



Live New homes are primarily located within existing cities and towns and include apartments, townhouses and detached single-family houses. Many neighborhoods in urban areas and new centers contain a mix of retail, offices, schools, parks, and public spaces. Other neighborhoods are separated from employment and commercial areas, but have sidewalk connections to them.

Work Jobs are located primarily in urban areas and new centers. Some clusters of jobs are located in business parks in suburban and rural locations.

Shop New shops and services typically are located along major roads in urban areas (in or near neighborhoods), or within new centers. Some new shopping centers are located in suburban areas.

Play Regional recreation opportunities (e.g. lakes, rivers, and mountains) are accessible by low frequency transit for most people and for communities with waterfront parks. Many local parks, greenways and recreation centers are within or close to neighborhoods, with sidewalks and transit linking these areas.

Get Around Multiple types of transportation (car, bus, walk, and/or bicycle) are available for most people. Some neighborhoods are within walking or biking distance to jobs, school, shops and services; most others have access to local or regional transit to those locations. Schools serve smaller areas of the region, and many children have the option to walk or bike to school. People in suburban and rural areas can use park-and-ride express bus transit to access jobs and shopping areas. Greenways are used for recreation and for getting to work.

Grow New Centers

Growth is balanced between the region's cities and towns, and suburban communities. New homes and jobs create centers of activity containing a mix of housing, shops, and services that are connected by several types of transportation. Regional transit connects the centers and local transit is improved.

Features

- Different housing types are found throughout cities, towns, and centers; some new subdivisions are developed in the suburban and rural areas and large-lot homes in rural areas.
- Most new homes and jobs are located in areas with both businesses and homes.
- Local transit is improved and a regional transit network is created to connect centers with cities and towns by express bus.
- Investments in wider sidewalks and bike lanes are made in high growth areas (cities, towns and major roads connecting new centers); there are limited improvements in rural areas.
- Most farmland, open space, steep slope and floodplain areas remain as they are today.

How this growth concept supports values found in the regional vision _

- ☐ Mixed-use centers, walkable neighborhoods, and a wider range of transportation options have reduced the amount of driving within the region. This has lowered auto emissions and improved air quality.
- ☐ Different housing types are available to meet the needs of different types of households.
- ☐ The design of walkable neighborhoods and mixed-use centers allows for more active, healthy lifestyles.
- ☐ Shorter distances between neighborhoods and employment/commercial centers reduce housing and transportation costs. Infrastructure costs are lowered because extensions are planned to guide growth.
- ☐ Natural areas, farmland, and wildlife habitat have been preserved through more compact development.
- Stormwater runoff and water pollution have been reduced through infill and redevelopment.