

Prosperous, Healthy, Vibrant Rural Regions and Communities



Kathy Nothstine
August 16, 2012
ARC Workshop (California, PA)



About NADO

- National association for 500+ regional planning and development organizations
- Develop training and resources to support regional development organizations, strengthen local governments and communities, and foster quality economic development

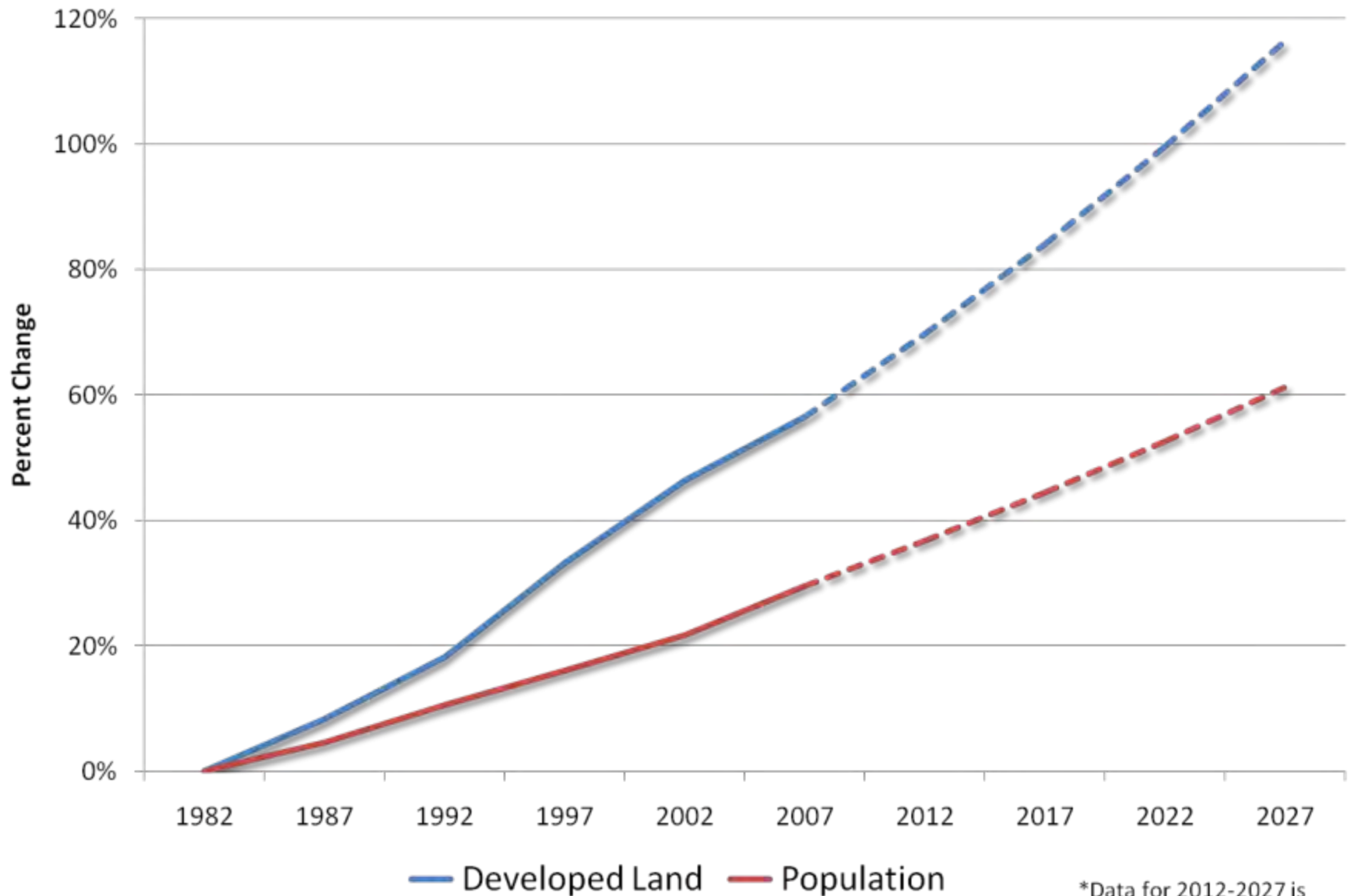


Developed land in the U.S. quadrupled between 1945 – 2007, twice the rate of population growth over this time.

