South Central Connecticut Region Plan of Conservation & Development 2018 Update

Economic Development, TOD, Smart Growth, Transportation, and Arts, Cultural Historical Resources Focus Group
Introductions
Purpose of Today’s Meeting

- Supplement data analysis with qualitative understanding of regional trends in Economic Development, TOD, Smart Growth, Transportation, and Arts, Culture Historical Resources
- Get your assistance in identifying issues and concerns
- Inform the Regional POCD Update process
  - Build consensus around a vision for the region, and corresponding goals and objectives for its physical and economic future
  - Recommend actions for SCRCOG to undertake over the coming decade to advance towards the region’s vision
A Diverse Economy

- No one industry dominates
- New Haven ranked as 2\textsuperscript{nd} largest bioscience region in New England
- Higher education remains significant employment industry and has responded well to regional workforce development needs, creating new programs (Bioscience, Web Development, Utility Management)
- Hospitality and leisure, and advanced manufacturing each account for 14\% of jobs in the region

Source: 2016 South Central Connecticut Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Update
Industries

Industries providing economic base and targeted for economic development activities in current regional CEDS (2013-18)

- Healthcare
- Higher Education
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Advanced Materials
- Biomedical/ Life Sciences
- Arts, Entertainment and Tourism
- Business and Financial Services
- Agribusiness/ Agri-Bioscience
- Green Technology
Employment Trends

- Employment figures continue to recover from the 2010 low of 345,525 total jobs.
- As of 2014, there were 359,106 in the area – close to 2004-2005 levels.
- Biomedical/Life sciences, and Education and Knowledge Creation clusters showed employment growth from 2006-2010.
- Top five employment sectors in the region have average wages above the national average.

Source: South Central CT CEDS 2013-18
Arts & Cultural / Historic Resources

- Significant contributors to growing tourism industry
- Historic preservation helps to create jobs - rehab in CT estimated to be about 20% more labor intensive than construction
- Quality of life

Historic Preservation Grants Distribution, 2000 to 2010


Source: The Economic Impact of Travel in CT for Calendar Year 2015, Tourism Economics
Economic Development

Goals from Current CEDS

- Regional marketing and communication
- Infrastructure
- Business development and retention
- Workforce enhancement and housing
- Real estate, and use and sustainability
- Implementation

Source: South Central CT CEDS 2013-18
Transportation

Goals of Current Long Range Plan

- Increase accessibility and mobility - across modes
- Enhance modal integration - connect highway, transit, pedestrian modes for movement of people; connect water, rail highway modes for movement of freight
- Support economic vitality - transportation decisions consistent with regional, local land use and economic development plans
- System preservation - working with public and private service providers, federal, state and local support - minimize negative impacts to existing services
- Promote system efficiencies - use limited available resources to highest potential
- Protect the environment
- Performance-based management and planning
Opportunities in station areas within the region are largely redevelopment and infill.

Some station areas are limited by infrastructure in being able to provide the density typically associated with TOD.

Regional market conditions and limited transit connectivity present challenges to TOD.

The SCRCOG TOD study recommends:

- Driving employment into TOD areas
- Increasing and enhancing connectivity to other transit or transportation
- Providing needed infrastructure, and
- Directing economic development activities to station areas

### Table: Annual Ridership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Annual Ridership</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Metro North New Haven Line</td>
<td>40 million (typical)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shore Line East</td>
<td>0.5-0.6 million (typical range)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartford Line</td>
<td>1.0-1.26 million (projected)</td>
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</tbody>
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Source: TOD Opportunities for the South Central Region, 2015
Discussion

- Do any recent trends surprise you? If so, how? Why?
- What trends has your community or agency noticed in the last several years? What concerns or issues do these trends raise? How are you trying to address them?
- How can regional land use planning better achieve regional economic and transportation goals/ objectives?
POCD Update Process

Project Initiation & Coordination
- Finalize Scope
- SCRCOG Data and Mapping Review
- Coordinate on process

Review of Plans & Data
- Review Existing Regional Plan and Updated Data
- Identify Common Goals
- Develop Updated Land-Use Map
- Regional Planning Commission Meeting

Community Involvement
- Online Survey
- Focus Groups
- Other Multi-Faceted Outreach Methods

Vision & Objectives
- Survey & Outreach Analyses
- Regional Planning Commission Meetings to Strategize
- Meetings to result in Identified roadmap forward

Draft Plan
- Public Workshop / Public Hearing
  - Late Oct.
- Regional Planning Commission Meeting
  - Early Jan.
- SCRCOG Board Meeting
  - Mid-Jan.

Printing
- (Statutory Review Period) Jan.-March 2018
- Public Workshop / Public Hearing
  - Early April 2018

Timeline:
- Late March
- Early May
- April-July
- August-September
- September-January
- January-April
Thank you!

If you have additional information or comments you or your organization want to share, please get in touch with:

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