



Region Five

DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



R5DC Sustainable Communities Regional Plan

Consortium Mission

To create a Community-driven University-assisted partnership around planning sustainable regions that will integrate the disciplines of Housing, Transportation, Natural Environment (land use) and Economic Development (including energy and local foods) that will encompass in-reach strategies through HIGHLY involved civic en-

Land Use predicates much of how we sustain a

Planning with representatives and individuals from our regions profile is how we bring “the customer” to the table, and it’s about time.



agement in efforts to build an inclusive region that will provide opportunities, be free from discrimination and improve the quality of life of ALL residents.

“Community” is defined as multitude of private, public and non-profit agencies as well as the citizens of the region.

“Region” is defined as; Crow Wing, Cass, Morrison, Todd and Wadena Counties located in central Minnesota.



our communities....can we do better?



Our Regions Guiding Principals

1. **Think regionally and inclusively.**
2. **Consolidation of effective data.**
3. **Capitalize on assets, current plans and work in progress.**
4. **Balance redevelopment/development preservation opportunities through effective land-use planning.**
5. **Consider regionalization of services. (BMPs or our region, drive opportunities)**
6. **Connect:**
 - **More people to well-paid jobs**
 - **Active living opportunities to the region**
 - **Broadband technology to entire region.**

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REGIONAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS

Communities and their University building Minnesota's future

The University Connection -

The U of M Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships is a long-time regional partner that understands and is committed to a "community-driven, university assisted" initiative with strategies that our region can implement.

The region speaks concern in that by working with the University of Minnesota we could end up with excellent academia driven theory that lead to sparse deliverable impacts.. We hear that concern, and vow to use the University's expertise and dedication to academia to deliver the most logical plan we can while ensuring its practical viability.

What will we plan?

Energy efficient affordable housing placed near work centers and reliable transportation options.....what exactly would that mean for our region?

Economic Development That Bu



Purpose of the HUD Program

The Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program; to support metropolitan and multijurisdictional planning efforts that integrate Housing, Land Use, Economic and Workforce Development, Transportation, and Infrastructure Investments in a manner that empowers jurisdictions to consider the interdependent challenges of:

- (1) economic competitiveness and revitalization;
- (2) social equity, inclusion, and access to opportunity;
- (3) energy use and climate change; and
- (4) public health and environmental impact.

The Program will place a priority on investing in partnerships, including nontraditional partnerships (e.g., arts and culture, recreation, etc.) that translate the Livability Principles into strategies that direct long-term development and reinvestment, demonstrate a commitment to addressing issues of regional significance, utilize data to set and monitor progress toward performance goals, and engage stakeholders and citizens in meaningful decision-making roles.

Illustrative Site Plan Rendering



Buils On Our Regions Competitive Advantages



HUD, EPA, DOT Six Livable Principals

1. Provide more transportation choices.
2. Promote equitable, affordable housing.
3. Enhance economic competitiveness.
4. Support existing communities.
5. Coordinate policies and leverage investments.
6. Value communities and neighborhoods.

Serious attention to HUD's policy priorities, strategic planning goals and grant mandatory outcomes.

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Why are we doing this?

Our region does not have a regional **housing plan**, regional **land use** plan or a comprehensive regional **transportation** plan. The regions **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy** is not recognized by anyone outside the region.

This is **our** chance to create a multi-discipline regional plan that builds from the great work we are already doing.

We Will Need Transportation Sys

What will we have when we are done?



Integrated planning approach of Housing, Land Use, Transportation and Economic Development. That aims to improve regional planning efforts that integrate housing transportation decisions and increased capacity to improve land use and zoning.

Where applicable, we will **align local and state plans** into the regional sustainable plan.

Inclusion of the marginalized populations. People who are not typically at the planning table. (homemakers, disabled, seniors, students, unemployed, immigrants, minorities, veterans and others outside of the typical professional planning agencies)

Mapping of the scenario selected by the consortium that addresses the identified "Needs" the regions identified affordable housing,



Items To "Get There" !



transportation investment, water infrastructure, economic development, land use planning, environmental conservation, energy system, open space and other infrastructure priorities for the region.

Strategies that address economic competitiveness and revitalization, social equity/inclusion, energy use and the public health impacts.