(source: USDA Economic Research Service, 2007)

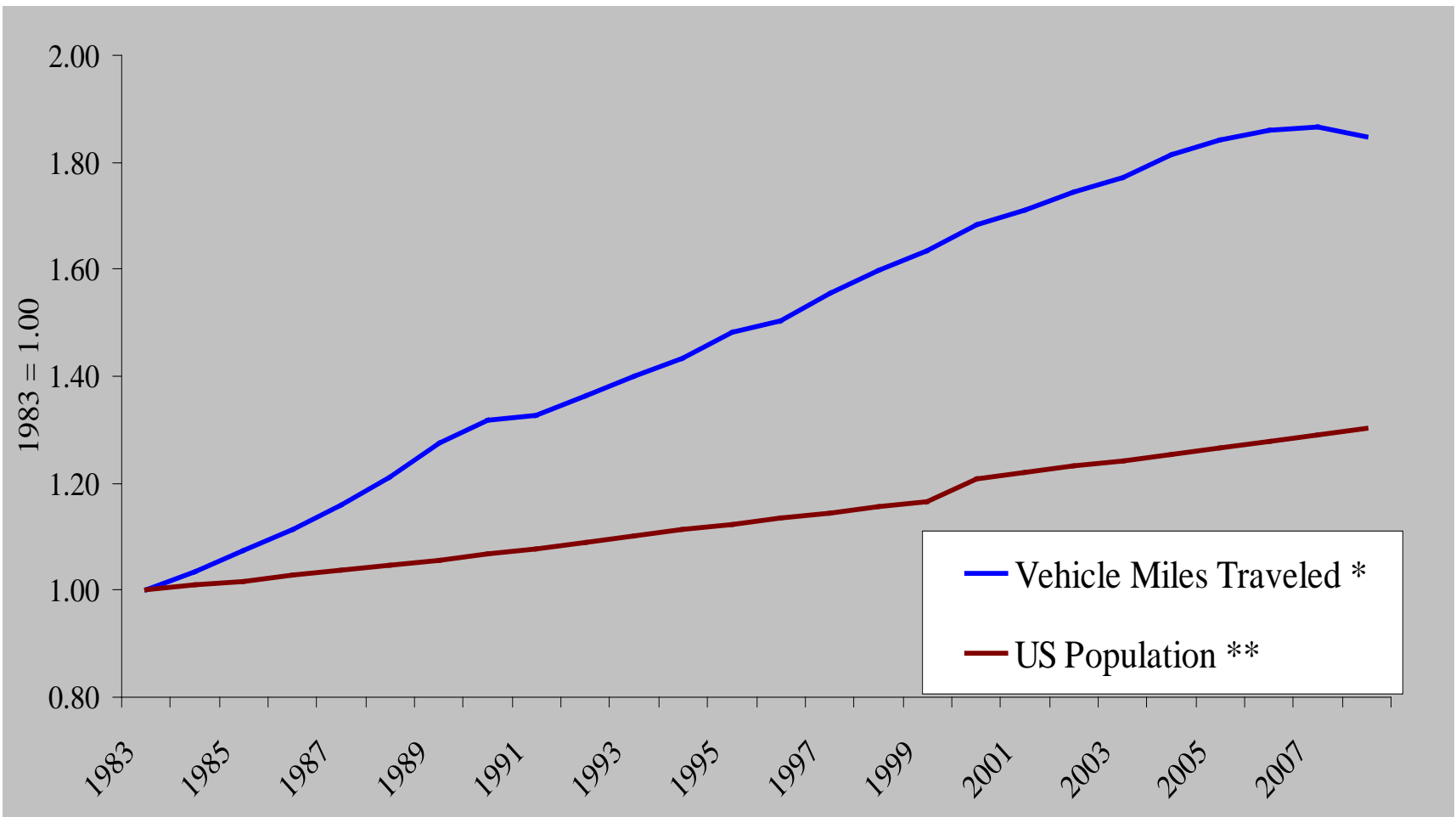


National Population and Land Use Trends



*Data for 2012-2027 is extrapolated.

