

Good morning everyone.

And thanks for being here this morning. My name is Andrew Bomberger and I'm a Regional Planner at Tri-County Regional Planning Commission.

We've asked you to be part of this steering committee because we've identified you or your organization as an important member of our regional community. As we develop the 2040 Regional Growth Management Plan, you are being asked to provide direction and insight into the process.



Our initial Steering Committee meetings were devoted to establishing our Regional Issues. These issues will be integrated into the plan analysis and implementation efforts. At our Kick-Off meeting, we compiled a broad list of Regional Issues. At the second meeting, we prioritized and ranked all 16, focusing on the Top 6 for the plan update. Just so we're all on the same page, let's go over the Top 6 Regional Issues.

As I go over each Regional Issue, please feel free to interrupt me with any comments or questions you have.



The goal is to identify potential issues, not to perfectly model what the solution is.



The highest ranked Regional Issue is Comprehensive Transportation. This issue covers the need to provide safe, convenient, and effective transportation for all users – motorists, cyclists, transit riders, walkers – and how that need connects to land use and economic development.

The second highest ranked Regional Issue is Aging Infrastructure. This issue covers the long-term maintenance of supporting infrastructure that is not always fully accounted for during development.

The third highest ranked issue is Future Infrastructure Needs. This issue covers the need to plan for and accommodate our ever evolving technology, and its demands on both policy and physical infrastructure.

As the RGMP development progressed, it became more and more evident that our two Regional Issues (Aging Infrastructure and Future Infrastructure Needs) needed to be combined. The research and analysis done for one was applicable to the other. So, while the final report document will still individually address each issue, we will discuss them under the broader topic of "infrastructure".

The next highest ranked issue is Natural Resource Protection. This issue covers the need to address the pressures that development can put on our region's vast natural

## resources.

The fifth ranked Regional Issue is Inefficient Land Use Patterns. This issue covers the non-contiguous nature of much our Region's development. These inefficient development patterns increase the cost of development, service provision, and maintenance of infrastructure.

The sixth ranked Regional Issue is Unrealized Potential for Reuse. The development market and regulations often encourages "cheaper" new development, instead of accommodating reuse and redevelopment.

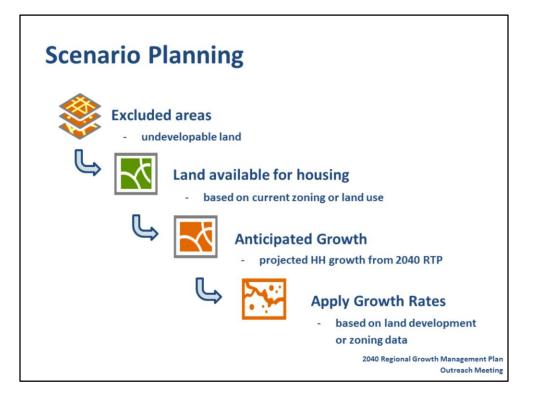
Similar to the issue with the two "infrastructure" issues, we've decided to combine the previous two issues into a broader "land use" issue. Again, each issue will still be individually addressed in the final document, but we will discuss them under the broader topic of "land use".

The Issues that ranked better were primarily those concerned with land use and transportation – issues directly associated with Tri-County's regional planning efforts. Many of the lower ranked Issues are social/policy driven consequences of our decisions and actions related to the higher-ranked Regional Issues.



As we began the early stages of development of the 2040 RGMP, we decided that we would incorporate scenario development.

Broadly, scenario development is an analytical tool or framework that allows us to incorporate many different environmental, regulatory, and community factors and examine how they will affect the projected growth of the Tri-County Region over the next 25 years. The goal of scenario planning is to identify issues and trends and compare possible strategies, not to perfectly model what the solution to those issues and trends will look like. Scenario planning is analytical, not predictive. Using GIS modeling and analysis, we are able to identify areas suitable and not suitable for development, and examine how the projected growth can impact our Region's municipalities going forward.



FIRST, using GIS data, we identified the environmentally sensitive areas that precluded development.

SECOND, using current zoning data, supplementing with land use data for areas without zoning, we identified areas in which housing was permitted.

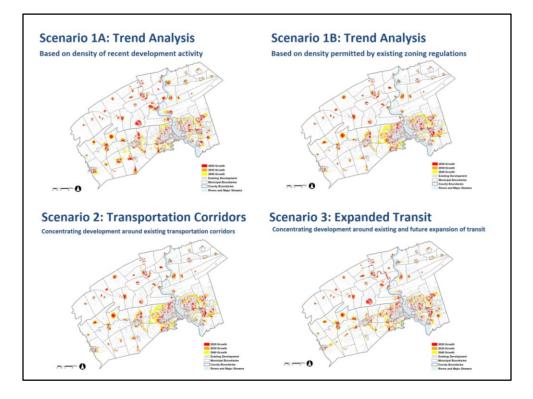
NEXT, we used the growth projections established in the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan, which the Region's municipalities have already approved, to determine amount of additional housing expected over the next 25 years.

