

South Central Connecticut Region Plan of Conservation & Development 2018 Update

Municipal Planners

July 28th, 2017

Introductions



Purpose of Today's Meeting

- Supplement data analysis with qualitative understanding of regional trends
- 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

Existing Plan Review

Goals

Land Use

- Focus development in existing corridors and centers while conserving open space

Housing

- Promote affordable housing and diverse housing choices for all incomes and age groups

Transportation

- Preserve and enhance transportation modes/connections
- Increase transportation funding
- Regional solutions to access/congestion issues
- Link transportation with land use
- Address aging infrastructure

Transit-Oriented Development/Smart Growth

- Guide density to areas with adequate infrastructure; protect environmentally sensitive land, and encourage clustering in moderate-to-low density areas



Existing Plan Review

Goals

Economic Development

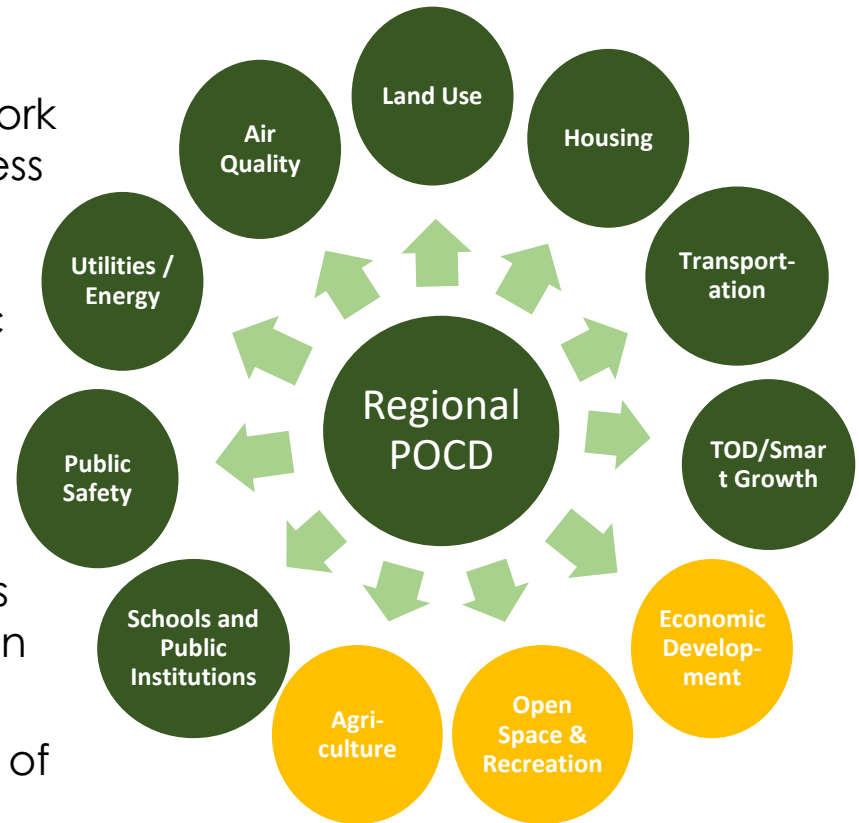
- Regional marketing and communication strategy
- Develop and maintain transportation network
- Capitalizing on regional strengths for business development
- Workforce housing
- Integrate land use planning with economic development

Open Space and Recreation

- Fully diversify public open space and recreation
- Create connections between open spaces
- Promote regional critical habitats protection

Agriculture

- Preserve farms through acquisition, transfer of development rights
- Develop historic preservation and marketing strategies that promote farms through awareness and agri-tourism



