National Perspectives/
National Trends in Smart
Growth for Everyone

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Smart Growth Benefits Everyone

- Rapidly Expanding Rider Base
- Healthy Community & Economic Value Proposition
- Supports Enhanced Mobility Models
- Resources from our work
Expanding Rider Base

- 39M 65+ population will be 70M in the next twenty years
- 85+ population will grow by 74%
- 36M million people live with disabilities (12% US Population, not in institutions)
- 51.5% of people over 75 have disabilities (28M people are 70 or older) (CDC, 2007)
Healthy Community Living Relies on Sustained Mobility

- Intersection Health/Wellness and Transportation Access
  - Depression and Driving Cessation
  - Link between Depression and Health Status
  - Health Status and Healthcare Costs
- Aging Associated Health Changes Require more Transportation Options
- Lack of transportation Barrier to Preventative Care
- Hospital Discharge Re-Admission Reduction
- Exercise must increase - 32.5% of older adults over 65 have no leisure time physical activity (CDC, 2003)
Maturing of America Economic Realities

- Transportation Options Enable People to Stay in the Community & Retain Assets
- Marketplace Affects on Retirement, Affordable Housing mixed with declining Federal & State Funds
- Difficulties for People to Live where They Work and Ride

*estimates based on various public transit sources
Transit Challenges in Smart Growth Implementation

- Lack of Transportation in Rural Communities
- Safe & Accessible Pathways & Highways
- Difficulties in Fielding ADA Para-transit Eligibility Programs
- Reductions in Funding for Public Transportation & Transportation Infrastructure
- Public Transit Costs Fixed Route vs. ADA Complementary Paratransit ($ 5/ride vs. $ 30-65/ride*)
Expanding Mobility Options/Modes

- Volunteer Driver Programs
- Accessible Taxis & Taxi vouchers
- Public Transportation Services
- Travel Training
- Non-Profit & Faith-based Community Services
- Coordinated Multi-modal Resources
- “Complete Streets”
- Technology – smart phones, GPS, One Call Centers
- Mobility Management
The New Mobility – Prepare & Partner for a Continuum of Transportation Modes

- Civic Engagement - Growth of Volunteer Driver Programs including Older Drivers
- Community Coalitions and Partnerships
- Caregiver Drivers – a Declining Resource
- Plan for Mobility Options
  - Youth Transition and Transportation
  - Train for Transitions from Driving
  - Care Transitions and Transportation
Federal Programs Stimulating Smart Growth Innovation

- Livability Sustainability Movement (DOT, EPA, HUD)
- Highway/Roadway Enhancements (FHWA)
- Driver/Pedestrian Safety Programs (NHTSA)
- UWR Mobility Management/Transportation Coordination (FTA)
- One Call Centers (FTA, AoA)
- CDC Healthy Aging and Healthy Communities
- Aging Network Involvement in Transportation (AoA)
- Workforce and Employment (DOL)
- Veterans Initiatives (VA)
Federal Transit Administration
Cooperative Agreement Centers

Easter Seals
Project ACTION
Accessible Transportation Center
- Expand accessible transportation for people with disabilities of all ages
- Audience – transportation and disability community

National Center on Senior Transportation – Easter Seals and National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
- Expand family of transportation services for older adults
- Audience – human services and transportation community
Four Technical Assistance Functions

- **Training** – webinars, distance learning, conference calls, travel training, community coalition building services
- **Targeted Technical Assistance** – toll-free number, e-mail, tailorable to specific communities
- **Outreach** – conferences, develop and share useful materials, website, newsletter, partnerships with other national organizations
- **Applied Research** – Research contracts, student scholars programs and various community grants
Distance Learning Webinars

- 2010 - Building Livable Communities through Increased Pedestrian Access; Using the *Toolkit for Assessing Bus Stop Accessibility and Safety*
- 2011 - Planning for Accessibility of Livable and Sustainable Communities
- Creating Livable, Accessible Communities by Completing Our Streets
- Environmental Barrier Analysis
Outreach – Resources & Publications

- Universal Design and Access Resources
  - Facts to Consider when Updating or Expanding your Transit System
  - Getting There Together training activity (online)
  - Toolkit for the Assessment of Bus Stop Accessibility and Safety
Accessible Pathways & Livable Communities
Pocket Guide

- For planners, public works, local officials & advocates
- Basics for getting started in your community
Outreach – Resources & Publications

- **Bus Stop Accessibility Toolkit**
  - *Accessible Pathways to Bus Stops and Transit: A Process Guide*
    - Transcript from June 2010 audio conferences available at [www.projectaction.org](http://www.projectaction.org)
    - Principles of barrier-free design
    - Bus stop checklist
    - Use of technology
    - Sample forms and policies

Pedbikeimages.org / Laura Sandt 2006
What We’re Trying to Avoid

Photos: National Complete Streets Coalition

The Journey....
Is Worth It!
Smart Growth Benefits Everyone

- Fosters Community Social Capital & Economic Capital
- Helps maintain health and wellness
- Reduces traffic and pedestrian fatalities
- Provides safe mobility for seniors
- Creates intergenerational bridges breaking down stereotypes
- Protects environment
- Enables Seniors to continue to contribute to their communities
- Value proposition is at all levels – person, community, economy
Thank You

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