FINALLY, we analyzed our both land development and zoning data to determine the both the density we've been building at and the density allowed by local ordinances.

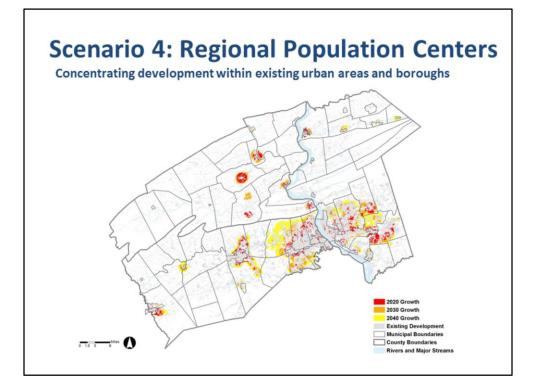


On this slide, you can see a description of the five different scenarios we examined. The first scenario is our trend scenario, which has been split into two different "sub-scenarios". Scenario 1A uses the densities of our recent development activity (from about 2010 to 2015, depending on the county). Scenario 1B uses the densities found in the existing municipal zoning regulation.

Scenario 2 concentrates development around existing transportation corridors. Scenario 3 concentrates development around existing and proposed public transportation routes and facilities. Finally, Scenario 4 concentrates development around our region's urban areas, boroughs, and other population centers.



This slide shows the results of scenarios 1A, 1B, 2 & 3. These scenarios are consistently similar. At previous meetings, we discussed some municipalities inability to accommodate their projected growth. Generally, those municipalities are our boroughs located in western Cumberland, northern Dauphin and Perry County, as well as the municipalities that surround the City of Harrisburg in both Dauphin and Cumberland Counties. This inability to accommodate projected growth is caused by a combination of little "buildable land" remaining and existing zoning regulations permitting development to occur at too-low densities.



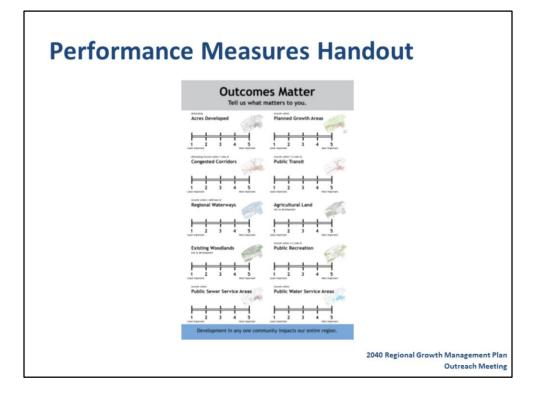
Scenario 4, however, was a little different.

For all other scenarios, the municipal growth numbers were kept (assuming the municipality could accommodate its growth). For this scenario, however, we created 9 different municipal groups, with growth numbers aggregated for each group. The result is a much great concentration of households migrating to our region's urban areas and boroughs.

So, that's where we were at the end of the last meeting.



Between mid April and mid May, we conducted 7 different outreach sessions, with 6 of those focused on municipal officials – two in each county. In total, input from 53 municipal representatives participated in the meetings, representing urban, rural, and suburban communities from all three counties.



Each meeting consisted of a 20-30 minute presentation covering the process and results of the scenario planning analysis, followed by a question and answer session. Following this, the municipal representatives in attendance were asked to participate in an exercise to gauge the relative importance of each performance measure. Using the sheet shown on the slide, attendees were asked to circle the number they felt represented each Performance Measure's level of importance. Those results were compiled to let us know the relative level of importance the region as a whole put on each performance measure.

