



Growing Transit Communities Strategy

Seattle City Council
Planning, Land Use, and Sustainability Committee
Brown Bag
May 13, 2013

Presentation Overview

Background

The Partnership

The Strategy

Next Steps

**Growing Transit
Communities**

A Shared Regional Vision

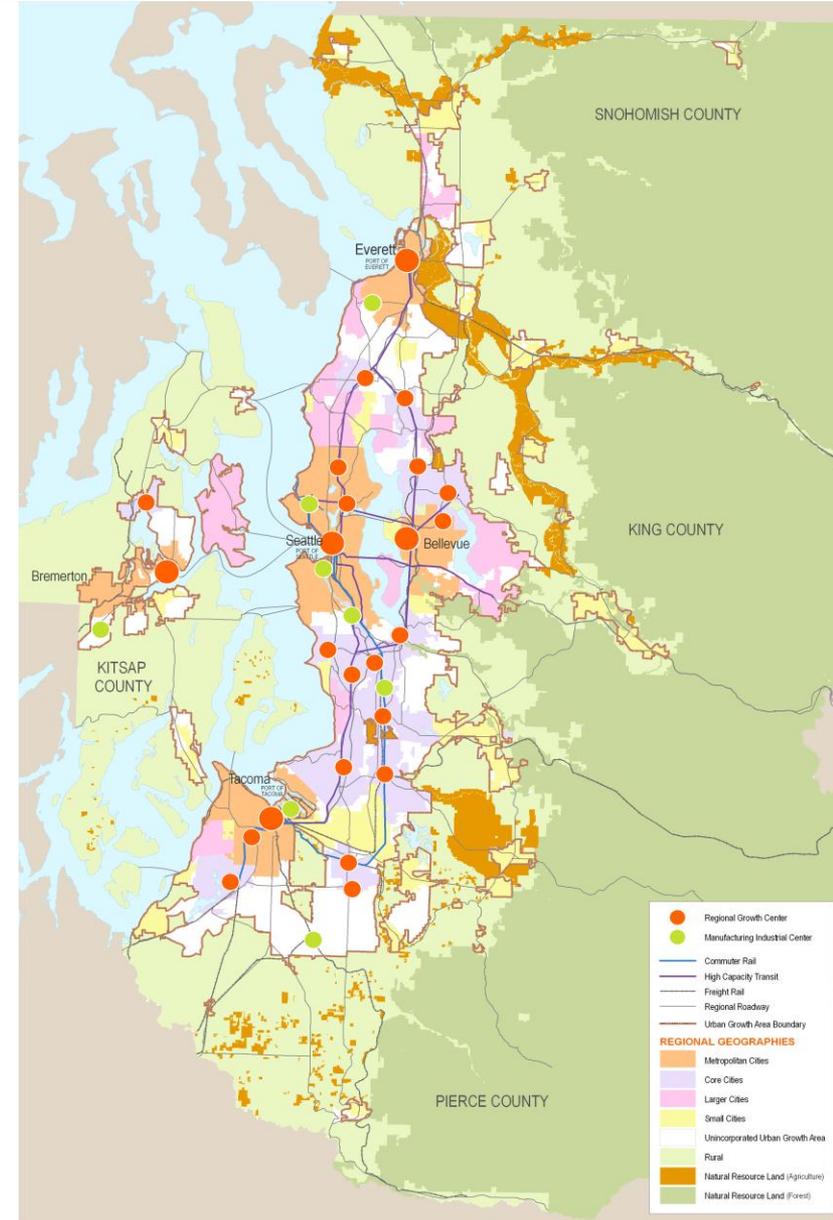
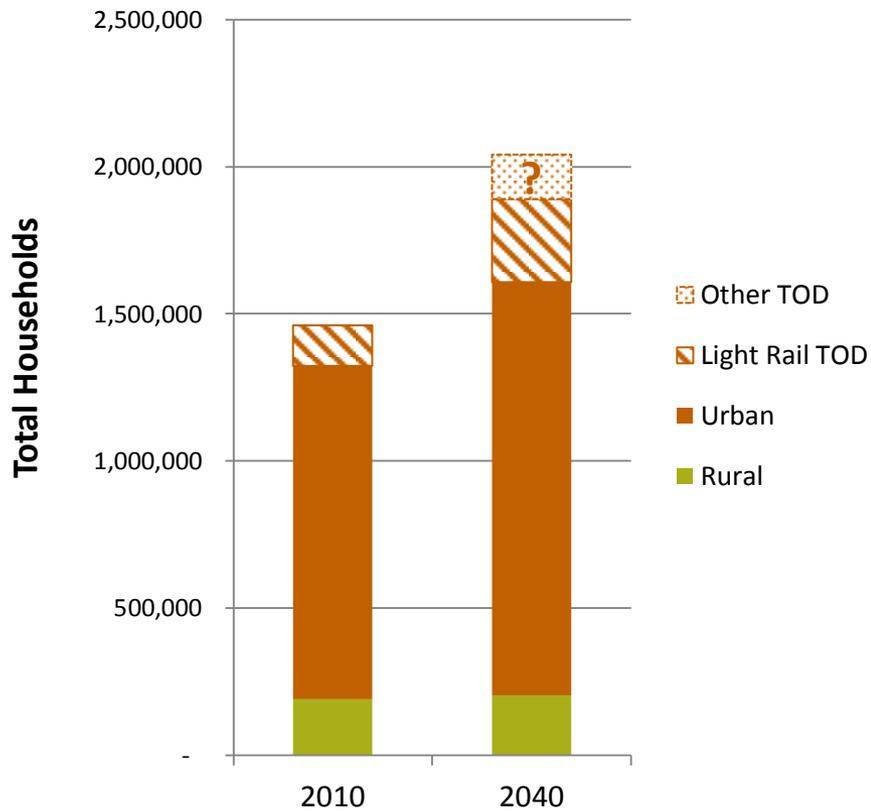
Supporting businesses and job creation, investing in all people, sustaining environmental quality, and creating great central places, diverse communities, and a high quality of life...

Focusing growth within already urbanized areas to create walkable, compact, and transit oriented communities...

Meeting housing needs through preservation and expansion of a range of affordable, healthy and safe housing choices...

