

Regional Planning in a System of Plans

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What is Regional Planning?

- Planning for a spatially explicit region that is generally larger than most local government units;
- Planning that requires the support of multiple actors and jurisdictions for successful implementation.

Is this the “Golden Age” of regional planning?

- Interest in regional planning has waxed and waned over the last 50 years.
- The primary protagonist of regional planning activity is the federal government
- Two features make this era of regional planning different from the past:
 - The significant advancement of regional planning support tools; and
 - The significant advancement of public participation tools.
 - (what remains underdeveloped is interjurisdiction communication tools.)

Maryland Scenario Project

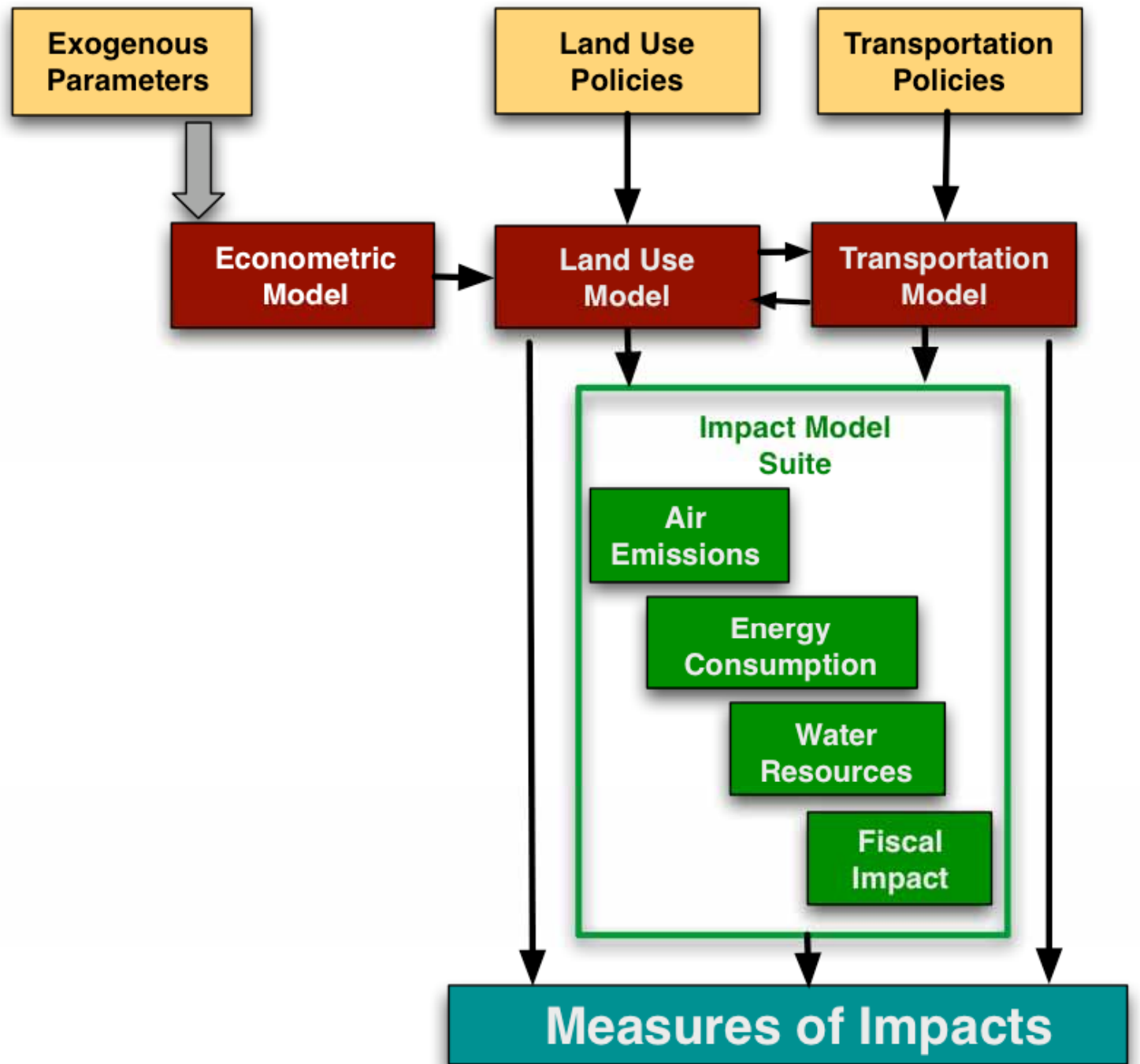
➤ Models

- Transportation, Land Use, Nutrient Loading, Energy Consumption, Fiscal Impact

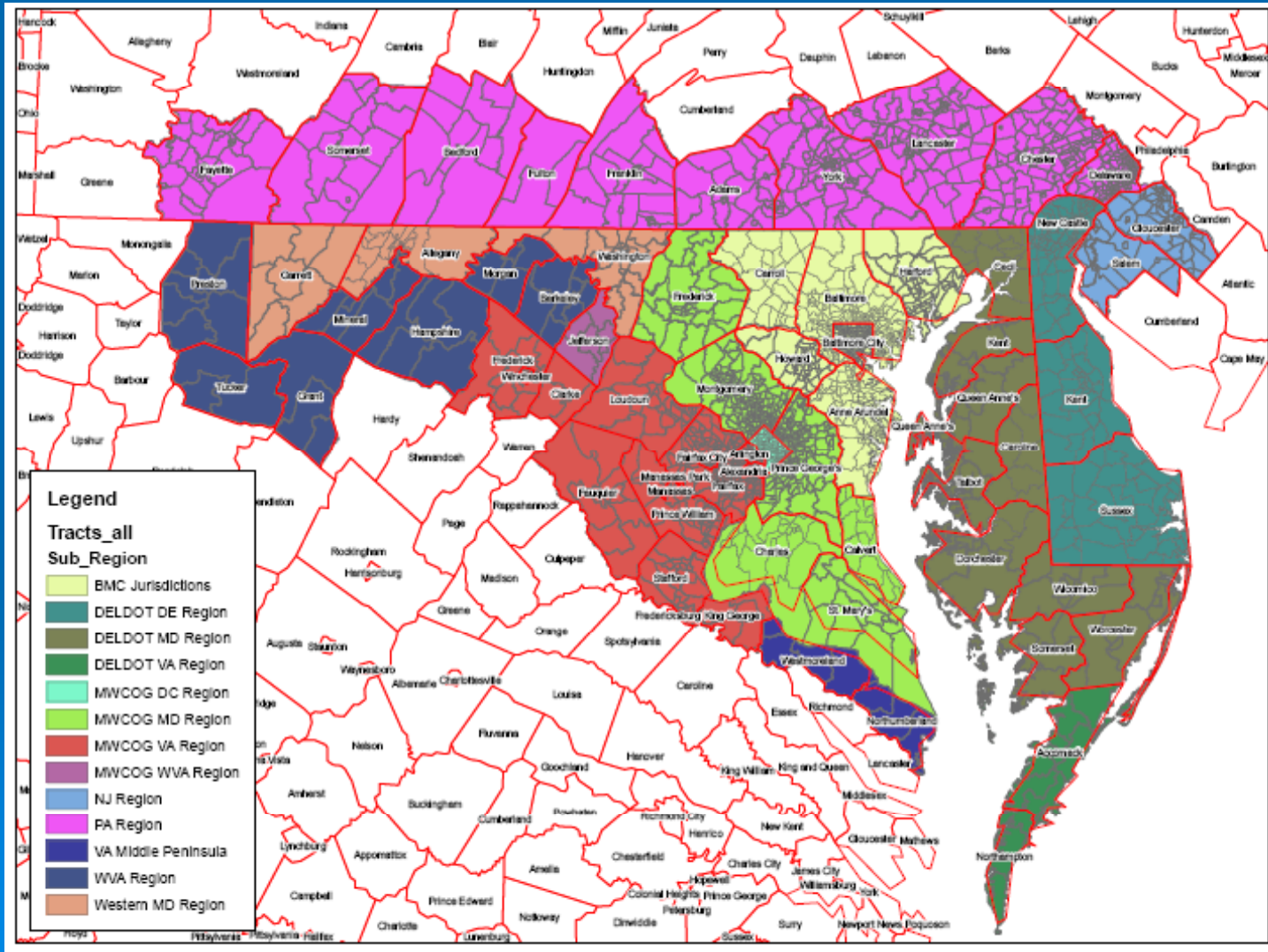
➤ NCSG-MDOT-MDP Workplan

- 4 land use “platforms”
 - SHA, Build Out, GrowthPrint, Climate Change
- 4 transportation experiments
 - Transit Rich, Freight Diversion, Tolls, Combination

