News and Notes
Vision North Texas, Phase 2
July 2006

Vision North Texas is a private-public partnership designed to increase awareness about the growth expected in North Texas. It involves people and organizations in initiatives that accommodate this growth successfully. This newsletter is the first in a series reporting on our progress & activities.

Advisors Announced
Regional leaders representing diverse interests will provide advice and assistance to Phase 2 of Vision North Texas (VNT). Advisors will share their expertise and perspective with VNT and will help VNT communicate with their stakeholder organizations. Members also serve on an Advisory Committee, which held its first meeting on June 5, 2006 at the Addison Conference Centre. Vision North Texas Advisors are listed on page 2 of this newsletter.

Advisors Schedule North Texas Leadership Summit
At their June meeting, Vision North Texas Advisors agreed that a summit for the region’s top leaders will be a major focus for VNT’s fall activities. September 25th will be the date for an important gathering of leaders from cities, counties, school districts & universities. These elected and appointed officials will focus on the key issues facing different types of communities within the region – the core cities of Dallas and Fort Worth, ‘first tier’ communities like Garland, rapidly-growing ‘outlying’ cities like McKinney, and cities like Weatherford that are separated from other urban areas by agricultural lands or open spaces. William H. Hudnut III, former Mayor of Indianapolis and currently ULI Senior

William H. Hudnut III, Leadership Summit Keynote Speaker
Research Fellow, will be the keynote speaker. Other panel presentations and workshop sessions will be included in this half-day event, which will be held at the Arlington Convention Center.

Dallas County Judge Margaret Keliher and Arlington Mayor Robert Cluck are co-chairing this important event. Leaders of the cities and counties participating in the Vision North Texas program will take part in this regional summit. Interested communities can join on the VNT website.

Advisors consider regional issues

The challenge: accommodating future growth

Did You Know?
• When we plan for North Texas, we’re addressing a region larger than the state of Vermont.
• By 2030, our region will have more people than Colorado and Oregon combined.
Vision North Texas Advisors

These are the individual North Texas leaders who have agreed to serve as Advisors to Vision North Texas as of July 15, 2006. Vision North Texas will add other advisors as this partnership continues.

Terri Adkisson
Dallas Area Rapid Transit

William Bancroft
Conbrio

Judy B. Bell
City of Crandall

Brian J. L. Berry
University of Texas at Dallas

Bonnie Bowman
League of Women Voters, Arlington

George Campbell
City of Weatherford

Rene Castilla
Dallas County Community College District

Mayor Robert Cluck
City of Arlington

Stephanie Colovas
Real Estate Advisor

Fernando Costa
City of Fort Worth

Peter Coughlin
Southside at Lamar

Melissa Dailey
Downtown Fort Worth, Inc.

