Organized Labor = Smart Growth Pioneers (who didn’t know it...)

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New Partners for Smart Growth
February 3, 2012 ~ San Diego
Good Jobs First:
Accountable Development and
Smart Growth for Working Families

- Website, Tools @ www.goodjobsfirst.org
- Model Research and Publications
- Training and Speaking
- Technical Assistance
- Testimony, Legislative Analysis
Good Jobs First: Smart Growth for Working Families

Two messages:

- Sprawl is an a broadly anti-union phenomenon
- Economic development subsidies are pro-sprawl, anti-transit
Sprawl: Bad News for Labor

- Sprawl in Chicago & Philadelphia metros:
  - Is broadly anti-union
  - Undermines union density
  - Dilutes organized labor’s political power

- 2001 National AFL-CIO convention resolution denounces sprawl and urges affiliates to weigh in for smart growth
Chicago 2000

- Chicago Federation of Labor convenes a day-long leadership conference; more than 100 local presidents attend

- “Good Jobs, Smart Growth” curriculum by Good Jobs First maps the geography of all major bargaining units and regional job-growth trends in their industries
Hospital Closures in the Chicago Region
(1972-2000)

* Union Hospital Closure
○ Non-Union Hospital Closure
City of Chicago
County Borders
Hotels & Hotel Jobs in the Chicago Region

- McHenry: 15 Hotels, 250-499 Jobs
- Lake: 52 Hotels, 1,823 Jobs
- De Kalb: 7 Hotels, 89 Jobs
- Kane: 18 Hotels, 250-499 Jobs
- Du Page: 80 Hotels (3 Union), 5,424 Jobs
- Kendall: 1 Hotel, 0-19 Jobs
- Will: 43 Hotels, 2,191 Jobs
- Grundy: 5 Hotels, 20-99 Jobs
- Cook: 406 Hotels (41 Union), 25,493 Jobs

- Unionized Hotel
- City of Chicago
- Chicago Counties

44 Unionized Hotels in Region
(Job ranges given where data is suppressed)
Union Density in Manufacturing by County

McHenry
23,100 Jobs
2% Union Shops

Lake
75,000 Jobs
4% Union Shops

Kane
40,600 Jobs
9% Union Shops

DuPage
95,000 Jobs
5% Union Shops

Cook
414,000 Jobs
12% Union Shops

Will
11% Union Shops

Source: International Association of Machinists Analysis
Voting Record for Working Families

- 0 - 20%
- 21% - 49%
- 50% - 89%
- 90% - 100%

AFL-CIO Working Families COPE Ratings for Illinois State Senators
AFL-CIO Working Families COPE Ratings for Members, U.S. House of Representatives

Counts
Voting Record for Working Families
- 0% - 9%
- 10% - 19%
- 20% - 29%
- none 30% - 83%
- 84% - 100%
Philadelphia 2004

- Pennsylvania AFL-CIO leadership conference examines the impact of sprawl on union members

- Keystone Research Center and Good Jobs First use same research methodology as Chicago, very similar findings
Where Philadelphia-Area Union Members Live

Counties

Where Union Members Live

- 0 - 583
- 584 - 1490
- 1491 - 2764
- 2765 - 5076
- 5077 - 8397

Data Source: AFL-CIO
CLCs See Sprawl Harms

In *Labor Leaders as Smart Growth Advocates*, we found high awareness of:

- “Spatial mismatch”
- Pollution harming public health
- Exclusionary zoning in suburbs
- Distribution of infrastructure spending unfair to older neighborhoods
CLCs See Sprawl Harms

The vast majority also see:

- Job-dispersion into suburbs undermining union density

- Growing political power of suburbs (redistricting after each census) harming working families’ political clout

- Tax-base erosion in older areas fueling pushes for privatization
CLCs: Smart Growth Pioneers

Most CLCs advocate for:

- Affordable housing
- Regulation of big-box stores
- Expanded transit routes, better service
- Rebuilding infrastructure
- Rehabilitation, fairer funding for urban schools
- Brownfield clean-ups
The Jobs Are Back In Town
Urban Smart Growth & Construction Employment

Sprawl

Smart Growth

Urban Density and TOD Create More Construction Jobs Than Sprawl

Good Jobs First
November 2003
Transit Construction = More Jobs than Highway Building

- *What We Learned from the Stimulus*  
  (Smart Growth America + two others; January 2010)  
  Transit projects create 31% to 84% more jobs per $ billion than highway

- *More Transit = More Jobs*  
  (Transportation Equity Network; September 2010)  
  Projected job creation @ 50% for transit
New Flash! New ATU President

Larry Hanley, dynamic reform leader, is hell-bent on transit rider organizing.
Announcing

Americans for Transit

Mission: Create, strengthen and unite transit rider-organizing campaigns
Contact Us!

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