			204	ORGMP Outrea	ch Performance Me	asure Ranking Re	sults			
	Acres Developed	PGAs	Congested Corridors	Transit	Reg. Waterways	Ag Land	Woodlands	Recreation	Sewer	Water
traw. Sq.	24.50	30.50	24.00	36.45		35.50	37.13	35.00	34.50	34.31
VCC COG	37.00	40.00 69.00	31.00 78.00	30.00 67.00		32.00 64.39	31.00 60.00	33.00 71.00	41.00	40.00 70.72
lewport	7.00	10.00	6.00	4.00		10.00	9.00	6.00	9.00	9.00
watara	15.00	17.00	10.00	14.00		18.00	19.00	13.00	16.00	17.00
JDCOG	41.00	35.00	38.00	25.00		47.00	44.00	27.00	26.00	30.00
Carroll	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	3.42	3.80	3.53	3.33	3.43	3.90	3.78	3.49	3.71	3.79
		Rank	Perfor	mance Me	351179	Rank	Performance	e Meacure	7	
		Rank	Perfor	mance Me	asure	Rank	Performanc	e Measure		
		Rank	Perfor		asure		Performanc			
				Land		6 Cor		ors	-	
		1	Agricultural	Land owth Areas		6 Cor 7 Pub	gested Corrid	lors Areas		
		1	Agricultural Planned Gro	Land owth Areas er Service		6 Cor 7 Put 8 Reg	gested Corrid	lors I Areas ays		

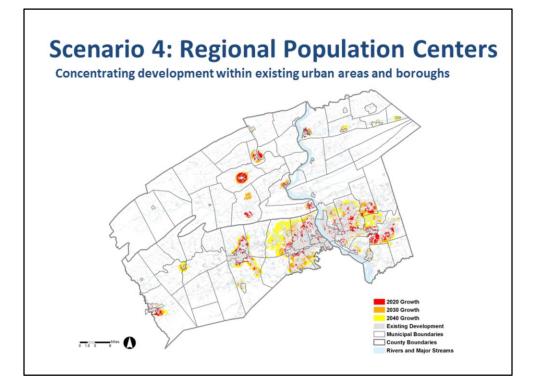
This slide shows the results of those outreach meetings. The table across the top shows the results for each meeting. The table at the bottom shows the resulting rankings. "Minimizing development of Agricultural Land" was determined to be the most important performance measure. "Maximizing development within the Planned Growth Areas" was determined to be the second most important performance measure.

				atrix	
20	40 RGMP Sce	nario Planning	Performance	Measure Ma	trix
	Scenario 1A	Scenario 1B	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 4
	Trend (Land Development)	Trend (Zoning)	Transportation Corridors	Expanded Transit	Regional Population Centers
Agricultural Land	4	3	5	2	1
Planned Growth Areas	2	4	5	3	1
Public Water Service	2	4	5	3	1
Existing Woodlands	5	3	4	2	1
Public Sewer Service	1	4	5	3	2
Congested Corridors	4	2	1	5	3
Public Recreation Areas	2	5	4	3	1
Regional Waterways	5	4	2	3	1
Development Density	4	3	5	2	1
Public Transportation	3	4	5	1	2
Total Ranking Points	32	36	41	27	14

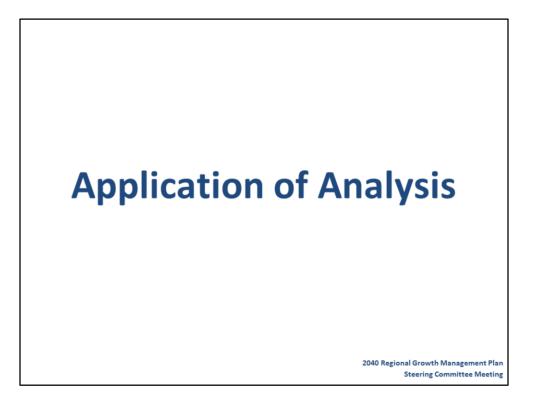
Looking at the Performance Measure Matrix handout provided, we can see that Scenario 4 performed best on the two performance measures deemed "most important", as well as the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. While not explicitly labeled, the performance measures are listed on the matrix in their order of importance, according to the results of our outreach.

This tells us that Scenario 4 is the scenario whose impacts best align with the priorities of the region.

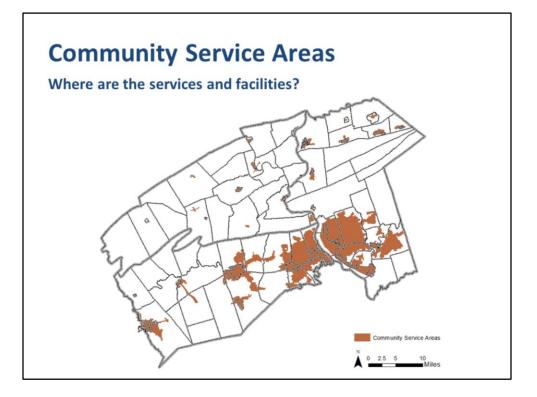
We decided to use this approach because early outreach efforts in which participants were asked for direct input on the scenarios themselves provided limited engagement. We found that asking people about the performance measures produced much more engagement and valuable feedback from our participants. By determining which performance measures are most important, we could determine which scenario is truly preferred.



