A Regional Vision

For a little over three years, the Piedmont Together team worked with community input and regional data and to develop a comprehensive plan that will better the future for all residents of the Piedmont Triad region. The project began in October 2010 when the US Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded the Piedmont Triad a $1.6 million grant to aid in the development of a Regional Sustainable Communities Plan. The planning process began in May 2011 and the plan was released on March 27, 2014. There was a total of $1,047,319 in matching funds and regional in-kind support for a total project cost of $2,647,319.

Piedmont Together’s plan focuses on Jobs, Housing, Transportation, Health and Places and Spaces. While the plan is a regional development plan, Piedmont Together believes in hearing the concerns, wants, and needs of the Piedmont Triad at the community level. The proposed regional solutions are based on the voices of community members heard through more than 20 civic forums, surveys, and three regional summits. Through our research we have learned key facts about the potential of our region’s future, including:

- Nearly 350,000 new economy jobs requiring higher education will be added to the region by 2040.
- $2.1 billion could be pumped back into the local economy with a 5% reduction in transportation cost for residents.
- Our region’s population is set to grow to 2 million people by 2040.

The Plan Principles

- To create a better quality of life for the Piedmont’s residents
- To build a resilient economy
- To promote equity
- To preserve and better the environment
- To engage community voices in regional decision-making

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Accomplishments

- Developed first 12-county regional vision. Achieved through 16 Goals, 172 Objectives & 259 Action Items designed to strengthen the region.
- Engaged 5,000 + people.
- Established a 63 member Consortium.
- Developed a regional scenario modeling tool.
- Conducted seven Local Design Workshops producing seven site specific development plans.
- Held three regional summits and 20 civic forums.
- Developed two interactive mapping tools.
- Produced an Equity Profile and held two equity summits.
- Produced 20 reports and documents including:

  Civic Engagement
  Strengths and Challenges in the Piedmont Triad
  If-Then Survey Report
  Piedmont Together Public Engagement Report
  Piedmont Voice Report

  Development Patterns
  Regional Scenario Modeling
  The Triad: An Interconnected Web

  Equity
  Equity in the Piedmont Triad
  Food Systems
  Piedmont Triad Food System Analysis

  Housing
  Housing Report
  Piedmont Triad Fair Housing Equity Assessment
  Piedmont Triad Market Trends, Preferences and Opportunities to 2025 and 2040

  Jobs and Economic Development
  Regional Profiles of Broadband Utilization in NC Triad Tomorrow — the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the Piedmont Triad

How we did it...

Physical Environment
Climate Adaptation Report
Green Infrastructure Report
Planning for the Energy Future

Transportation
Mobility Report
Piedmont Triad Plug-In Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan

Vision
Building a Vision: Development Process for the Implementation Goals, Objectives & Strategies

How is Piedmont Together making a difference?

Establishing a renewed sense of regionalism.
Scenario modeling tool is being used to develop socio-economic data projections for the regional travel demand model.
Regional Consolidated Housing Plan being considered.
Advancing the discussion of equity through development of a regional equity profile by PolicyLink.
Formation of regional economic development corporation and creation of an economic development district.

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