

Lessons from the Inter-Regional Partnership (IRP) Program



Regional Blueprint Planning Program Workshop

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California Department of Housing &
Community Development (HCD)

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IRP Policy Goals

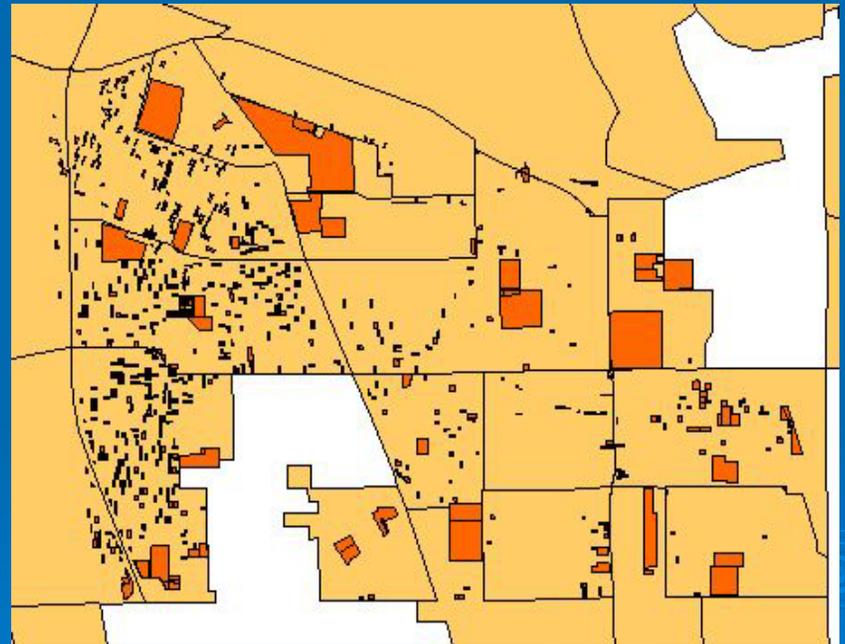
8 IRP Projects funded 2002 – 2004 to:

- Mitigate the negative impacts of jobs/housing imbalances
- Encourage integrated planning, incorporating housing, transportation, and the environment
- Advance local and inter-regional governmental collaboration
- Develop state and sub-regional GIS-based inventories & analysis



Growing experimentation with interactive land-use & transportation

- In the past, accepted existing or planned land-use designation as given
- Recent experiments are incorporating feedback from transportation to land-use and are interactive
- Thus allowing communities to evaluate alternative future scenarios



Effective efforts capture public interest

- Government efforts alone are not enough -- must engage the public
- Educational components are important to building support for planning efforts.

e.g.,

- Regular workshops with local governments
- Education across constituencies



Strong Visual Aids Important

e.g., Use of
Interactive Media



1. Existing streetscape as is



2. Streetscape with proposed mixed
use project



3. Streetscape w/ proposed mixed
use project and landscaping

Local Governments must act in concert to realize projected benefits

- Impacts and benefits of zoning, planned policies, criteria, or programs are inter-dependent (spillover effects)
- Local governments accustomed to independent land use authority; thus, policies and actions promoting inter-jurisdiction benefits may be perceived as threatening to local control
- Thus progress in addressing inter-jurisdictional land-use issues will likely be dependent on some degree of regulatory or statutory direction



Sustained leadership of elected officials Important



- Implementation of inter-jurisdictional change difficult due to turnover of local officials
- No quick fixes to jobs-housing imbalance issues or controversy over growth and development
- Significant lag time between approval of land-use, transportation policies, plans, and realization of the outcomes
- Important to develop short-term projects and outcomes to maintain focus, attention and support
- Efforts that attract sustained positive local media attention helpful

Geographic scale of inter-jurisdictional planning is critical

- Begin at a small scale and gradually expand successful efforts to larger area, with clear expectations of responsibility
- Difficult for individual local governments to convince neighbors of desired policy changes if they have not effectively implemented policies being advocated themselves
- Involvement of entities with inter-governmental responsibilities, such as LAFCOs, important in planning efforts



Avoiding controversial housing issues limits usefulness

- Recognize extent to which discretionary local land-use policies or decisions may be influencing housing supply constraints within the region
- Existing regulatory framework for housing planning obligations relevant (housing element status, RHNA progress, RDA obligations, etc.)

Incentives for implementation and ongoing support

- Consider potential “carrots” to motivate voluntary local implementation to achieve regional benefits
- Allocating transportation funds in a manner rewarding projects that incorporate desired land-use actions one such possibility
- Incentives may be ineffective unless incorporated in local land use planning processes

