Washington D.C. and Cities of the Future

UH Sea Grant - Smart Growth in Hawai‘i Conference
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Harriet Tregoning, Director
Identity in Our Cities
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• The International City
Identity in Our Cities

• The Cultural City
Identity in Our Cities

- Entrepreneurial City
Identity in Our Cities

- The Green City
Washington, DC is growing

2010 Census pop: 601,723
July 2011: 617,996

And our demographics...look like the rest of the US... in 2050

- Growing diversity & smaller households
- Influx of young professionals attracted to vibrant neighborhoods
- Development of housing & amenities that suit young professionals; mixed use
future
Attributes of a Globally Competitive City/Region

Distinctive Neighborhoods and Districts
Example: Southeast / Capitol Riverfront Plan

Multiple Transportation Options, Including Transit
Example: DC Circulator and Great Streets Program

A Walkable Urbanity
Example: Proposed Eye Street, Hines development at Old Convention Center
Attributes of a Globally Competitive City/Region

Green and Sustainable Development Practices
Example: Hines LEED-certified development at Old Convention Center site

Shared Social and Economic Prosperity
Example: City Vista (under construction); 20% affordable housing at 20-80% AMI

Quality Environments and Access to Nature
Example: Proposed Canal Blocks Park, Capitol Riverfront SE
The Luxury of Choice
A Regional System
Branded bus service - *DC Circulator*

**Top 3 Trip Types:**
- Commute
- Recreational
- Shop/Dine
Expanding bicycling facilities – the last mile

- Bicycling extends access to Metro and other transit hubs
- DC has 51 miles of bike lanes, 64 miles of signed bike routes and 56 miles of trails

**Capital Bikeshare**

- Over 1,200 bicycles at 140 stations across the District & Arlington, VA
- 16,000 annual members and more than 105,000 24-hour members since its launch in 2010
- 1.5 million rides
Jobs
Quality of life
Affordability
Fiscal benefits
Real estate development
The Secret Word: Walkability
Where Pedestrians Rule:

*Beauty and Convenience*

- Compact Development
- Interesting streetscape & public realm
- Notable Historic Character
- Great destinations including shopping districts, parks and public realm
- Neighborhood convenience
Per Jim Charlier: Types of Walking

- Rambling
- Utilitarian Walking
- Strolling, Lingering
- Promenading
- Special Events
A VISION FOR A SUSTAINABLE DC
A Vision for a Sustainable DC
Where are we now?

DC is already a leader in many areas of sustainability

- 1st in purchasing *green power*
- 2nd in LEED *green building* pipeline
- 1st in *bike share* participation

*We are being measured against and are competing with major cities that have embraced green and sustainable initiatives*

Boston  
New York City  
Philadelphia
Sustainable DC Topic Areas

- Built Environment
- Waste
- Energy
- Water
- Green Economy
- Climate
- Food
- Nature
- Transportation
Sustainable DC Goals for 2032

**Jobs:** Increase by 5 times the number of jobs providing green goods and services

**Health:** Cut citywide obesity rate by 50%

**Built Environment:** Attract and retain 250,000 new and existing residents

**Climate:** Cut citywide greenhouse gas emissions by 50%

**Energy:** Cut citywide energy use by 50%; increase use of renewable energy to 50%

**Food:** Bring locally-grown food within a quarter mile of 75% of the population

**Nature:** Cover 40% of the District with a healthy tree canopy: Ensure 100% of residents are within a 10-minute walk of a natural space

**Transportation:** Make 75% of all trips by walking, biking, or transit

**Waste:** Achieve ZERO waste by consuming less and reusing everything else

**Water:** Make 100% of District waterways fishable and swimmable; use 75% of our landscape to filter or capture rainwater for reuse

**Green Economy:** Develop 3 times as many small District-based businesses; cut city-wide unemployment by 50%
Ex. How to manage stormwater: LID or tanks?
Avg Monthly H+T Costs

Avg. Monthly H+T Costs as a Percent of AMI

- <30%
- 30 to 33%
- 33 to 35%
- 35 to 40%
- 40 to 42%
- 42 to 45%
- 45 to 48%
- 48 to 55%
- 55 to 65%
- 65% +
- Insufficient Data

[Map showing different areas with varying colors indicating the percentage of H+T costs as a percent of AMI.]
H + T Index: Changing the Definition of Affordability
The Indicator Species for Great Cities
For more information

Harriet Tregoning  
Director  
District of Columbia Office of Planning  
1100 4th Street, SW, Suite E650  
Washington DC 20024  
202-442-7600  
harriet.tregoning@dc.gov  
www.planning.dc.gov  
Facebook & Twitter @OPinDC