

TRIANGLE J COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Why Do We Need A

rum to understand, track and ad-

the success of the region.

dress the capital needs so crucial to

The Development & Infrastructure

Partnership provides the opportu-

nity for our region's leading insti-

tutions to contribute leadership,

staff involvement and support to

the efforts that will shape our re-

gion over the next generation.

The Partnership's work will be

cus on:

future;

decisions; and

arise between them.

driven by its sponsors, but can fo-

• mapping out our infrastructure

· providing the tools and knowl-

edge to make better-informed

· providing the means for commu-

thorities, the private sector and

It will also include existing work

on rural transportation planning,

air quality and participation in the

long-term, regional strategies for:

development and conservation of land

infrastructure to support development

Bring together community and regional partners to work on

planning efforts of partner communities and regional groups.

Partnership Mission

improved mobility

nities, regional infrastructure au-

universities to resolve issues that

**Partnership?** 

May 1, 2007

# Partnership for Development & Infrastructure

#### Sponsors (invited)

Chatham County

Durham County

Johnston County

Lee County

Moore County

Orange County

Wake County

City of Raleigh

City of Durham

Town of Cary

Town of Chapel Hill

Town of Morrisville

Research Triangle Foundation

North Carolina State University

University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill

Duke University

North Carolina Central University

Triangle Transit Authority

Regional Transportation Alliance

Research Triangle Regional Partnership

Capital Area MPO

Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro MPO

RDU Airport

NC DO1

NC Division of Community Assistance

Urban Land Institute— Research Triangle

**Community** Colleges

# What Do We Ask Of Sponsors?

Faced with complex, costly and<br/>conflicting development and infra-<br/>structure issues, the region's uni-<br/>versity, government and businessUnless we change the direction<br/>we are going, we may end up<br/>where we are headed.<br/>— Chinese proverbLeaders would benefit from a fo-To be successful, the Partnershi

To be successful, the Partnership requires three things:

- Commitment by senior institutional leadership to come together 2 or 3 times a year with their peers to focus on the most crucial development and infrastructure issues facing the region.
- 2. Sustained involvement by staff and members from the sponsors in the work of the Partnership.
- A three- to five-year initial funding commitment to define and carry out the Partnership's work program.

Our target is to gain partner commitments over the next few months and launch the Partnership by August 2007.

We are committed to making the Partnership a valued use of time and resources. Join us in helping chart a successful development and infrastructure investment future for the Research Triangle Region.







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# The Development & Infrastructure Challenge

In the early years of the new Millennium, the Research Triangle Region is faced with unprecedented growth challenges:

- The metro areas of Raleigh, Durham and their surrounding 8 counties have passed the 1.5 million population mark; another 1 million people are expected over the next 25 years.
- Building continues apace at our major universities: UNC-Chapel Hill is planning the new Carolina North, Duke is planning a new Central Campus, NC State is building Centennial Campus and NC Central has opened its new West Campus and is developing a new master plan.
- Triangle public school systems face building needs of more than \$6 billion over just the next 10 years, yet are limited in the revenue sources they have to repay bonds and build schools.
- Triangle transportation planning organizations have adopted long range plans calling for \$14 billion of new investment over 25 years, with \$2 billion coming from new revenue sources.
- RDU is rebuilding and expanding Terminal C for \$570 million and has planned a third runway.
- NCDOT's Statewide Transportation Plan contains \$122 billion in project needs over 25 years and anticipates \$57 billion in available revenues to meet





those needs, resulting in a gap of \$65 billion. Two years ago, the estimates were \$84 billion in needs, \$55 billion in revenues, and a \$30 billion gap.

- The Triangle Transit Authority's \$800 million regional transit system to link the centers of our three largest cities of Raleigh, Durham and Cary with the Research Triangle Park, NC State and Duke — with a second phase to Chapel Hill, UNC and RDU — has not been able to secure federal funding.
- The Triangle GreenPrint Project estimates that we need to double the current land protection rate—at a cost of up to \$5 billion over the next 25 years—to protect the backbone of a linked regional greenspace network.
- The NC Rural Center's Water 2030 report identified about \$3 billion in Triangle water, wastewater and stormwater system needs by 2030.
- Wake County alone has estimated its primary infrastructure needs (roads, wa-

ter & sewer, schools, community college, parks & open space and criminal justice facilities) over the next 25 years at \$26 billion; current funding plans and the county's baseline borrowing capacity can fund \$15 billion of this amount.

Responsibility for funding and providing infrastructure is fragmented: each school system seeks funding independently, there are two regional transportation planning organizations plus a regional transit authority plus the NCDOT plus a regional council of governments; despite years of effort, communities have been unsuccessful in attempts to diversify revenue sources to provide the schools, transportation facilities, parks and greenways and other infrastructure their citizens want and a successful region requires.

It is time for the region's leaders to come together to develop new, effective strategies to address our burgeoning development and infrastructure challenges.

# **Partnership Results**

The strength of the partnership will be its ability to draw on the experience, knowledge and creativity of the partners to develop and guide responses to the Triangle's development and infrastructure challenges. Here are six examples of specific activities on which the partners could focus. But step #1 will be to engage the partners in what *they* think are the most valuable uses of the partnership's time, talents and resources.