Existing Plan Review

Goals

Schools and Public Institutions

- Maintain attractive and inclusive education systems and cultural institutions

Public Safety

- Regional collaboration to respond to public safety issues and natural hazards

Utilities / Energy

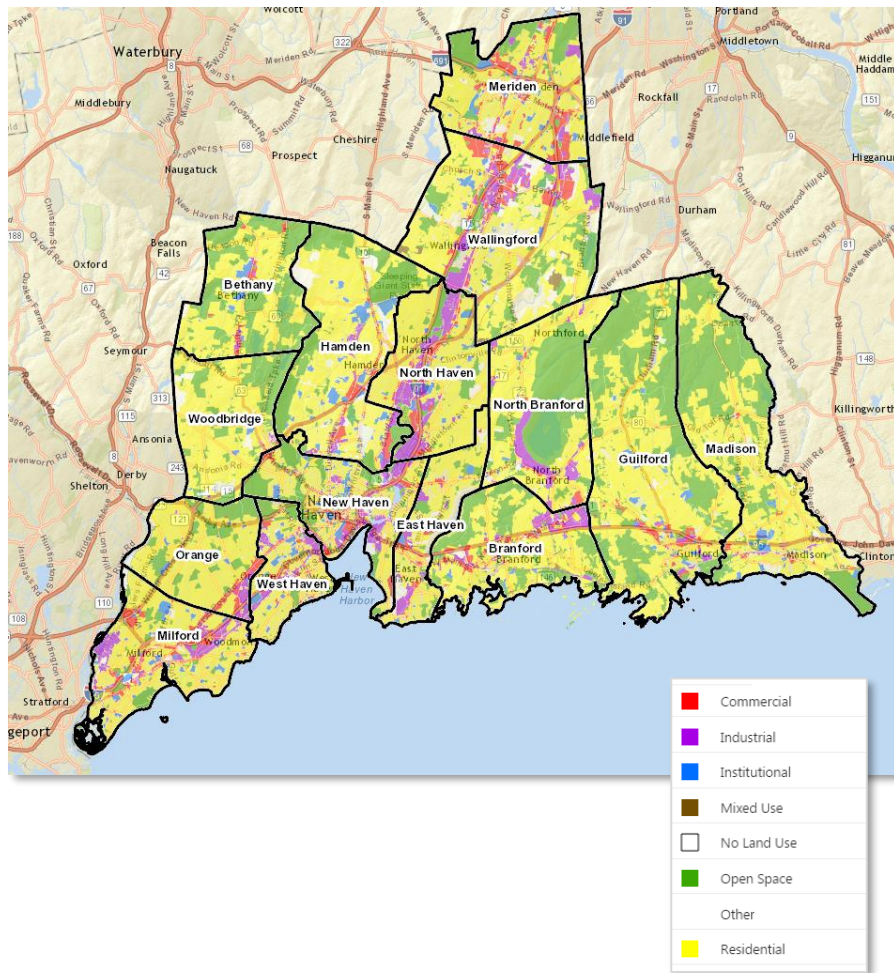
- To reduce infrastructure costs focus on infill, corridor and brownfield development
- Limit development in upland remote locations
- Reduce energy consumption

Air Quality / Long Island Sound

- Reduce region's greenhouse gases
- Protect and restore Long Island Sound and its watersheds



Local POCD Review



Town	Effective Date
Bethany	10/30/2010
Branford	12/15/2008
East Haven	09/05/2007
Guilford	07/15/2015
Hamden	01/28/2015
Madison	11/9/2013
Meriden	03/14/2009
Milford	12/01/2012
New Haven	09/01/2015
North Branford	12/21/2019
North Haven	09/1/2017
Orange	06/27/2015
Wallingford	06/13/2016
West Haven	07/12/2017
Woodbridge	05/01/2015

POCD Vision Statements/Priorities

Bethany Preserve open space/rural character, encourage development that minimizes impact on environment

Branford Protect the physical environment and manage growth to preserve town's heritage and character

East Haven Recognize town as a shoreline community and design development accordingly. Promote diverse housing choices while protecting open space

Guilford Promote multi-modal transportation network. Support higher density development. Encourage affordable housing

Hamden Preserve community character, foster inclusive neighborhoods, encourage infill development

Madison Guide the conservation and development of Madison to maintain and enhance its character and quality of life and help create a sustainable and resilient community

