

September, 2001

The Hunterdon County Smart Growth Planning Grant

What's the news?

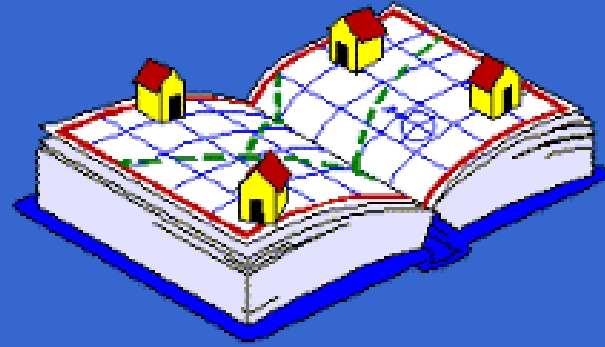


In the summer of 2001, the NJ
Department of Community Affairs
awarded Hunterdon County a Smart
Growth Planning Grant.

What is a Smart Growth Planning Grant?

Administered by the Office of State Planning in the NJ Department of Community Affairs, Smart Growth Planning Grants are awarded to counties and municipalities undertaking planning or plan implementation projects that advance State Plan goals.

Why a Smart Growth Grant?



The Hunterdon County Planning Board will use the funding to replace its 1986 Growth Management Plan with a new “Strategic Growth Management Plan.”

What is a Strategic Growth Management Plan?

- A guide for County planning policies, especially regarding transportation, farmland preservation, and open space
 - A regional land use, transportation and resource guide for municipalities to use in preparing their master plans
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What is a Strategic Growth Management Plan?

- A 20 year vision of future development patterns and a specific plan of action to achieve this vision
 - A plan developed cooperatively by the County, municipalities, residents, and all others with a stake in the County's future
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What will the Plan contain?

A County Profile – an assessment of trends and resources including...

- *Parks, recreation & open space*
- *Historic and cultural resources*
- *Natural resources*



- *Land use patterns*
 - *Farmland and agriculture*
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What will the Plan contain?

The Profile will also cover...



- *Transportation system*
 - *Business/economic trends*
 - *Demographic trends – population, housing, employment*
 - *Infrastructure & public services – water, sewer, utilities, schools*
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What will the Plan contain?

A countywide build-out analysis which provides ...

- A visual snap shot of the County when built out according to 1) current zoning and 2) alternative scenarios
- Impacts of build-out scenarios on land consumption, traffic, impervious surfaces



What will the Plan contain?

Tools to enhance community character – “visioning” process & site design options using creative design principles, public input, and technology



What will the Plan contain?

Vision statement

Goals and strategies

An implementation agenda for achieving goals (specific actions, time table, lead entity)

Indicators and targets to periodically assess how well we are achieving our goals

Sample indicator:

Acres of land preserved



Sample target:

10,000 acres of additional parkland by 2005

Why seek Plan Endorsement by the State Planning Commission?

- Endorsement by the State Planning Commission positions the County and its municipalities for priority funding - open space, farmland, transportation, downtown improvements, etc.
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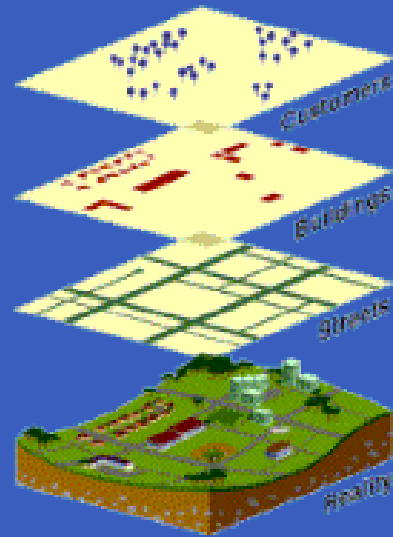
Why seek Plan Endorsement by Hunterdon County communities?

- Endorsement by municipal governing bodies signals local support for the County Strategic Growth Management Plan...

... and implementation of the County Plan will be realized by and large through local planning efforts

What will municipalities gain from the planning process?

