



Welcome Vancouver Mayor Pro Tem Larry Smith

Good morning and welcome to today's workshop on Transportation and Land Use Scenario Planning. My name is Larry Smith and I serve at Vancouver Mayor Pro Tem. It is always a great pleasure to kick off one of these events in the Vancouver Conference Center, the crown jewel of Vancouver's redeveloped downtown. The Vancouver Hilton opened in June of 2005 and is serving our community well, both as our community's convention center and as a luxury hotel.

I see many familiar faces in attendance and some that I look forward to getting to know better as we spend the day together. You are all community leaders and have been invited here today to take part in this ground breaking workshop.

If you here and wondering, ... what a transportation and land use scenario planning workshop is all about, don't feel alone we now share something in common.

The idea of scenario planning has been around a while, from what I remember it was a way to reduce and/or manage your risks. In fact the idea emerged in WW II as a method for imagining what your opponents might do. Since then scenario planning, as we are applying it, has matured into a method for learning about the future by understanding the nature and impacts of uncertain, but key driving forces that affect our regions and how we live and work.

It is amazing to look across our region and see the amount of growth that has occurred in the last 20 or 30 years. Those many years of growth seem so blunted when we step back to take account of the absolutely unprecedented economic recession and budget crisis we are now in. Talk about uncertainty, how could we have known in 2005 what was to happen by 2011? What is the formula that will not only lift us out of our recession, but to also build a more promising future? No question there will be uncertainties involved.

I am looking forward to today's workshop and to bringing new ideas for how to plan for a future that leads us to a vision of how our land use and transportation decisions can guide us to a sustainable and prosperous future.



Opening Comments: RTC Chair Vancouver Councilman Jack Burkman

Welcome and thank you for participating today. I am Jack Burkman - chair of RTC and a Vancouver City Councilmember. Like many of you, I've spend years, actually decades, involved in land use and transportation planning in one form or another.

On behalf of the Regional Transportation Council Board of Directors, I am very excited to be providing the opening remarks for today's Transportation and Land Use Scenario Planning Workshop. The workshop is being sponsored by a partnership among the Federal Highway Administration, WSDOT's Olympia Planning Office and RTC.

We have a very diverse group today representing federal government, counties, cities, ports, federal highways, state highways, state commerce, transit, labor, school districts, contractors, private business, economic development, non-profits, and interested residents.

We also have Oregon Metro Councilors Carlotta Collette and Rex Burkholder, along with Andy Cotugno, Metro's Planning Manager. I highlight these participants because it represents a nice step forward in our continuing to look at the Vancouver-Portland metro area as a whole region (Yes, Vancouver-Portland).

I will introduce our speakers in a moment.

Many hours of planning and work have gone into the workshop with the focused goal of introducing you, our community leaders, to how a scenario planning process might help us address an uncertain future.

We face an uncertain set of future transportation and land use decisions and we want to discuss how we might work together to make decisions that best shape our region's quality of life and prosperity.

I think we share many common transportation and land use goals.

Let me ask a rhetorical question - how many of you want these things?

- a transportation system that provides reliable safe access to jobs, quality schools, recreation, and health-care
- a transportation system that provides for the efficient delivery of goods?
- healthy-safe neighborhoods,
- active living opportunities,
- valued community services,



- good housing,
- a clean environment
- prosperous economy?

Of course we all want these. But that's not necessarily how we plan. If we want all of these community goals then we are saying we agree that it is important to integrate our land use and transportation decisions.

So why then do we often make independent land use and transportation decisions? When we stop to think about it, we know that transportation planning should not be a stand alone exercise, but should be integrated with broader community goals, and desired outcomes. We know that, but that's not typically how our processes work.

I am hoping that over the course of today's workshop you will see how we might better combine our land use and transportation decisions through a scenario planning process - a different way to looking more holistically at our plans. You could call this a broad form of strategic planning.

Today's workshop has been planned with these goals in mind. By the end of the day we want you to walk away with a solid idea of how a scenario planning process can bring our communities range of diverse interests together, productively. We want you to see one process that would allow us to explore trends and to develop future transportation-land use scenarios or "stories". From these "stories" we would be better able to understand the tradeoffs between different policy and investment choices and decisions.



Overview of the Day

We have full day ahead of us. Let me highlight the pattern of the workshop and introduce you to several of the key speakers that will be leading us through the day. As you can see from the tripods and video cameras, the workshop will be taped by CVTV. You do not have copies of the power point presentations in your packets, but these will be available on RTC's web site following the workshop.

We will start with an introduction on how Federal Highway's template for scenario planning has worked in communities across the nation. We will be hearing from Fred Bowers and Rae Keasler, FHWA Headquarters; Brian Betlyon, FHWA Resource Center; and Alisa Fine, Volpe Center. (8:30-9:00)

You will then be introduced to Alan Matheson, Executive Director of Envision Utah. Alan will be our main speaker and resource person for the day. His first presentation will paint us a picture of how Envision Utah's scenario planning process has made a difference in communities throughout their state. (9:00-10:00)

Just after a short break we will shift briefly away from the scenario planning process to see a presentation that includes pictures of our past and future trends in land use and transportation planning. Dean Lookingbill, RTC Director will make that presentation. (10:30-11:00)

Our last session prior to lunch will have Alan sharing with us how Envision Utah's process for identifying community values was a key to their success and why community wide exploration of values should be the first step to a scenario planning process. (11:00-12:00)

Lunch break! A box lunch will be provided at noon. You may take a short break, but we are asking you to stay with your table groups to discuss your perspectives for how the Utah work on their values may or may not relate to our transportation and land use values. Brian Betlyon will explain this more when the time comes. (12:00-12:45)

Right after lunch Brian will facilitate a brief discussion across table groups to hear about your thoughts on a values exercise. (12:45-1:00)

At 1:00 pm, Alan will provide us with insight as to how they initiated their scenario planning process and discuss lessons learned. (1:00-1:30)

Brian will introduce and facilitate our last session, which will be your chance in your table groups to explore a series of questions about how scenario planning might work in Clark County. (1:30-2:30)



We will do a wrap of the day from 2:30 to 3:15. We will start the final session with a questions and answers period. Then Washougal Councilperson Molly Coston, previous RTC Chair will offer a few of her observations to kick things off. Staff will pick it up from there to help identify key points that have emerged and provide a final opportunity for questions and answers. (2:30-3:15)

Again, let me thank you for coming, I am looking forward to our expert speakers, their presentations, and most importantly to your interaction and thoughts. It's your involvement today that will let us understand how this transportation and land use scenario planning process might best add value to our community.