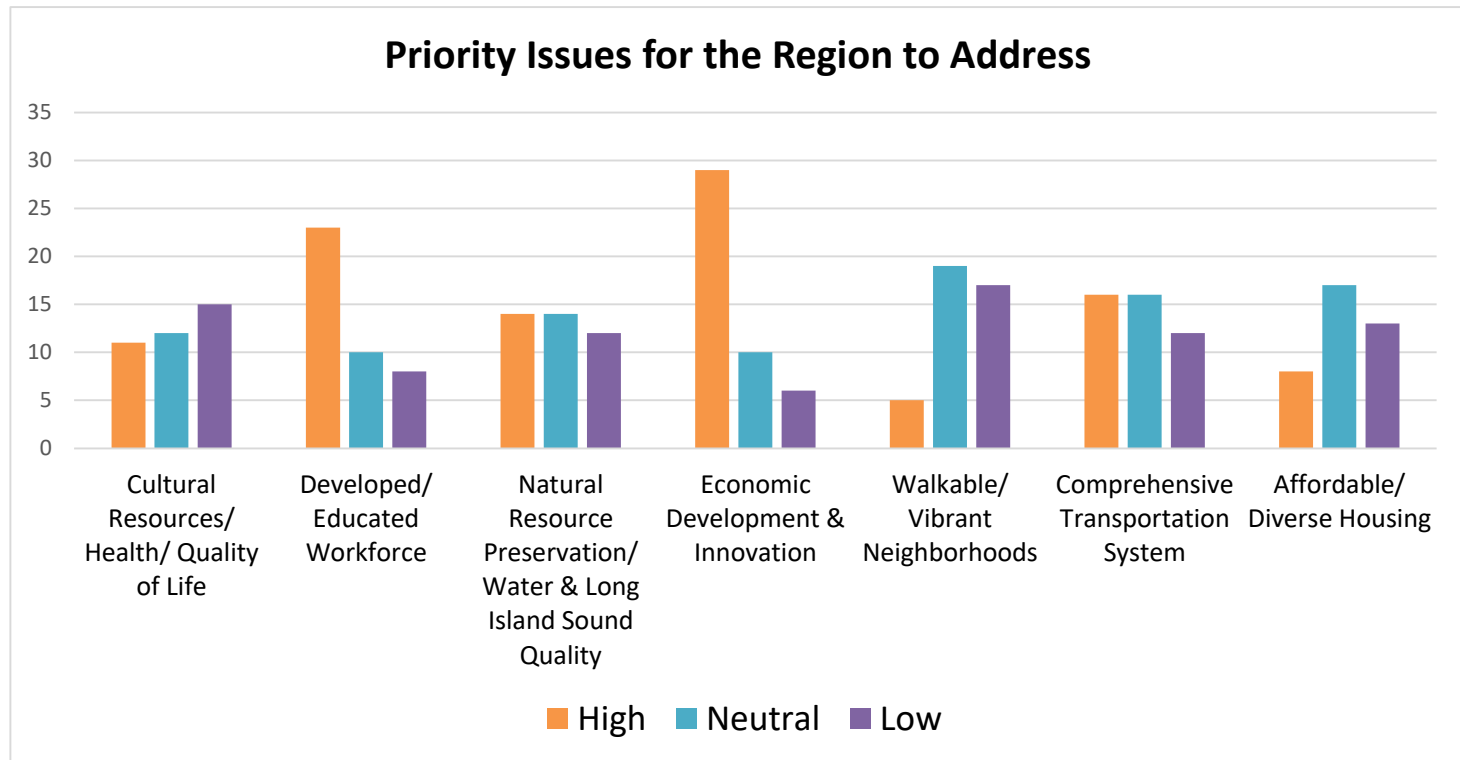
Meriden Be a dynamic regional commercial and service hub, capitalizing on city's central location. Conservation and development should be balanced by land conservation, and neighborhood/business development