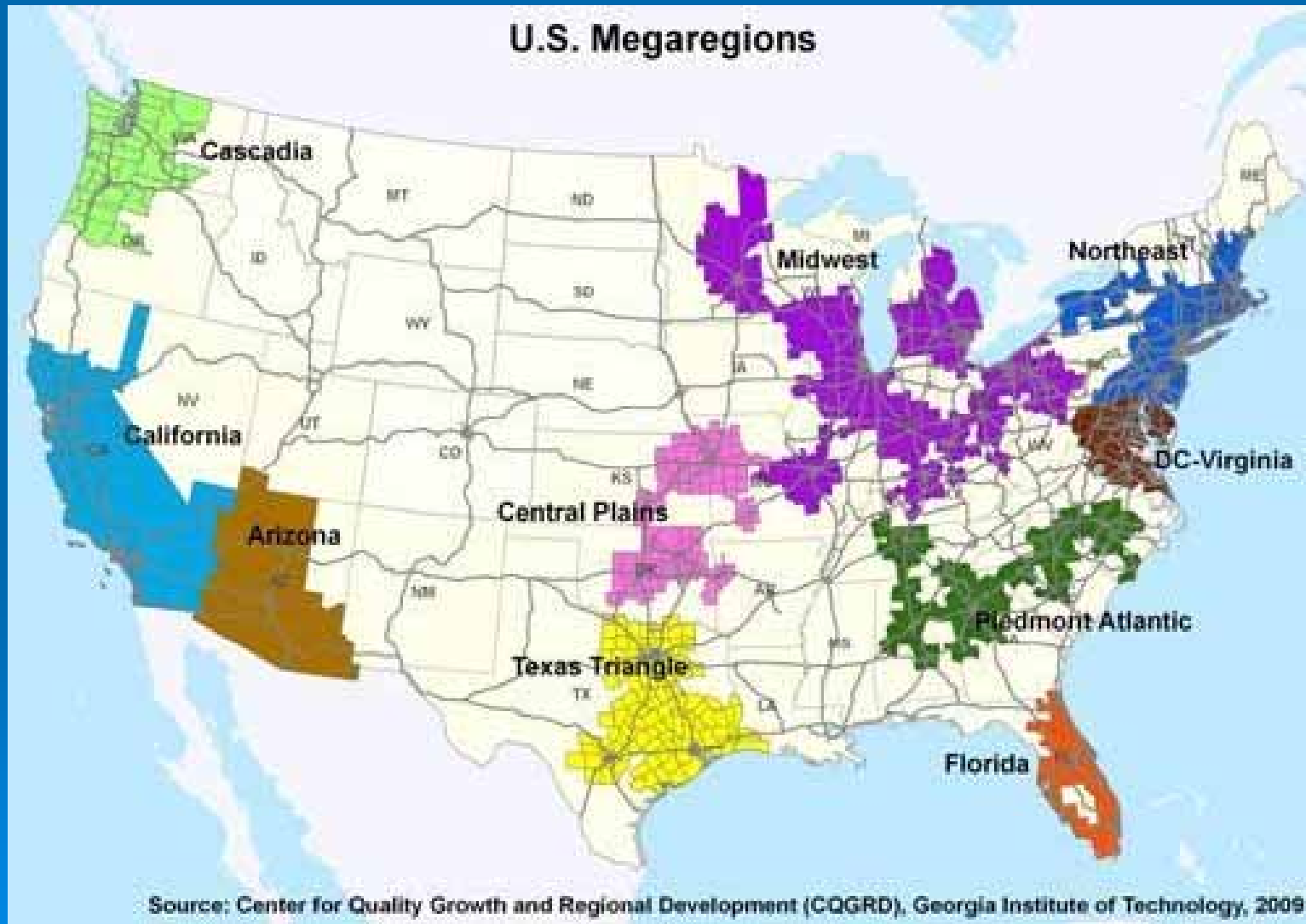
Modeling Tools



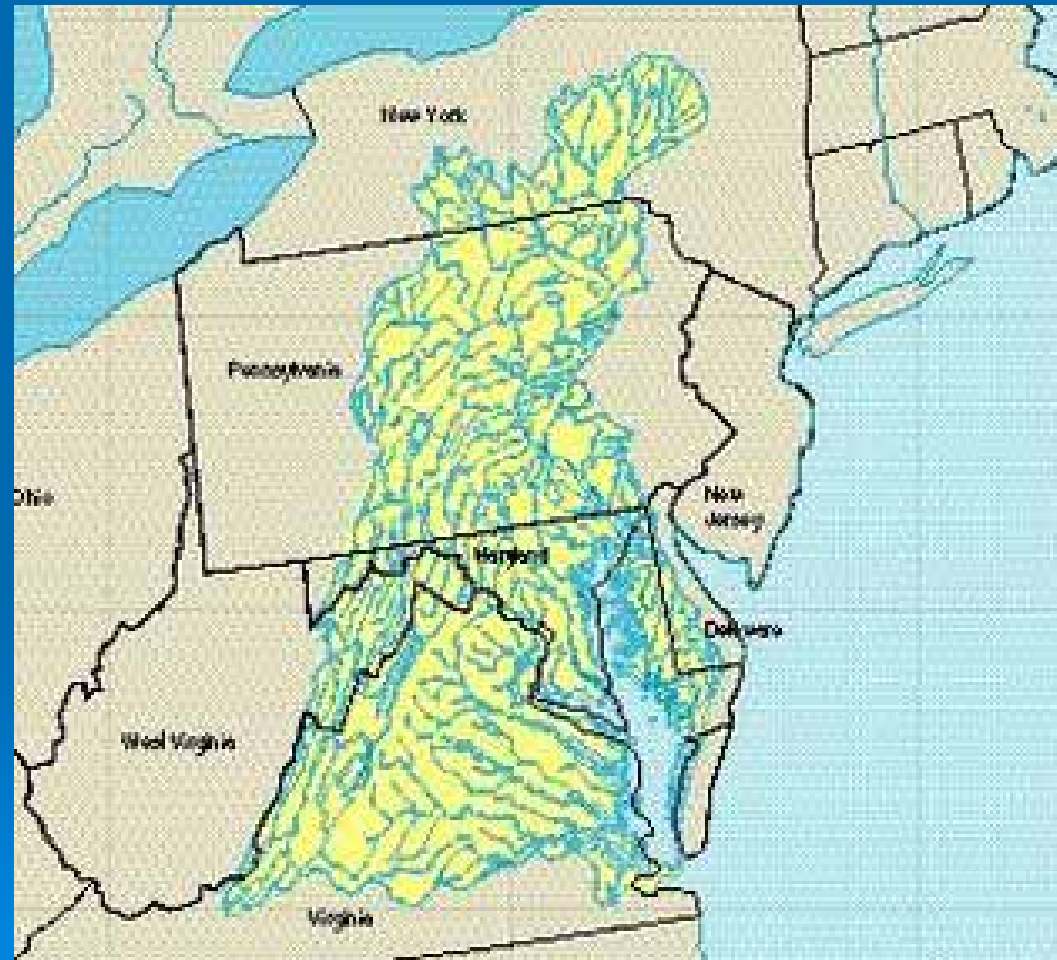
Modeling Jurisdictions