Mayor Bob Day
City of Garland

Bruce Davis
Fort Worth National Bank

Jyl De Haven
Arbiter Group

Betsy del Monte
U.S. Green Buildings Council – North Texas

Mike Eastland
NCTCOG

Councilmember Sal Espino
City of Fort Worth

Ruben E. Esquivel
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center

Robert Galecke
University of Dallas

Donald Gatzke
University of Texas at Arlington

Vergel Gay
University of North Texas

Glen Hahn
Greater Fort Worth Real Estate Council

Nancy Hardie
City of Farmers Branch

Don Herzog
North Texas Developer Council

Marc Hildenbrand
Hillwood Development Corporation

Steve Houser
Arborlogical Services

Jill Jordan
City of Dallas

Judge Margaret Keliher
Dallas County

Karl A. Komatsu
Komatsu Architecture

Councilmember Linda Koop
City of Dallas

Ann Kovitch
Turner Collie & Braden

Paul M. Lehner
Trust for Public Land

David Leininger
City of Irving

Lorenzo Littles
The Enterprise Foundation

Gary Martin
AIA Fort Worth

Bijan Mohraz
Southern Methodist University

Jim Oliver
Tarrant Regional Water District

Dr. Oswell Person
Paul Quinn College

Dan S. Petty
North Texas Commission

Phillip Poole
Townsite Company LLC

John Promise
NCTCOG

Paris Rutherford
Woodmont Companies

Mayor Mike Simpson
City of Frisco

Nathaniel Tate
Foundation for Community Empowerment

Bob Terrell
CH2M Hill

John Terrell
Dallas Fort Worth International Airport

Allison J.H. Thompson
City of Burleson

Frank Turner
Greater Dallas Planning Council

Peter Vargas
City of Allen

John Walsh
ULI North Texas District Council

Karen Walz
Vision North Texas

Commissioner Cynthia White
Denton County

Ron Whitehead
Town of Addison

Jeff Williams
River Legacy Foundation

Libby Willis
Riverside Alliance

Jerry Wimpee
Rockwall County

Contact Us

For more information on Vision North Texas, please visit our website at www.visionnorthtexas.org. To become involved in specific activities, contact Project Manager Karen Walz FAICP at vnt@planforaction.com or 214-320-1154.
Does Location Matter?
Vision North Texas research shows that where growth occurs – the regional form or pattern of development – does make a difference to important regional issues.

The North Central Texas Council of Government’s Transportation Department examined the impact of alternative scenarios on air quality and the transportation improvements needed to accommodate future growth. They found that alternatives such as those created at last year’s Vision North Texas workshop could reduce Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC), a key pollutant, by up to 11%. Transportation facilities that provide the same level of service to the region could cost $15.6 Billion less with these alternative regional development patterns.

Subregional Workshops
One or two subregional workshops will be held in fall 2006. These workshops will bring together diverse stakeholders, but in one part of the region with particular challenges and opportunities.

Local organizations will co-sponsor the workshop with VNT. It will include a focused version of the regional Lego exercise as well as dialogue about key natural and community features and design choices for future growth.

Regional growth patterns affect congestion

These findings are among the results presented in the “Vision North Texas Phase 1 Report”. Digital copies can be downloaded from the Vision North Texas website.

Education & Outreach
Most people living in the North Texas region are not aware of the growth facing our area or the choices we have to grow successfully. Vision North Texas speakers frequently present these issues to diverse organizations. The City of Plano Planning & Zoning Commission, the Arlington Rotary Club and the Texas Association of Builders are among the groups joining this dialogue. Contact Leo Valencia at 817-608-2363 to schedule a VNT presentation.

Workshops engage diverse stakeholders

New Research
The VNT Lego exercise is a great way to begin a discussion about future growth with people from many different backgrounds. But the next step in understanding our options for growth requires a closer look at regional plans and development patterns.

North Central Texas Council of Governments staff are assembling and analyzing city comprehensive plans and major development proposals to evaluate the choices they reflect. We expect a report on the cumulative regional effects of these plans this fall.

Other VNT research is expected to address issues such as: costs and benefits of community design alternatives; water quality effects of watershed development patterns; priorities area residents place on various natural assets and open spaces; and practical tools for ‘first tier’ reinvestment.
Phase 2 Public Partners
These cities and counties are currently active participants in Vision North Texas, Phase 2. Their leadership, and the vision and expertise of their elected officials and staff, are making important contributions to our region’s future. Other communities are in the process of joining the effort.

Dallas County
Town of Addison
City of Allen
City of Arlington
City of Azle
City of Benbrook
City of Carrollton
City of Cleburne
City of DeSoto
City of Farmers Branch
City of Fort Worth
City of Frisco
City of Garland
City of Grand Prairie
City of Greenville
City of Hurst
City of Irving
City of Keller
City of Lancaster
City of Lewisville
City of Little Elm
City of McKinney
City of Mesquite
City of Plano
City of Red Oak
City of Richardson
City of Royse City
City of The Colony
City of Waxahachie
City of Weatherford

Phase 2 Sponsorships
Current Vision North Texas projects are funded through private sponsorships, public support & in-kind contributions. Thank you to our Sponsors!

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