

Climate Change Preparedness in NJ: Leading Practices and Policy Priorities May 22, 2013

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What Activities Are Currently Underway in Community & Regional Planning in NJ?



What is Together North Jersey?

- Voluntary partnership of jurisdictions, agencies, organizations and other stakeholders in the 13-county north Jersey planning region
 - Provides a collaborative framework for regional planning as part of Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant
 - Together North Jersey members sign an MOU agreeing to work together
- Primary Work Products
 - Regional Plan for Sustainable Development (RPSD)
 - 15 Local Demonstration Projects
 - Capacity-building, education and technical assistance

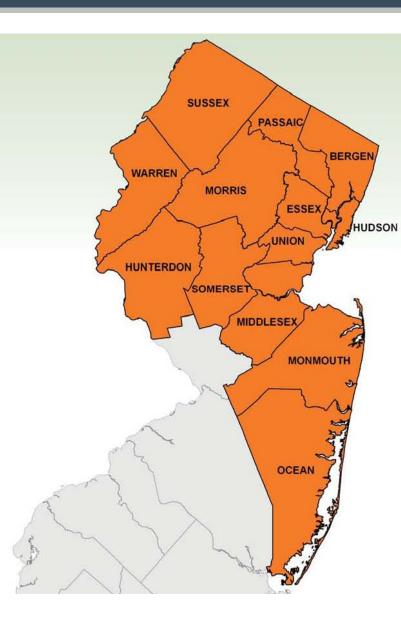




Planning Region







13 Counties

Bergen

Essex

Hudson

Hunterdon

Middlesex

Monmouth

Morris

Ocean

Passaic

Somerset

Sussex

Union

Warren

5 Cities

Elizabeth

Jersey City

Newark

New Brunswick

Paterson

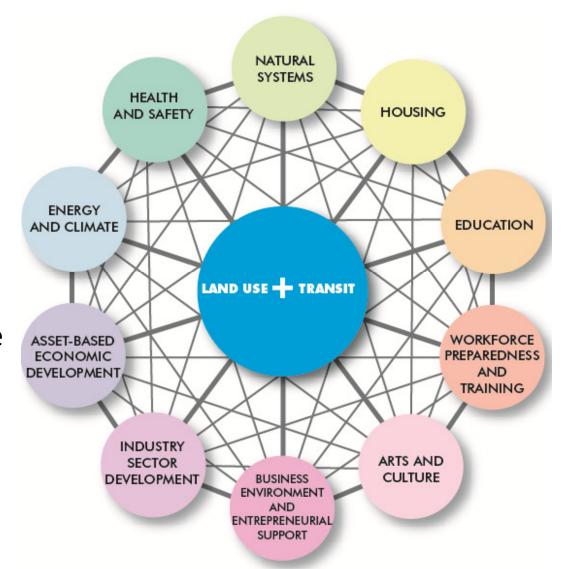
Management Structure



By the Numbers: 475+ interested parties "tuned in;" 150+ stakeholders participating on standing committees; 45 counties, municipalities and NGOs have signed a Partnership Agreement; 37 members participating on steering committee, including 10 project team members

RPSD Work Plan

- Baseline Assessment
 - 12 Topics
- Scenario Planning
- Fair Housing & Equity Assessment (FHEA)
- Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
- Strategy Development & Action Planning
 - 12 Topics



Regional Action Plan

Economic Competitiveness

- Asset-based economic development
- Industry sector development
- Workforce preparedness
- BusinessEnvironment

Livability & Environment

- Land use
- Housing
- Transportation
- Natural systems
- Energy & Climate

Society & Community

- Community health & safety
- Education
- Arts & Culture

Regional Action Plan

- Problems and challenges
- Assets and strengths
- Goals and Objectives
- Strategies and actions
- Priority projects and investments
- Responsibilities and commitments
- Schedule and timeline
- Process to measure and monitor progress





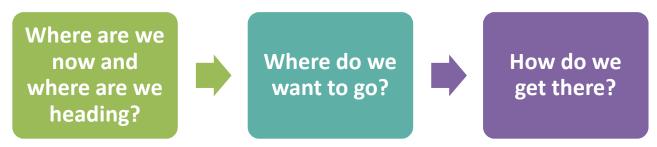






Public and Stakeholder Engagement

- Steering Committee, standing committees, partnership groups
- Public workshops, small group meetings, other events
- Social media, surveys
- Phase 1: Project Initiation
- Phase 2: Plan Development



