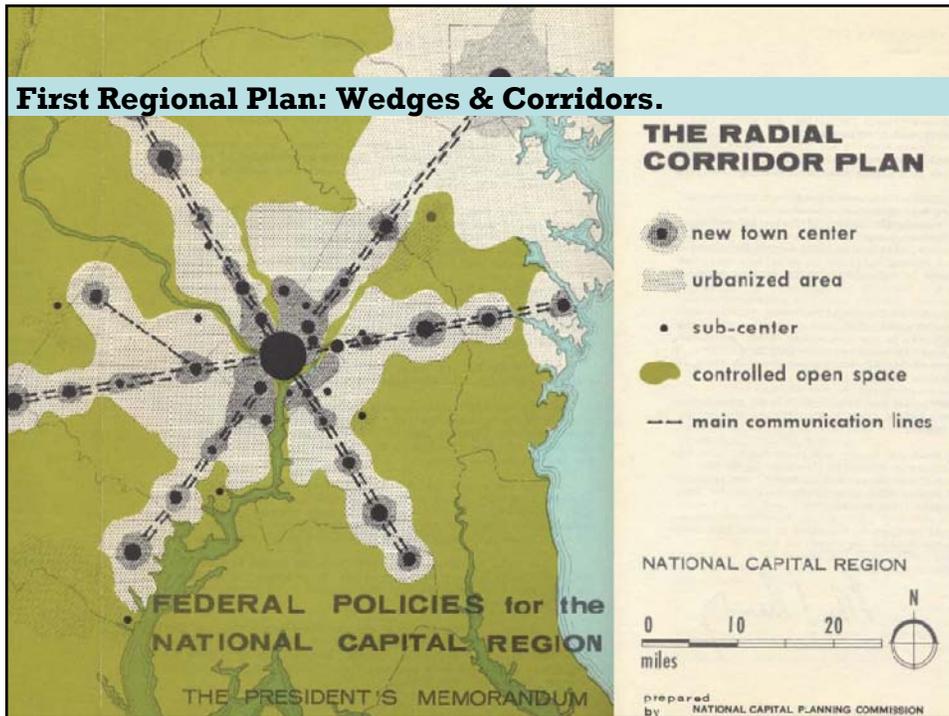


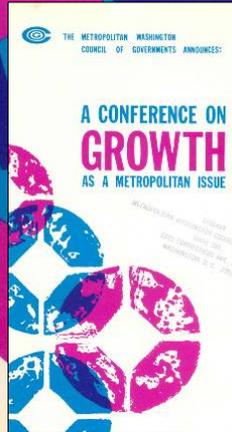
# Historical Foundation for Greater Washington 2050

David Robertson  
Executive Director  
Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments  
February 21, 2008



**In the early 70s, COG advocated for more comprehensive regional planning.**

**RE - EXAMINATION OF THE YEAR 2000 POLICIES PLAN Volume**



METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, 1225 CONNECTICUT AVENUE N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

**COG established the Cooperative Forecasting Program in 1975 to develop consistent local and regional growth forecasts**



**Growth Trends to 2030:**  
Cooperative Forecasting in the Washington Region

February 2007

Membership of the Metropolitan Planning Council of Governments

Local governments in the Washington region have worked cooperatively for many years to develop regional and neighborhood land forecasts of employment, population, and households. Through this effort, a consistent set of local and regional forecasts is developed for use in program and facilities planning throughout the region.

The Cooperative Forecasting Program, established in 1975 and administered by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), enables local, regional, and federal agencies to coordinate planning using common assumptions about future growth and development in the region. Each year of forecasts, or a "round," provides land-use activity forecasts of employment, population, and households to five-year increments. Each round covers a period of 20 to 30 years.

The Cooperative Forecasting process provides data necessary for regional planning activities including analyzing the effects of growth and developing policy responses to regional issues. In addition, the forecasts are used to determine the demand for public facilities including schools, parks, medical facilities, roads, transit, and services.