So, again. This is scenario 4 – our preferred scenario. It features the most compact growth and generally, the fewest negative impacts.

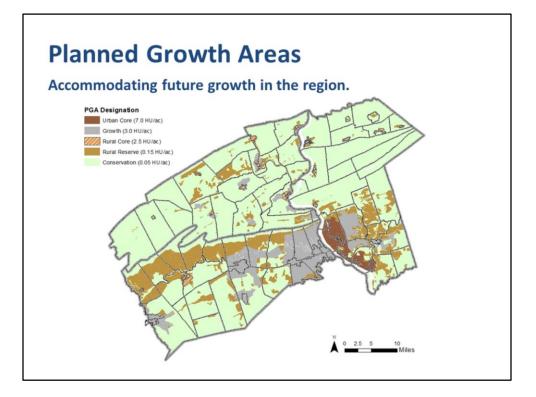


So, now that we figured that all out, where do we go from here? Now we get into the real products of our Regional Growth Management Plan.



The first step was to update our Community Service Areas. Our CSAs are generally defined by "where we've already invested in supporting infrastructure". This primarily is determined by public sewer and water service areas, but also incorporates things like transit service, and community facilities like schools, hospitals, police, and fire.

Because we saw, with a few exceptions, modest expansion of our sewer and water service areas, our CSA expansion was modest as well. The most notable area of expansion is in Cumberland County, along Route 233, just south of Newville down to Route 15, where we've seen investment in expanding sewer service.

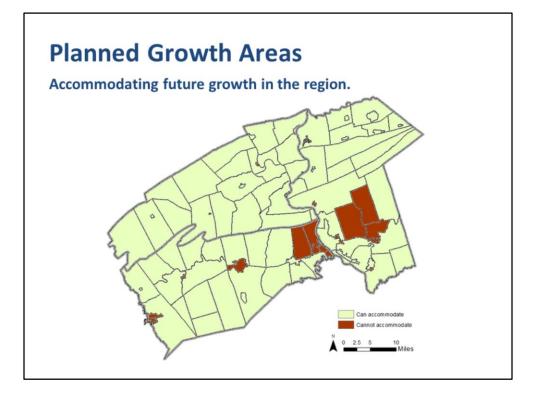


The other significant product of our RGMP is the PGA designation. This is the generalized idea of how our region should develop, including recommended densities across 5 different typologies.

The most dense typology is Urban Core (7.0 HU/ac). This is found in and around Harrisburg. The "Growth" typology is the second densest at 3.0 HU/ac. It is found in most of the suburbs and some of the larger boroughs like Shippensburg and Carlisle. The third densest typology is the Rural Core at 2.5 HU/ac. It is found in our region's smaller, particularly in Perry County and northern Dauphin County. These three typologies represent where the RGMP is "encouraging" development. By and large, areas with these designations are within the CSA have had significant investments made to facilitate development.

Our other two typologies are the Rural Reserve at 0.15 HU/ac (which equals 6 acres per HU) and Conservation at 0.05 HU/ac (which equals 20 acres per HU). Please note these numbers aren't intended to say we want all housing units to be on 6- and 20-acre lots, but that these areas as a whole should average development at that recommended density.

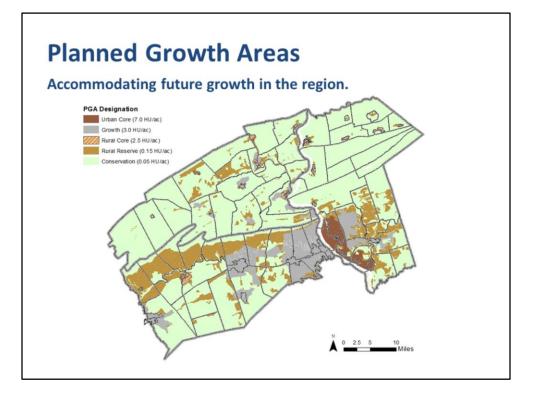
The image on the slide is our current, existing PGA designation, adopted as part of the 2035 RGMP update.