Mega Region Transportation Model



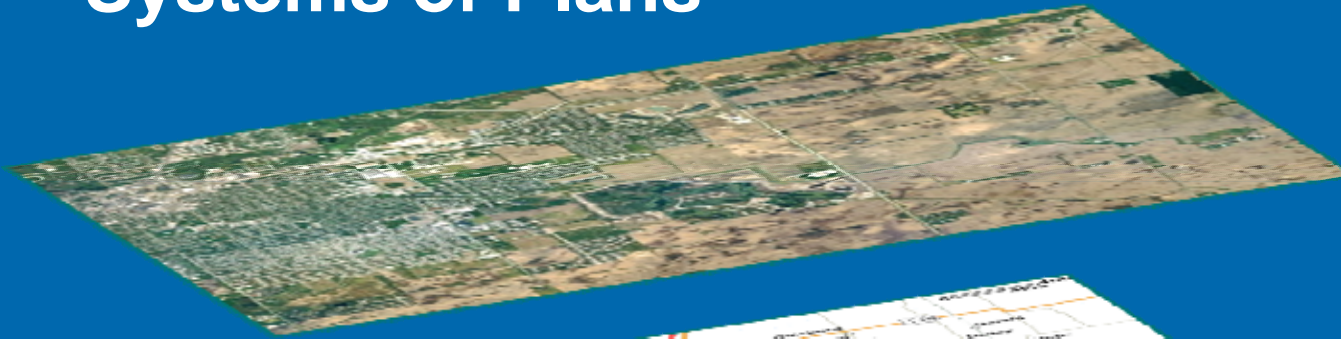
Chesapeake Watershed



Why plan at the regional
scale?