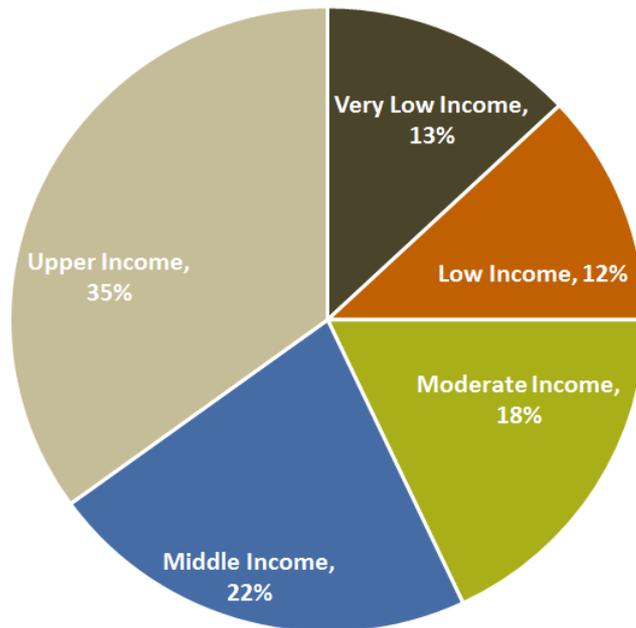
Challenge: Attracting growth to transit

How to capture the region's growth in centers linked by transit?



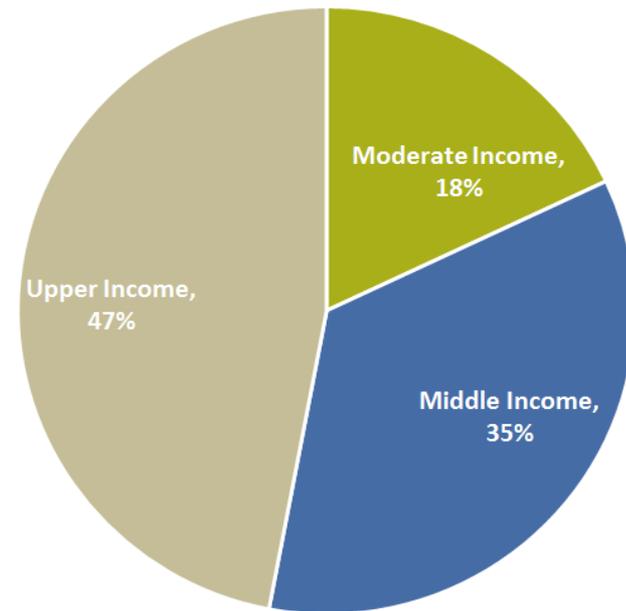
Challenge: Affordable Housing Choices

Regional Income Distribution



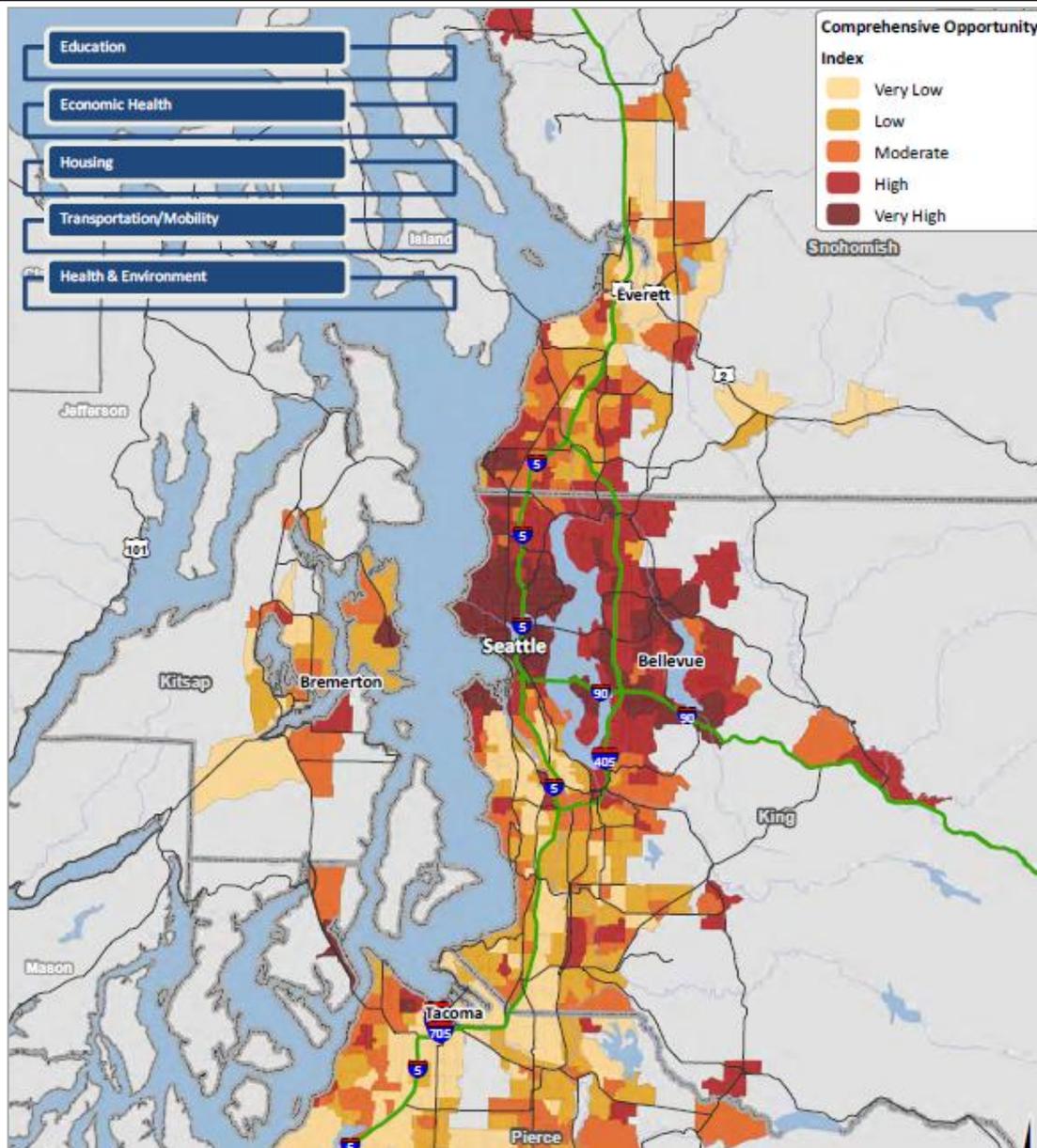
These are the people living in the region