Transportation Patterns



* Source – US DOT, Traffic Volume Trends, (12 Month Moving Average, April 1983 to April 2008)

** Source – US Census Bureau, Annual Population Estimates

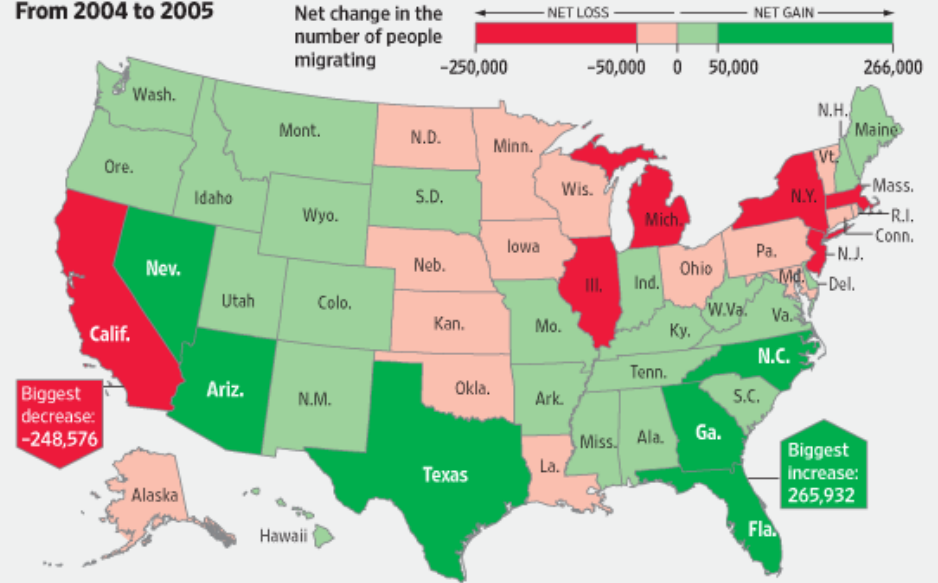
Mobile Population

Staying Put

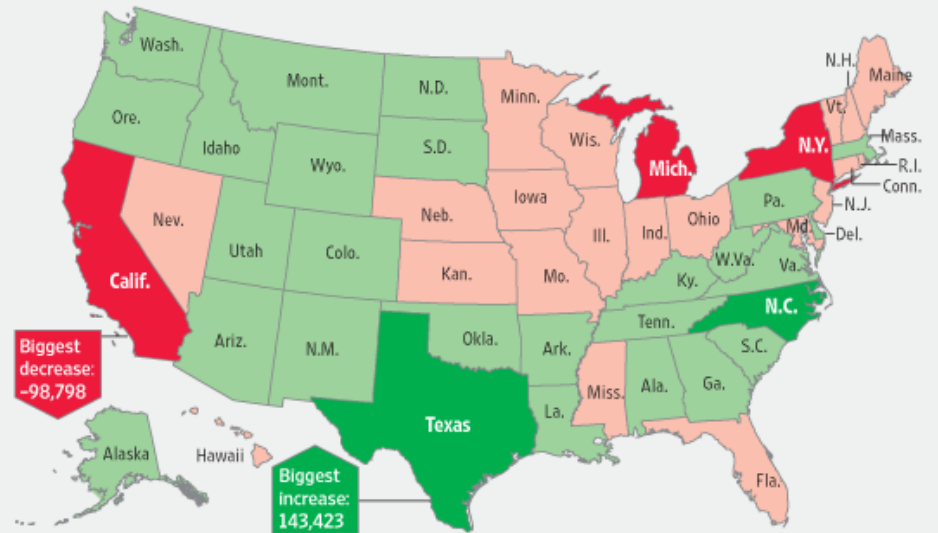
The recession has slowed the exodus of people from the Midwest and Northeast to the Sunbelt and the West

From 2004 to 2005

Net change in the number of people migrating .