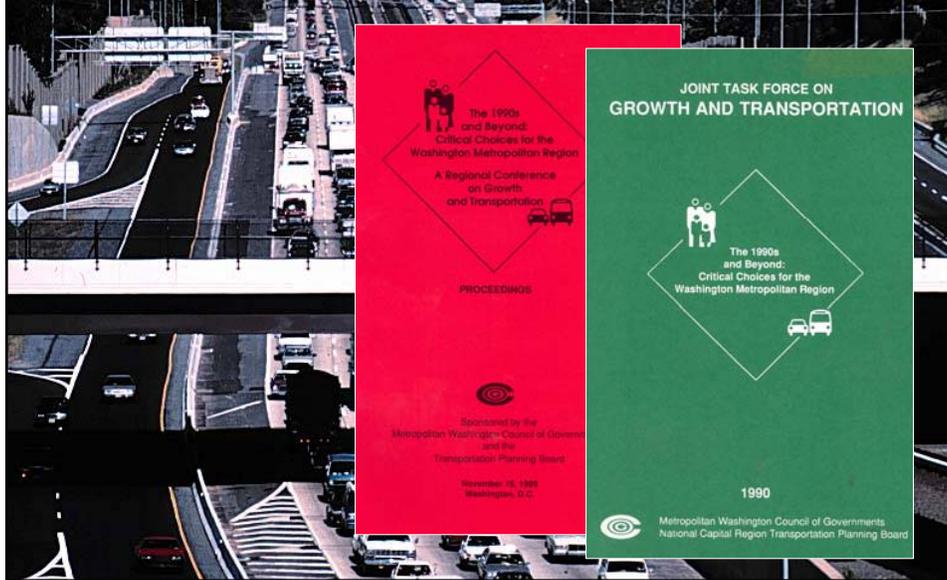
**Process**

The Cooperative Forecasts is a multi-step "top-down/bottom-up" process undertaken by COG's Planning Director and Advisory Committee and the Cooperative Forecasting and Data Subcommittee that requires both a regional economic model and local jurisdictional forecasts. The model projects employment, population, and households for the metropolitan Washington area based on national economic trends and local demographic factors. The model is based on the 1983 definition of the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) that includes the COG member jurisdictions, as well as Calvert, Charles, and Stafford counties.

Consistently, local jurisdictions develop independent projections of population, households, and employment based on regional demographic, market conditions, planned transportation improvements, and adopted land use plans and zoning, taking into account the preliminary regional projections.

The Cooperative Forecasting and Data Subcommittee, which is composed of local government planners, economists, and demographers, reviews and reconciles the two sets of projections.

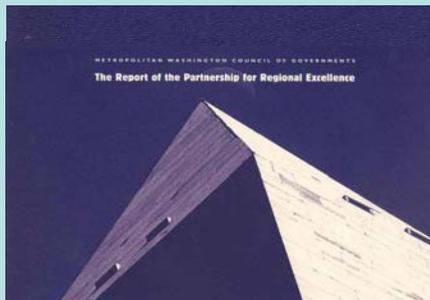
**COG and the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) launch the most extensive visioning process in the region's history in the early '90s**



**COG initiated the Partnership for Regional Excellence in 1992**

**200 members**

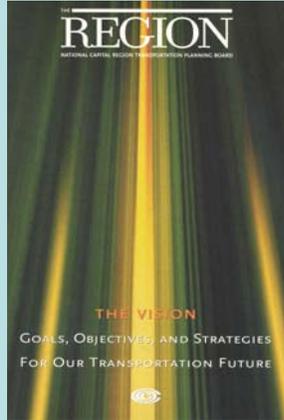
- 1/3 public officials
- 1/3 private sector representatives
- 1/3 civic leaders



**The Partnership conducts a series of town meetings and recommends:**

- better integration of transportation, land use, and environmental planning;
- quality of life initiatives like affordable housing, safer neighborhoods and good schools; and
- working together to maintain a strong regional economy

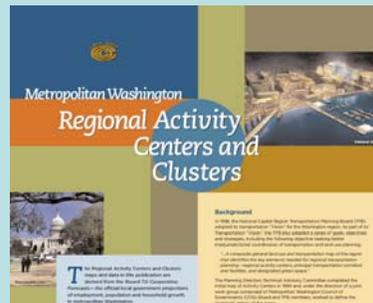
## In 1998, the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) adopted its Vision



**“The transportation system will provide reasonable access at reasonable cost to everyone...”**

**“...include a healthy regional core and dynamic regional activity centers...”**

**“...achieve better inter-jurisdictional coordination of transportation and land use planning...”**

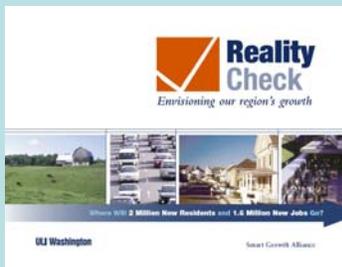


## Reality Check on Growth



- February 2005 – ULI Washington, Washington Smart Growth Alliance, COG and others co-sponsor 1-day event
- 300 Participants - 1/3 Government, 1/3 Business, 1/3 Civic
- COG’s Cooperative Forecasts of jobs, people and housing were the baseline growth assumptions
- Participants “re-allocated” 1.6 million jobs and 2 million people to COG’s Regional Activity Centers and other locations using LEGOs to represent jobs and housing

