### The Cascadia Corridor: New Geography, New Opportunity

Robert Lang, Ph.D. Professor and Director Brookings Mountain West University of Nevada, Las Vegas

APA Washington's 2009 Conference Vancouver, WA – November 12, 2009

# What's in this Talk?

- The Megapolitan and Megaregion Models
- Defining Cascadia
- Current Conditions and Future Growth in Cascadia
- The Connections Between the Willamette and Puget Sound Megapolitan Areas

## Mountain Megas Report



Mountain Mega report from the Brookings Institution released in 2008

The next round of this research starts in Spring 2010

## Arizona Sun Corridor Report



Report From the Morrison Institute at Arizona State University also released in 2008

#### WWW.ASU.EDU/ COPP/MORRISON

# America Keeps Growing

## 200 million in 1967 300 million in 2006 400 million in 2039

America adds 100 million people faster than any other nation except India and Pakistan—But *faster* than China.

Source: US Bureau of the Census

# A Billion People by 2090?

#### U.S. Census Projections

2000 Census Baseline

Year	High* Series	Mid* Series
2000	275	275
2010	311	300
2030	391	351
2050	553	404
2070	749	464
2090	1,017	534

\* In Millions

# Pickard's Projection of the US Urban Regions in 2000



# American Development to 2040



### Lang and Nelson, 2010 Book



## The New Urban Hierarchy



## Metros to Megas in Distance



Florida Atlantic 65 Miles

Florida Corridor 80 Miles

Sun Corridor 110 Miles

## 20<sup>th</sup> Century Metropolitan Form



### 21<sup>st</sup> Century Megapolitan Form



# Sun Corridor Urban Realms







## **Cascadia Megaregion**





## **Cascadia Economy**





#### **Texas and Southwest Megaregions**





Table 1

# Cascadia County Types

Cascadia Mega Region Rural-Megapolitan Continuum

Nelson-Lang Rural-Megapolitan Continuum Description	Counties	2010 Population (000s)
Counties in metropolitan areas of 1 million+ population	10	5,698
Counties in metropolitan areas of 250,000 to 1 million population	3	756
Counties in metropolitan areas of fewer than 250,000		
population	7	1,188
Micropolitan area adjacent to a metropolitan area	5	357
Noncore counties adjacent to a metropolitan area	0	0
All other nonmetropolitan counties	0	0

# Cascadia Land Area

Land Area for Cascadia Mega Region

		Estimate of Privately-
Megapolitan Area	Total Square Miles	Owned, Accessible Square Miles
Puget Sound	14,448	7,768
Willamette	20,812	9,222
Total	35,260	16,990

# Cascadia Population Growth

#### Cascadia Mega Region Population, 1970-2040 (Thousands)

Megapolitan					1	Growth 970-204 1	Percent Growth 1970-204
Area	1970	2000	2010	2025	2040	0	0
Puget Sound	2,245	3,955	4,483	5,412	6,369	4,125	183.8%
Willamette	1,731	3,019	3,516	4,246	4,999	3,268	188.8%
Total	3,975	6,974	7,999	9,659	11,368	7,393	186.0%

# Population Change, 1970-1940

#### **Southwest Megaregion Population, 1970-2040**

(Thousands)

Megapolitan Area	1970	2000	2010	2025	2040	Growth '70-'40	Percent Change
Cascadia	3,975	6,974	7,999	9,659	11,368	7,393	186%
So Cal	11,976	20,237	22,635	26,386	30,273	18,297	153%
Las Vegas	323	1,674	2,407	3,416	4,442	4,119	1275%
Sun Corridor	1,447	4,297	5,699	7,447	9,233	7,786	538%
Total	13,746	26,208	30,741	37,249	43,948	30,202	220%

Source: Woods & Poole, 2009

# Growth in Minority Population

Cascadia Mega Region Minority Population Change, 1990-2040 (thousands)

			Black			Asian			Hispanic
Megapolitan Area	Black 1990	Black 2040	Change Percent	Asian 1990	Asian 2040	Change Percent	Hispanic 1990	Hispanic 2040	Change Percent
Puget Sound	133	409	209%	183	1,116	510%	101	1,286	1176%
Willamette	47	131	180%	69	385	460%	90	1,344	1395%
Total	179	540	201%	252	1,501	496%	191	2,629	1279%