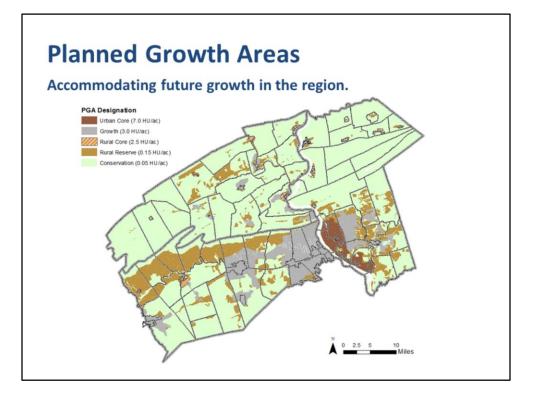
As part of our RGMP update, we performed a capacity analysis on the current PGA designations, similar to a very basic version of our scenarios. In this analysis, each county had more than enough room to accommodate its growth based on the recommended densities.

However, just like the scenarios, some municipalities were not able to accommodate their projected growth at the recommended densities. The image shown here displays which municipalities have such a distinction. Just like the scenarios, the municipalities surrounding Harrisburg were not able to accommodate their growth and the reasons for that were generally the same – very little "buildable land" is available.

However, we also found that some municipalities, like the Hanovers, also couldn't accommodate their growth, which was not found in our scenario planning analysis. These issues were the result of no existing PGA designation above Rural Reserve anywhere in South or West Hanover. In other words, land was available, but our recommendations weren't dense enough.

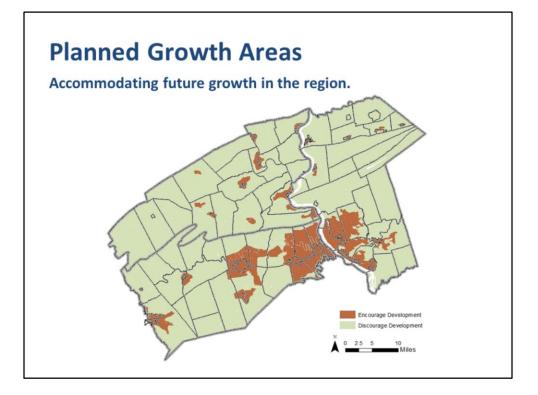


Here again is the existing PGA designations.

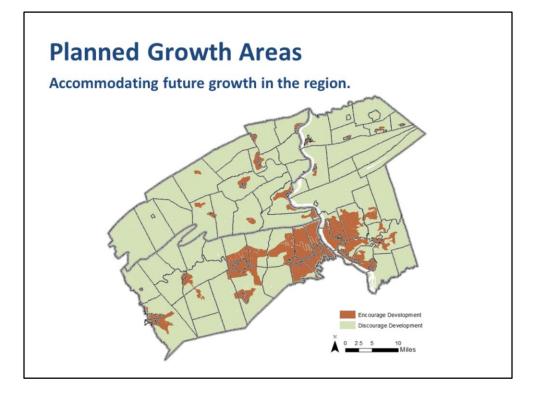


This image is the revised PGA designations, proposed to be part of this update. It does not drastically deviate from the previous PGA designations, with a few exceptions, which we'll cover in a minute.

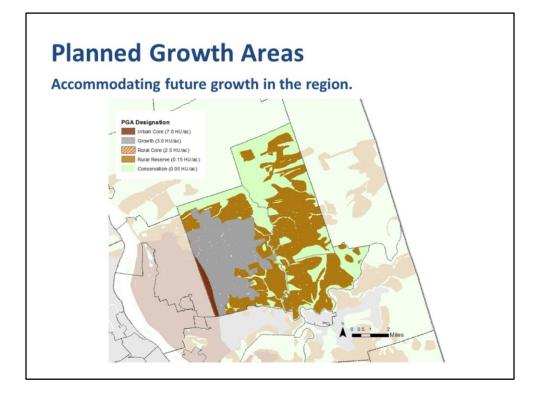
When we make changes to the PGA designations, we always have to keep a balance in mind. On one hand, we need to be realistic in how our region is going to develop. On the other hand, we can't continually expand our PGA designations to include developments that occur just outside where we're encouraging development. Striking that balance is important and means only modifying the PGA designation to reflect significant regional trends or investment.



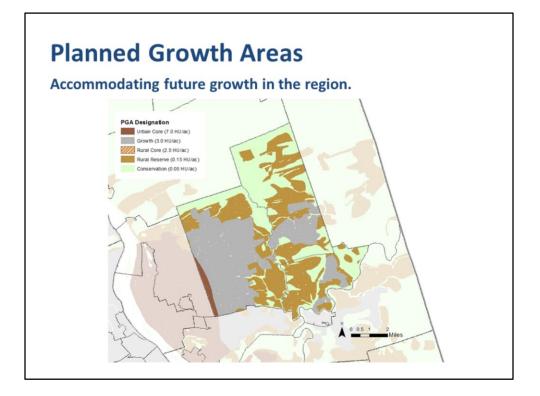
For a little simpler view, this is the same PGA designations, but consolidated into "encourage development" – urban core, growth, rural core – and "discourage development" – rural reserve and conservation. This is the existing PGA designation from the RGMP adopted in 2011.



