

Coming Out Strong and
Getting It Right
in Pennsylvania
New Partners for Smart
Growth Conference
Los Angeles
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The State's Role

- Executive & Legislative framework for sustainability/smart growth.
- Legislative – Laws govern what state, county and local governments can do in areas of land use planning & implementation, taxes, infrastructure, development, reinvestment, housing, environment, conservation, parks & recreation, historic preservation & more.
- Executive – Investments; Interagency policies; State agency programs like brownfields.

Challenges in Pennsylvania

- 2561 local governments; 67 counties, 501 school districts; thousands of authorities. Over 1000 urban places, many fiscally challenged.
- Over 5000 bodies making land use, development & investment decisions.
- Promoting planning as an organizing principle: get everyone in a region on the same page.
- But tremendous opportunities – blessed with abundant natural resources: 3 major river systems, forests, mountains, fertile soils, rainfall; historic cities and towns.

Governor Rendell's Policy & Program Initiatives

- Revitalizing core communities – cities, boroughs, developed areas of townships.
- Reclaiming & reusing brownfields.
- Growing urban and rural economies through investments in sustainable, job-producing, regional asset based businesses.
- Coordinated investments across agencies.
- Promoting regional and multi-municipal planning with local implementation.
- Environmental & quality of life investments - Growing Greener.

State Agency Coordination & Cooperation

- Economic Development Cabinet
- Interagency Land Use Team
- Keystone Principles & Criteria for Growth, Investment & Resource Conservation
- Letter of Understanding on Consistency Reviews
- Agricultural Land Preservation Policy
- Action Plan for Integrating Transportation, Land Use & Economic Development decisions.

Economic Development Cabinet

- Executive Order 2004 – 9 June 15, 2004
- Mission – Coordinate programs & policies affecting economic growth, job creation, & workforce development across agencies.
- Evaluate & redirect, as necessary, objectives of state economic development & tax policy.
- Promote policies that encourage the wise stewardship & conservation of the natural resources of the Commonwealth.

Economic Development Cabinet Structure

- Chaired by DCED Secretary
- 13 agencies – Ag, Banking, Budget, DCNR, DEP, Education, Health, L & I, Revenue, Transportation, Policy Office, Chief of Staff.
- Working Groups – Infrastructure, Tourism & Recreation, Workforce Development, Energy & Technology, Manufacturing, Small Business, Health Care & Life Sciences, Agricultural & Agribusinesses.

Interagency Land Use Team Purpose & Mission

- Working group of ED Cabinet.
- Begun in Gov Ridge's; reactivated in Gov Rendell's Administration.
- To assist Cabinet by identifying:
 - Programs impeding sound land use, resource conservation & economic growth; causes of negative environmental, economic & social trends;
 - Policies & strategies for conserving land and open space, reusing previously developed sites, and rehabilitating existing infrastructure.

Interagency Land Use Team Structure & Activities

- 23 agencies/programs
- Senior Executive Committee – Deputy Secretary & Executive Directors, Policy Directors
- Staff Committees for particular activities
 - Mapping & GIS - OA
 - Farmland Preservation EO - AG
 - Action Plan for Integrating Transportation, Land Use & Economic Development – PennDOT
 - Consistency Review of agency action & county & local plans & ordinances – DEP

Keystone Principles & Criteria for Growth, Investment & Resource Conservation

- Primary activity of Senior Executive Committee – developed over 2 years.
- Reflective of all agencies goals for both development & conservation.
- Principles are goal statements.
- Criteria are specific implementation measures to achieve the goals.

Principles & Criteria

How They Will Be Used

- Applicable to agency grant & loan programs and expenditure of agency funds.
- Do not replace agency program criteria or guidelines.
- Used either as overlay – extra points- or integrated in agency criteria (preferable).
- Committee of Interagency Team monitoring application in 3 significant programs initially; now extended to all relevant agency programs.

Action Plan

Integrating Transportation, Land Use, & Economic Development

- PennDOT led effort growing out of 2002 NGA Policy Academy.
- Statewide conference in May 2003 sponsored by Secretaries of PennDOT, DCED, DEP, DCNR & AG.
- 150 recommendations on needed state action distilled from group in Action Plan, which identifies agency responsibility for each.
- 9 regional conferences in 2005 to obtain input on regional needs & ways for state & regions to work together. Reports issued. Next step is development of regional plans. IAT Committee

Economic Development

GAT, CAT & BAT

- Governor's \$2.3 B Economic Stimulus Initiative -2004
- Governor's Action Team
 - Job focused, with priorities for Brownfields, KIZ's High Tech, Small Business, Ag & Tourism.
- Community Action Team
 - Community version of GAT
 - Focus on revitalization of cities and boroughs; Targeted investment; Interagency Coordination.
 - Engagement process as partner with municipalities.
- Brownfield Action Team
 - Brownfield site reinvestment – led by DEP & DCED
 - Focus on redevelopment potential.

Growing Greener \$625 M - 05

Other Interagency Programs

- River & Trail Towns; parks & rec - DCNR
- Main Street – DCED, PHMC
- Home Town Streets/Safe Routes to School/ TRID – PennDOT/DCED
- Pennsylvania Wilds; conservation initiatives - DCNR
- Watershed Initiatives – DEP/DCNR
- Housing – PHFA; DCED

Governor's 2007 Agenda

- Health Care Initiative – Cover Everyone
- Sustainable Energy Initiative – Energy independence for Pa – biofuels, wind, solar, waste coal; Global Warming initiative coming. Adopted: Cal car; state specific mercury regs.
- Funding for Mass Transit; Highways & Bridges
- Governmental Reform – Includes State Planning Board recommendations for right sizing services; consolidation/merger; planning code amendments; Lobbying & Disclosure rules; size of legislature.