Address a 20 year timeframe with 3-5 year benchmark **performance targets** (will utilize geo-coded data sets and other metrics in developing, implementing, monitoring and assessing performance goals)

Promote **Policy and funding recommendations**
How our plan is consistent with HUD, DOT and EPA programs.

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Who is the Consortium?

200 individuals comprise the consortium. Consortium members were invited per the regional profile.

Members of the general public working with industry practitioners, elected officials, discipline professionals and the University of Minnesota Centers.

An 22 member Advisory Board has been established to oversee the process to maintain integrity, transparency and deliverable outcomes.

Housing, Economic Development, Transportation, Land Use

It's the responsibility of the consultants to gather regional plans, synthesize those plans and use their knowledge and skills to help Consortium members create a sustainable regional plan.



Consultants have been retained to facilitate, research, assist in scenario building, assessments of regional observations and to educate the Consortium as to what



Initiative Foundation and CERT will
Garner and Retain Civic Engagement



INITIATIVE
FOUNDATION



Use All Working Toward Sustainability!



1000 Friends of
Minnesota



Regional Sustainable
Development Partnerships

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Driven to DiscoverSM

Housing - Central Minnesota Housing Partnership

Transportation - Region Five Development Commission

Economic Development - Region Five Development Commission

Land-Use - 1000 Friends of Minnesota

Scenario Building - University of Minnesota

Evaluation - EnSearch, Inc.

Specialty Studies- University of Minnesota

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Month 1

Finalization of grant agreement with HUD. Formalization of Sustainability Regional Planning, Consortium agreements, Hire Sustainability Organizer, Initiative Foundation expands the consortium based on regional profile.

Month 2

KICK-OFF MEETING (full consortium, workgroups and others)

- * Introduction of What we are doing,
- * Keynote sustainability speakers...what can we achieve?
- * Disclose roles, logistics of meetings.
- * What will have at the end of two years of work.

Month 3

Cross- Discipline WORKGROUPS commence

Meetings will be held to examine how land-use, transportation, housing & Economic Development decisions will affect the region's future vitality and sustainability

4 integrated groups of 35+ people in each cross-discipline workgroup who will create regional Transportation, housing, Economic Development and Land Use plans for each discipline with integrated participation.

- * Garner regional data regarding each discipline
- * Develop regional observations
- * Develop and document recommendations of:
- * Strategy recommendations
- * Policies at local, state, federal that support your recommendations.
- * Preferred tracking measures.
- * Viable financing plan

Month 10

Modeling

University of Minnesota will synthesize common goals across the region and meld our discipline plans into four scenarios. Create scenario planning options (1 trend, 3 other scenarios)

Month 12

ROUND ONE (full consortium 200 people)

Present Scenarios to large Consortium (200 people)

Each scenario is presented with strategy, policy, finance and tracking measures.

- * Make scenario selection: Use voting machines and surveys-Vote.
- * Discuss. Identify successes, frustrations.
- * (Consortium will vote again in Round 2 post consortium member information and education time.)
- * **Identify Information and Education needed, plan to complete in-fill these needs.**

HOW will this work be accomplished?.....Process.

Month 12-17

CONSORTIUM MEMBER INFORMATION, EDUCATION SESSIONS

Consultants and UofM will facilitate meetings/workshops &/or site visits for corresponding disciplines to learn more about Housing, Land-use, Transportation and Eco. Development.

Month 17

ROUND TWO (full consortium 200 people)

- * Take Final Scenario vote now that we've learned more.
- * Identify action items, responsible parties, and timelines for plan objectives.
- * Identify what we can do to strengthen decision making to support RSDP by LUGs and public sectors.
- * Identify Local, State & Federal agency policy recommendations of plan that compliments the selected scenario.
- * Identify funding opportunities.

Month 18

ROUND THREE

Review draft plan. Make final alterations to Local, State & Federal agency policy recommendations of plan that compliments the selected scenario, and funding opportunities.

Month 20

DRAT PLAN FINALIZATION MEETING- CELEBRATION

In a "Celebration of what's been accomplished" we will make public where our region wants to go and how we plan to get there.

- * Who has already begun to implement strategies.
- * How to move forward policy recommendations and deeper implementation.
- * How to replicate this effort throughout MN.

Setting an example is not the main means of influencing others; it is the only means. Albert Einstein.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO
LEARN MORE?**

To join the consortium contact:
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To track progress:
www.regionfive.org

Questions?
Region Five: 218.894.3233