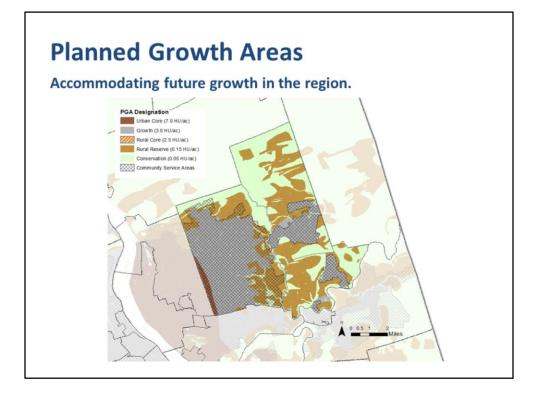
And this is the proposed update.



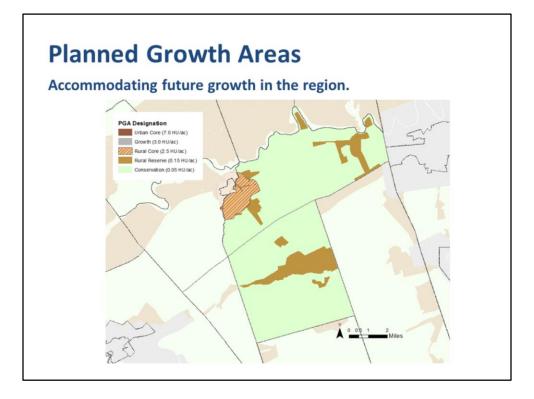
This our first area of significant change. It consists mainly of West Hanover and South Hanover, but also includes Lower Paxton Township, all three of which couldn't accommodate their projected growth (although LPT was close). As you can see, West Hanover and South Hanover is completely covered by a combination of Rural Reserve and Conservation designations. Based on regional development trends already impacting these municipalities, we determined this was an appropriate area for change.



And here is that change. Notice the gray swath that was not previously there in both municipalities. These changes were informed by a combination of the results of Scenario 4 (our preferred scenario), our CSAs, and the municipal comprehensive plans.

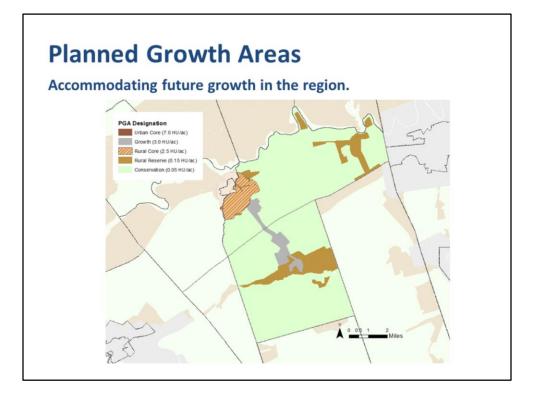


As you can see on this slide, much of the new areas delineated as "growth" have already seen significant investment, indicated by their inclusion in the CSA. With these revisions, all three (WHT, SHT, LPT) can all accommodate their growth under the PGA designation.

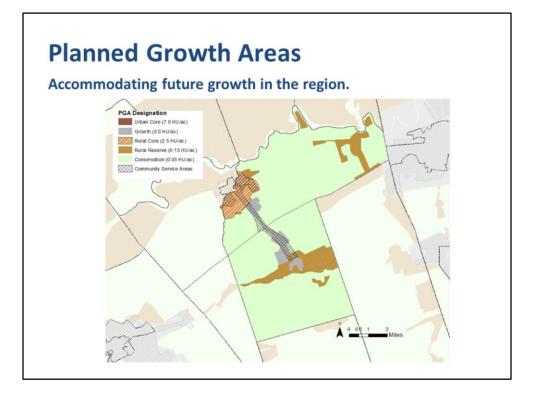


This is our other area of significant change. Although this change occurred for a different reason.

This slide shows you the existing PGA designations for West Pennsboro Twp and Penn Twp. Aside from the area of Rural Core expanding south from Newville, there is no areas designed for encouraged development in these two municipalities. And while these municipalities were able to accommodate their projected growth, we know there has been significant effort and investment in expanding the development capacity along the Rt. 233 corridor. In fact, the 233 & 15 study was funded through a TCRPC Regional Connections grant.