			•			Non	Total	Minority	
Megapolitan	Other	Other	Other	Non White	Non White	White Change	Population Change	Population Change	Share
Area	1990	2040	Percent	1990	2040	Percent	1990-2040	1990-2040	Minority
Puget Sound	44	73	68%	460	2,884	527%	3,067	2,424	79.0%
Willamette	24	43	80%	229	1,903	731%	2,560	1,674	65.4%
Total	67	116	72%	689	4,787	595%	5,627	4,098	72.8%

# Cascadia Residential Growth

Cascadia Mega Region Housing Development Summary, 2010-2040 (figures in thousands)

	Units	Growth- Related	Units		Percent of
Megapolitan Area	Supported 2010	Units, 2010-40	Replaced 2010-40	Total Units Built 2010-40	Units 2010
Puget Sound	1,884	884	326	1,210	64.2%
Willamette	1,458	667	233	900	61.7%
Total	3,343	1,551	559	2,110	63.1%

# Cascadia Commercial Growth

Cascadia Mega Region Total Nonresidential Space Built, 2010-40 (thousands of square feet)

Megapolitan Area	Supportable Nonresidential Space 2010, Square Feet	Supportable Nonresidential Space 2040, Square Feet (000s)	Change in Nonresidentia I Space Supported, 2010-40, Square Feet (000s)	Related & Replaced Nonresidential Space, 2010-40, Square Feet (000s)	Built Nonresidential Space 2010-40 as Percent of Space in 2010
Puget Sound	1,357,063	1,940,116	583,053	1,773,679	130.7%
Willamette	1,052,743	1,503,387	450,644	1,367,948	129.9%
Total	2,409,806	3,443,503	1,033,697	3,141,627	130.4%

## Cascadia is a Major Air Hub

Figure 3: Domestic and International Metropolitan Hubs, Annualized Passenger Levels, February 2009



Source: T-100 Market Data

## **RPA's City Pair List**

#### Top 50 City Pairs

Rank	City Pair	Score
1	New York-Washington	100.00
2	Philadelphia-Washington	98.24
3	Boston-New York	97.22
4	Baltimore-New York	96.83
5	Los Angeles-San Francisco	96.43
6	Boston-Philadelphia	96.05
7	Los Angeles-San Diego	94.92
8	Los Angeles-San Jose	94.19
9	Boston-Washington	92.79
10	Dallas-Houston	91.37
11	Chicago-Detroit	91.09
12	Baltimore-Boston	90.39
13	Chicago-Columbus	89.42
14	Chicago-Saint Louis	89.25
15	Los Angeles-Phoenix	89.03
16	Chicago-Cleveland	88.71
17	Charlotte-Washington	88.39
18	San Diego-San Francisco	88.32
19	Columbus-Washington	88.21
20	Cleveland-Washington	88.13
21	New York-Pittsburgh	88.03
22	Phoenix-San Diego	87.97
23	Las Vegas-Los Angeles	87.79
24	Detroit-New York	87.47
25	Chicago-Minneapolis	87.33

## **Seattle-Portland Connect**

- ITAL 173 Miles Distance Core-to-Core—A Bit Short for High-Speed Rail
- According to Brookings, Seattle is More Connected by Air to LA, SF, Chicago, Denver, and even Anchorage than Portland
- According to RPA, Seattle-to-Portland Ranks as the 29<sup>th</sup> City Pair in the U.S.

# The 300 Mile HSR Sweet Spot



## The Latest High Speed Rail Map



## **RPA's Proposed HSR Phasing**



### **European High Speed Rail**



## Megapolitan vs. Megaregion Rail

- Megapolitans are mostly continuous urban corridors and are best served by "Regional High-Speed Rail"
- Megaregions are proximate but discrete urban complexes that need "Express High-Speed Rail" to bridge the gaps between multiple megapolitan areas

## Megapolitan vs. Megaregion Rail

- In Megapolitans—Trains mostly compete with autos and should make multiple stops at key centers along the route
- In Megaregions—Trains mostly compete with short-haul air service and should make very few stops in order to maintain maximum speed

# California/Mountain West HSR

#### Megapolitans

- Front Range = Regional HSR
- Sun Corridor = Regional HSR
- Wasatch Front = Regional HSR

#### Megaregions

- So Cal to Las Vegas = Express HSR
- So Cal to Nor Cal = Express HSR
- So Cal to Sun Corridor = Express HSR

# Look for...

### A New Book out Summer 2010

### Megapolitans and Megaregions:

The Emergence of Large-Scale American Urban Systems

By Robert E. Lang, Arthur C. Nelson, and Casey Dawkins

From American Planning Association Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

## Recent Books





