

## Regionalism

Regionalism is a system of government that interrupts the traditional flow chart of governing bodies and inserts itself between State control and Local control. The concept of regionalism is not new.

**1962**

### Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)\*

The U.S. Congress passed the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1962, which required the formation of Metropolitan Planning Organizations in every state to provide local input for urban transportation planning and allocate and disperse federal transportation funds to cities with populations greater than 50,000. MPOs were tasked with coordinating transportation projects that would affect multiple jurisdictions within a given region. Members of these regional boards are appointed and often have no accountability or oversight.

**1966**

### Council of Governments (COGs)

Are voluntary membership associations that represent local governments, mainly cities and counties. They are financed through membership dues,

Seek to provide cooperative planning, coordination and technical assistance on issues of mutual concern that cross jurisdictional lines,

Serve to develop consensus on many issues that need to be addressed in a sub regional or regional context.

\* Also known as Municipal Planning Organizations

## Governmental Structures

Traditional	New
Federal	Federal
State	State & MPO
County	GOG
City or Town	County
	City or Town

This new structure creates a centralized planning authority with a social equity element, which is a "tax base sharing" concept that would tax rural and suburb communities to subsidize inner-city urban areas. The money in the scheme would *only* be granted if regional plans are agreed to and managed by regional authorities or governing boards.

## Impacts

Power is abdicated to an unelected, unaccountable governing board

Circumvents your elected local city council's decision-making authority

Local governments, and people do not have representation - a voice

Redistributes wealth and translates into a lower standard of living because of increased cost of utilities and new taxes

# The process

## An Overview of



## U.N. Agenda 21 Sustainable Development

*"The common enemy of humanity is man. In searching for a new enemy to unite us, we came up with the idea that pollution, the threat of global warming, water shortages, famine and the like would fit the bill. All these dangers are caused by human intervention, and it is only through changed attitudes and behavior that they can be overcome. The real enemy then, is humanity itself."*

- 1972, Club of Rome, Premier environmental think-tank, Consultants to the United Nations

# What is the problem?

## Problem Definition

Crisis

1970s: Global Cooling  
1980s: Ozone Depletion  
1990s: Global Warming  
2000s: Climate Change

## Cause of Problem

1987

Bruntland Report to the U.N.  
Our Common Future

*“Poverty is a major cause and effect of global environmental problems... The cause: nations like U.S. consume too much and have too much wealth; much in the form of private property.”*

## Sustainable Development Defined

Redevelopment that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

## Solution to Problem

1992

U.N. Rio Brazil Earth Summit

## U.N. Agenda 21 Defined

Agenda 21 is a comprehensive plan of action to be taken globally, nationally, and locally by organizations of the U.N. system in every area in which human beings impact the environment.

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## Implement Solution

1992

President George H.W. Bush signs agreement in Rio to implement Agenda 21 Sustainable Development in the U.S.

1993

President Clinton issues Executive Order (EO) #12852 creating The Presidents Council on Sustainable Development

1997

The U.S. Conference of Mayors creates The Joint Center for Sustainable Development

2001

The National Governor's Association endorses Smart Growth, advancing statewide Sustainable Development in the U.S.

2011

President Obama signs EO #13575 creating The White House Rural Communities Act to Implement Sustainable Development in U.S.

2012

Future Earth Established  
Future Earth is an international initiative to mobilize earth science *in support of* a global transition to sustainability. It is basically a rebranding of Agenda 21.

*The terms Agenda 21 and Sustainable Development are used interchangeably*

## Redefining the Process

“Participating in a U.N. Advocated planning process would very likely bring out many... who would actively work to defeat any elected official undertaking local Agenda 21“  
- Gary Laurence, advisor to President Clinton: Smart Growth Leadership Council

## Agenda 21/Sustainable Development is also referred to as:

- Comprehensive Planning
- Growth Management
- Green Cities
- Greenway
- Low-carbon
- Smart Growth
- Livability
- Visioning Projects
- Consensus
- Public Private Partnerships
- Historic Preservation
- Sustainable Communities
- Open Spaces
- Walkable Communities
- New Urbanism
- Social Justice
- High-Density Urban Development
- Multi-use Dwellings
- Buffer Zones
- Future Earth
- Future Growth
- Resilient People
- Resilient Planet