## Common Principles Identified by Participants at Reality Check



- Preserve and Protect open space
- Focus development near transit stations
- Maintain jobs-housing balance
- Concentrate development along transportation corridors
- Concentrate development around existing town centers
- Create mixed use nodes
- Develop east side of region
- Offer more housing choices

## Greater Washington Board of Trade Potomac Conference 2006 Winter Meeting

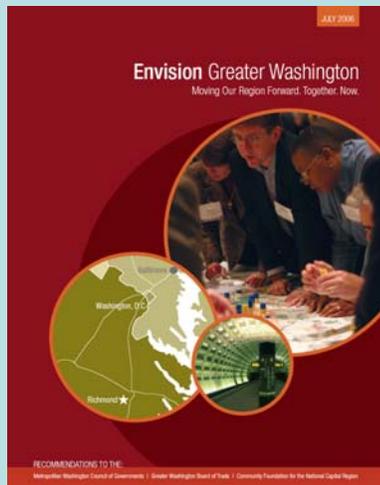
- Topic: "A Conversation About Our Region's Future" follow on to February 2005 Reality Check
- 145 Leaders from private, non-profit and public sectors
- Overview of lessons learned from other regions who are implementing visioning programs
- Reviewed Greater Washington growth projections and implications including federal perspective



**IF WE HAD A VISION:**

**“What would you expect will be different in 5, 10, 20 or 50 years if we had a visioning process?”**

- Improved transportation/mobility
- Regional balance (in housing, jobs and schools)
- Improved environmental quality
- Better regional land use planning

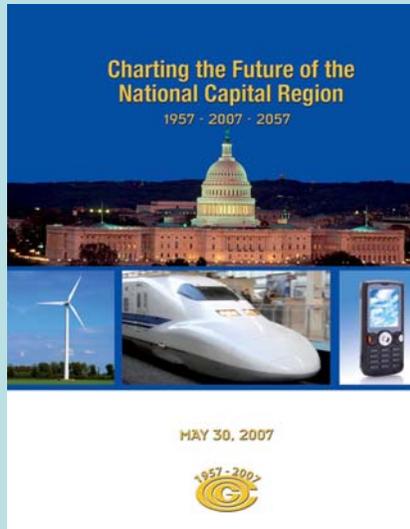


**2006 - COG, the Board of Trade and the Community Foundation convened to make recommendations on a proposal to launch a regional visioning campaign, known as Envision Greater Washington.**

**Issues Raised include:**

- Traffic congestion
- High housing prices
- Loss of open space
- Maintaining quality of life
- Better schools
- Economic opportunities

## In May 2007, COG held a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary “Futures Forum”



### GROWTH AND CHANGE

Dr. Stephen Feller, Director, Center for Regional Analysis, George Mason University



In 1962, this house costed for nearly \$10 million.

In 2017, the National Capital Region will have 9.5 million residents, 3.5 million jobs, and a \$1.1 trillion economy. In 1971, the region was the second largest economy and ranked 13<sup>th</sup> in population. Today, it is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest economy and ranks 7<sup>th</sup> in population. In 1962, Alexandria, Potomac, Reston, District, Fairfax, and Loudoun were largely rural. The National Capital Region is a result of economic activity, but that economic activity has been in manufacturing. What manufacturing did exist over the last half century primarily the

### PLANNING ON A MEGAPOLITAN SCALE

Dr. Robert Lang, Director, Metropolitan Institute, Virginia Tech



Metropolitan Institute, Virginia Tech

A megapolitan is an area consisting of metropolitan regions that have merged together. The U.S. Census has taken the initial step by developing a unit known as a combined statistical area. Washington and Baltimore were grouped together in a unit. However, these regions have merged economically, but resources have stayed together. The growth of these megapolitan regions is a result that can be traced across the country. Boston and Philadelphia have already seen early signs. The rate

### TALE OF TWO FUTURES: ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, AND LAND USE

Harriet Torgerson, Director, District of Columbia Office of Planning

Area leaders have an exciting opportunity to address the region in the next several decades. That will be because which