Phase 3: Plan Presentation and Endorsement

Working List of Goals & Objectives

- Strengthen the region's economy
- Ensure communities are safe, healthy, great places to live
- Improve everyone's access to opportunity (good jobs, quality public schools, and housing that is reasonably priced)
- Enhance efficiency and conserve land
- Protect and enhance the environment
- Address regional growth issues in a coordinate way



Local Demonstration Project (LDP) Program

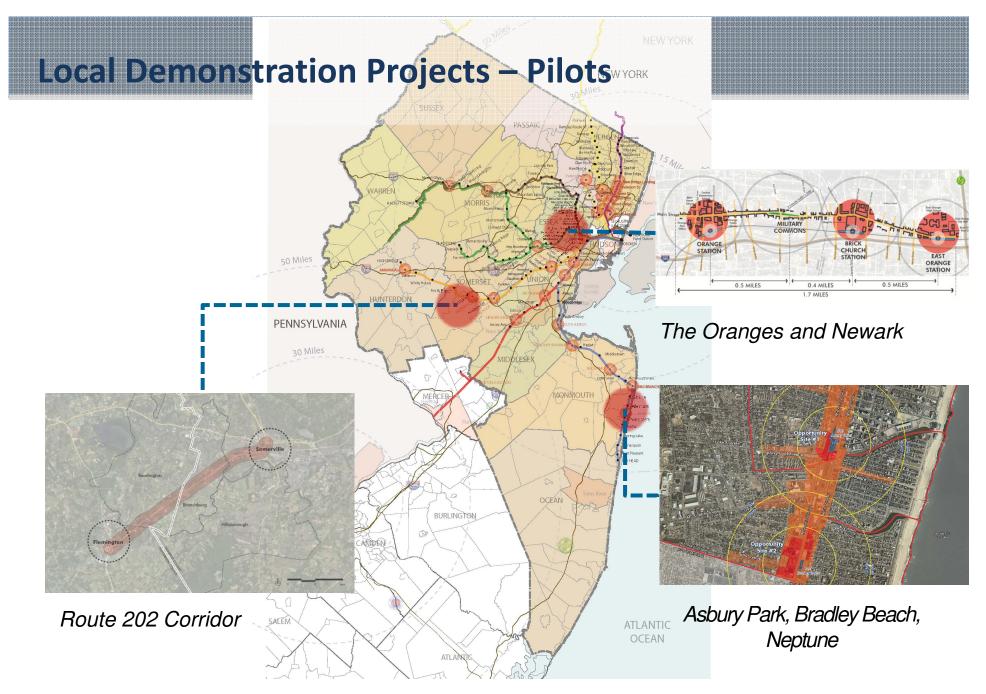
- Designed to create on-the-ground "success stories" and inform plan development
- Projects intended to be both "place-based" and "issue-based"
- Project ideas will be solicited through a Call for Applications open to local municipalities, counties, NGOs, and CDCs

 Work to be conducted by project team, NJT transit-friendly planning program on-call consultants and consultants selected through RFQ process





Park & Ride



Local Government Capacity Grant Program & NGO Micro Grant Programs

- LGCGP Financial and technical assistance to county and municipal members of the Steering Committee
 - Participate actively in meetings
 - Support outreach for scenario planning
 - Provide plans and data when requested
 - Support plan implementation
 - Conduct "Sustainable Communities & Corridors" studies

NGO Micro-Grant

- Support continuing participation on standing committees and workshops
- Provide venues and mobilize constituents for outreach events
- Conduct small neighborhood-focused planning studies







Capacity Building, Technical Assistance & Education

- "Help Desk"
- Library of Resources
- Speakers Bureau
- Annual Program of Training
 & Education events
- Web-based Data
 Visualization & Mapping Tool



What Are Critical Gaps and Needs in the Field of Community & Regional Planning as it Relates to Climate Change Preparedness and Resiliency Efforts?

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