

Welcome!

Progress to Date in Indiana

Contributors

- ▶ Bob Newport, U.S. EPA, Region 5
 - Claude Chandler, MPA Candidate, SPEA
- ▶ Michele Oertel, IDEM
 - Cre McCrowley, MPA Environmental Policy Certificate
 - Esther Lewis, MPA Candidate
- ▶ Robert Thompson, Porter County Plan Commission
 - Kristie Gilmore, MPA Graduate, May 2006
 - Sashi Sekhar, MPA Candidate
- ▶ Indiana Land Use Roundtable Steering Committee

Seven Strategic Actions

- ▶ 1. Development of Local Comprehensive Plans
- ▶ 2. Consistency between Zoning Ordinances and Comprehensive Plans
- ▶ 3. Sustainable Brownfield Redevelopment
- ▶ 4. Interagency Coordination for State-Funded Projects
- ▶ 5. Linking Brownfield Funding with Planning
- ▶ 6. Inventory of Indiana Wildlife Habitat, Farmland, Cultural and Historic Resources
- ▶ 7. Sustainable Small-Scale Infill Development

Progress to Date in Indiana

Presenter: Sashi Sekhar, Ph.D.

Graduate Student

Indiana University Northwest

School of Public and Environmental Affairs

Policy Summary A:

Development of Local Comprehensive Plans (SA 1)

- ▶ Progress to Date
 - ▶ The Law
 - ▶ Planning with POWER
 - ▶ Regional Initiatives

Progress to Date: The Law

▶ Indiana Law (IC 36-7-4-502)

■ *Requirements of Comprehensive Plan*

- ▶ objectives for the future development
- ▶ policy for land use development
- ▶ policy for the development of public ways, places, lands, structures and utilities

■ *Comprehensive Plan May Address*

- ▶ E.g., probable future growth, pollution, transportation, long-range development of public works

Progress to Date: Planning with POWER

- ▶ Statewide educational program linking land use planning with watershed planning at the local level
 - Empower communities to prevent and solve natural resource problems
 - Empower local officials to incorporate watershed protection measures into comprehensive plans

Progress to Date: Regional Planning Initiatives

- ▶ Plans are adopted by local governments
 - Ped and Pedal Plan (NIRPC)
 - ▶ Development of trails and open space
 - Marquette Greenways Plan (5 NWI Communities)
 - ▶ public access to shoreline, minimum setbacks, continuous pedestrian/bike trail

Policy Summary B

Consistency between Zoning Ordinances and Comprehensive Plans (SA 2)

- ▶ Require zoning ordinances be consistent with comprehensive plans

Progress to Date: The Law

- ▶ Indiana Law IC 36-6-4-601
 - Local legislative bodies (e.g., city and town councils) may adopt zoning ordinances but only after a comprehensive plan has been developed.
 - Zoning purposes are identified, but guidance regarding sustainable practices is not included

Progress to Date: Example of the City of Portage

- ▶ Key Characteristics of Plan
 - Inward focus on sustainable development
 - ▶ Updated zoning and subdivision ordinances
 - Mixed use
 - Design standards
 - Pedestrian linkages

Policy Summary C

Inventory of Indiana Wildlife Habitat, Farmland, Cultural and Historic Resources (SA 6)

► Jurisdictions in the urban fringe and rural areas should incorporate inventory information regarding

- Wildlife habitat
- Prime farmland acreage
- Cultural and historic resources

into comprehensive plans to develop mitigation/protection measures prior to development

Progress to Date: Current Inventories

- ▶ Natural Features Inventories
 - Indiana Biodiversity Initiative
- ▶ Farmland Inventories
 - Natural Resources Inventory
- ▶ Cultural and Historic Inventories
 - Indiana Cultural Resources Management Plan

Natural Features Inventories Indiana Biodiversity Initiative

- ▶ Statewide biodiversity conservation strategy
 - Assessment of biodiversity
 - Public education
 - Encouraging collaboration

Farmland Inventories

Natural Resources Inventory

- ▶ USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - Five year inventory for non-federal land
 - Data available for 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997
 - ▶ Updates expected soon

Cultural and Historic Inventories

Cultural Resources Management Plan

- ▶ Preservation strategy framework for state agencies, local governments, community organizations, and private firms whose decisions impact cultural and historic resources
- ▶ Success stories illustrating various preservation efforts

Progress to Date: Current Inventories

► Summary

- Variety of sources exist for natural, cultural, and historic features data
- Partnerships result in on-going maintenance
- No systematic coordination

Policy Summary D

Link Brownfields Funding with Planning (SA 5)

- ▶ Tie state funding for brownfields cleanup and redevelopment to land-use planning
 - Encourage consistency with up-to-date comprehensive plans as a condition for brownfields funding

Progress to Date: Link Brownfields Funding with Planning

- ▶ Indiana Finance Authority (IFA)
 - Indiana Brownfields Program
- ▶ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 - Grants

Progress to Date: Indiana Finance Authority

- ▶ Administers Indiana Brownfield Program
 - Assistance to encourage redevelopment
 - ▶ Financial: grants, low-interest loans, tax credits
 - ▶ Legal
 - ▶ Educational

Progress to Date: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

▶ Grants:

- assist Indiana communities in developing local expertise to leverage resources for revitalization
 - ▶ Assessment
 - ▶ Clean-up
 - ▶ Job training
 - ▶ Revolving loan fund

Policy Summary E

Interagency Coordination for State-Funded Projects (SA 4)

- ▶ Strengthen coordination among state agencies for state-funded projects that directly result in changes in land use
- ▶ Establish a process for multi-agency evaluation of projects
 - ensures such projects support planning goals
 - requires consideration of alternatives where the project is inconsistent with local land-use plans

Progress to Date: Interagency Coordination for State-Funded Projects

- ▶ Indiana Brownfields Program
- ▶ Other Coordination Examples
 - Marquette Plan
 - Regional Development Authority (RDA)

Progress to Date: Indiana Brownfields Program

- ▶ Works with IDEM and other agencies to facilitate and encourage redevelopment of brownfield sites
 - Interagency Brownfields Task Force (not active)
 - Coordination is not required but is a service offered to encourage brownfield redevelopment

Progress to Date: Other Coordination Initiatives

- ▶ Marquette Plan Phase I and II
 - 5 communities (Whiting, East Chicago, Hammond, Gary and Portage) supported by the Indiana Coastal Program completed a comprehensive plan and vision
- ▶ Regional Development Authority (RDA)
 - Permanent local funding for economic development projects (Lake and Porter)

Policy Summary F

Sustainable Infill and Brownfield Redevelopment (SA 7 and 3)

- ▶ Through financial incentives, process incentives, and other means, promote the *sustainable* redevelopment of underutilized sites in urban areas

Progress to Date: No Program Specific to Sustainable Redevelopment of Sites

▶ Related Programs

- Indiana Brownfields Program
- IFA with others
 - ▶ Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IDEC)
 - ▶ Office of Pollution Prevention and Technical Assistance (IDEM)
- Office of Energy and Defense Development

Progress to Date: Related Initiatives

- ▶ Indiana Brownfields Program
 - Grant scoring includes consideration of comprehensive plans, green building, energy efficiency

- ▶ IFA and others
 - Administers the Pilot Shovel Ready program to help communities certify sites as “ready for development”
 - Office of Pollution Prevention and Technical Assistance to market information and incentives

- ▶ Office of Energy
 - administers energy related grant programs

Progress to Date in Indiana

► Summary

- Various stages of progress
- Need to move forward to strengthen our existing efforts and develop new initiatives