Systems of Plans



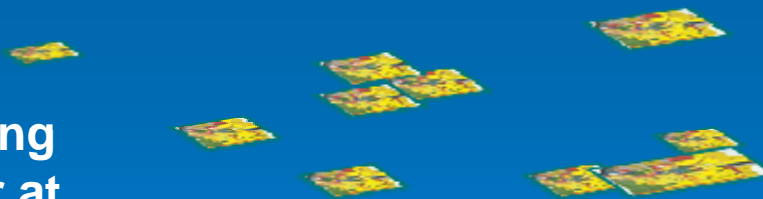
State Development Plan



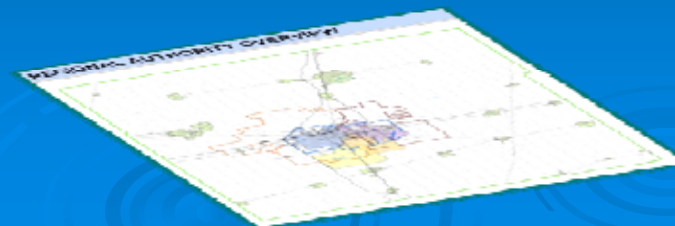
State Transportation Plan



Metro Planning Organization LRTPs



Municipal and County Comprehensive Land Use Plans

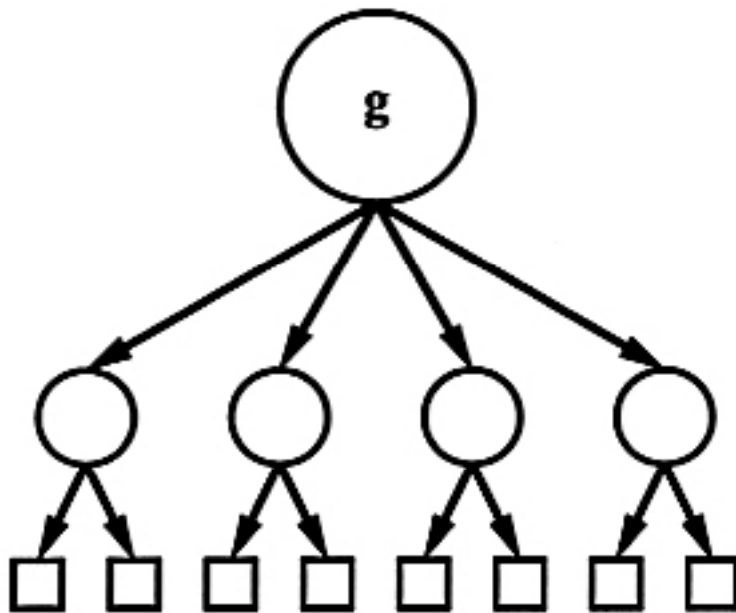