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## Greater Washington 2050

### April 2007

- COG Board briefed on “Envision Greater Washington”
- Board adopts Resolution R34-07, charging Metropolitan Development Policy Committee (MDPC) with identifying alternatives to address the issues raised by EGW

### September

- MDPC briefs COG Board on *Greater Washington 2050* – an action-oriented, multi-sector initiative to be housed at COG
- COG Board adopts Resolution R62-07 approving *Greater Washington 2050* concept and directs MDPC to develop work program, governance structure and budget by December

# **Proposed Work Program for Greater Washington 2050**

**Hon. Sharon Bulova**  
**Chair, Greater Washington 2050**  
**Vice Chair, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors**  
**February 21, 2008**



## **Greater Washington 2050**

### **December 2007**

- COG Board approves the proposed work program, budget and governance structure for *Greater Washington 2050*.

### **January 2008**

- The COG Board invites active participation from representatives of the public sector, and business, civic and environmental advocacy organizations.

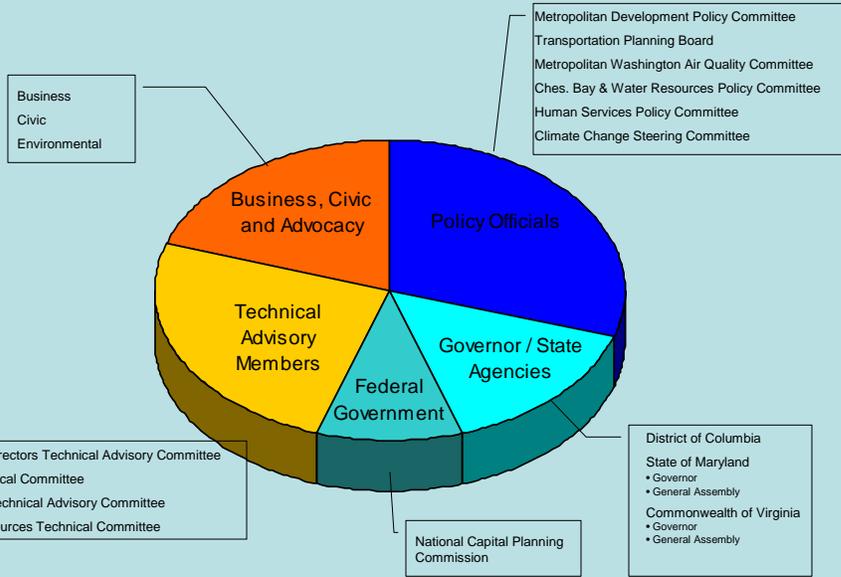
### **February 2008**

- First meeting of *Greater Washington 2050 Coalition*.

### **July 2009**

- Final meeting and recommended outcomes of *Greater Washington 2050 Coalition*.

# Greater Washington 2050 Coalition



# Greater Washington 2050

**Establish a Greater Washington 2050 Coalition with broad public, business and civic participation to:**

- oversee the initiative for 18 months
- develop a *Greater Washington 2050 Compact*



## MILE HIGH COMPACT

*THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into this 10<sup>th</sup> day of August 2000, pursuant to Article XIV, Section 18(2)(a) of the Constitution of Colorado and Section 29-1-203 of the Colorado Revised Statutes, by and among the cities and towns of the State of Colorado, and the counties of Colorado, bodies politic organized under and existing by virtue of the laws of the State of Colorado.*

- I. *WHEREAS, the Cities and Counties recognize that growth and development decisions can impact neighboring jurisdictions and the region; and*
- II. *WHEREAS, Metro Vision 2020, collaboratively created by DRCOG members, business, environmental and neighborhood leaders, provides a regional framework for local decisions on growth and development within the Denver Regional Council of Governments' (DRCOG) region; and*
- III. *WHEREAS, the Cities and Counties are willing to make a commitment to the accommodation and encouragement of planned growth and development, to the orderly extension of urban services, to the enhancement of the quality of life, to the protection of the environment, and to the promotion of the economic viability of their respective communities and the region; and*
- IV. *WHEREAS, the Cities and Counties support planned growth and development to maximize efficiency through coordination among jurisdictions, provide for the orderly extension and integration of urban services, promote the economic vitality of the Cities and Counties and enhance the quality of life of its residents; and*
- V. *WHEREAS, the Cities and Counties have Comprehensive/Master Plans that provide for the development within their respective jurisdictions and they recognize the need to have consistent and coordinated comprehensive plans and master plans in order to provide for the orderly growth and development of the region; and*
- VI. *WHEREAS, the Cities and Counties desire to voluntarily and collaboratively set forth the principles defined herein that illustrate their commitment to address the nature and location of growth within their individual and overlapping jurisdictions and the region as a whole.*