New Market Rate Development in Light Rail Station Areas, 2006-2011



This is what the new rental market is producing near light rail

Challenge: Inequitable Access to Opportunity

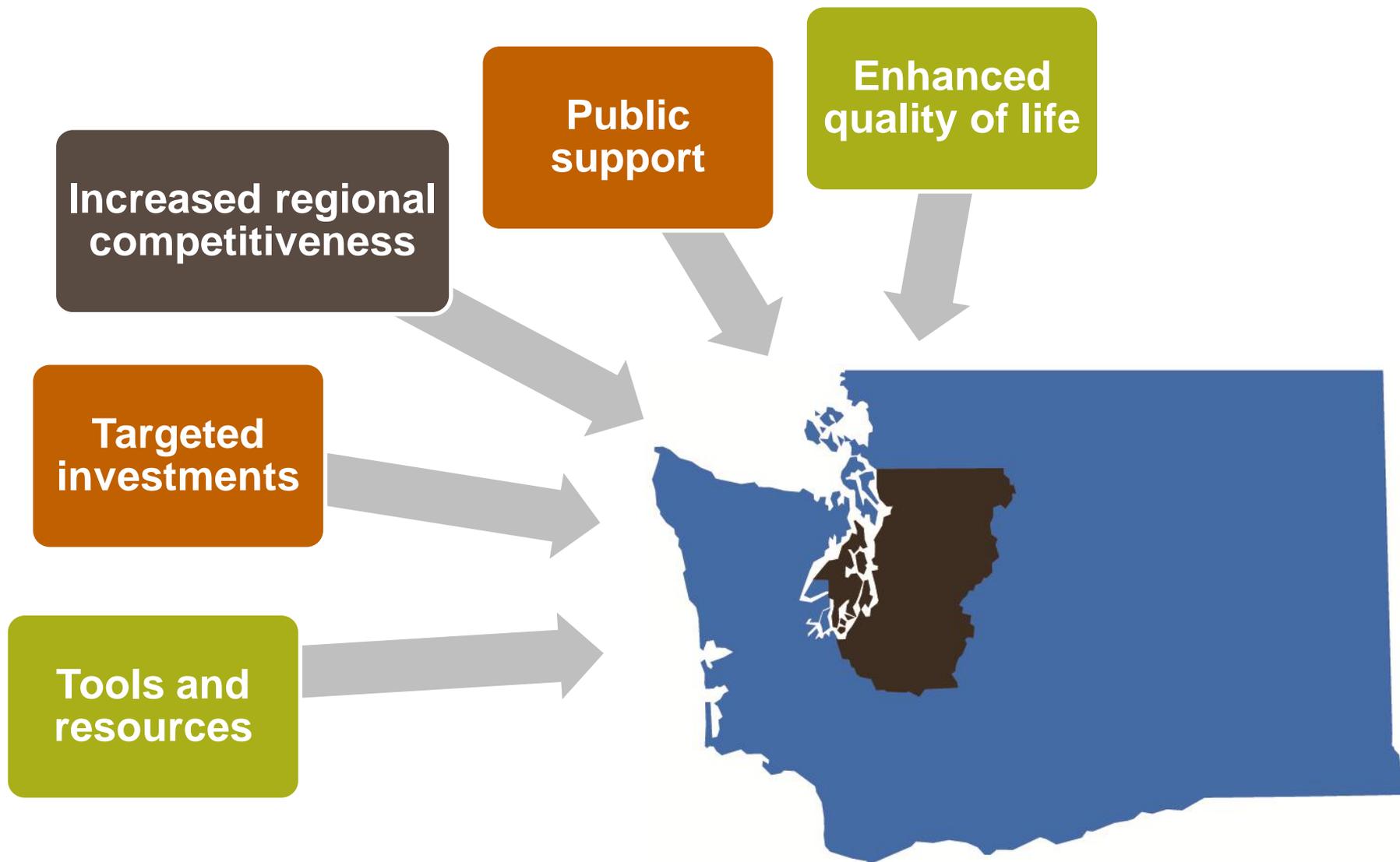


Regional inequities in access to opportunity:

- Education
- Employment
- Mobility
- Health
- Neighborhood safety

Transit communities are focal points for achieving greater equity

Regional TOD Strategy: Benefits to Region



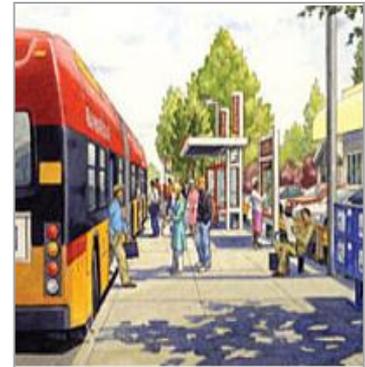
Why Now?

\$15+ Billion transit investments

Regional and local plan updates and implementation

Growing interest and support for equitable transit communities

Once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to support great communities for people to live and work



Partnership for Sustainable Communities

U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

U. S. Department of Transportation

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency

Initiatives throughout federal administration to work toward common principles, fundamentally change current processes

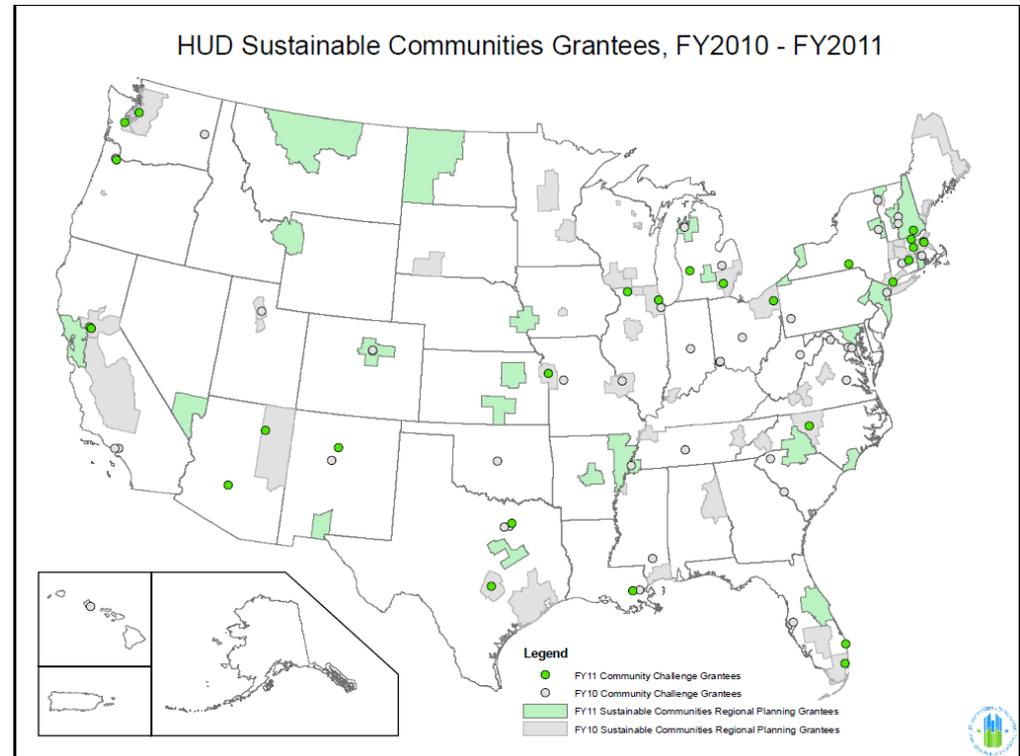
partnership for
Sustainable Communities
an interagency partnership HUD • DOT • EPA

