

## Transit-Oriented Development



# Why Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)?

- Promote health:
  - encouraging walking and bicycling
  - cutting air pollution
  - reducing motor vehicle accidents
- Lower combined household expenses for transportation and housing
- Reduce municipal infrastructure costs
- Provide a high return on public investment in transit infrastructure
- Meet growing demand for walkable neighborhoods
- Cut energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions associated with both transportation and the built environment.



Transit Mall Portland, OR

The City of Albuquerque determined that the cost of infrastructure is **22 times higher** for new housing on the urban fringe than for infill, high-density housing in the existing city.



#### Performance-Based Definition of TOD

- Location Efficiency
- Rich Mix of Choices
- Value Capture
- Place Making
- Resolution of the tension between Node and Place



16th Street Transit Mall, Denver, CO



## **Location Efficiency**

- Conscious placement of homes in proximity to transit
- Density- sufficient customers within walking/bicycling distance to transit stops
- Transit Accessibility -stations located to allow customers to conveniently to reach their destinations
- Pedestrian Friendliness- a network of streets that are interconnected and scaled for pedestrians
- Be on the Way

Density to Support Transit Rule of Thumb

A min. of 8 units per acre is needed to support 25-minute headways

A minimum of 11 units per acre is needed to support 15-minute headways

-Messenger and Ewing 1996



#### Rich Mix of Choice

- many daily activities within walking distance, several errands can be completed in one-trip
- range of housing types, sizes and price points



Development along Martin Luther King Jr. Busway, Pittsburg, PA



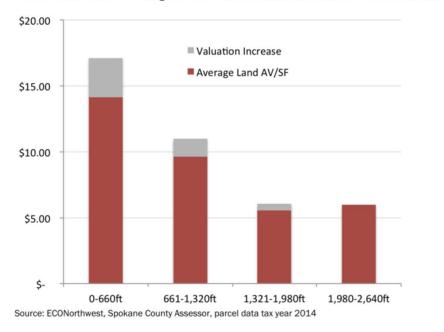
New Housing Units along Euclid BRT Corridor Cleveland, OH

## **Value Capture**

Transportation is the second-highest consumer expenditure (after housing). Successful TOD can reclaim some of that value.

- Success requires:
  - Frequent, high-quality transit service
  - Good connections between transit and the community
  - Community amenities and a dedication to place making
  - Measuring of financial returns

Exhibit 4.6. Potential change in land values as a result from CCL user benefits



The Smart Commute Mortgage
The Smart Commute program offers a
flexible, low down-payment mortgages for
homes in communities with good transit,
recognizing the cost savings and social and
health benefits of being able to use transit.

## Place Making

Well designed buildings, streetscapes and public spaces that support pedestrian safety and promote neighborhood character and values.

- Enrich the existing
- Work with the landscape
- Include green infrastructure and open space
- Design for change-flexibly for future uses, lifestyles and demographics



Station Planning Meeting Mt. Baker, WA







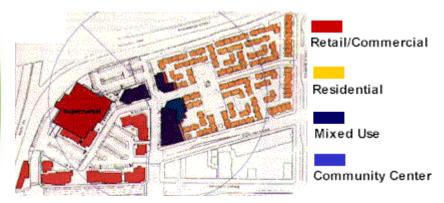


### Value Capture and Place Making in the Uptown District in San Diego

- Abandoned department store and parking located adjacent to one of the City's busiest bus corridors converted to 318 homes, 145,000 square feet of commercial and retail space, and a 3,000-square-foot community center
- Intensive community planning process to design the mixed-use district in 1987
- Restored historic street grid pattern
- Reduced parking ratios
- An example of how to accommodate the needs of the automobile and create a well designed, pedestrianfriendly mixed use TOD.











### Resolving the Difference Between Node and Place

Tension can be caused by a place's function as a location to access transit and its function as a vibrant, livable neighborhood.

#### Ways to address:

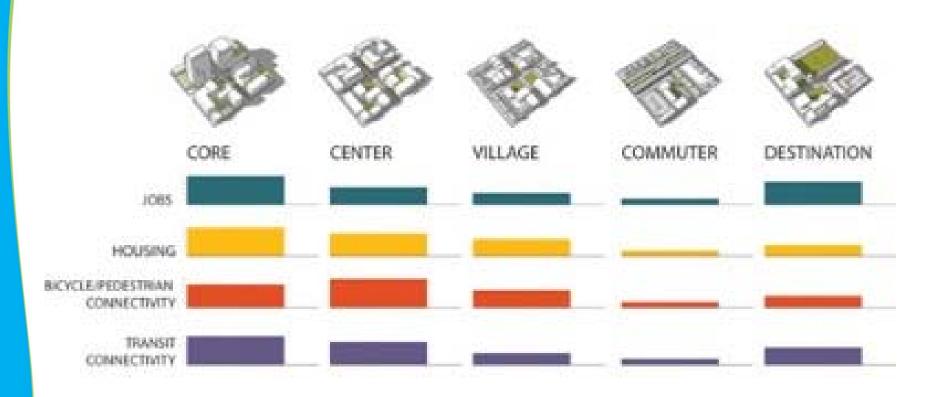
- Design of the footprint of the station, transit customers services, location and treatment of parking and bus drop-off.
- Pedestrians are at the core of TOD, ensure precedence for pedestrians over other modes
- Understand and recognize the station's role in the transit system



BRT Station Euclid Corridor Cleveland, OH



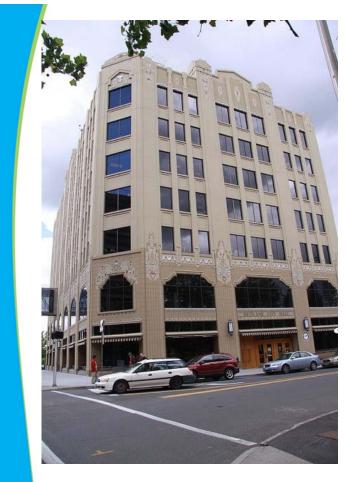
## Station Typology

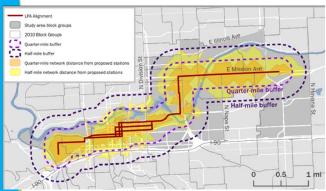


Source: TOC: A Blueprint for

Washington State







# What can local government do to support TOD?

- Conduct sub-area planning for Transit Oriented Communities (TOC).
- Encourage meaningful public engagement in TOD planning.
- Plan and fund public facilities and services within TOC.
- Develop strong and innovative land use regulations in TOC.
- Reform parking requirements and programs.
- Encourage innovative housing types in TOC.
- Link affordable housing programs to TOC.



## Local/Regional Plan Support for TOD

- Centers and Corridors
  - Focus on pedestrian travel
  - Reduced parking requirements around frequent transit
- Downtown Spokane
  - Plaza renovation, Central City Line and continued mixeduse infill are vital to the largest TOD in eastern Washington
- High Performance Transit Network
  - Developed to support the Centers and Corridors approach and other local plans in the region
  - Focus on permanence, frequency, ease of use and reliability



