



Smart Growth America
Making Neighborhoods Great Together

Building Blocks: Small City Smart Growth Code Audit Success Stories

Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute
Denver, CO

March 13, 2014

Presentation objectives

- Explore the evolving relationship between planning, zoning and smart growth outcomes in small city and rural America.
- Understand the range of options available to small cities to achieve smart growth objectives and how to successfully engage community stakeholders to bring about regulatory reform.
- Learn how to find the “low hanging fruit” of regulatory reform in your community.

Smart Growth

Smart growth means building urban, suburban and rural communities with **housing and transportation choices near jobs, shops and schools.**

These strategies **support thriving local economies** and protect the environment.

What I hear about smart growth



Wengen



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Smart growth is ugly.



Riomaggiore, Italy



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We have no history with it.



New Orleans, LA



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Nobody would want to live there.



Aspen, CO



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It just doesn't work here.



Pearl District, Portland, OR



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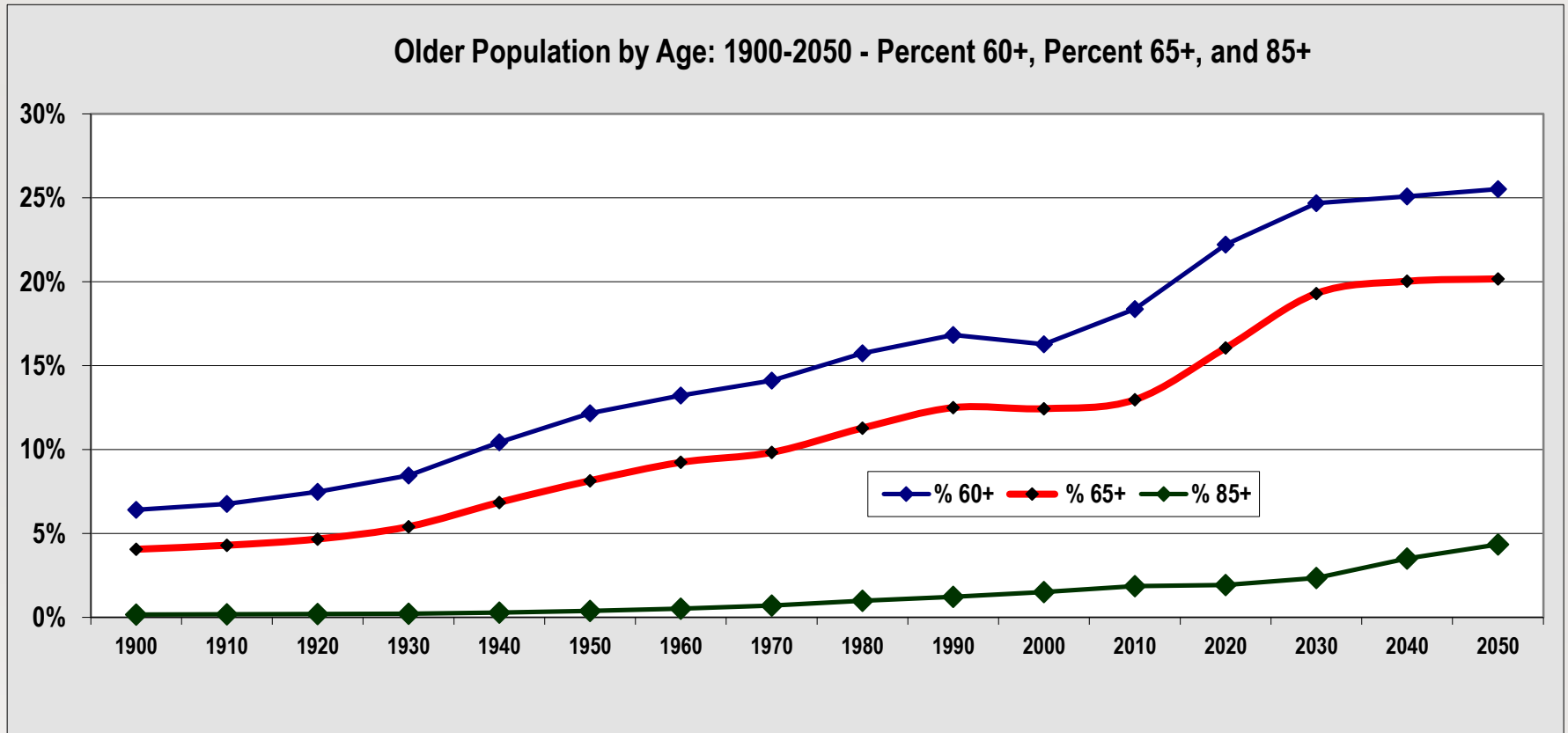
Shut up and drive!



