



**About Metro**

Clean air and clean water do not stop at city limits or county lines. Neither does the need for jobs, a thriving economy, and sustainable transportation and living choices for people and businesses in the region. Voters have asked Metro to help with the challenges and opportunities that affect the 25 cities and three counties in the Portland metropolitan area.

A regional approach simply makes sense when it comes to providing services, operating venues and making decisions about how the region grows. Metro works with communities to support a resilient economy, keep nature close by and respond to a changing climate. Together, we're making a great place, now and for generations to come.

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Suzanne Flynn

## New challenges call for new choices

**What choices are you willing to make to respond to these challenges?**

**Clean fuels and technology**

How can the region support state and federal efforts to transition to clean fuels and technology?

**Community investment**

How do we pay for investments needed to realize our shared vision for walkable communities, job creation, and affordable housing and transportation choices?

**Transit**

How much frequent transit should the region provide and what areas should be a priority? What other investments are needed to complement this strategy?

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**Developing a preferred scenario**

Working together, cities, counties and regional partners will decide which elements from each of the three scenarios should go forward into one preferred scenario for the region to adopt in December 2014.

Considerations for developing a preferred scenario include:

- costs and benefits across public health, environmental, economic and social equity goals
- financial implications
- public support and political will.



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**CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES SCENARIOS PROJECT**



## The Road to 2040 Choices for our future

Nearly two decades ago, the residents of this region set a course for growth with the adoption of the 2040 Growth Concept – a plan for how the region grows over the next 50 years.

The vision for 2040 calls for each community to decide the best way to create vibrant downtowns, provide good jobs, and offer affordable housing and transportation choices for its residents. Together, these community visions encourage growth in downtowns, main streets and employment areas, and preserve farms, forestland and natural areas. They help build a strong regional economy, while celebrating and strengthening individual local character.

**Shaping the region with intention**

The desired outcome of this shared vision is a region where people live, work and play in healthy communities with easy access to everyday needs. Where safe and reliable transportation choices connect people to jobs and goods to market. Where current and future generations benefit from the region's sustained economic competitiveness and resilience. Where everyone enjoys clean air, clean water and a healthy ecosystem. And where the benefits and costs of growth and change are equitably shared among all communities.

Shared values for livable communities guide our policy and investment choices to create a unique sense of place and quality of life that attract people and businesses to the region and inspire generations to call this place home.

**Leadership on climate change**

Because we have focused development where it makes sense – in downtowns, main streets and employment areas – and invested in transportation choices, we drive 20 percent fewer miles every day than other regions of a similar size.

By taking direction from the 2040 plan and working together with local communities as they develop and update community visions, we can grow in a more sustainable manner that reduces greenhouse gas emissions from transportation and improves the environment for healthier, more livable communities.

But there's more to be done.

The Oregon Legislature has required the Portland metropolitan region to reduce per capita greenhouse gas emissions from cars and small trucks by 2035.

**How we get there is up to you.**

## MAKING A GREAT PLACE



**CLIMATE  
SMART  
COMMUNITIES  
SCENARIOS PROJECT**



**WHAT THE FUTURE MIGHT LOOK LIKE IN 2035**

**Scenario A  
RECENT TRENDS**

This scenario shows the results of implementing adopted plans to the extent possible with existing revenues.

**Scenario B  
ADOPTED PLANS**

This scenario shows the results of raising additional revenues – as called for in the adopted Regional Transportation Plan – to allow the region to make more progress toward implementing adopted plans.

**Scenario C  
NEW PLANS AND POLICIES**

This scenario shows the results of pursuing new policies, more investment and new revenue sources to more fully achieve adopted and emerging plans.

**WE ALL HAVE CHOICES TO MAKE**

The choices we make today will determine the future of the Portland metropolitan region. While we have worked together to create strong local communities and a region with an enviable quality of life, today's uncertain economy, limited resources, rising energy costs and a growing and diverse population have brought new challenges.

In collaboration with city, county, state, business and community leaders, Metro is researching how investments and transportation and land use policies can be leveraged to respond to these challenges and meet climate goals.

**Scenario planning**

To stimulate thinking about our choices for the future and the possible impacts they may have on how we live, travel and work, three scenarios will be tested in 2013 to help answer the questions:

- What will our choices cost and what can we afford?
- Which strategies are most effective for supporting community visions and reducing greenhouse gas emissions?
- What are the risks, opportunities and tradeoffs of our choices?

**How we live**

Developers provide some new housing choices near transit and downtown areas.

**How we get around**

Streets in my community need repair. I often drive because transit is not available in my neighborhood. There are limited new pathways for biking and walking to get me to transit.

**How we work**

I look for ways to lower the fuel operating costs for my business while maintaining my delivery schedule and serving customers.

**How we invest**

We rely on existing revenues, many of which are declining (e.g., gas tax, payroll tax, federal funds). We spend an increasing share of that revenue on maintaining what we have.

**What is a scenario?**

A scenario is an example of what the future might look like, based on the choices we make today.

The scenarios presented will be tested in summer 2013.

**How we live**

My community provides more housing choices, jobs and services near transit.

**How we get around**

Streets, highways and transit systems in my community are in good repair. Targeted investments make it easier to walk, bike or take transit to work and to meet my everyday needs.

**How we work**

I build on past cost saving measures to invest in new technologies and cleaner fuels to support my delivery and business needs.

**How we invest**

We partner with nearby city, regional and state leaders to increase existing revenues to properly maintain and expand streets, highways, transit, sidewalks and bike pathways.

**How we live**

More young people, seniors and families live close to services and transit because of the convenience this offers. I live close to where I work and can choose to drive or take another way.

**How we get around**

Streets, highways and transit systems in my community are in good repair. I can easily walk, bike and take transit to work and to meet my everyday needs.

**How we work**

I reinvest cost savings to create more jobs and further shift operations toward energy efficiency for my business and delivery needs.

**How we invest**

We work together with business and community leaders to find new ways to fund maintenance and make new investments in streets, highways, transit, sidewalks and bike pathways.

**CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES SCENARIOS PROJECT TIMELINE**

**UNDERSTAND CHOICES**

**2011-12**

Research how strategies could impact community outcomes and GHG emissions

**SHAPE CHOICES**

**Jan.-Sept. 2013**

Develop and evaluate scenario options to learn how choices today impact our communities tomorrow

**SHAPE PREFERRED SCENARIO**

**Oct. 2013-March 2014**

Report back to communities and develop a preferred scenario

**SELECT PREFERRED SCENARIO**

**April-Dec. 2014**

Adopt a preferred land use and transportation scenario