Regional Wastewater Treatment Plan

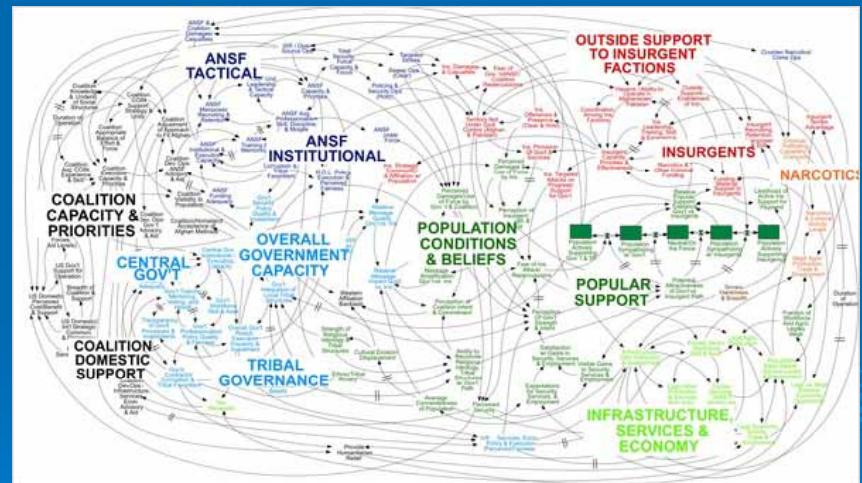
Because planning problems occur at multiple scales, with multiple characteristics, and over variable horizons.

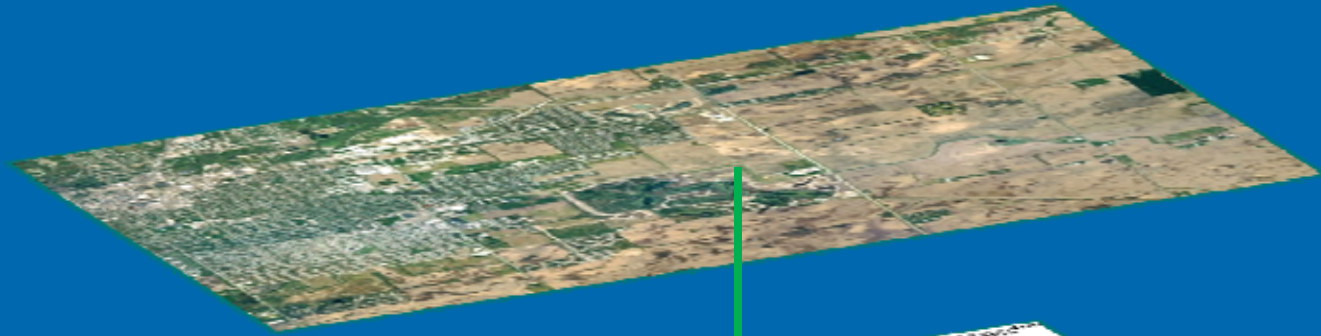
How should regional plans relate to other plans?