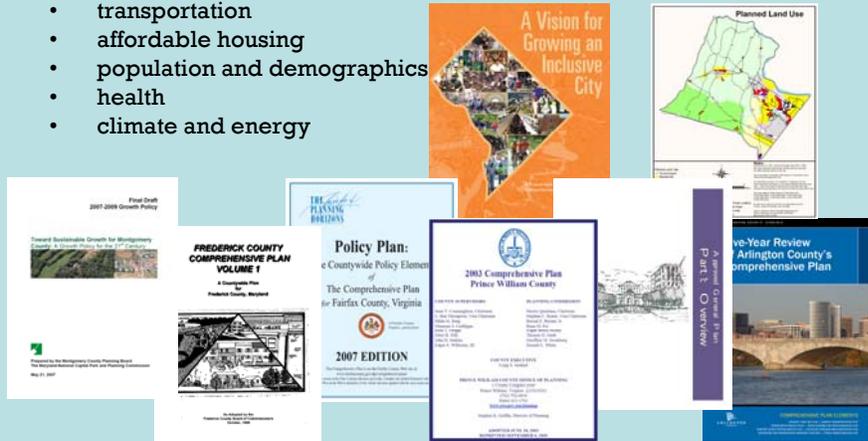
*NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants contained herein, the undersigned Cities and Counties (hereinafter referred to as we) agree as follows:*

1. *Metro Vision 2020. We acknowledge that Metro Vision 2020 is the comprehensive guide for the development of the region. Moreover, we agree that Metro Vision 2020 is a dynamic document that reflects changes in the region.*
2. *Comprehensive/Master Plan. We acknowledge that comprehensive/master plans are critical tools in translating the community's vision into more specific goals, policies and programs to manage their long-range growth consistent with the communities' and the region's vision. We agree to develop and approve comprehensive/master Plans for each of our respective communities and to update these plans on a regular basis, as determined by each jurisdiction.*
3. *Comprehensive/Master Plan Principles. We recognize that there are certain fundamental principles that guide the development of a comprehensive/master plan. We agree to rely on the following principles in developing or amending our comprehensive/master Plans:*

# Greater Washington 2050

Review and synthesize existing goals, plans and “visions” to guide elements of the Compact, including:

- land use
- economic growth
- environmental quality
- transportation
- affordable housing
- population and demographics
- health
- climate and energy

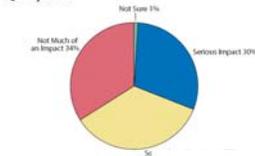


# Greater Washington 2050

Commission a survey to determine attitudes about growth and quality of life issues in the Washington region, as an additional tool to develop the *Greater Washington 2050 Compact*

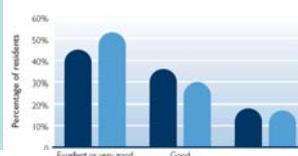


Percentage of Residents in the Greater Washington Region Who Say Traffic Congestion Impacts Their Quality of Life



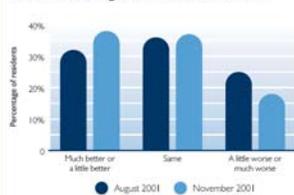
Source: Greater Washington Region AAB Population Survey

Rating the Greater Washington Region as a Place to Live: August 2001 and November 2001



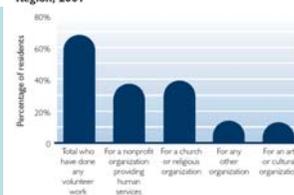
Source: Greater Washington Region AAB Population Survey, August and November 2001

Rating the Effectiveness of the Region's Leadership in Addressing Regional Problems, Compared with Leaders in Other Areas, August 2001 and November 2001



Source: Greater Washington Region AAB Population Survey, August 2001 and November 2001

Percentage of Residents Who Have Volunteered in the Past Twelve Months in the Greater Washington Region, 2001



Source: Greater Washington Region AAB Population Survey, August 2001

# Greater Washington 2050

Define other quantitative and qualitative measures – *water quality, air quality, affordable housing, etc.* – to assess the effectiveness of the TPB Regional Mobility and Accessibility Study growth scenarios

# Greater Washington 2050

Commit to the *Greater Washington 2050 Compact*, including basic tenets of:

- long-range planning of at least 40 years
- timely implementation of the goals
- creative financing of public infrastructure and enhanced governmental services to achieve the goals
- development of inter-jurisdictional projects and agreements where necessary to achieve the goals



# Greater Washington 2050

Devise metrics to assess progress in achieving the goals of the Compact.



