

Regional Science and Multi-State Local Issues

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Outline

- I. Introduction
 - A. Whither regional science
 - B. Trends in planning
- II. Roles of regional science/regional scientists
 - A. Innovative solutions to persistent issues
 - B. Testing for the “known”
 - C. Traditional analysis/consulting
- III. Hot topics
 - A. Beyond statics
 - B. Measuring externalities: spillovers, feedbacks, and backwash
 - C. Scenario analyses: Micro- & macro-simulation
- IV. Wrap up

Introduction

- Whither Regional Science
 - Improve sophistication in practice of local/regional economics
 - Inform state and local planning and policy efforts
 - Moved into international issue with advent of EU
- Whither Planning (my perceptions)
 - Moving toward reliance on case study analyses
 - Vision/design less important than facilitation/enabling
 - Reactive mode rising at expensive of proactive
 - Data/info hungry at MPO, state, and multistate level
 - Transit planners generally adept in R Sci methods
 - Issues in environmental/energy planning follow

Roles of Regional Science

- Innovative solutions to persistent issues
 - Sprawl
 - Affordable housing
 - Pockets of poverty/underclass
- Testing for the “known” (empirical verification)
 - Value/costs of land regulation (historic, open space,...)
 - Municipal fiscal benefit/costs derived from nonprofits
 - Program /project evaluation
- Traditional analysis/consulting
 - Forecasting
 - Fiscal and economic impacts
 - Economic simulation

Hot Topics

- Beyond statics
 - Panel regressions
 - Dynamic modeling
 - Computable general equilibrium
 - Conjoined I-O/econometric models
- Measuring externalities: spillovers, feedbacks, and backwash
 - Interregional macro models
 - Spatial econometrics
- Scenario analyses: Micro- & macro-simulation
 - Agent-based models
 - Computable general equilibrium

Wrap up

- We're here, experienced, and already involved
 - Rutgers
 - Penn/Penn State
 - U Delaware
 - U Maryland
 - George Washington U
 - Virginia Tech/George Mason U
 - West Virginia U
- Always ready, especially for an innovative role