# **Neutral Ground**

Provide a clear way for partners to raise concerns about development and infrastructure issues or projects that affect more than one institution, whether a community, university, state agency, regional organization, etc. Design a process to share information about the issue or project and to communicate concerns. If warranted, provide guidance to interested partners on how they can work together to resolve an issue.

How it might work: Model the program on Developments of Regional Impact programs used elsewhere.

Related TJCOG current or prior examples: CORE Communities Work Group. Eno Drive Alternatives Facilitation.

## **Triangle Infrastructure Finance Center**

Develop and maintain an information resource on costs and financing mechanisms for all types of major infrastructure. Establish relationships with related organizations like the Environmental Finance Center at the School of Government

How it might work: Establish a structured process to track infrastructure projects in the region, the sources and uses of their funds, and the mechanisms used to finance them. Collect and synthesize information on infrastructure finance and conduct panels on finance topics of interest.

Related TJCOG current or prior examples: Annual Triangle water, sewer and stormwater rate and fee survey.

## **Regional Clearinghouse & Decision-support Metrics**

Provide a user-friendly, one stop shop for independent information, standards and benchmarks on complex and controversial regional development and infrastructure issues.

How it might work: Work with the partners to identify the most critical information needs, then use existing research, peer reviews and regional data sources to address selected topics each year.

Related TJCOG current or prior examples: Smart Growth Committee Issue Summary and Presentations web site. Planning Directors' Land Use & Development Standards to Support Transit.

### **Infrastructure Blueprint**

Develop, publish and continually update an inventory of existing and planned public infrastructure investments that delineates not only where and when planned investments will be made, but helps communities understand their role in the regional picture and provides critical information for private firms considering investment in the region.

How it might work: Work with the partners to develop the overall framework for the blueprint based on examples from other regions, then build it element by element.

Related TJCOG current or prior examples: Triangle Green-Print. Transit Infrastructure Blueprint Technical Analysis.

## **Key Opportunities**

Identify and develop or support plans for key opportunities in the region: areas or issues of critical regional importance or shared responsibility.

How it might work: Work with the partners to develop a process to identify key regional-scale opportunities, and techniques to either develop plans for these opportunities or to support others in doing so.

Related TJCOG current or prior examples: CORE Commu nities Workshop Report.

### **Joint Project Planning**

Provide guidance and tools for institutions to use in working together on potential projects of mutual benefit, including the joint siting or use of infrastructure (e.g. combining a city park with a county library and a school).

How it might work: Develop a central repository of examples within the region and nationwide, administrative mechanisms that have been developed, and processes used for the early identification of candidate projects.

Related TJCOG current or prior examples: Durham City-County-Public Schools Joint Capital Improvements Project.

#### TRIANGLE J COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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# Existing programs to be included in the Partnership for Development & Infrastructure

- Joint Land Use-Transportation-Air Quality Program
- Center Of the Region Enterprise (CORE)
- Smart Growth Committee
- Triangle Area Rural Transportation Planning Organization (TARPO)
- Triangle Data Center
- Community Participation and Assistance Program



# TRIANGLE J COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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December 1, 2006

As community leaders in the Triangle Region, we are convinced that the time is ripe to bring together the leadership, knowledge and resources we are so fortunate to have in our region to address the complex development and infrastructure issues that will influence our future economic success and quality of life.

As we prepare to welcome another 1 million residents over the next generation, it falls to us to create and preserve the neighborhoods, safeguard the natural resources and provide the schools, transportation systems and parks on which a successful region depends.

Each of us, as individuals, as members of communities and as leaders within organizations, will be greatly affected by the development and infrastructure challenges we face, and by the responses we choose to make in the face of these challenges.

Please join with us in a focused, cooperative partnership to ensure that our choices are well-informed, broadly-considered and future-oriented.

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Marla Dorrel Cary Town Council Chair, Triangle J Council of Governments

Thomas Central

Thomas Crowder Raleigh City Council 2nd Vice Chair, Triangle J COG

Barry Jacobs Orange County Commission 1st Vice Chair, Triangle J COG

Mile Chose

Mike Cross Chatham County Commission Secretary/Treasurer, Triangle J COG

### Triangle Development, Conservation and Mobility Principles — 2000

As a result of the Regional Development Choices Project, the Triangle J Council of Governments, Greater Triangle Regional Council and Triangle Smart Growth Coalition—a group of business, civic and environmental representatives all endorsed the following principles. They can serve as a framework for the Partnership.

### SMART PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT

Define lands that are appropriate for development, as well as environmentally sensitive, historic, natural or recreational lands that need protection. Pursue policies and strategies that are both equitable and consistent with these designations.

### WALKABLE COMMUNITIES

Design neighborhoods and communities to foster walkability, safety and a sense of place.

### AFFORDABLE LIVING

Ensure the costs associated with living in the region are affordable for all.

### GREEN SPACE

Preserve more natural areas and open space, and provide for their local and regional interconnection.

### INTEGRATED TRANSPORTATION

Create a seamless, regional, multimodal transportation system which links residential, employment, commercial and recreational areas.

ENHANCED CIVIC REALM The civic realm should be viewed as a legacy to future generations.

### MIXED-USE ACTIVITY CENTERS

Promote different, mixed-use centers of various scales for each city, town and crossroads in the Triangle to serve as centers of civic, social, educational, cultural and economic life, and as transportation hubs.

### SHARED BENEFITS

Share the region's resources to improve the quality of life for all citizens.