POCD Vision Statements/Priorities

Milford	Preserve open space, promote commercial corridors and infrastructure improvements including transportation networks. Encourage TOD and plan for climate change
New Haven	Encourage affordable and diverse housing, connect community through a multi-modal transportation network, adapt to climate change and sea level rise
North Branford	Encourage development in line with market trends. Protect natural resources/open space. Improve transportation network
North Haven	Enhance access to open space, promote affordable housing. Work regionally to share resources, promote sustainable development around transportation networks
Orange	Protect community character, promote conservation through design, encourage well-planned development
Wallingford	Promote town center development, transportation connections and protect community character
West Haven	Shape the city into a more vibrant, connected and livable community for residents of all ages. Foster an environment that is attractive to businesses and residents alike
Woodbridge	Focus developments in town nodes, include affordable housing. Promote corridor improvement, build on previous successful development patterns

Municipal Survey Highlights

89 responses (majority of respondents were elected or appointed officials)



Municipal Survey Highlights

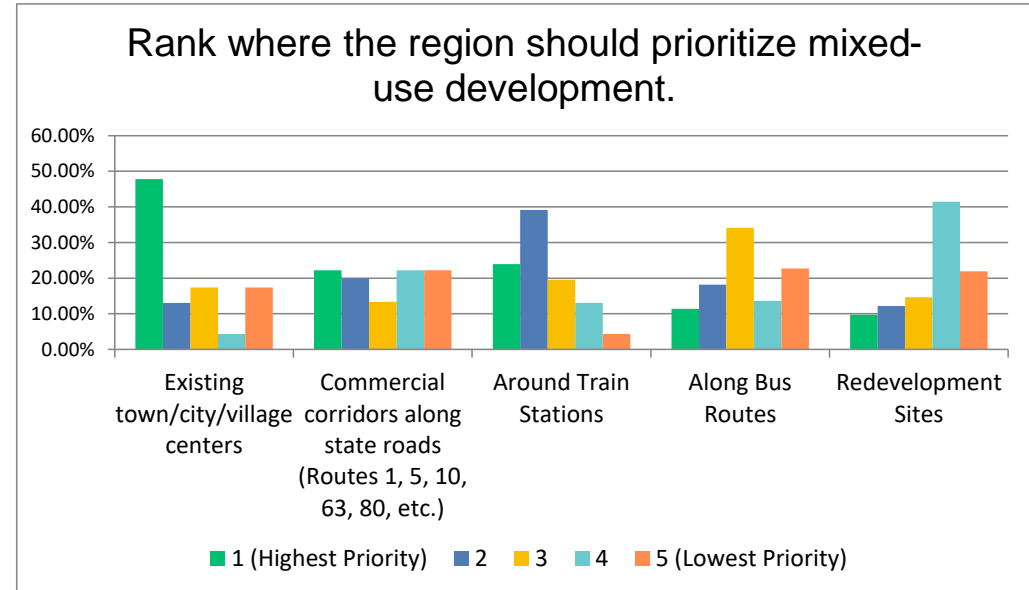
What one thing would enhance the quality of life for most residents of the community you represent regardless of cost?

- Diverse and affordable housing
- Reinvest in downtowns, big and small
- Access to and improvements to existing public transit network
- Economic development



Municipal Survey Highlights

- Existing Town Centers, train station areas and bus route corridors prioritized for mixed-use development
- Infrastructure projects and grant-writing as regional strategies for supporting TOD and/or mixed-use development in the region



What is the best strategy for the region to support TOD or mixed-use projects in your community?	
Infrastructure projects	35.19%
Development planning assistance	16.67%
Model zoning regulations	11.11%
Grant writing for financing opportunities	24.07%
Not interested in regional assistance	3.70%
Other	9.26%

