

ON TO 2050

# Alternative Futures for Committee Consideration

October 6, 2016

# Agenda

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- I. What is Alternative Futures?
- II. Development of futures
- III. Introduction to futures
- IV. Background trends
- V. Next steps

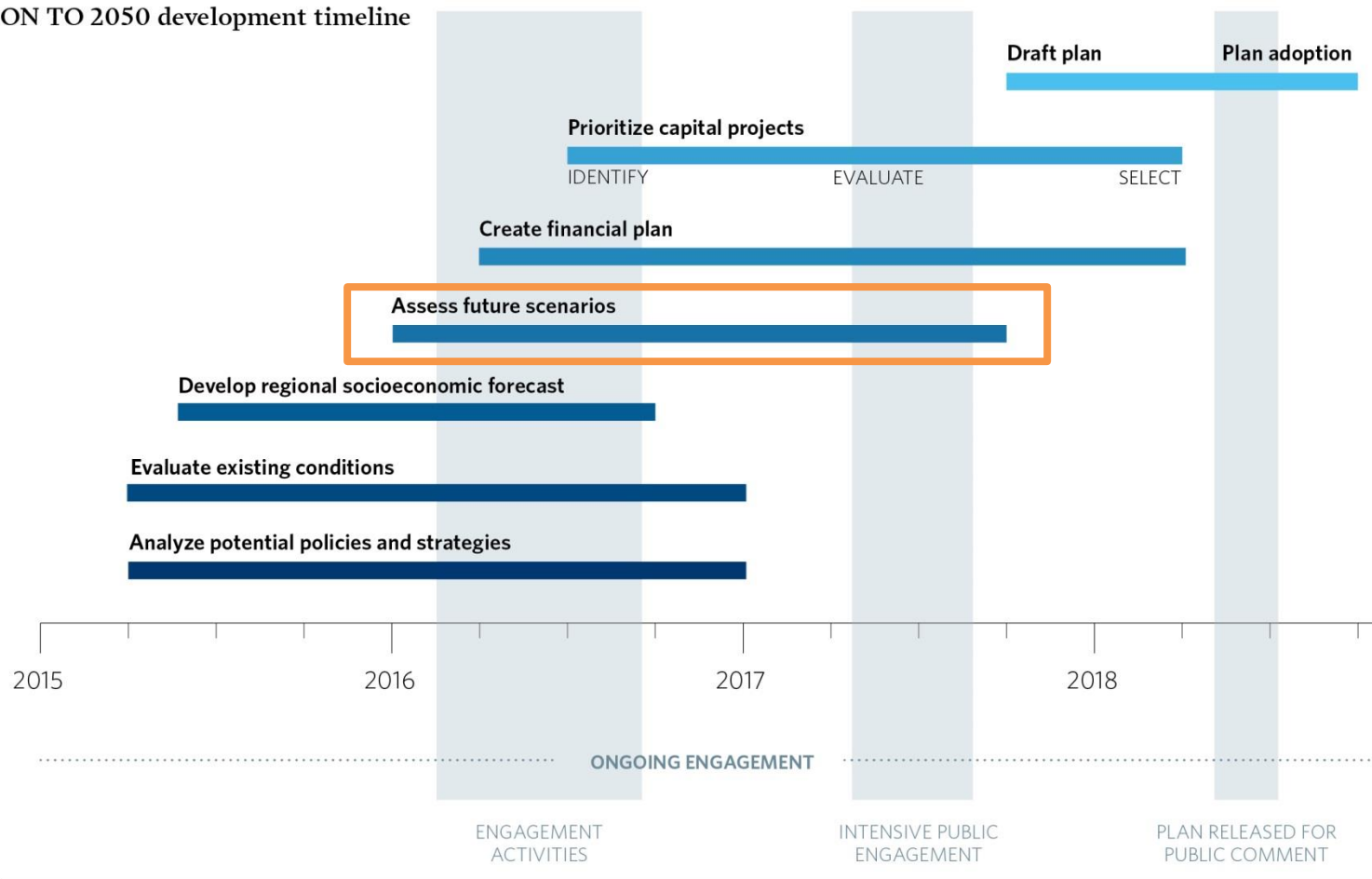
# What is Alternative Futures?