Part II: Development Pattern Element

Approved General Plan

**Objectives**

The General Plan makes a clear distinction between the character of the Developed Core and that of the Developing Core and the Rural Use Within the Developed and Developing Core, a policy strategy for Centers and Corridors based on specific areas where more intense development is encouraged to take advantage of public investments in transportation facilities. Although there will be some overlap, the intent is to use the opportunities for the future to work. The report differentiates objectives and strategies.

The General Plan establishes objectives or benchmark measures that will be used to gauge the success of its implementation. Table 1 summarizes the county objectives and measures intended to track the Plan, the Centers and the Corridors. The metrics that follow describe the county's problem and strategies to achieve their objectives.

*The General Plan establishes objectives or benchmark measures that will be used to gauge the success of its implementation.*

**Table 1: General Plan Objectives**

Objectives	Year			County Goal/Strategy
	2020	2025	2030	
<b>Development Pattern</b>				
Capture a targeted percentage of the county's existing and growth by 2030 within each Tier	>5%	>60%	>7%	
Capture a targeted percentage of each Tier's housing growth by 2030 in Centers or Corridors	>5%	>25%		
Incorporate appropriate pedestrian, bicycle and multi-modal transit facilities at all new development within Centers and Corridors				•
Protect a comprehensive network of 1,500 acres per year of agricultural, strategic forest, or other outdoor lands through the use of the Rural Usage Program, county-level acquisition, and other conservation programs	•	•	•	•
<b>Environmental Infrastructure</b>				
Protect, preserve, enhance and/or restore designated green infrastructure components by 2025	•	•	•	•
Protect and enhance water quality as measured by at a minimum, maintaining the 2015 condition category of all non-point waterways	•	•	•	•
Eliminate or reduce the following level and non-point runoff within Tier and Corridors by 2025	20%	30%	50%	

Pierce County's County Approved General Plan 27

**Objectives**

Reduce the amount of non-recycled tires stored in landfills through the promotion of environmental education and recycling programs

**Transportation Systems**

Increase average automobile occupancy by 25 percent by 2025

Reduce average commuter vehicle miles traveled (commuting) by 25 percent by 2025

Increase the proportion of transit trips by 25 percent by 2025

Reduce private automobile dependency particularly for high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) trips

Site and plan new development and subdivisions to promote transit-oriented development within the core counties for goals established by the county Plan for Transit Master Plan (TMP)

Increase public funding of transportation infrastructure in the Development Core

Increase public funding and attract and encourage more private funding of transportation infrastructure in the Development Core and Corridors

Reduce and increase the proportion of public sector funding of transit transportation infrastructure in the Development and Rural Use within of Centers and Corridors

Incorporate appropriate pedestrian, bicycle and multi-modal transit facilities at all new development within Centers and Corridors

Plan new development to help achieve the objectives of the Compact, such as the Compact's Transit and Capital Allocation

Encourage funding to achieve the objectives of the Compact and the Compact's Transit

Encourage the funding to use proceeds of the state lottery to encourage funding for transit development funding that priority to the bus and bicycle or transportation for HOV or in other transportation facilities

Pierce County's County Approved General Plan 28

# Greater Washington 2050

Develop a Communications Plan to disseminate the understanding of the work of the Coalition and the Compact, including enhanced outreach on the RMA alternative growth scenarios.

Engage adjacent regions to collaborate on a bold 21st century investment plan to address:

- environmental quality
- energy efficiency
- climate change
- sprawling development
- transportation challenges

# **Discussion of other elements of the Greater Washington 2050 Work Plan and Initiative**

**Gerrit Knapp  
Professor and Director  
National Center for Smart Growth  
University of Maryland  
February 21, 2008**



## **Greater Washington 2050**



- What would you want the Washington region to look like in 50 years?
- What do you think are our best opportunities for change?
- What do you want to achieve through this initiative? What would “success” look like?
- Does the proposed GW 2050 work plan support those goals or address those issues? How could it be enhanced?
- What can you contribute to this process?