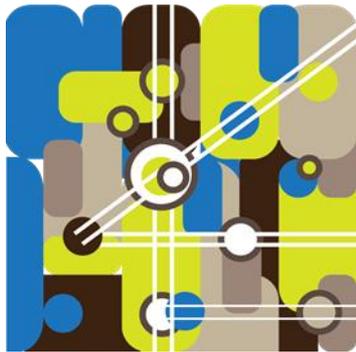


Partnership for Sustainable Communities

Livability Principles

- Provide transportation choices
- Promote equitable, affordable housing
- Enhance economic competitiveness
- Support existing communities
- Coordinate policies & leverage investment
- Value communities and neighborhoods





The Growing Transit Communities Partnership

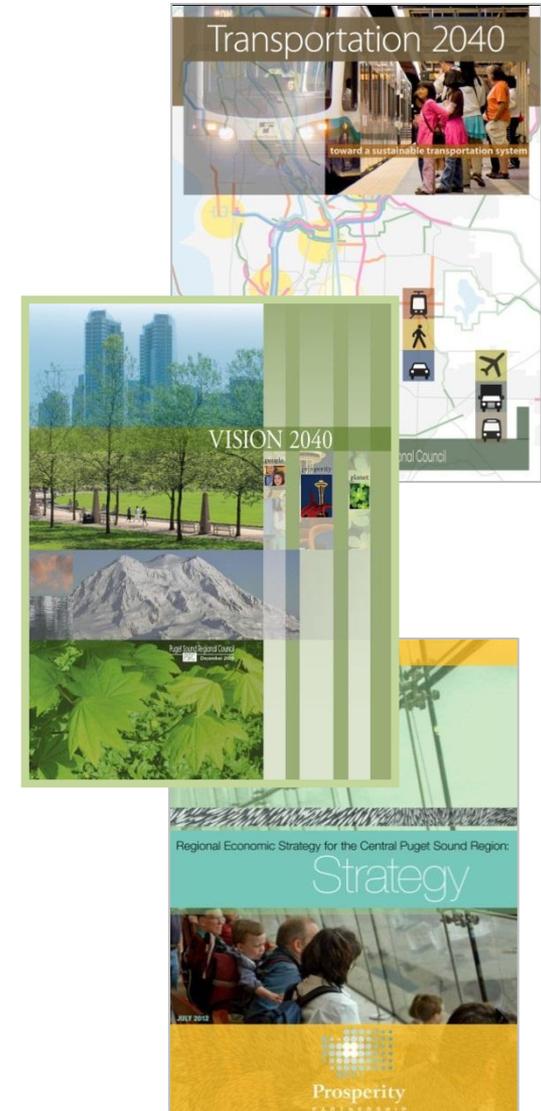
Growing Transit Communities Partnership

Implementation of regional plans

Regional initiative housed at PSRC

- \$5 million grant from Partnership for Sustainable Communities

Diverse coalition to promote thriving and equitable transit communities



Regional Consortium: A Big Tent

Cities

- City of Bellevue
- City of Everett
- City of Mountlake Terrace
- City of Redmond
- City of Seattle
- City of Shoreline
- City of Tacoma

Counties

- King County
- Pierce County
- Snohomish County

Transit Agencies

- Sound Transit
- King County Metro Transit
- Community Transit

Public Health & Human Services

- Public Health—Seattle & King County
- Snohomish County Human Services
- Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department

Public Housing Authorities

- King County Housing Authority
- Pierce County Housing Authority
- Seattle Housing Authority
- Snohomish County Housing Authority
- Tacoma Housing Authority

Funding Institutions

- Enterprise Community Partners
- Impact Capital (LISC)

Non-Profit Developers

- Bellwether Housing
- Capitol Hill Housing
- Community Development Collaborative

For-Profit Developers

- Urban Land Institute—Seattle District Council

Regional Groups

- A Regional Coalition for Housing
- Community Development Collaborative
- The Equity Partnership
- Puget Sound Regional Council
- Quality Growth Alliance

Educational Institutions

- North Seattle Community College
- UW-Runstad Center for Real Estate Studies

Environmental & Transportation Advocates

- Forterra (CLC)
- Futurewise
- Seattle Transit Blog

Housing & Community Advocates

- Affordable Housing Consortium of Tacoma-Pierce County
- Housing Consortium of Everett and Snohomish County
- Housing Development Consortium Seattle-King County
- Puget Sound SAGE
- Refugee and Immigrant Services Northwest
- Washington Low Income Housing Alliance

Work Program, 2011-2013

Corridor-Based Planning

Regional Equity Network

Affordable Housing Tools

Demonstration Projects

**Growing Transit
Communities**

Corridor-Based Planning

Three long-range high-capacity transit corridors

Diverse stakeholder task forces

18-month planning process

- Analyzed existing conditions
- Recommended strategies and actions



Regional Equity Network

Coalition of 40+ Organizations

Built on the Community
Development Collaborative

Equity Network Manager



Community Equity Grant Program

- \$450,000 in capacity-building grants
- Education, outreach, organizing, research
- Involvement in program