Here are the proposed revisions. The new growth area extends south along Rt 233 and across Rt 15 along the area slated for future expansion of warehouse development, but also home to numerous agricultural easements, further complicating matter.



He are the proposed revisions with the revised CSA visible. Since the municipalities were already able to accommodate their growth, these changes don't affect that. However, these changes more accurately represent the development potential/capacity of our region.



Through all these analyses, a few takeaways are apparent.



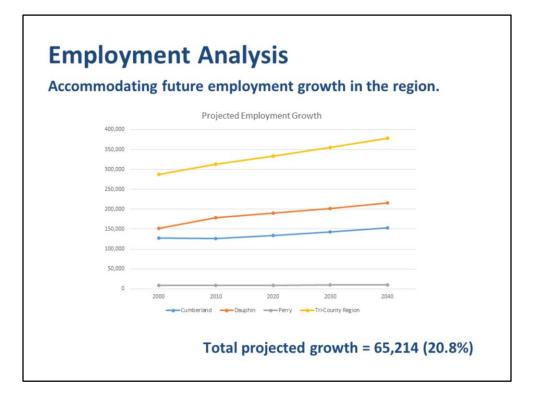
Through all these analyses, a few takeaways are apparent.



One of the most common comments throughout this process, both at the Steering Committee and again at the Tri-County Commission was the lack of attention paid to employment projections.

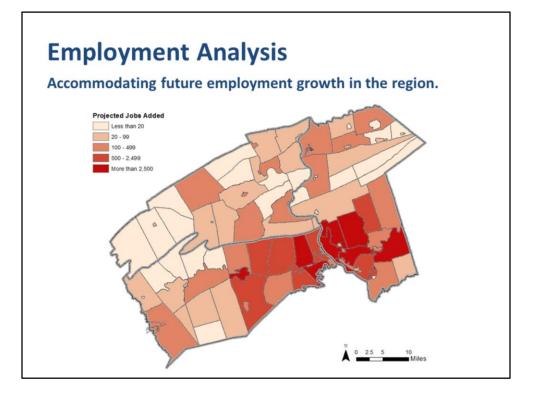
While we absolutely acknowledge the pivotal role employment and jobs play when it comes to our regional growth, modeling that growth proved very difficult. The chief obstacle in this is the lack of good, region wide employment location/density data. We simply do not have the same kind of data for jobs that we have for housing.

However, given the importance of the topic (and the number of comments we've received) we wanted to do something with the data we did have.

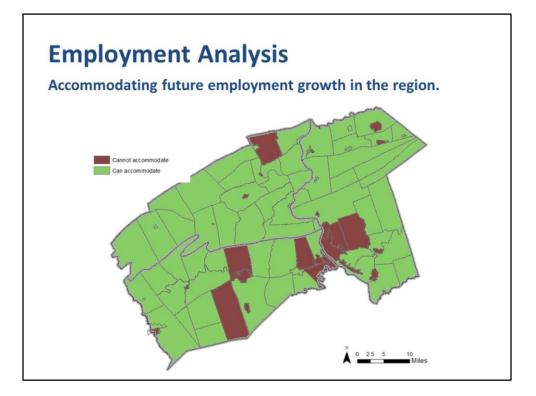


This slide shows the projected employment growth for the region, which, by 2040 will be roughly 65,000 jobs added, giving us a growth rate a little over 20%.

The growth rates of all three Counties are roughly equal, meaning Dauphin County will remain the County with the highest total jobs through 2040, and for the foreseeable future. This is important to consider when we reflect on the housing growth projections, which showed the majority of the growth (over 50% of the region) projected to be in Cumberland County. Transportation linkages and access to jobs across the river is going to be increasingly vital to the region moving forward.



This slide shows a map of where the jobs are projected to be added. The darker reds indicate more jobs projected. As you can see, Harrisburg and the surrounding municipalities are where we project the most employment growth.

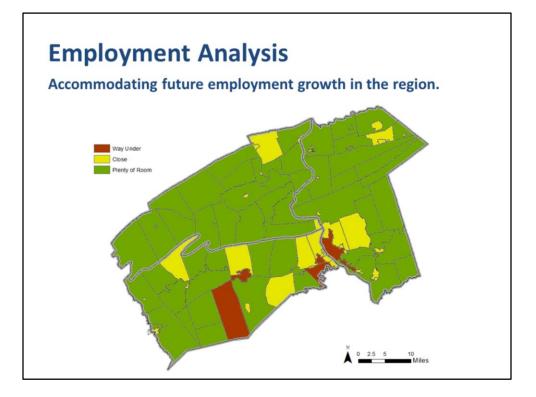


The analysis we performed is similar to our early housing scenario, which essentially looked at land capacities.

