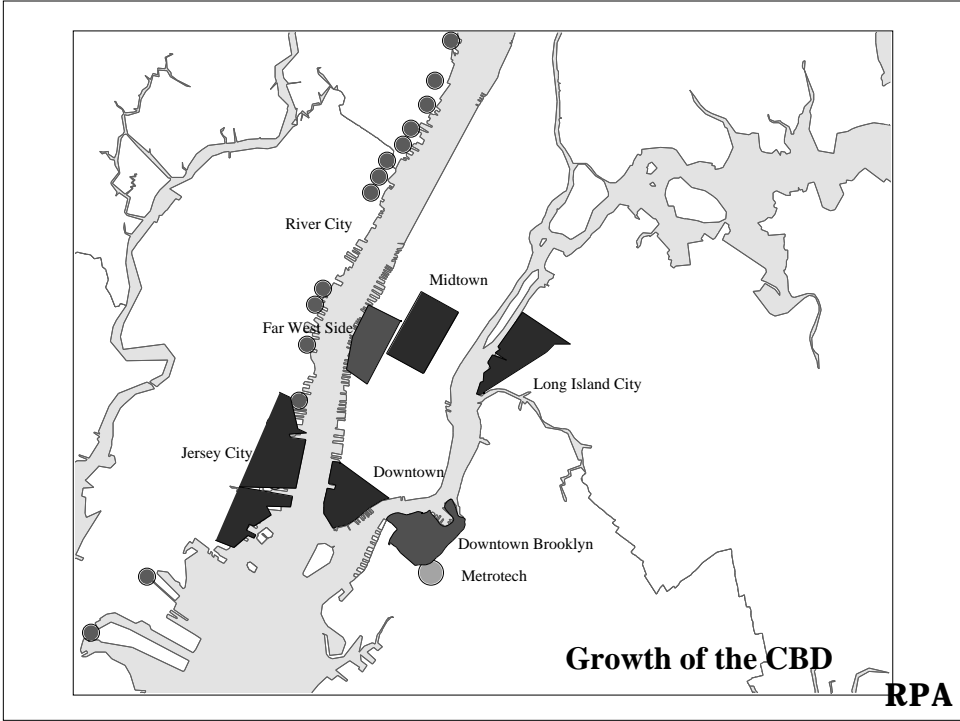
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The Region's Agenda: Building the Regional City



The Schumer
Group of 35







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