1997 Smart Growth Legislative Package

- Priority Funding Areas
- Rural Legacy
- Brownfields Cleanup
- Job Creation Tax Credit
- Live Near Your Work

INCENTIVES, NOT REGULATIONS!
The Maryland Indicator Project

- Led by NCSG
- Funded by Abell Foundation
- Started 2005
- Beta website in 2008
- Report released in 2011
- Approximately 120 measures
The indicators

- Six categories
  - Population
  - The economy
  - Transportation and other infrastructure
  - Development patterns
  - Housing
  - Natural areas and the environment
- Reported data at state, regional and county levels
- Comparison states: Virginia, New Jersey
Conclusions

• People can examine the same data and come to different conclusions. But we conclude:
  • Indicators alone cannot ascertain whether trends would have been worse in the absence of Maryland’s Smart Growth Program
  • Changing development patterns takes a long time
  • Currently available indicators are poor for environmental quality or quality of life
  • But with all their limitations, the indicators suggest that Maryland’s Smart Growth Program has fallen far short of its stated goals.
This plan is a framework for a collaborative process between the State and local governments, the development and environmental communities, the Sustainable Growth Commission and other stakeholders to address critical issues of environmental and fiscal sustainability.
The Process
PlanMaryland Process and Responsibilities

- Identify and Nominate Planning Areas
- Review/Convene on Nominations
- Establish PlanMaryland Planning Areas
- Modify State Programs to Better Support PlanMaryland Goals
- Implement Coordinated Local and State Programs & Procedures

Timelines:
- Summer/Fall 2012
- Late 2012
PlanMaryland Map
Plan Maryland divide: Is it a new rural order?

Maryland Planning Secretary Richard E. Hall, at the microphone, talks about bills in the House Environmental Matters Committee. (By Andrew Scholz)
Recommendations for a Better Plan Maryland

• Form a state-local advisory committee;
• Begin with assumptions built in local land use plans;
• Coordinate with plans of other state agencies
  • Esp, Transportation, Housing, Climate, Commerce?
• Make it a strategic development plan, not a land use plan;
• Coordinate with the preparation of new planning visions;
• Get it done soon.
Maryland’s Planning Visions

• 1992 Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Act

• Seven Visions, before “Smart Growth”:
  • Development is concentrated in suitable areas.
  • Sensitive areas are protected.
  • In rural areas, growth is directed to existing population centers and resource areas are protected.
  • Stewardship of the Chesapeake Bay and the land is a universal ethic.
  • Conservation of resources, including a reduction in resource consumption, is practiced.
  • To assure the achievement of items (1) through (5) of this section, economic growth is encouraged and regulatory mechanisms are streamlined.
  • Adequate public facilities and infrastructure under the control of the county or municipal corporation are available or planned in areas where growth is to occur.
  • Funding mechanisms are addressed to achieve these Visions.
2009 – the twelve planning visions

1. Quality of life and sustainability
2. Public Participation
3. Growth Areas
4. Community Design
5. Infrastructure
6. Transportation
7. Housing
8. Economic Development
9. Environmental Protection
10. Resource Conservation
11. Stewardship
12. Implementation
2009 – the twelve planning visions

1. Quality of life and sustainability
2. Public Participation
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Climate change?
Renewable energy?
Public health?
Economic opportunity and social equity?
Human capital?
Smart Cities?
Concluding Comments

• Maryland has a national reputation for leadership on land use and environmental issues;
• But the state has been slow to adapt to a new planning paradigm;
• Planning is not a democratic or republican challenge; it is a statewide challenge with many stakeholders and community interests;
• Both ”A Better Maryland” and new planning visions can provide a framework for a more effective and collaborative Smart Growth 2.0.
• We look forward to doing our part.
Thank You !!