We used existing employment data and existing land use data to determine a "land consumed per job" number for each municipality. We then mulitiplied that number by the total projected jobs added. This gave us the projected "land needs" for employment growth.

This number was then compared to the available land currently zoned for commercial, industrial, institutional, mixed use, and any other zoning district that would permit employment growth.

This map shows which municipalities did and did not have sufficient capacity to meet that projected employment growth. Mirroring the housing analysis, the municipalities that could not accommodate that growth are largely found among the municipalities surrounding Harrisburg. Lack of available land is the key driver of this. However, some of these other municipalities suffer from a lack of land zoned for "employment development", not insufficient land in general.



This slide shows a little different view. Because we recognize some of the issues with the broad assumptions we've made in this analysis, looking at the capacities less black and white is probably appropriate. This map shows which municipalities have far too little (more than 50 acres under), which are close (50 acres above or below), and which have plenty of room (more than 50 acres over).

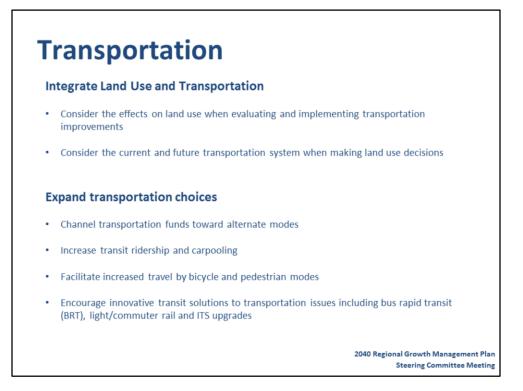
Again, most of the same lessons. Some suffer from insufficient available land in general. Some suffer from zoning ordinances that don't have enough "employment zoning", for lack of a better term.

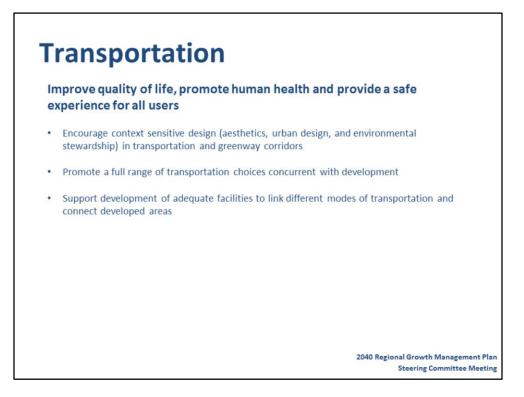


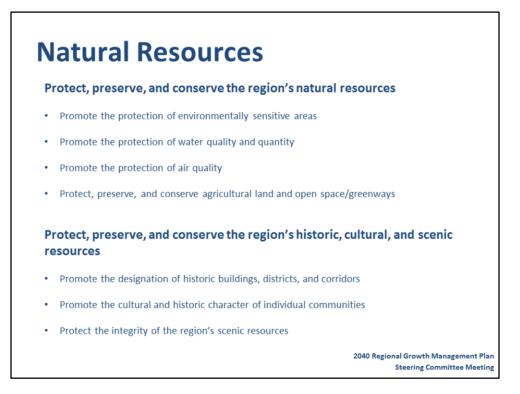
To close the meeting, we'll discuss the policy statements while considering everything we've discussed.

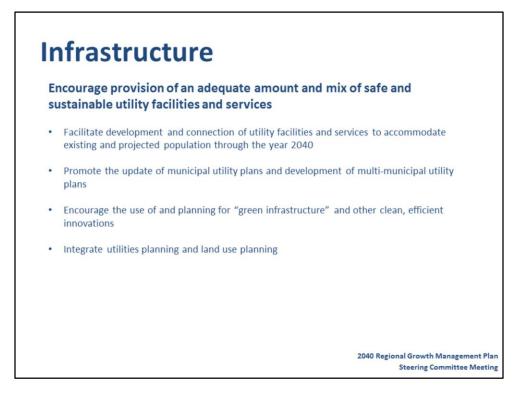


N	lanage growth toward areas with existing or planned public facilities and
	ervices
•	Promote development within Community Service Areas (CSAs) and Planned Growth Areas (PGAs) as appropriate
•	Promote adoption and implementation of ordinances to meet land use requirements of existing and future residents and businesses
PI	romote economic development in conjunction with regional needs
	romote economic development in conjunction with regional needs Determine regional commercial, industrial, and office development needs
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Pı	Determine regional commercial, industrial, and office development needs













2040 Regional Growth Management Plan Steering Committee Meeting