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- **Analytical tool** to prepare for the future, providing a framework to:
  - Understand trends
  - Assess policies and strategies to plan for impacts
- Focus on **macro** level trends to help region...
  - Prepare
  - Mitigate
  - Capitalize
- **Prioritize** strategies benefitting multiple futures
- Robust analyses primarily through **qualitative** research
  - Complete quantitative and spatial analyses when possible and useful
- Provide vehicle for **discussion**

# ON TO 2050 Development Process

ON TO 2050 development timeline



# Development of alternative futures

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## 1) In-house working sessions with CMAP staff

- Goal: Develop initial list of trends representing possible futures
- Criteria: plausibility, impact, policy links

## 2) Working session with experts from partner organizations

- Goals:
  - Prioritize and combine 20 initial trends
  - Assess impacts, likelihood, and connections to broader issues
  - Identify missing trends

# Initial list of futures

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## Environment

1. Intensified climate change impacts
2. Constrained water supply
3. Efficient and resilient energy system

## Land Use

4. Transitioning agricultural and natural lands
5. Continued preference for suburban lifestyle
6. Investment in mixed-use centers
7. Smarter, more responsive infrastructure and land use planning

## Governance

8. Diminished public resources
9. Politically gridlocked region
10. Tech-enhanced active citizenship
11. More regional planning

## Demographics

12. Aging region
13. Diversified region

## Regional Economy

14. Economically stratified region
15. Economic restructuring
16. Stagnant regional growth

## Transportation

17. Increased freight intermodalism
18. Increase transit use, bicycling, and walking
19. Smarter auto-oriented mobility
20. Driverless vehicles

# Alternative futures for consideration

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- Focus research, analysis, and public engagement on **5** futures
- Each future represents ...
  - One or more priority trends
  - One or more CMAP policy areas
  - Corresponding CMAP work
  - A possible stand-alone future for the region

# Proposed alternative futures

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- In 2050, what would happen to our region if...
  - Climate change impacts intensified?
  - More people chose urban living?
  - Technology enabled greater mobility?
  - Public resources are further depleted?
  - Economic restructuring continued?
- Background trends:
  - Demographic shifts
  - Proliferation of data and technology



# Intensified climate change impacts

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- **Flooding, drought, and extreme temperatures** more frequent and intense
  - Infrastructure and natural systems strained
  - Most **vulnerable residents** disproportionately impacted
- **Habitats and agricultural zones** shift and **water supply** issues exacerbated
- Region attracts **residents and industries** from places facing harsher climate impacts
- More **distributed and resilient** energy system

# Technology enabled greater mobility

- Mobility of people and goods improves
- More accurate, real-time information becomes more accessible
- Access to technology is unequal
- High-tech **intermodal cluster** grows in prominence
- **On-demand** products and services increases
  - Cost of driving decreases, continuing growth at suburban edge
- **Driverless cars** proliferate



# More people chose urban living

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- Marked **preference** for walkable, mixed-use communities
  - Significantly denser suburban downtowns and commercial cores
- Office jobs **return to urban areas**
  - Suburban office parks and strip malls disinvested
- More people **bike, walk, and take transit**
  - More places are dense enough to support transit service
  - Driving and demand for parking decrease
- **Affordable housing** in dense accessible neighborhoods scarcer, and suburbanization of poverty continues

# Economic restructuring continued

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- Regional economy continues to transition from production to service and “knowledge-based” economy
- Region remains global leader in freight and logistics
- Demand for higher skilled workers increases
  - Lower skilled workforce unemployment rate increases
- More higher income households in urban core
- Historically marginalized communities continue to suffer
  - Disparate educational, employment and health outcomes

# Public resources are further depleted

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- Ongoing fiscal problems constrain public budgets
  - Service provision and infrastructure condition negatively impacted
- Shifting financial strategies
  - Greater reliance on local revenue sources and grants
  - Greater use of PPPs and other creative financing structures
- Cross-cutting programs emphasized
- More transparency, more efficiency, and performance-based programming
- More intergovernmental cooperation
- More distinct “haves” and “have-nots” among communities

# Background trends

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- Two background trends
  - Demographic shifts
    - Aging population
    - Diversifying population
  - Proliferation of data and information technology
- Incorporate background trends into each future

# Next steps

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|---------------------------|--|
| October 2016 .....        | Collect feedback on recommended alternative future trends  |
| Nov. 2016 – March 2017... | Develop alternative futures<br>Identify and prioritize strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Trend specific strategies</li><li>• Universal strategies</li></ul> Prepare for public outreach |
| April – August 2017 ..... | Finalize outreach plan<br>Release trends apps and Metroquest<br>Host public workshops on alternative futures   |

# Questions for you

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- What are the most compelling impacts of these futures?
  - What are you, as an individual, most wary about or excited for?
  - What futures will have the greatest impact on your work, and why?
- Do you have suggestions on ways to engage the public about these futures?
  - What kinds of information could help us communicate this future?



# ONTO2050

Questions?

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