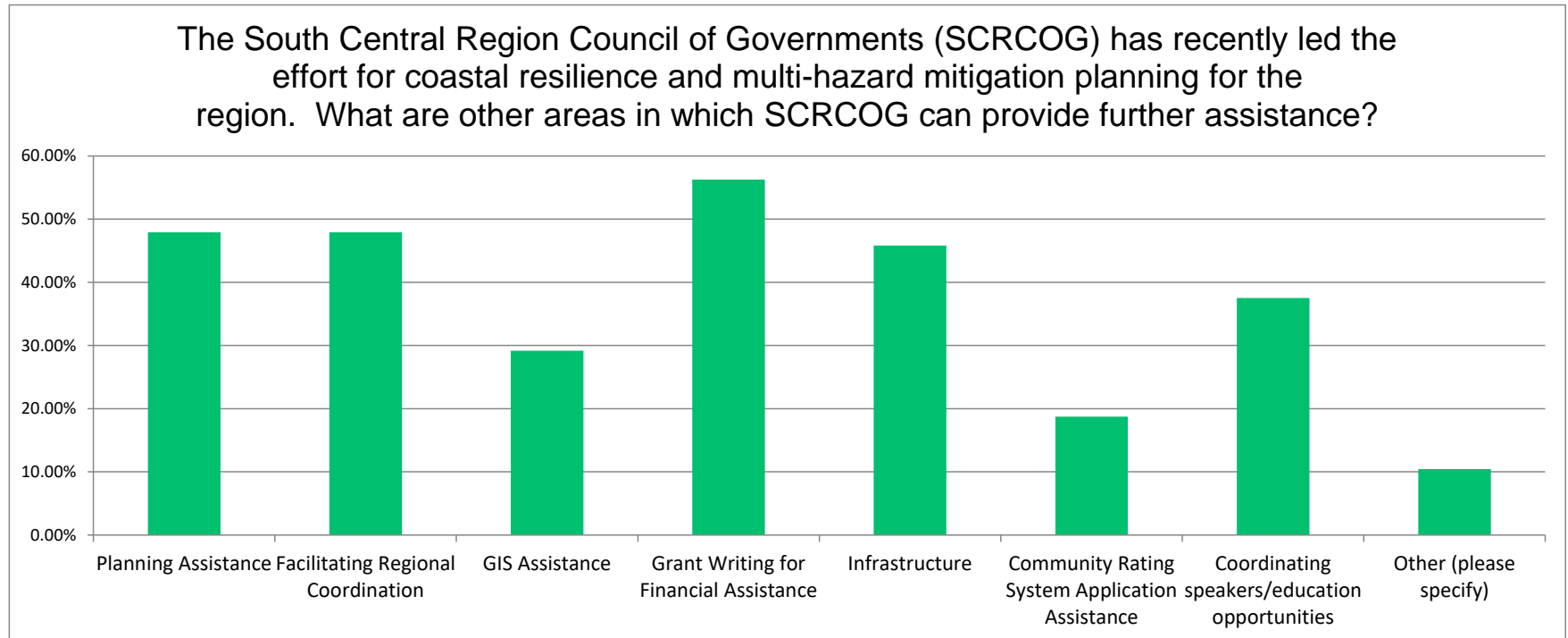
Municipal Survey Highlights

- Affordable housing ranked 5th as a regional priority
- However, the majority of respondents indicated that there are inadequate housing choices near job and transportation centers, and for seniors

	Yes	No	Unsure
Does the region provide affordable home purchase choices?	57%	33%	10%
Does the region provide adequate rental options?	41%	43%	16%
Does the region provide housing choices that attract workers of all ages?	35%	49%	16%
Does the region provide adequate housing options for aging seniors?	29%	59%	12%
Does the region provide adequate housing choices near job and transportation centers?	18%	61%	22%