- GIS Maps



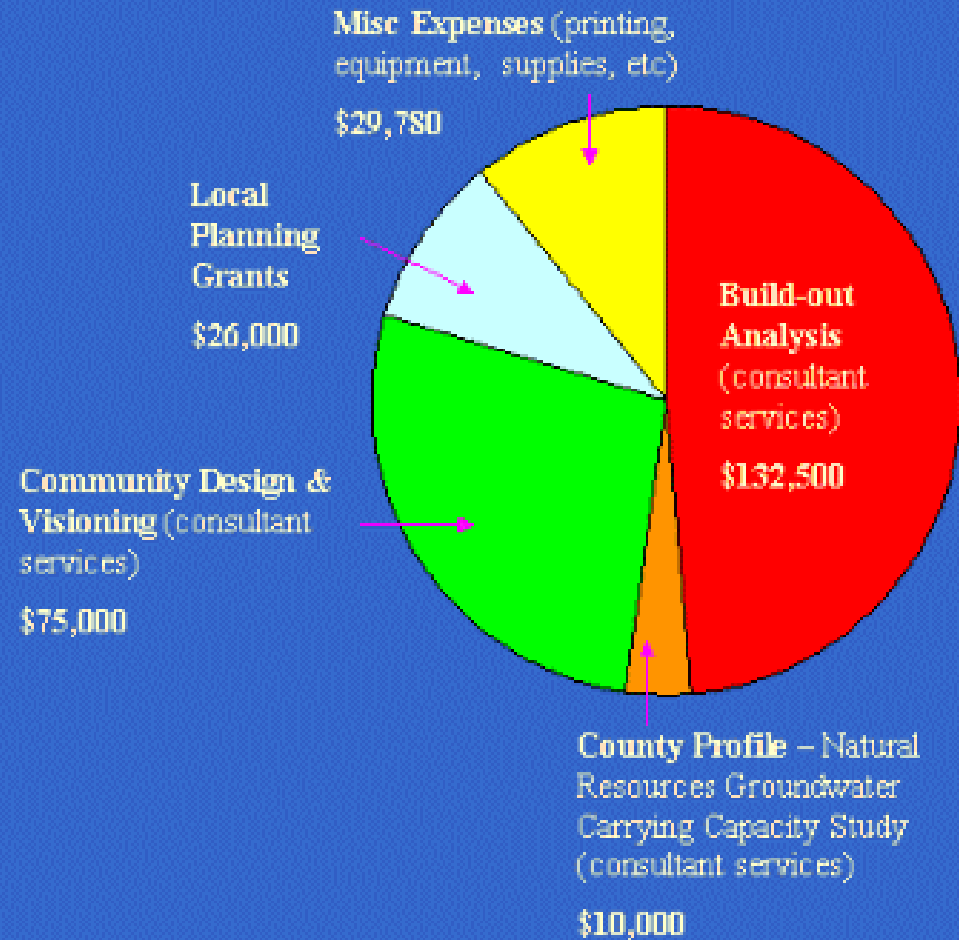
- Build-out technology

- Data

- Community design planning tools

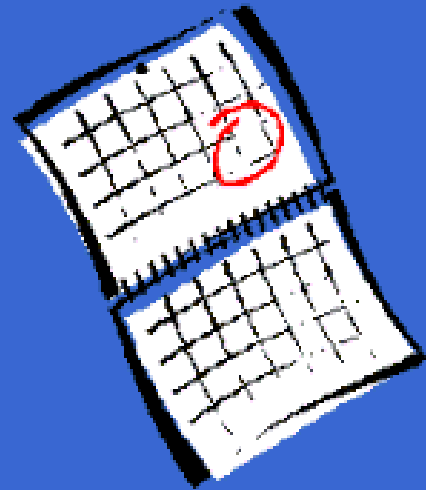
- Funding

How is the grant funding being allocated?



Note: As of 9/01, NJ DCA awarded \$144,000 of the \$273,280 requested. This will facilitate completion of County Profile and Build-out Analysis.

What is the time line for completing the Plan?



County Profile...	8/2002
County Build-out Analysis...	8/2002
Community Design & Visioning...	12/2002
Goals, Strategies, Indicators and Targets...	3/2003
Action Agenda...	5/2003
Municipal Endorsements Of County Plan...	7/2003
County Planning Bd Hearings/Plan Adoption...	9/2003
State Endorsement...	9/2003

What will Committees be responsible for doing?

- Steering Committee guides process from start to finish
- Build out Advisory Committee guides technical and policy direction for conducting buildout analysis
- Natural Resources Advisory Committees review environmental section of County Profile and guide technical/policy direction for using a groundwater carrying capacity model
- Land Use Advisory Committee recommends growth management goals, strategies, indicators and targets related to all topics covered in County Profile
- Community Design Committee offers suggestions on ways to increase use of visioning & design tools in the planning process



How can the public become involved?

- Join the Hunterdon County Smart Growth Steering Committee
 - Attend advisory committee meetings
 - Participate in public forums and workshops
 - Send comments by mail or email them to the Hunterdon County Planning Board
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For meeting notices, reports,
newsletters, public comments, and
further information...

Visit our website at
[www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/
planning.htm](http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/planning.htm);

... email us at
[planning@co.hunterdon.
nj.us](mailto:planning@co.hunterdon.nj.us)

Contact the Hunterdon
County Planning Board
at (908) 788-1490; or...
