

ON TO 2050

# Alternative Futures Scenario Planning

June 15, 2016

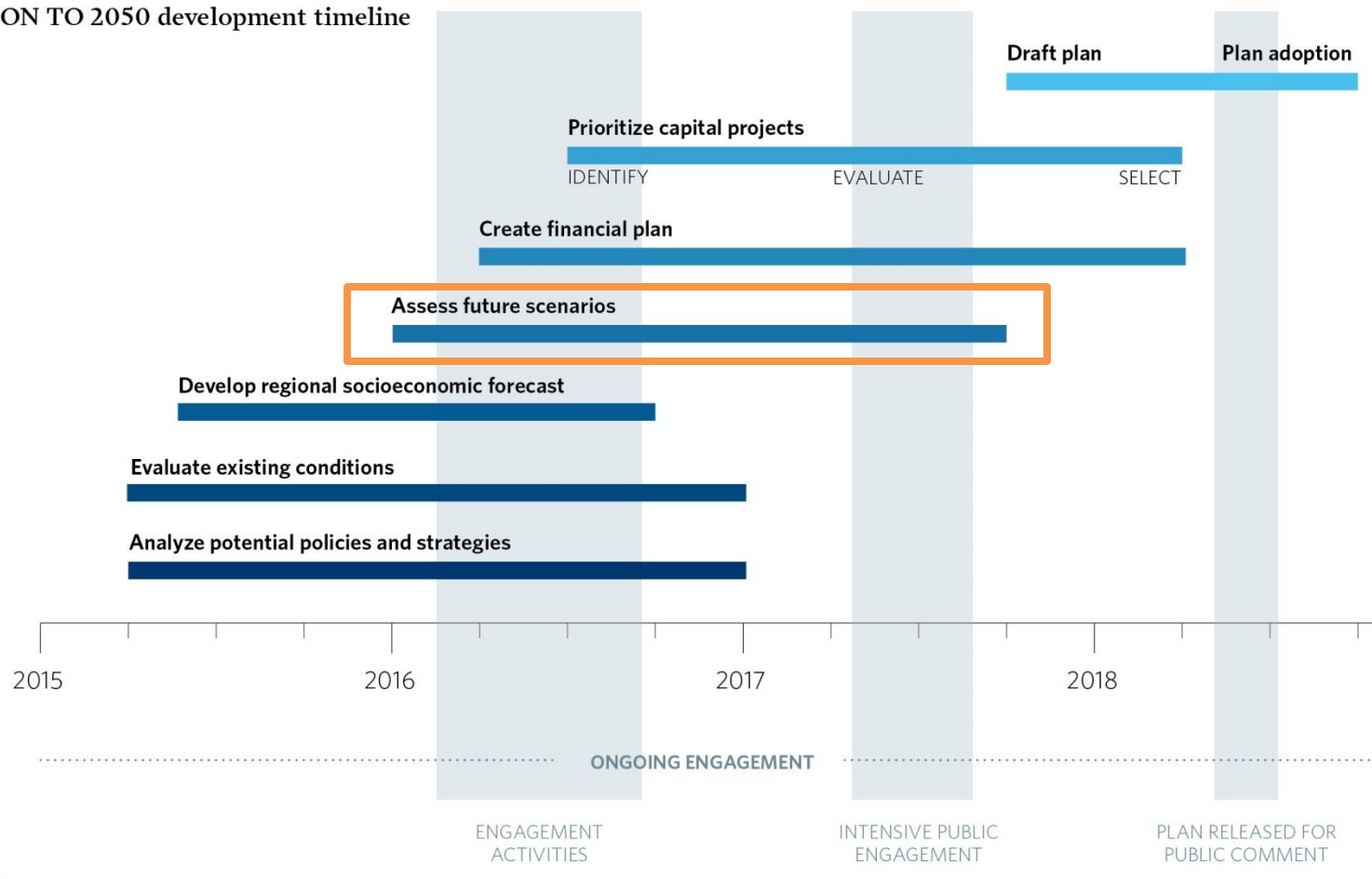
# Agenda

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1. Intro to scenario planning
2. Primary uses of scenario planning
3. Scenario planning in GO TO 2040
4. Alternative futures scenario planning in ON TO 2050
5. Next steps

# ON TO 2050 Development Process

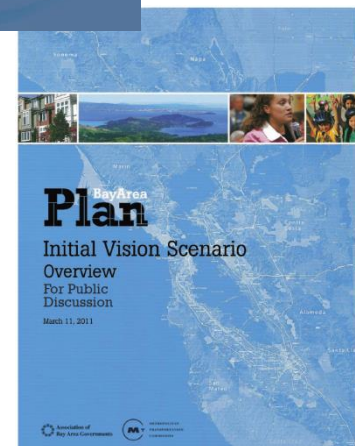
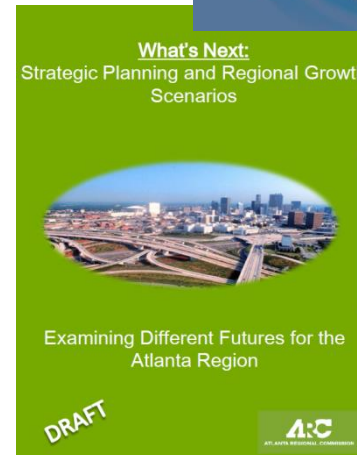
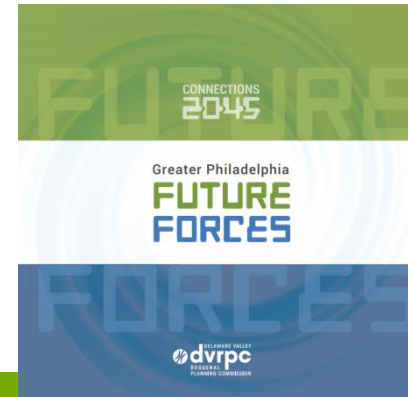
ON TO 2050 development timeline



