



Promoting Brownfields Redevelopment and Greenfields Protection Linkages

A Statewide Policy Roundtable Series

<http://www.glc.org/landuse/>

Overview: The Great Lakes Commission launched a series of state policy roundtables to promote linkages between brownfields redevelopment and greenfields protection. As part of this series, the Commission crafted each roundtable to meet each state’s specific needs by building upon existing efforts within the state, while informing the selected target audience about policy options for advancing brownfields redevelopment and greenfields protection, linkages between the two, and the importance of both to the health of the Great Lakes ecosystem.

Issue: Brownfields redevelopment and greenfields protection are core land use issues for the Great Lakes region. Development patterns across the landscape affect the health of smaller watersheds and ultimately the Great Lakes basin. Many efforts have addressed these issues separately. Linking urban revitalization with open space protection will result in more efficient and sustainable land use and expenditure of public resources.

Background: In August 2001, the Great Lakes Commission released a report entitled *Linking Brownfields Redevelopment and Greenfields Protection for Sustainable Development*. Known as the “Bridges Report,” it includes a series of “strategic actions” for promoting brownfields revitalization, greenfields protection and ways to link them for more sustainable land use. The roundtable series is the continuation of that work and was formally endorsed by the GLC through a resolution adopted in 2001 (www.glc.org/about/resolutions). Since that time, state roundtables have been conducted in Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Indiana and New York.

Summary of Past Roundtables:

State	Roundtable Title/Date	Benefits	Outcome
IN	<i>Coastal Connections 2006 Land Use Roundtable</i> – April 27, 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided state agencies with policy research and analysis previously not conducted • Built consensus and strengthened coordination among regional stakeholder groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consensus on a series of recommended implementation options for 6 policies to address sustainable land use in Northwest Indiana • 4-page color brochure with roundtable results to distribute at future conferences and meetings to continue momentum
MI	<i>Advancing Linkages Between Brownfields Redevelopment and Greenfields Protection in Michigan: A Policy Roundtable</i> – January 23, 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided state agencies with policy research and analysis previously not conducted • Enhanced coordination and communication among high-level state decisionmakers • Catalyzed interest in land use issue among state decisionmakers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consensus on highest priority actions to address brownfields and greenfields issues in Michigan. • A detailed proceedings document highlighting the next steps for Michigan to implement a subset of the strategic actions from the 2001 <i>Bridges Report</i>.
NY	<i>Upstate New York Roundtable Linking Community Revitalization and Environmental Restoration in the Great Lakes Region</i> – September 18, 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefed new officials appointed by the Governor on current state land use programs. • Provided a forum for all stakeholders to discuss opportunities for improving state programs as they relate to the Great Lakes portion of the state. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing book summarizing relevant state programs in land use management. • Improved understanding of the linkages among land conservation, development and redevelopment among roundtable participants. • Dynamic array of presentations (http://glc.org/landuse/nyroundtable/agenda.html)
OH	<i>Ohio Balanced Growth Roundtable</i> – January 21, 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produced and developed consensus on a suite of indicators as called for under the State’s Balanced Growth Program • Ohio was able to have a suite of ready indicators for its first watershed pilot projects under the new Balanced Growth Program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A suite of 27 tiered indicators recommended for measuring were progress toward balance growth under the Ohio Lake Erie Commission’s Balanced Growth Program • 4-page color handout with roundtable results to distribute at future conferences and meetings to continue momentum

State	Roundtable Title/Date	Benefits	Outcome
PA	<i>Linking Redevelopment and Open Space Protection in Pennsylvania: A Land Use Roundtable</i> – September 14, 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education and outreach to local government agencies on state land use resources and programs • Development and implementation of a visual preference survey • Meeting facilitation and coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A tri-fold color brochure linking results of the visual preference survey to the tenets of Smart Growth with information about state resources available for achieving them. • Summary of roundtable discussions and presentations.
WI	<i>Wisconsin Waterfront Revitalization Conference</i> – April 13, 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sharing among over 200 Wisconsin Great Lakes coastal community stakeholders • Education and outreach to local government agencies on state land use resources and programs • Conference facilitation and coordination • Built web site featuring all conference materials, including video and presentations for future reference 	A post-conference website with links to archived webcasts of all conference presentations.

Approach: Commission staff worked with its delegation and other lead agency personnel to establish a Steering Committee comprised of relevant agency and stakeholder group representatives that guided the planning and design of the roundtable (including the location and target audience). Steering Committee participation involved periodic conference calls and assistance with preparation and/or review of workshop materials. The Great Lakes Commission provided the staff support and other resources necessary to plan and conduct the workshop and produce a final product/outcome. The Steering Committee ensured that the Commission’s work was meeting the needs of the state.

The Commission poised to bring our staff and resources to help build on the many sustainable land use initiatives underway among the Great Lakes States. For more information: Contact Victoria Pebbles (vpebbles@glc.org) or Becky Pearson (bpearson@glc.org) at the Great Lakes Commission, 734-971-9135.