Municipal Survey Highlights

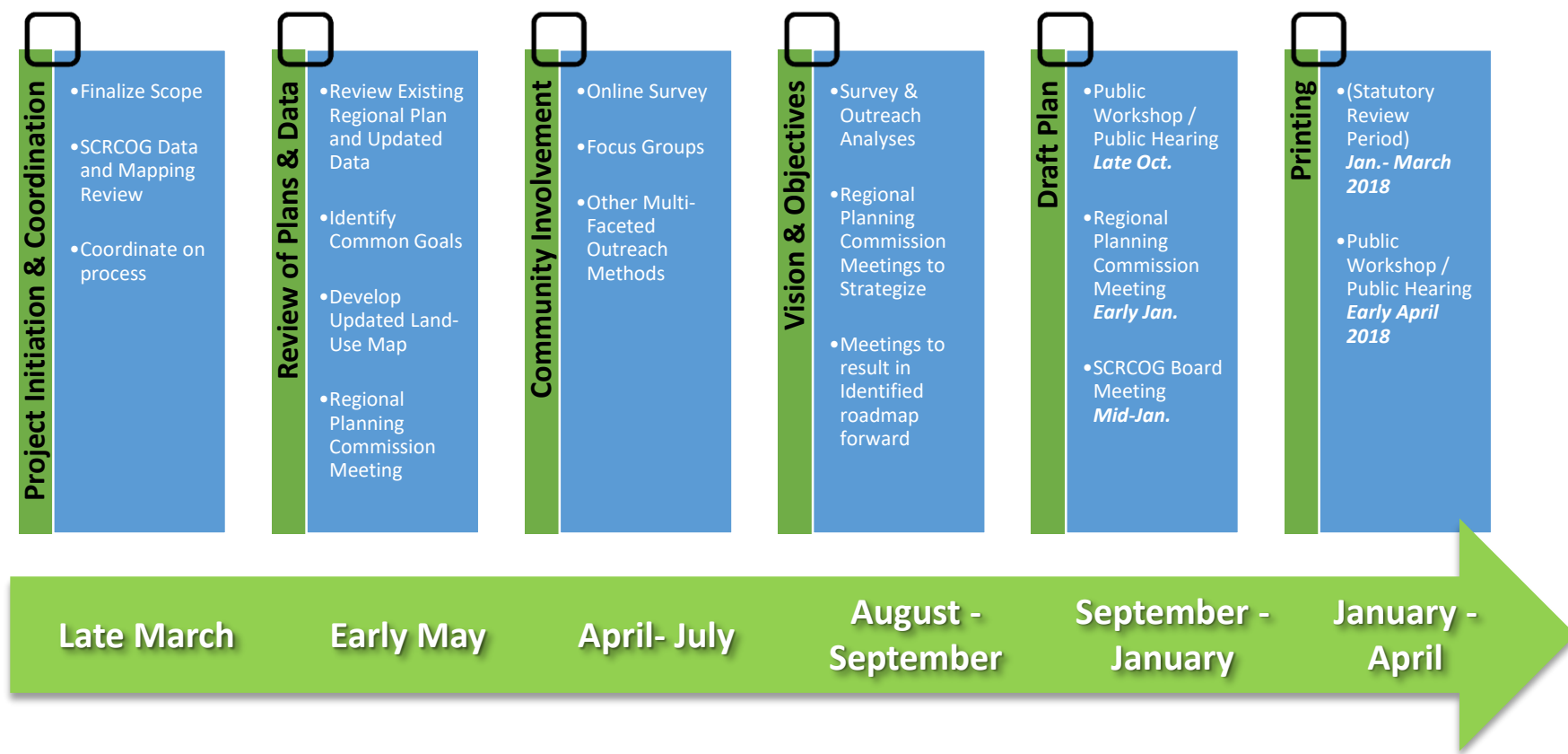
- New emphasis on sea level rise and coastal resilience
- Green infrastructure to provide coastal resilience for shore line communities have been identified and are currently being studied
- SCRCOG is partnering with the Water Authority to study the effects of climate change on public drinking water in the region



Discussion

- REX currently working on CEDS update, what role can SCRCOG play in linking economic development with land use, housing, and transportation policies and initiatives?
- What goals and objectives do you think are appropriate **for the region** regarding affordable and diverse housing?
- On the conservation side, what goals and objectives do you think are appropriate **for the region**?
- Are there issues you think require more municipal collaboration that you think the SCRCOG could help facilitate?

POCD Update Process



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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