

# Goal: Smart Communities

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Well-designed, energy-efficient housing of varied types and densities linked to jobs, transit, and services. Affordable and convenient transportation options should be enhanced to reduce our car-dependence, conserve resources, improve air quality, and reduce traffic congestion.

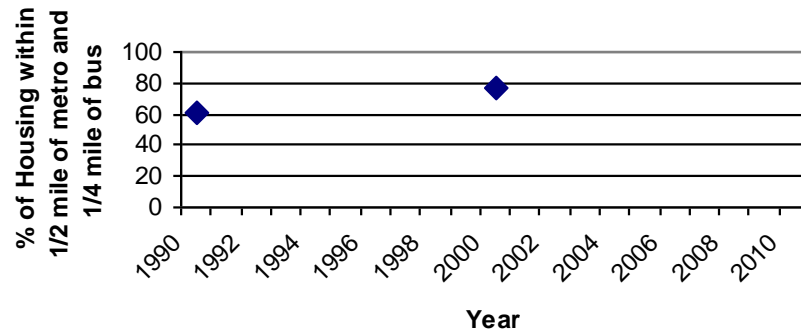
Suggested revision:

***“Smart communities are affordable, healthy, energy-efficient communities with a sense of place.”***

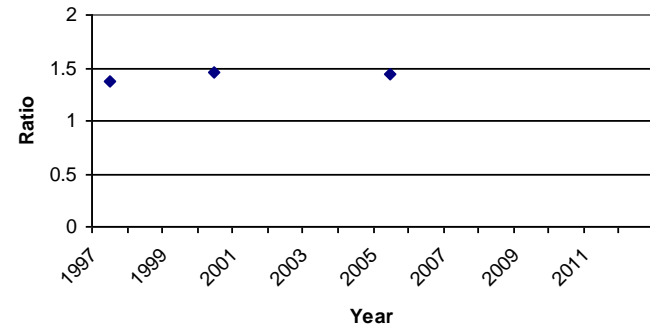
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# Indicators

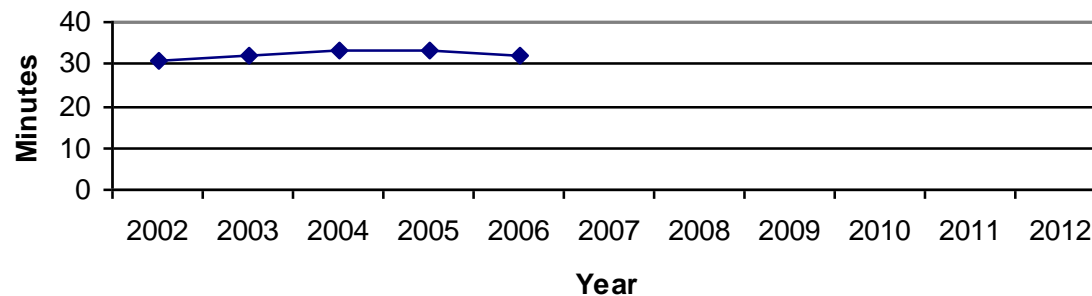
## Development Near Transit



## Jobs-Housing Ratio



## Montgomery County Residents - Mean Travel Time to Work (Minutes)



# Featured Proposed Alternate Indicators

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- % of new building permits that are LEED certified
- % of daily trips (people avg. 7 trips per day) are able to be done by walking or by transit
- % of access to public transit to where they want to go (relevance)
- Affordability
- Mixed-Use Index
- Income diversity
- % of people within 20 minute walking / transit distance of their normal everyday activities (groceries, libraries, open spaces, schools, cultural events, etc.)
- Per capita/household energy use
- “Happiness index”



# The Factors

- Constantly changing county
- Traditional financing methods
- Access to public wealth is a measure of a community members success
- 70% of people live in cul-de-sac communities
- Subsidies for highways & development
- Political pressure & economics changed the original intent of the community (satellite cities, not bedroom communities)
- Mansion-ization of communities
- Private sector perspective understood
- Externality costs – don't just charge average costs
- Current state of public transit

# Key Partners with a Role to Play

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- Did not get to this portion

# What Will Work to Make a Measurable Difference

- Eliminate 2 of the 7 trips taken per day by car
- Prices change behavior (ex: triple the gasoline tax to decrease amount of car trips)
- People should pay the full cost of their choices
- Public education on Smart Communities
- Radical Code revision
- Increase collaboration among government entities
- Increase people's **choices** in communities (cul-de-sac vs. urban/walkable)
- Build to highest, most energy efficient code
- Creative Financing (subsidize smart growth)
- Rebuilding "the Commons" – public space/resources
- Re-zone communities to higher densities to put in "missing pieces"
- **Re-develop neighborhood shopping centers** to include "missing pieces"
- Use \$ earmarked for the ICC to public transportation
- Financing additional modes of travel – bike paths, public transit, walk-ability
- Look at the greenhouse gas impact of proposed roads
- Improve accessibility – do an accessibility audit of each community & respond to each communities needs