Classic Hierarchical Model

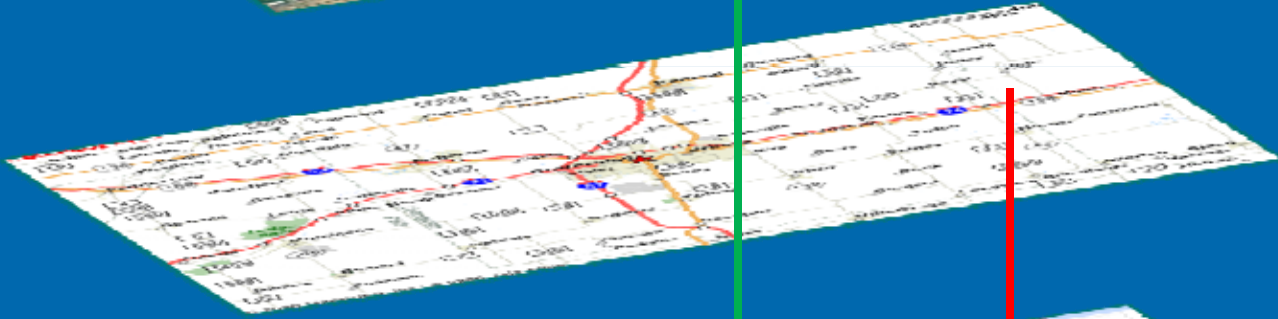


Less Classic Mid-Atlantic Model

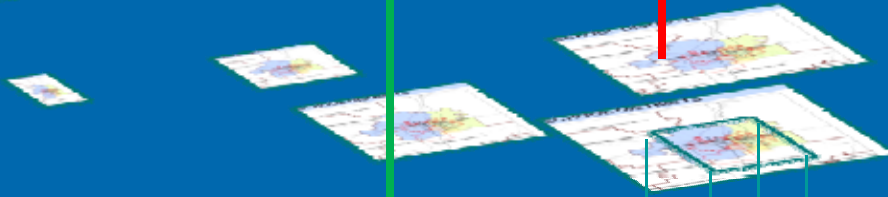




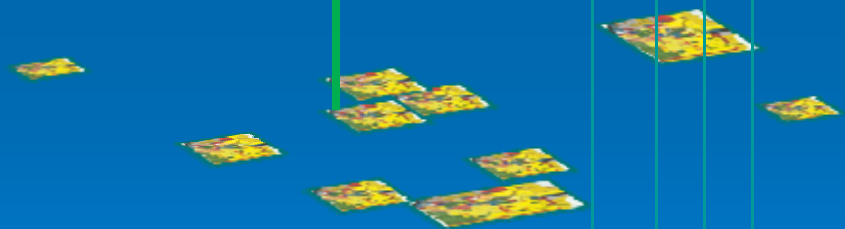
Statewide Land
Resource Plan



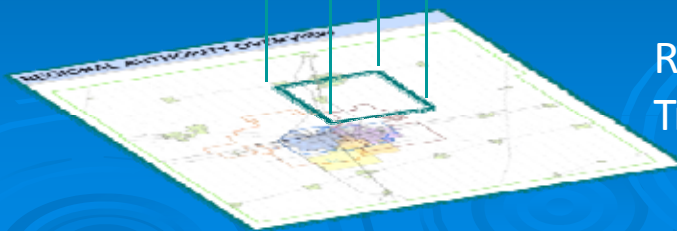
Statewide
Transportation Plan



Metro Planning
Organization LRTPs



Municipal Comprehensive
Land Use Plans



Regional Wastewater
Treatment Plan

Recap

- Why plan at the regional scale?
 - *Because problems manifest at the spatial scale we call regions.*
- How should a regional plan relate to other plans?
 - *It depends the primary purpose of the plan but most regional plans must influence the decisions of other actors to succeed*
- What does this imply about regional planning?
 - *The technical aspects of regional plans may be less important than the relationships such planning helps to build.*

For more on these issues, see...

- Knaap and Lewis: “Metropolitan Planning for Sustainability, the Hegemony of Metropolitan Regionalism,” in Ethan Seltzer and Armando Carbonell, American Regional Planning: Practice and Prospect, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, forthcoming.
- Lew Hopkins: Urban Development: The logic of Making Plans