Affordable Housing

Data and Technical Assistance

- Housing Innovations Program, Opportunity Mapping

Research on New Tools

- TOD Affordable Housing Fund, Value Capture Financing

Policy Development

- Surplus Public Land
- Subsidy prioritization

Fair Housing

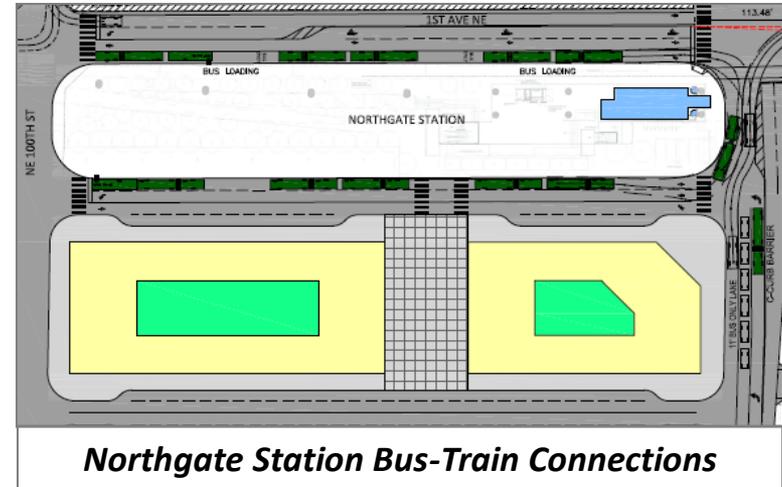
- Regional analysis



Demonstration Projects

Northgate

- Urban Design Framework
- Master Site Plan for transit center
- Issues: multi-modal connectivity, affordable housing, public health



South Downtown Tacoma

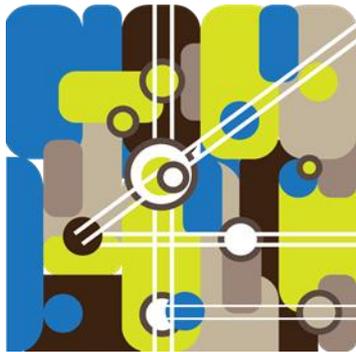
- Subarea Plan & Up-front Environmental Review

Decision Commons

- Visualization and analysis tool

East Side Implementation

- Best practices and implementation models



The Growing Transit Communities Strategy

Strategy Goals



Attract residential & employment growth



Provide affordable housing choices

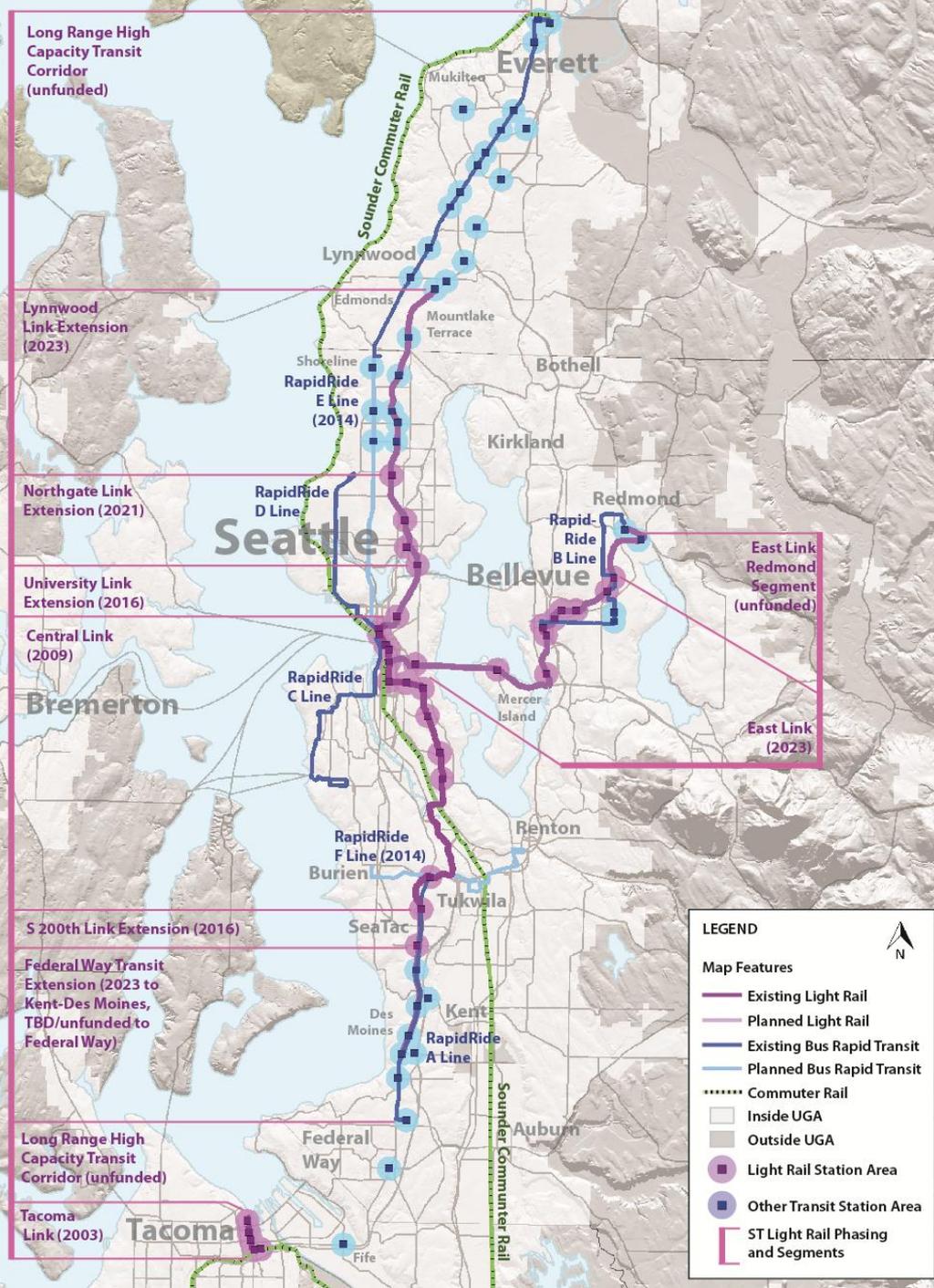


Increase access to opportunity

Study Area Geography

74 study areas in 16 cities:

- Current and future light rail station areas
- Select RapidRide and Swift BRT station areas
- Other major transit nodes