2008 to 2009



Source: William H. Frey analysis of Census Bureau data

Rural Economic Trends



Terminology?

SIX LIVABILITY PRINCIPLES

Provide more transportation choices.

Develop safe, reliable, and economical transportation choices to decrease household transportation costs, reduce our nation's dependence on foreign oil, improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and promote public health.

Promote equitable, affordable housing.

Expand location- and energy-efficient housing choices for people of all ages, incomes, races, and ethnicities to increase mobility and lower the combined cost of housing and transportation.

Enhance economic competitiveness.

Improve economic competitiveness through reliable and timely access to employment centers, educational opportunities, services and other basic needs by workers, as well as expanded business access to markets.

Support existing communities.

Target federal funding toward existing communities—through strategies like transit-oriented, mixed-use development and land recycling—to increase community revitalization and the efficiency of public works investments and safeguard rural landscapes.

Coordinate and leverage federal policies and investment.

Align federal policies and funding to remove barriers to collaboration, leverage funding, and increase the accountability and effectiveness of all levels of government to plan for future growth, including making smart energy choices such as locally generated renewable energy.

Value communities and neighborhoods.

Enhance the unique characteristics of all communities by investing in healthy, safe, and walkable neighborhoods—rural, urban, or suburban.

vibrant



resilient

Definitions?

Livability means being able to take your kids to school, go to work, see a doctor, drop by the grocery or post office, go out to dinner and a movie, and play with your kids at the park, all without having to get into your car. Livability means building the communities that help Americans live the lives they want to live—whether those communities are urban centers, small towns, or rural areas.

—Secretary Ray LaHood
U.S. DOT

Who Says What's Livable?

Denver, Washington, D.C. | 06/09/2010 9:43am | 6

VINCENT VALK



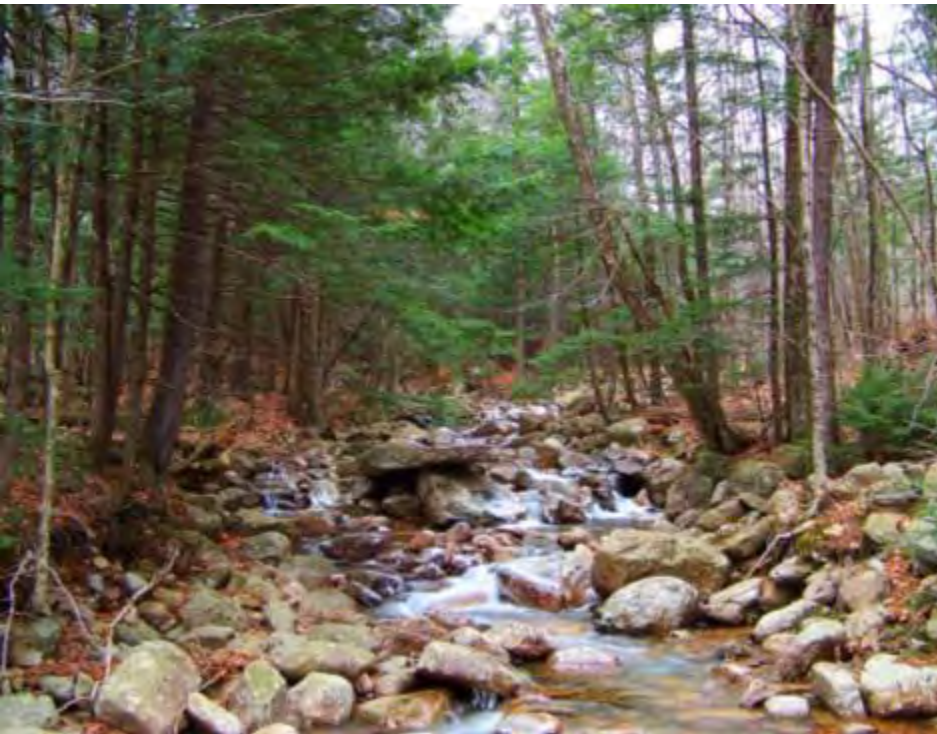
Is this livability? [pugetsoundphotowalks](#)

How do we
know when we
get there?



