Dare to be first.
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Planning for Complete Communities in Delaware

Presented by
Marcia Scott, Bernard Dworsky, Natasha Nau

City of Milford Council Meeting
Monday, February 13

Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- Why Plan for Complete Communities?
- Purpose of Project
- Project Scope
  - What makes a Complete Community?
  - Community Engagement
- Potential Outcomes

Introduction: IPA Project Team

Project Manager: Marcia Scott
Meeting Facilitator: Ed O'Donnell

Milford Team	Elsmere Team	Role
Marcia Scott	Ted Patterson	Team Leader
Bernie Dworsky	Martin Wollaston	Staff Support
Julia O'Hanlon		Staff Support
Natasha Nau	Chris Anderson	Graduate Fellows Support

Introduction

- **Who We Are**

  IPA is a public service, education, and research center at the University of Delaware.

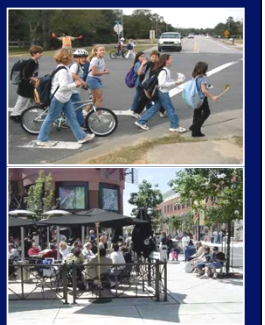
- **What We Do**
  - Planning and economic development
  - Transportation planning and policy
  - Healthy Communities initiative
  - Local government training

Why Plan for Complete Communities?

- **In the past:**
  - Communities were built on a human scale – people could walk everywhere!
  - Compact, mixed-used development was the norm
  - Streets were connected
- **Today:**
  - In the era of suburbanization - the car is king!
  - Land use patterns promote sprawl
  - Developments don't connect (cul-de-sacs)
  - Lack of pedestrian infrastructure (sidewalks)

Why Plan for Complete Communities?

- Healthy Community Benefits
- Greater Livability
- Provides Transportation Equity
- Economic Benefits
- Protects Environmental Resources



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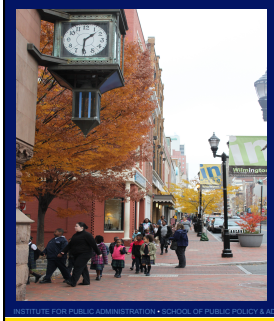
The Way We Design and Build Communities Impacts:



- Community character
- Quality of life
- Transportation choices
- Active recreation opportunities
- Sense of place
- Meaningful engagement

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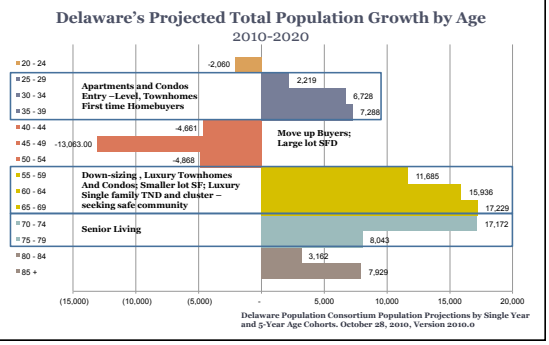
Why Complete Communities?

- Strengthens economic development opportunities
  - Incorporating Mixed Use Development
  - Responds to market demands
  - Creates sense of place
- Lower infrastructure costs
- Better community design
- More efficient to provide services
- Efficient transportation networks

Delaware's Needs Are Changing



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Purpose of Project

- Determine what principles, planning practices, incentives, design strategies, and/or public policies support Complete Communities
- Develop a planning framework for State of Delaware

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Scope of Project

- Work with 2 "Pilot Communities" in Delaware
- Identify and invite stakeholders to 3 workshops in March, May, and July
- Facilitate discussion at workshops on:
  - What constitutes a Complete Community?
  - How can Complete Communities be achieved in Delaware?
  - What hurdles need to be overcome to move toward Complete Communities?

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Community Engagement: What Makes A Community Complete?

- Complete Streets?
- Efficient Land Use?
- Healthy and Livable?
- Inclusive and Active?
- Sustainable?

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Community Engagement: Website

http://sites.udel.edu/completecommunities/

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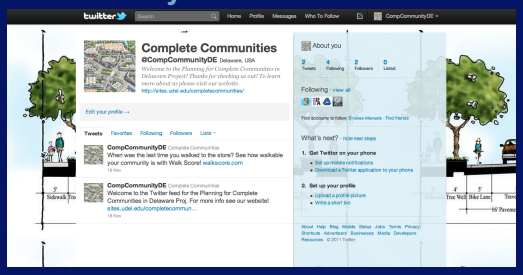
Community Engagement: Surveys and Social Media



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Potential Outcomes

- Public Policy Forum – larger stakeholder group
- State plan with recommendations
- Town-specific recommendations as to how to build a framework for Complete Communities
  - Implementation of Comprehensive/ other Plans
  - Policies
  - Community design
  - Future planning focus
  - Capital planning

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Milford Project Team

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Thank You

Questions?