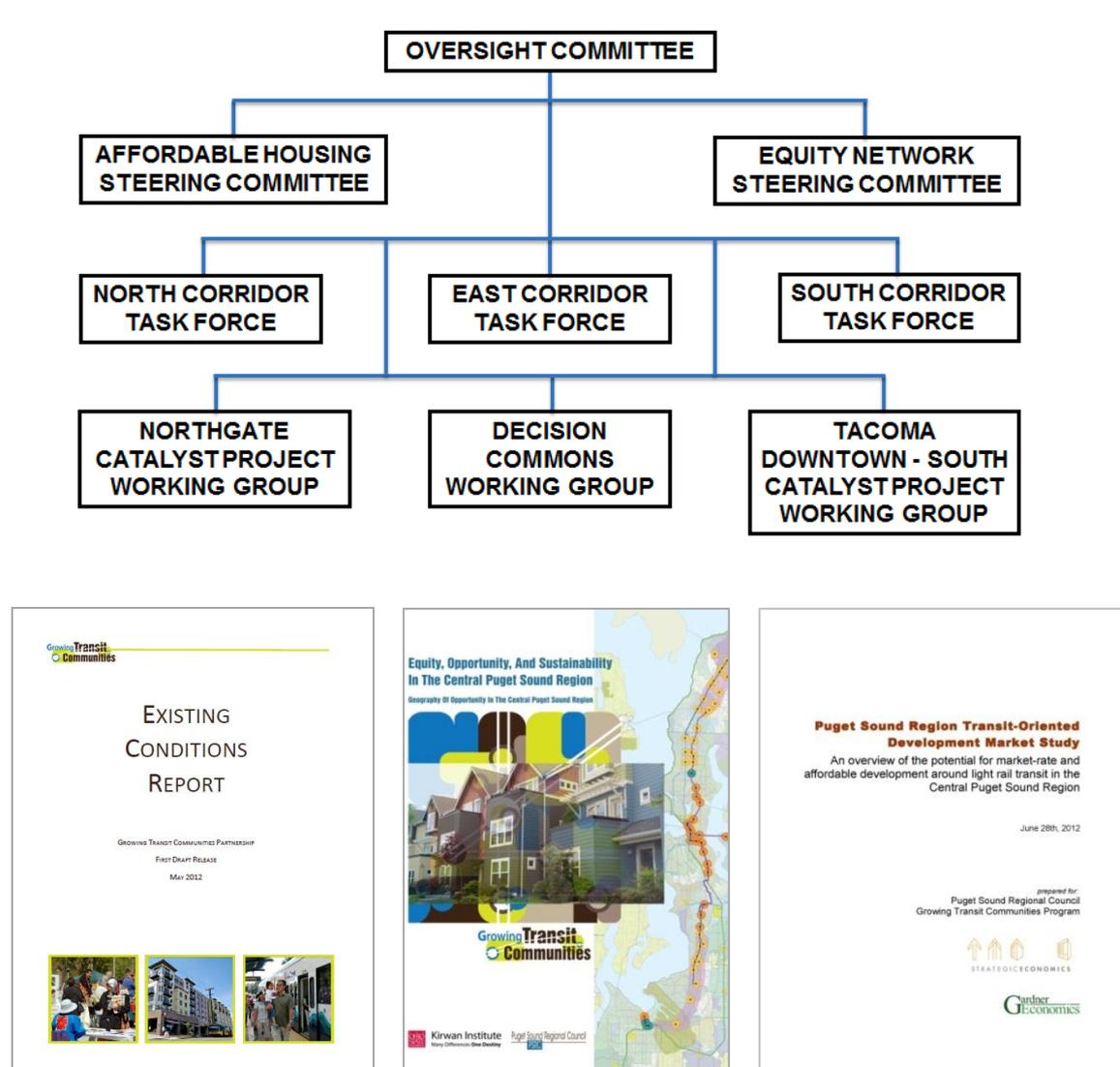


Strategy Development Process

Stakeholder
and Public
Involvement



Data and
Research



Growing Transit Communities Strategy

THE PLEDGE:
Regional Compact



THE PLAYBOOK:
Recommendations & Typology



THE PLANS:
Individual Work Plans

The Growing Transit Communities Strategy
Public Review Draft, May 2013

Growing Transit Communities

Puget Sound Regional Council PSRC

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Puget Sound Regional Council PSRC

Regional Transit Communities Compact

Contents of Compact

- Problem statement
- Vision statement
- Ongoing regional process
- Support recommended strategies
- Goals: Desired outcomes
- Commitment to next steps



Growing Transit Communities Compact

Preamble

VISION 2040 was approved as the central Puget Sound region's plan for sustainable development following a broad-based, collaborative planning process. Central Puget Sound voters also approved a series of high-capacity light rail and transit projects—a commitment of approximately \$15 billion—that will serve the region's most densely populated and diverse communities for decades to come. These investments present a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to shape the region's urban form and ensure that transportation improvements support sustainable development and foster vibrant, healthy neighborhoods for all.

Recognizing what this unprecedented opportunity means for the region and its residents, a broad coalition of stakeholders came together to identify what will be needed to create the sustainable, equitable communities envisioned in the region's plans. The result was the Growing Transit Communities Partnership.

The Partnership produced the Growing Transit Communities Strategy, which is supported by this Compact. Its goals and recommendations are wide-ranging, developed with the recognition that some tools and approaches may work in some locations but not in others, and that each partner retains flexibility and discretion in pursuing the strategies most appropriate to local needs and conditions. However, the envisioned outcomes require an ongoing dedicated partnership of many interests, including cities, counties, transit agencies, businesses and employers, housing authorities, public health agencies, affordable housing providers, educational institutions, community-based organizations, and development interests.

And while the Compact is not legally binding, it expresses the need for many and diverse partners to work together over time to achieve its goals, recognizing that opportunities for success cannot be achieved unless we work together.

Therefore, as signatories to the Compact, we commit ourselves to working in partnership to achieve the goals and strategies in this Compact, while respecting the diversity of interests, perspectives, and responsibilities throughout the region.

Whereas the central Puget Sound region has adopted VISION 2040, a long-range strategy to advance the ideals of our people, our prosperity and our planet by integrating land use, economic and transportation decisions in order to meet the needs of current and future generations, achieve economic prosperity with social equity, and support a healthy environment, including addressing global climate change; and

Whereas the central Puget Sound region is expected to add 1.3 million people and 1.1 million jobs by the year 2040; and

Whereas VISION 2040 includes among its goals (1) maintaining a prosperous and sustainable regional economy by supporting businesses and job creation, investing in all people, sustaining environmental quality,

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Puget Sound Regional Council PSRC

24 Recommended Strategies



Strategy 1: Establish a Regional Program to Support Thriving and Equitable Transit Communities

In order to carry out the goals and strategies envisioned by the Growing Transit Communities Partnership, a continued regional effort, based within PSRC and guided by an ongoing coalition of regional stakeholders, is needed to promote thriving and equitable transit communities in the region. This effort should be expanded beyond the light rail corridors that are the focus of the Partnership's work to include other high-capacity transit nodes in the region and to involve new partners across multiple sectors.