Trend is not destiny.
-Lewis Mumford



The “silver tsunami”



Projections for 2010 through 2050 are from: Table 12. Projections of the Population by Age and Sex for the United States: 2010 to 2050 (NP2008-T12), Population Division, U.S. Census Bureau; Release Date: August 14, 2008

U.S. Housing Projections

Household	1960	2000	2025
With children	48%	33	28
Without children	52	67	72
Single	13	26	28

U.S. as a whole	Supply 2003	Change needed 2025
Attached	27 million	26 million more
Small Lot	22 million	30 million more
Large Lot (>7000 sq. ft.)	57 million	<i>22 million less</i>

Nelson, Arthur "Where Will Everybody Live?" EPA White Paper, Virginia Tech 2007

Share of growth 2010-2030

- Households with children - 14%
- Households w/o children - 86%
 - Singles – 32%

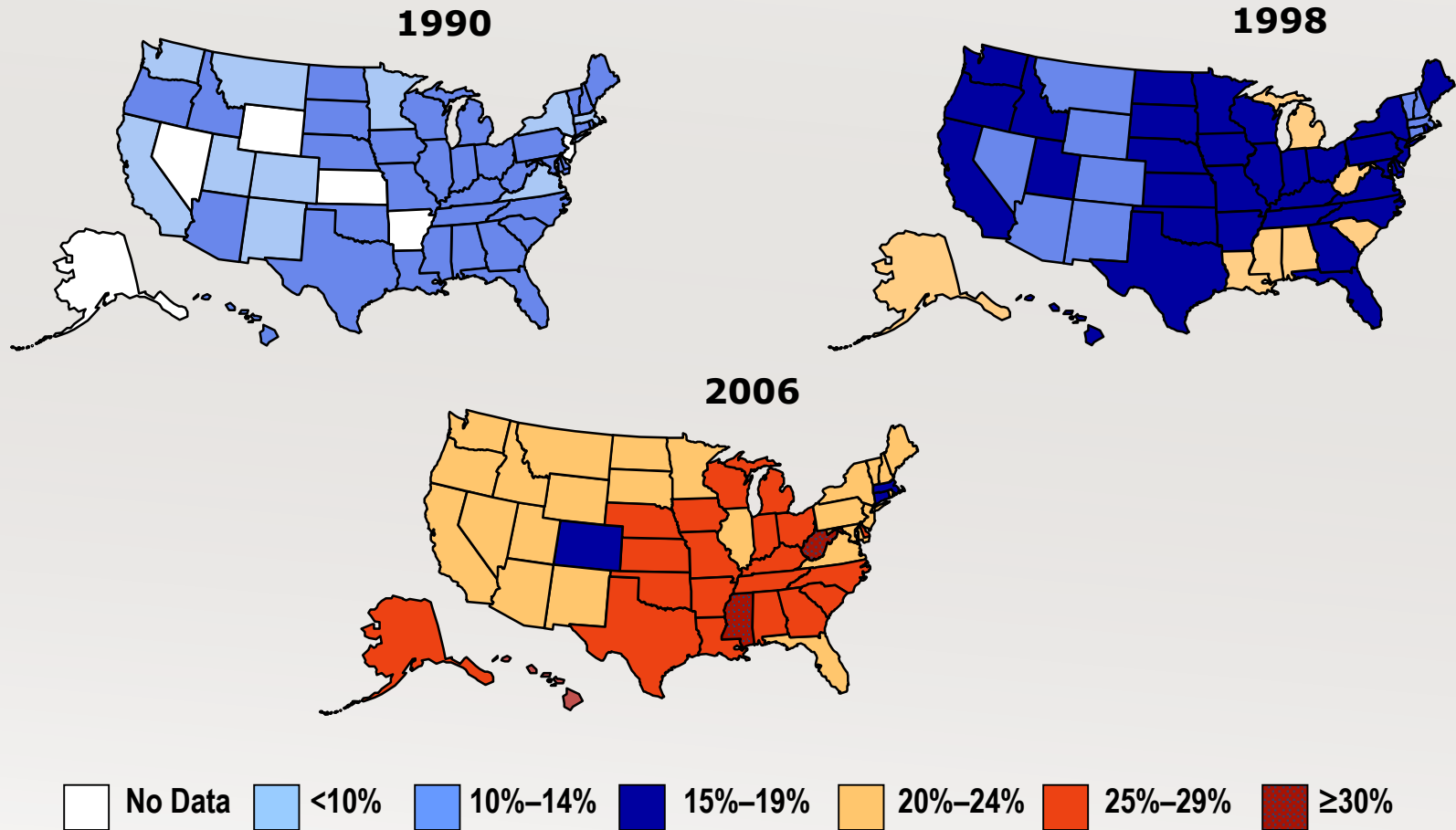


Bozeman, MT

Source: Arthur C. Nelson, Presidential Professor & Director, Metropolitan Research Center, University of Utah

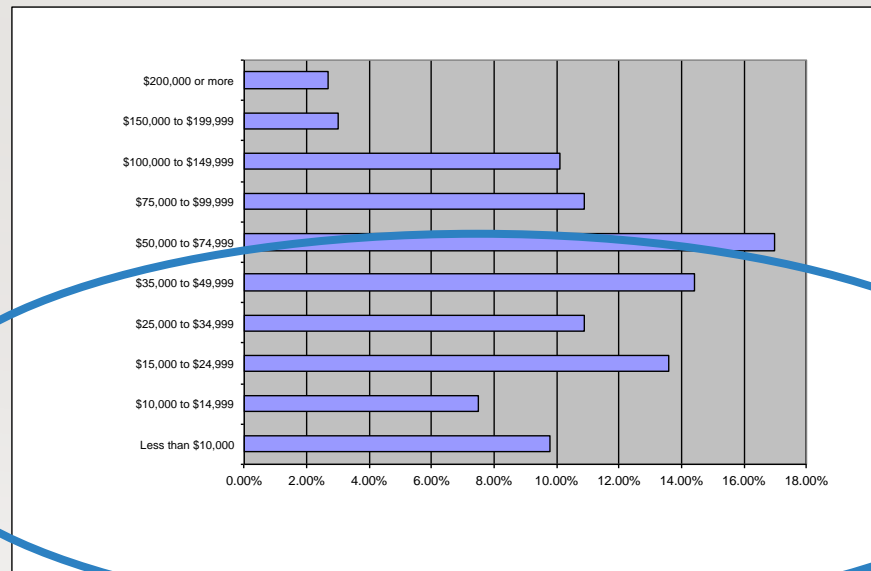
Obesity Trends* Among US Adults

(*BMI ≥ 30 , or about 30 lbs. overweight for 5'4" person)



Housing affordability

About 60% of Louisiana families can't afford to buy median value home (\$160,000)



What is our children's inheritance?

- Old?
- Fat?
- Broke?
- Alone?



Smart Growth America providing free technical assistance

- As a national leader in the field, Smart Growth America has accumulated extensive experience working with communities across the nation



Smart Growth America providing free technical assistance

- We are now offering technical assistance to local communities interested in building stronger local economies and realizing fiscal cost savings while protecting human health and the environment



Smart Growth America providing free technical assistance