There is no one destination!

Every community's needs and solutions will look different.



Creating stronger, more resilient, more dynamic regions and communities



1. Building on Assets



Mobilize Northern Maine

Goal: To evaluate assets and create and retain wealth



www.nmdc.org/Development/mobilize_maine

2. Growing Economic Competitiveness



East Central Iowa

Goal: To redevelop underutilized land and create space for new businesses.



3. Enhancing Quality of Life



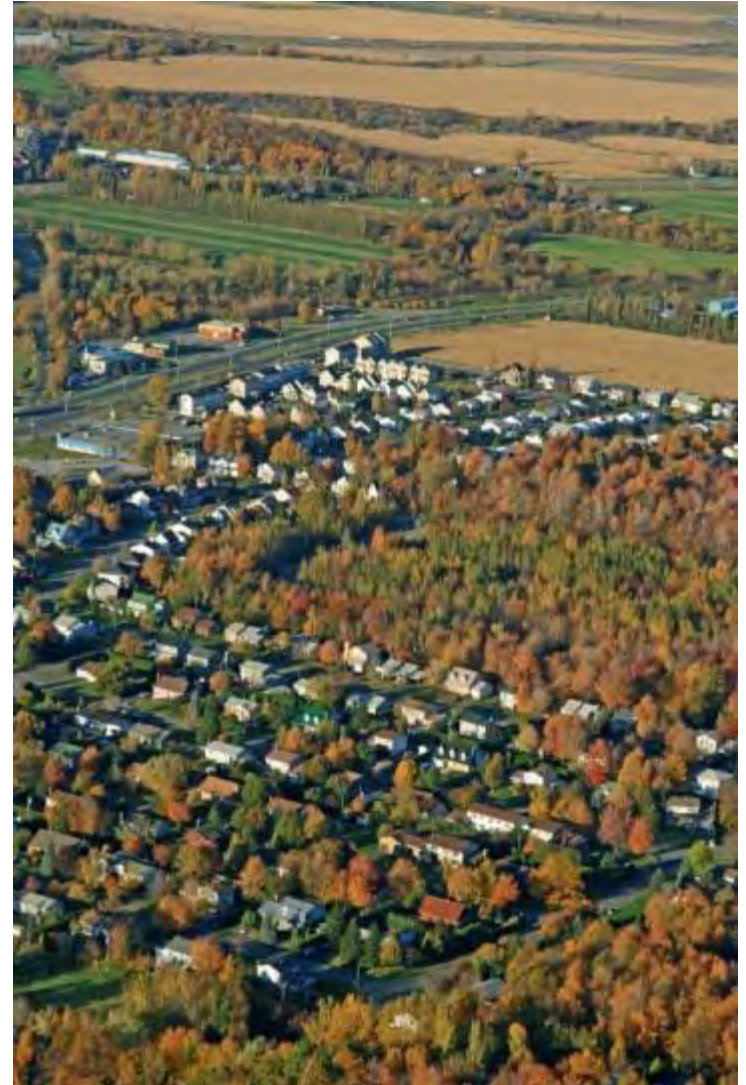
Lewistown, Pennsylvania

Goal: To revitalize downtown by refocusing investments



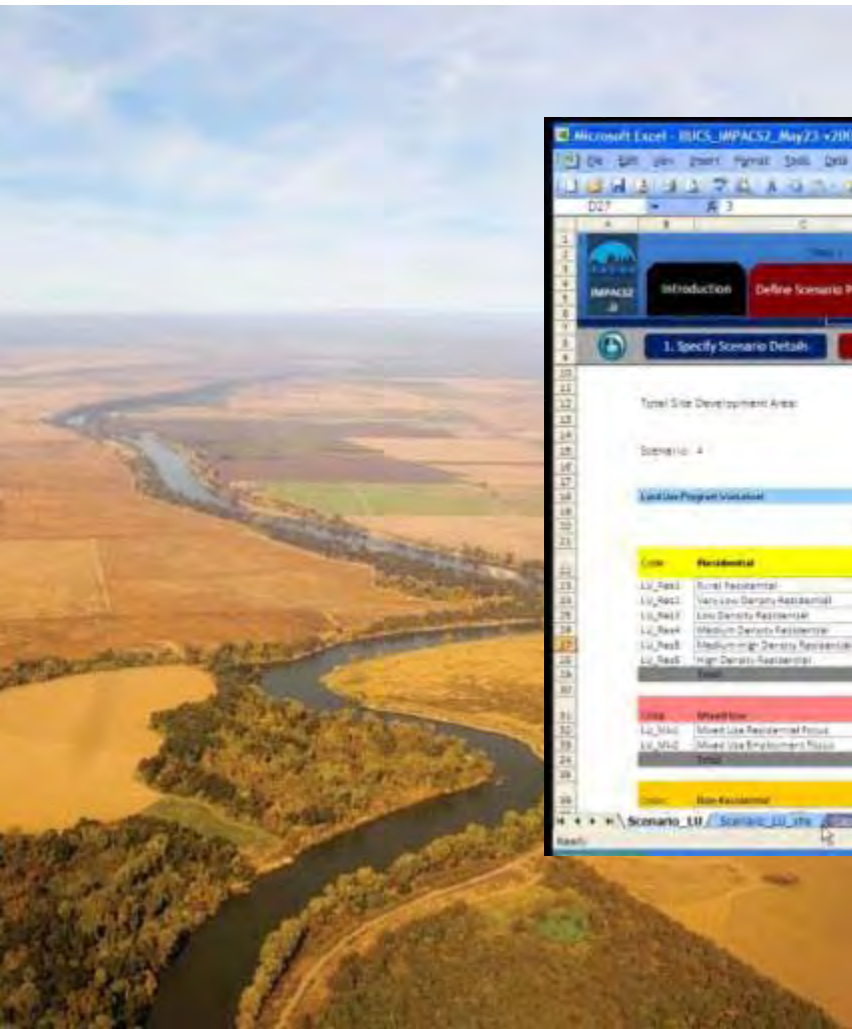
<http://www.downtownlewistown.com/>

4. Creating Efficiencies



Rural-Urban Connections Strategy in Sacramento

Goal: To look at region's growth and sustainability objectives from a rural perspective



<http://www.sacog.org/rucs/>

5. Empowering Communities to Decide Their Futures



Mountain Landscapes Initiative (Western NC)

Goal: To create guidelines for responsible growth



www.mountainlandscapesnc.org

Resources



www.sustainablecommunities.gov

Partnership Grants, Assistance & Programs

- [Open Grants and Technical Assistance Opportunities](#)
- [On-Going Federal Programs](#)

The Partnership agencies periodically offer funding opportunities. When these grants are offered, they will be announced here and on www.grants.gov. In addition, each agency maintains websites to track their own grant announcements. The grants announced on these sites will also be on www.grants.gov.

- **HUD** offers funding opportunities to help communities realize their own visions for building more livable, walkable, and environmentally sustainable regions.
- **DOT** offers funding opportunities to support more livable walkable communities.
- **EPA** offers grants to support activities that improve the quality of development and protect human health and the environment.

In addition, EPA maintains a listing of additional funding sources to build sustainable communities. [A guide to federal and other national sources](#) is available, as well as [a guide to regional, state, and local funding opportunities](#).

On-Going Federal Programs

The Partnership agencies manage a variety of [on-going programs](#) (PDF 16p 1.39MB) that provide funding and technical assistance to support communities creating vibrant, healthy neighborhoods that provide more housing options, economic opportunities, and efficient transportation while reinforcing existing investments. These funding and technical assistance programs, such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program can provide another means of federal resources for states, regions, and local governments.

The Partnership agencies and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) also provide programs targeted to rural communities. These programs are available to promote economic competitiveness, protect healthy environments, and enhance quality of life. The [Federal Resources for Sustainable Rural Communities guide](#) (PDF 44p 6.5MB) provides key information on funding and technical assistance opportunities available from the four agencies, as well as examples of how rural communities across the

Resources

Kathy Nothstine knothstine@nado.org

www.NADO.org

<http://www.nado.org/tag/vibrant-rural-communities/>