Puget Sound Regional Council

- 1.1. Provide staff support for the work of a Growing Transit Communities Partnership beyond the term of the current Sustainable Communities grant, with guidance from an advisory committee of diverse public and private stakeholders.
- 1.2. Create a regional transit oriented development implementation program at PSRC with sufficient staffing and work plan to further the GTC Strategy and including actions in the areas of attracting growth, providing affordable housing, and improving equitable engagement and access to opportunity within transit communities.
- 1.3. Build on the foundation established through the GTC Affordable Housing Action Strategy and the PSRC's Housing Innovations Program with ongoing staffing of a regional housing affordability initiative focused on meeting the needs for housing in regional centers and other transit communities.
- 1.4. Expand the geographic scope of the Partnership through implementation of the GTC Strategy beyond the three long-range light rail corridors to also include current and planned transit communities around stations for commuter rail, bus rapid transit, streetcar, and other high capacity transit investments in the region.
- 1.5. Collaborate with local governments and other stakeholders to explore options for regional designation of selected transit communities based on their potential to provide regional benefits and alignment with the GTC Strategy.
- 1.6. Establish a regional peer networking exchange for staff at cities, other public agencies, and relevant non-governmental organizations working on transit community development.

Transit Agencies

- 1.7. Participate as a member of a regional TOD implementation program advisory committee.
- 1.8. Continue to strengthen agency partnerships, policies, programs and plans to support thriving and equitable transit communities.

Local Governments

- 1.9. Participate as a member of a regional TOD implementation program advisory committee.
- 1.10. Continue to strengthen local partnerships, policies, programs, and plans to support thriving and equitable transit communities.

Other Partners

- 1.11. Support and participate in an ongoing regional coalition for thriving and equitable transit communities, where applicable as a member of a regional TOD implementation program advisory committee.
- 1.12. Continue to strengthen partnerships, policies, programs and plans to support thriving and equitable transit communities.

Priority Transit Communities for this Strategy

- Regional programs and initiatives would apply to all current and potential transit communities around multiple modes of high capacity transit in the region.

Recommended Strategies and Actions



1. Continuing regional program
2. Partnerships and collaboration
3. Community and stakeholder engagement
4. Build community capacity
5. Evaluation and monitoring

Recommended Strategies and Actions



6. Station area plans
7. Efficient use of land
8. Transit system design
9. Innovative Parking Tools
10. Infrastructure and public realm investments

Recommended Strategies and Actions



11. Housing needs assessment
12. Preservation and replacement
13. Housing investments in transit communities
14. TOD property acquisition fund
15. Value capture financing
16. Surplus public lands
17. Incentives
18. Fair housing

Recommended Strategies and Actions



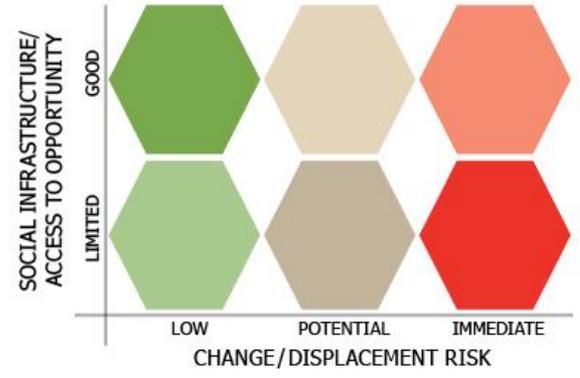
19. Community needs assessment
20. Environment and public health
21. Economic vitality and opportunity
22. Mobility
23. Education
24. Neighborhood safety

People + Place Implementation Typology

74 transit communities



people profile

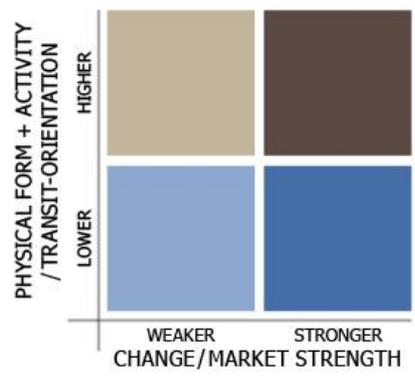


8 implementation approaches

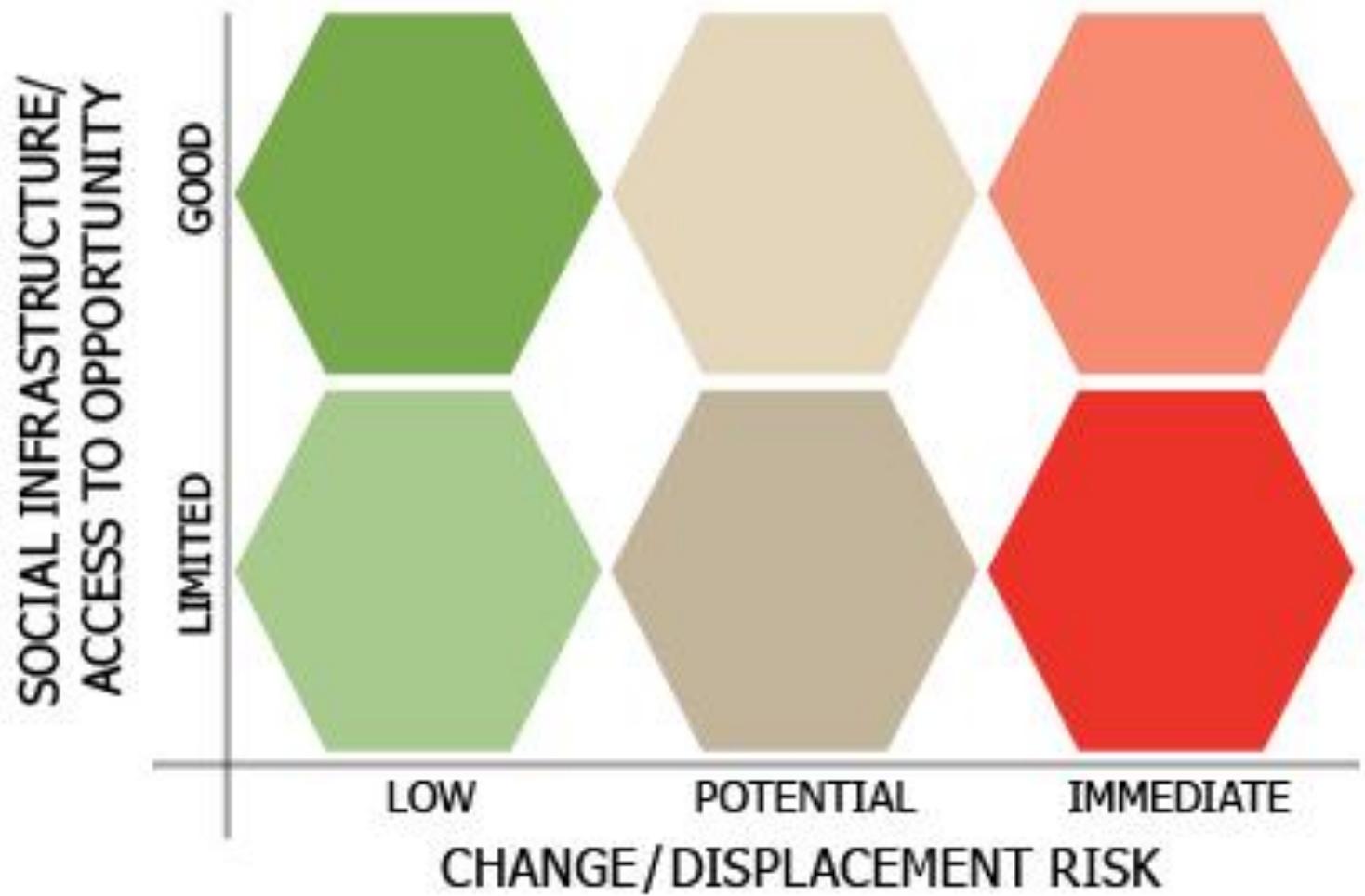
- 1 Protect and Grow
- 2 Expand Housing Choices
- 3 Improve Access
- 4 Transform and Diversify
- 5 Stimulate Demand
- 6 Build Urban Places
- 7 Enhance Community
- 8 Preserve and Connect



