

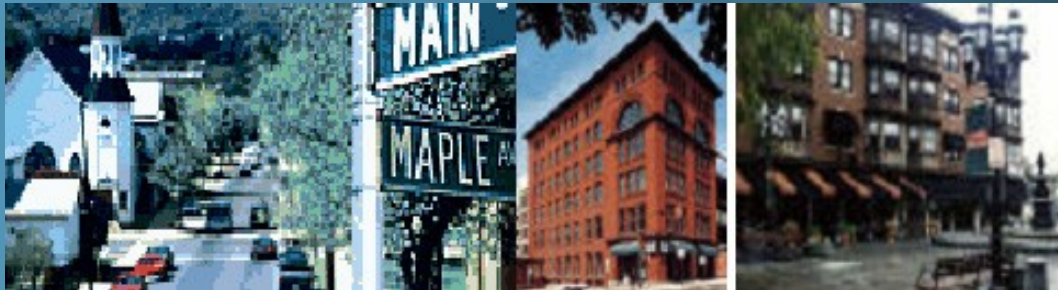
# Smart Growth 101

About Us  
Mission  
How We Get it Done



# About Us

- Statewide non-profit organization
- Diverse coalition of interests





# Mission

Promote patterns of development that.....

- Revitalize city & town centers
- Preserve historic, cultural and natural resources
- Expand economic opportunity for all Rhode Islanders



# How We Get it Done

- Policy Reform / Advocacy
- Outreach / Education
- Helping Municipalities



Website

Monthly e-news

Printed Newsletter

# What is Sprawl?

**Sprawl** is irresponsible development that wastes tax dollars, destroys farmland and open space, and encourages neglect of existing infrastructure and community resources.



# What is Smart Growth?

**Smart growth** is well-planned development that protects open space and farmland, revitalizes communities, keeps housing affordable and provides more transportation choices.





# What Smart Growth “Is” And “Is Not”

More transportation choices and less traffic

Not against cars and roads

Vibrant cities, suburbs and towns

Not anti-suburban

Wider variety of housing choices

Not about telling people where or how to live

Well-planned growth that improves quality of life

Not against growth

# Smart Growth is Defined by Outcomes

1. Neighborhood Livability
2. Better Access, Less Traffic
3. Thriving Cities & Town Centers
4. Shared Benefits
5. Lower Costs, Lower Taxes
6. Keeping open Space open

# Neighborhood Livability

- Quality of Life
- Safe, Convenience, Attractive, Affordable



# Better Access, Less Traffic

- Convenience
- Transportation Choices

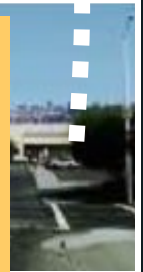




# Everything is a Drive Away

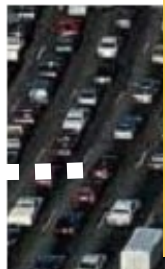


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Suburban parents spend  
**17 full days a year**  
behind the wheel, more than the  
average parent spends dressing,  
bathing and feeding a child.

Source: Surface Transportation Policy Project



Recreation



Workplace

# Thriving City & Town Centers

- Investment in existing centers
- Sense of place.



# Shared Benefits

- Choices
- Growth is only be **Smart** if it benefits the many, not just the few



# Lower Costs, Lower Taxes

- Sprawl costs more money
- Existing infrastructure conserves resources and keeps taxes down





# Keeping Open Space Open

- Smart growth protects open space, farmland and forests



# How is Smart Growth Achieved?

To achieve Smart Growth, communities should:

- Mix Land Uses
- Encourage Growth in Existing City & Town Centers
- Take Advantage of Existing Community Assets
- Housing Opportunities and Choices
- Foster “Walkable” Close-Knit Neighborhoods
- Promote a “Distinctive Sense of Place” through Preservation
- Preserve & Protect Open Space, Farmland, & Critical Environmental Areas
- Provide a variety of Transportation Choices
- Make Development Decisions Predictable, Fair and Cost-Effective
- Encourage Citizen Participation in Development Decisions

# Sprawl Vs. Smart Growth



# Sprawl Vs. Smart Growth





# So, how can YOU make a difference?

1. Be informed
2. See alternatives / opportunities
3. Get involved
4. Help us build awareness
5. Encourage young people realize they can make a difference in shaping their communities



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