- This assistance helps local leaders in urban, suburban and rural communities create local smart growth strategies that make sense for your community



Technical Assistance ready to go through 12 smart growth tools

12 Smart Growth Tools

Implementing Smart Growth 101	Planning for economic and fiscal health
Regional planning for small communities	Sustainable land use code audit
Smart growth zoning codes for small cities	Complete streets
Walkability workshop/audit	Transportation performance measurement
Parking audit	Implementing transit-oriented development 101
Cool planning: local strategies to slow climate change	Using LEED-ND to accelerate the development of sustainable communities

Pittsburgh, PA

- Sustainable Land Use Code Audit
- BIG ideas
- Energy conservation/alternative energy
- Green infrastructure and stormwater management
- Housing diversity and choice



Image from Flickr by Wallyg

Derry Township, PA

- Smart Growth Zoning Code for Small Cities
- BIG ideas
- Energy conservation/alternative energy
- Green infrastructure and stormwater management
- Housing diversity and choice



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Unnamed Place

- Implementing Smart Growth 101
- Lessons learned



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This technical assistance program is funded under a grant from US EPA's Office of Sustainable Communities through their Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Program

<http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/building-blocks.htm>



We have the freedom to make informed, humane, and intelligent choices about the kind of world we want to leave for our children and grandchildren. We also have the freedom to make uninformed, selfish, and stupid choices. Which will it be?
- Greg Pahl



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