# What is scenario planning?

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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 of forces
- Approach can be used for
  - Decision-making
  - Plan-making
  - Prioritization
  - Oversight
  - Testing
  - Conversation
- Commonly used by
  - MPOs
  - Private sector
  - Other entities at various scales



# Primary benefits of scenario planning

- Focus systematically on trends
- Illuminate desired futures
- Examine potential paths
- Learn without risk
- Prepare for the future
  - Mitigate risk
  - Adapt
  - Be opportunistic
- Complement planning processes
- Engage many stakeholders in conversation



Image source: CMAP kiosk for GO TO 2040

# Scenario planning in GO TO 2040

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- Assessed strategies related to land use, transportation, economic development, and the environment to understand possible outcomes
- **3 scenarios** asked “What if we...”

## Reinvest

Rebuild current infrastructure

## Preserve

Keep assets and character intact

## Innovate

Rely on innovation and technological improvements

- The **Preferred Scenario** collected the best strategies from each scenario

# Potential outcomes of scenarios in GO TO 2040

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Sample outcomes based on current trends	Scenarios		
	Reinvest	Preserve	Innovate
<b><i>Infill</i></b> Around 2/3 of growth will occur in an infill location	Improves	Improves slightly	Stays the same
<b><i>Land Consumption</i></b> The region will lose 490,000 acres of farmland & 190,000 acres of open space	Improves	Improves greatly	Improves

# Alternative Futures scenario planning in ON TO 2050

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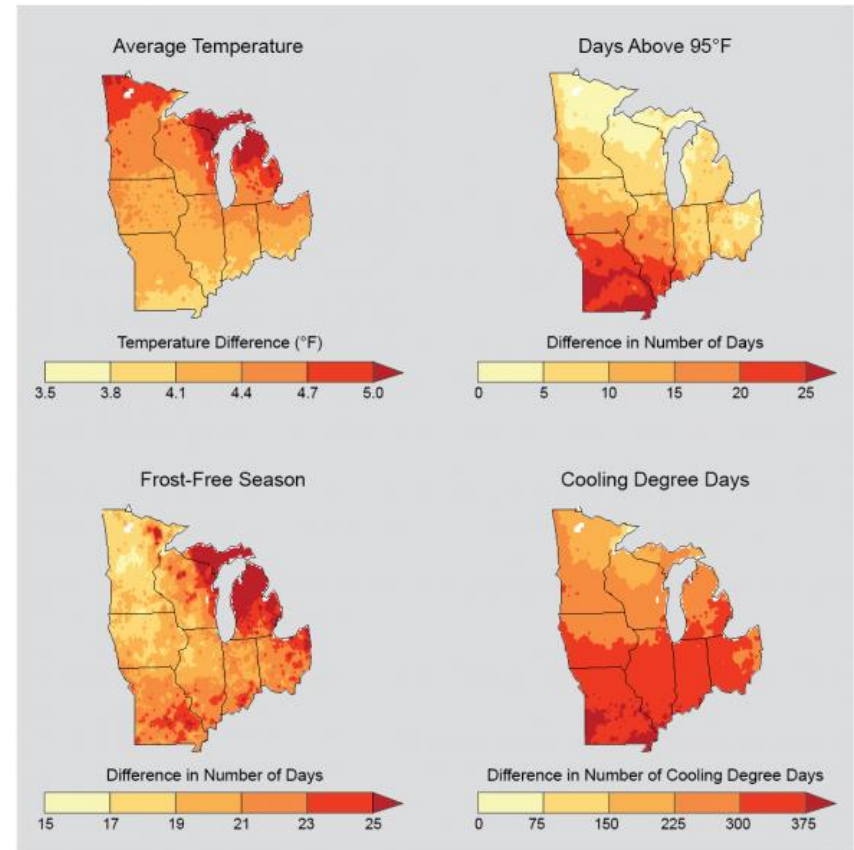
- Continue GO TO 2040 emphases and explore new policy areas
- Focus on 5-8 macro level trends
- Identify policies and strategies to respond to macro level changes
  - Prepare
  - Mitigate
  - Capitalize
- Prioritize strategies benefitting multiple futures
- Robust analyses primarily through qualitative research
  - When possible and most useful, quantitative and spatial analyses
- Provide vehicle for discussion



# Alternative Futures scenario planning in ON TO 2050

- Some potential topics
  - Climate change
  - Transportation innovations
- Convene experts to ID trends and strategies
  - Likelihood
  - Impact
  - Technical capacity

## Projected Mid-Century Temperature Changes in the Midwest



Source: 2014 National Climate Assessment, Kenneth Kunkel, Cooperative Institute for Climate and Satellites – North Carolina, <http://nca2014.globalchange.gov/report/regions/midwest>.

# Example of Alternative Future planning: Future Forces, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, 2016

- Scenario planning for Connections 2045
- Identified 5 main trends (“structuring forces”)
  - High likelihood + high impact
- Determined strategies
  - “Universal actions” - Positive impact to **all** forces
  - “Contingent actions” - Specific to force

## Five structuring forces for the Greater Philadelphia Region



Source: Greater Philadelphia Future Forces, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, 2016

# Proposed scenario planning timeline

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May – August 2016.....	Define topics for the alternative futures process
August 2016 .....	Select key alternative futures for analysis
Sept. 2016 – March 2017 ...	Develop alternative futures and prepare for public outreach
April – May 2017 .....	Finalize outreach plan and materials
June – August 2017 .....	Public workshops on alternative futures

# ONTO2050

Questions?

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