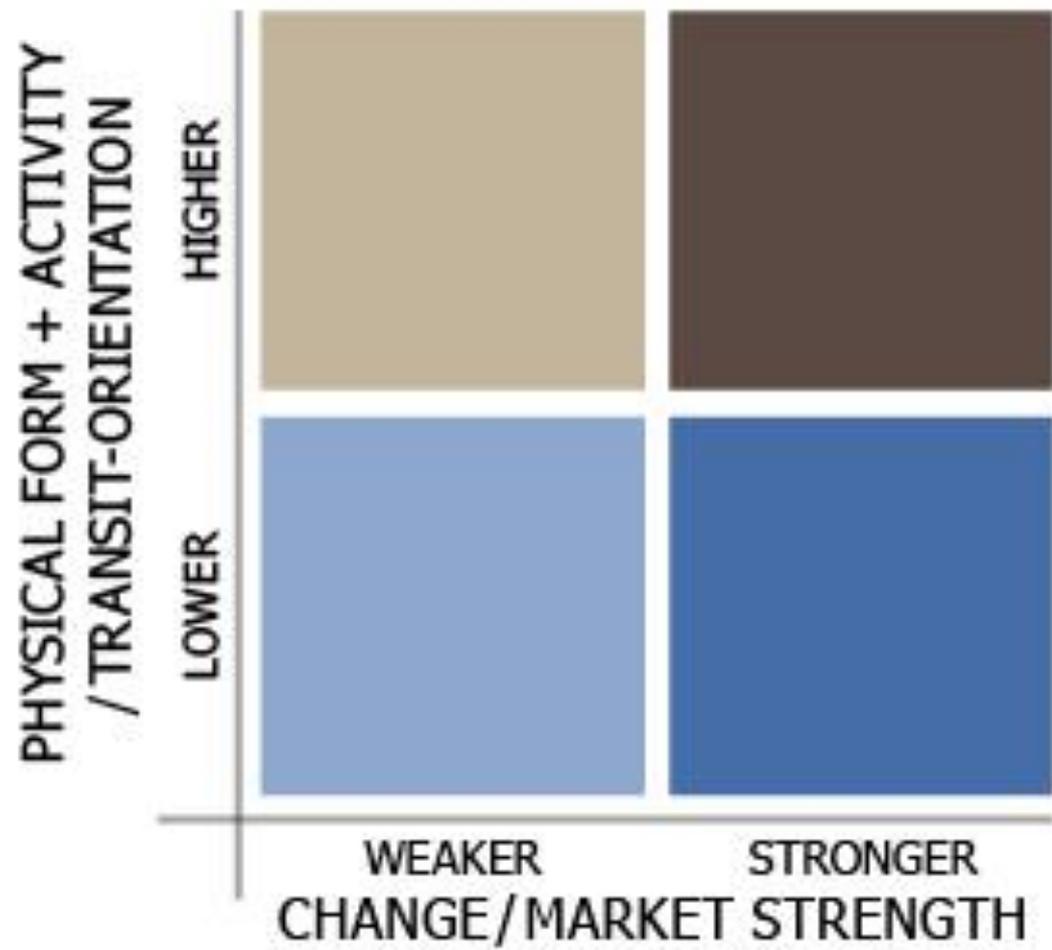
place profile



People Profile



Place Profile



Typology Results

8 implementation approaches

- 1** Protect and Grow
- 2** Expand Housing Choices
- 3** Improve Access
- 4** Transform and Diversify
- 5** Stimulate Demand
- 6** Build Urban Places
- 7** Enhance Community
- 8** Preserve and Connect



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Roles for Different Partners



Successful Implementation Means...

Stronger plans

- Regional framework for TOD
- Local adoption of best practices in station areas

New resources and targeted investments

- Station area plan implementation grants
- Funding criteria for infrastructure
- Financing options for affordable housing

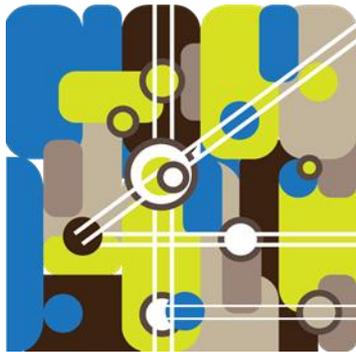
More and better tools

- Regional guidance and technical assistance
- Clearinghouse for local innovations

Regional coalition for transit communities

- Build on the Growing Transit Communities Partnership
- Oversight for implementation of GTC Strategy
- Effective advocacy for state/federal support





Next Steps

Next Steps ...





Get Involved!

Comment on Public Review Draft

- Comment period open May 1st – June 7th
- Letter of support

Sign Regional Compact

- Brief boards, members, constituents
- Consider becoming a signatory

Attend Fall Events

- Regional Equity Summit, November 8-9
- GTC Implementation Kick-Off, Date TBD
- Rail~Volution, October 20-23



For More Information

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Project Website

<http://www.psrc.org/growth/growing-transit-communities>