

National Governors Association Workshop

A New Approach to Regional Transportation and Land Use Planning

On July 30, the Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council (RTC) and WSDOT hosted a workshop sponsored by the National Governors Association (NGA). Three national experts joined RTC board members and local leaders in a discussion of how integrated transportation and land use planning and decision-making can improve a region's livability and support its economic prosperity.

Workshop participants generated a number of ideas for applying these concepts, including:

- Planning for prosperity first, then ensuring regional transportation and land use actions are supportive.
- Moving from local "threat-based" planning to broad-based, collaborative, long-term regional planning.
- Using data and visualization technology to find common ground on politically divisive issues.

RTC Director, Dean Lookingbill, was pleased

with the outcome of the workshop stating, "Today's workshop was excellent, we began the policy-level conversation on how our region can better integrate transportation and land use planning."

On October 7, NGA faculty member Mike McCoy came back to Clark County to share information about scenario planning with RTC staff, RTC board members, local government staff, and local elected officials. He also worked with these groups to learn more about the region's goals for scenario planning and its existing data and modeling resources. Mike will present his assessment and recommendations to the RTC Board.



City of Vancouver Councillor Jeanne Harris exchanges ideas at the workshop with C-TRAN Executive Director Jeff Hamm.

Scenario Planning in Spokane

The Spokane Regional Transportation Council (SRTC) is using scenario planning to get public input on Spokane's future transportation system.

The SRTC is using an online game for scenario planning (available on SRTC's web site [the transportation vision project](#)). The game will allow people to share their opinion on Spokane's future transportation system. The budget-like game asks the user questions such as:

- "How should projects be funded (license fees, local gas tax, upping sales tax)?"
- "Should funds be spent on road maintenance or system expansion?"
- "What is the best type of bus/mass transit system for the area?"
- "Should bicycle and pedestrian facilities be included?"

The game player also picks taxing and funding levels and determines the priority of projects based on those choices.

The data from this game-play gauges public opinion on potential tax increases as well as preferred infrastructure considerations. This information also provides SRTC an opportunity to consider a variety of planning scenarios in order to create a transportation vision for the Spokane area for the next 30 years.

A report incorporating game results should be available by early 2011.

For More Information Contact:

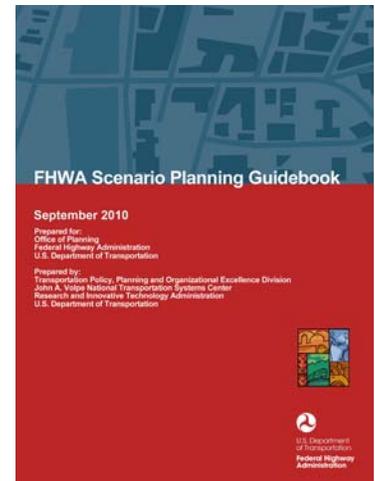
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IN THIS ISSUE

- [NGA Workshop Summary](#)
- [Scenario Planning in Spokane](#)
- [New Planning Resources](#)
- [Upcoming Webinars & Events](#)

New Planning Resources



[FHWA Scenario Planning Guidebook.](#)

This guidebook, released in October, provides considerations, steps, examples, and strategies to help guide agencies in managing and implementing a comprehensive scenario planning effort.

[New Trends in Transportation and Land Use Scenario Planning.](#)

This report summarizes the results of a literature review and scan of stakeholders involved in scenario planning. It also presents case studies on innovative, 'next generation' scenario planning efforts.

Upcoming Webinars & Events

November 3, 2010, [TRB America's Climate Choices: Adaptation Issues and Transportation Agencies](#) (Webinar)

December 3, 2010, [Bridging the Gap between Community Based Organizations and the Planning Community: How we can Leverage Non-profits in Planning](#) (Webinar)

Fall Issue Quote:

"Planning is bringing the future into the present so that you can do something about it now."

Alan Lakein, Consultant & Author

Lakein, Alan. (n.d.). Book of Famous Quotes. *Famous Quotes by Alan Lakein*. Retrieved October 27, 2010, from <http://www.famous-quotes.com/author.php?aid=4193>.

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