

Balanced Growth Program

Overview for BLLUP Working Group
June 29, 2010

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Ohio State of Ohio Agencies

Ohio Lake Erie Commission	Ohio Water Resources Council
Dept of Agriculture Dept of Development Dept of Health Dept of Natural Resources Dept of Transportation Environmental Protection Agency	Office of the Governor Public Works Commission Public Utilities Commission Ohio Water Development Authority

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Ohio Land Use & Lake Erie

- Lake Erie Protection & Restoration Plan – 2000
 - Outlined serious land use problems that diminish the health of the lake, and limit its benefits to the people of Ohio.



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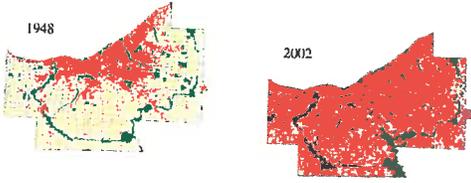






Ohio "Growing" Communities

US Census Population 1950 - 1,389,582



1948 2002

US Census Population 2002 - 1,393,978

Cuyahoga Co Land Use Maps - Cuyahoga Co Planning Commission

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Ohio Inefficiencies Create Lost Opportunities

Inefficient land use creates a tax burden on communities, limits mobility for the young and old, and has an unnecessary impact on the environment - including Lake Erie, a source of drinking water, recreation, and revenues for all of northern Ohio.



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Ohio Blue Ribbon Task Force

- Property owners, government officials, business leaders, conservationists, academia, agriculture, and others.
 - The Nature Conservancy, Ohio Lakefront Group, Ohio Township Association, Property Rights Coalition, HBA of Greater Cleveland, Ohio Manufactures' Association, Cleveland Area Board of Realtors, County Commissioners Association, Cuyahoga County Planning, OLEC Agencies, etc
- Three committees met from 2001-2004: State Policy & Funding, Regional Planning & Incentives, and Model Zoning

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Ohio Balanced Growth Blue Ribbon Task Force

- 2004 – Reported to the Ohio Lake Erie Commission on how to

“develop strategies that will balance the protection of Lake Erie with continued economic growth”



Ohio What is Balanced Growth?

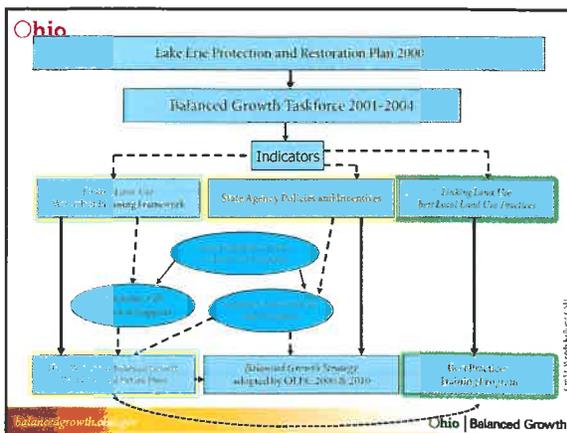
- voluntary
- incentive-based
- locally led
- regional planning by watershed
- promotes orderly growth and desired land use change

Ohio What is Balanced Growth?

- It is a framework for decision-making about how local and state policies and investments should be made in the context of watersheds.
- Implemented as a two-pronged approach

Ohio Linking Land Use and Lake Erie

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Ohio Watershed Planning Partnerships

- Piloted in 2006 for 3 years
 - Four projects were implemented to plan for PCAs and PDAs
 - Development of PAAs due to local demand
 - All four of the initial projects have received full state endorsement
 - Implementation efforts in cooperation with OLEC include:
 - US EPA Brownfields Assessment Application
 - Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Application

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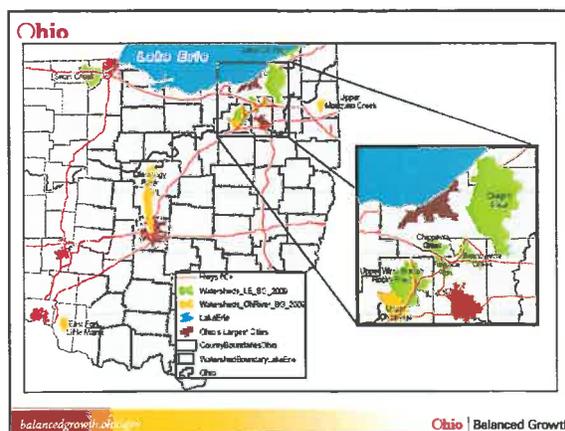


Ohio
2009 Joint RFP

- Lake Erie Basin
 - \$200,000 for two projects
 - Lake Erie Protection Fund
- Statewide
 - \$600,000 for up to six projects
 - Ohio River or Lake Erie basin
 - Ohio Water Development Authority funding



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Ohio Watershed Planning Partnerships

- **Lake Erie Basin**
 - Big Creek - Cuyahoga River
 - Brandywine Creek Watershed - Cuyahoga River
 - Chagrin River Watershed*
 - Chippewa Creek Watershed - Cuyahoga River*
 - Eastern Lake County Coastal Tributaries
 - Furnace Run Watershed - Cuyahoga River
 - Swan Creek Watershed - Maumee River*
 - Upper West Branch Rocky River Watershed*
- **Ohio River Basin**
 - East Fork, Little Miami River Watershed
 - Lower Mosquito Creek - Mahoning River
 - Olentangy River Watershed
 - Upper Chippewa Creek - Tuscarawas River Watershed

*endorsed plans

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Ohio What does a plan contain?

- Designation of Priority Conservation Areas
- Designation of Priority Development Areas
- Designation of Priority Agricultural Areas (where applicable)
- Local and state participation and approval
- Process for maintaining and updating the plan
 - Full Table of Contents available online

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Ohio Priority Conservation Area

- Locally designated areas targeted for protection and restoration
- Critically important ecological, recreational, heritage, agricultural, and public access areas




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Ohio Priority Development Area

- Locally designated areas targeted for development or redevelopment
- Maximize development potential and efficient use of infrastructure
- Promote revitalization of existing urban areas



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Ohio Watershed Planning Partnerships

- Local organization formed to develop and implement a Balanced Growth Plan.
 - Local governments
 - Planning agencies
 - Councils of Government
 - Special purpose authorities (i.e. park districts)
 - Non-government organizations



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Ohio Project Components

- Project Coordination
- GIS-based decision support system
 - State supplied system and data
 - Locally developed system and data
- Local government buy-in
 - Map development & revisions
- Review and endorsement process
 - 75% local support at project start-up



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Ohio Approval Process

- Iterative process originating from GIS data
- Significant time required to get local support
- 75% of governments must accept the plan
- State endorsement requires:
 - Address BG strategy goals
 - Identify PCA and PDA
 - Open & inclusive process with local leadership
 - State agency coordination and local consensus

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Ohio Important Documents

- Balanced Growth Strategy
 - Draft updated August 2009
 - Most current guidance on Balanced Growth
- Planning Framework
 - Static document, provided the initial guidance for the Balanced Growth Program
- Best Local Land Use Practices
 - Series of tools available to all communities to assist with managing land use change



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