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Regional Leadership in Smart Growth and Sustainability: Lessons from Across the County

9th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth

February 4, 2010

Workshop Speakers

- **Naomi Friedman**, National Association of Regional Councils, Moderator
- **David Robertson**, Executive Director, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
- **Karin Morris**, Manager, Office of Smart Growth, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
- **Norman A. Abbott**, Director, Growth Management Planning, Puget Sound Regional Council
- **Michael Hubner**, Buildable Lands and Land Use Manager, Suburban Cities Association of King County, WA.
- **Questions/Comments/Discussion**

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About NARC

- Represents multi-jurisdictional planning organizations
- A national voice for regionalism
- Advocates for regional cooperation – as the most effective way to solve many of our environmental, community and economic development and public safety issues.
- Provides technical assistance to members through research on key national policy issues and local best practices (e.g. Federal Livability Agenda)
- Conducts training sessions, conferences, workshops, webinars and seminars

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Regional Councils

- COGs, MPOs, RPCs, EDDs – over 500 RCs
- Regional planning relatively new – over 80% of RCs formed since 1966
- Voluntary, nonprofit associations dedicated to serving local governments; some statutory responsibilities (e.g. transportation planning)
- Different sizes, program areas, services
- Dominant economic, environment, and social force
- Economies of scale, collective problem solving, market penetration
- In 1997, average region 438,000 people and covered almost 600 miles; over 5 counties and 50 municipalities

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Regions and Sustainability

- Regional councils are natural units for advancing cross-jurisdictional, cross-disciplinary solutions to development and growth challenges
- A increasing number of regions are embarking on such efforts

Wasatch Front Regional Council

SANDAG

ARC

DRCOG
Denver Regional Council of Governments

SPC
Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission

Boston MAPC
Metropolitan Area Planning Council

CMAP
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
www.cmap.illinois.gov

Three Major Metro Regions

- Washington DC region (MWCOG) – *GW2050*
  - 3 states, COG/MPO, 21 jurisdictions – county-based planning
- Philadelphia (DVRPC) - *Connections*
  - 2 states, MPO, 353 municipalities/local planning power
- Greater Seattle (PSRC) – *Vision 2040*
  - 1 state, COG/MPO, 4 counties and 80 cities

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Questions?

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- Please visit www.narc.org

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