



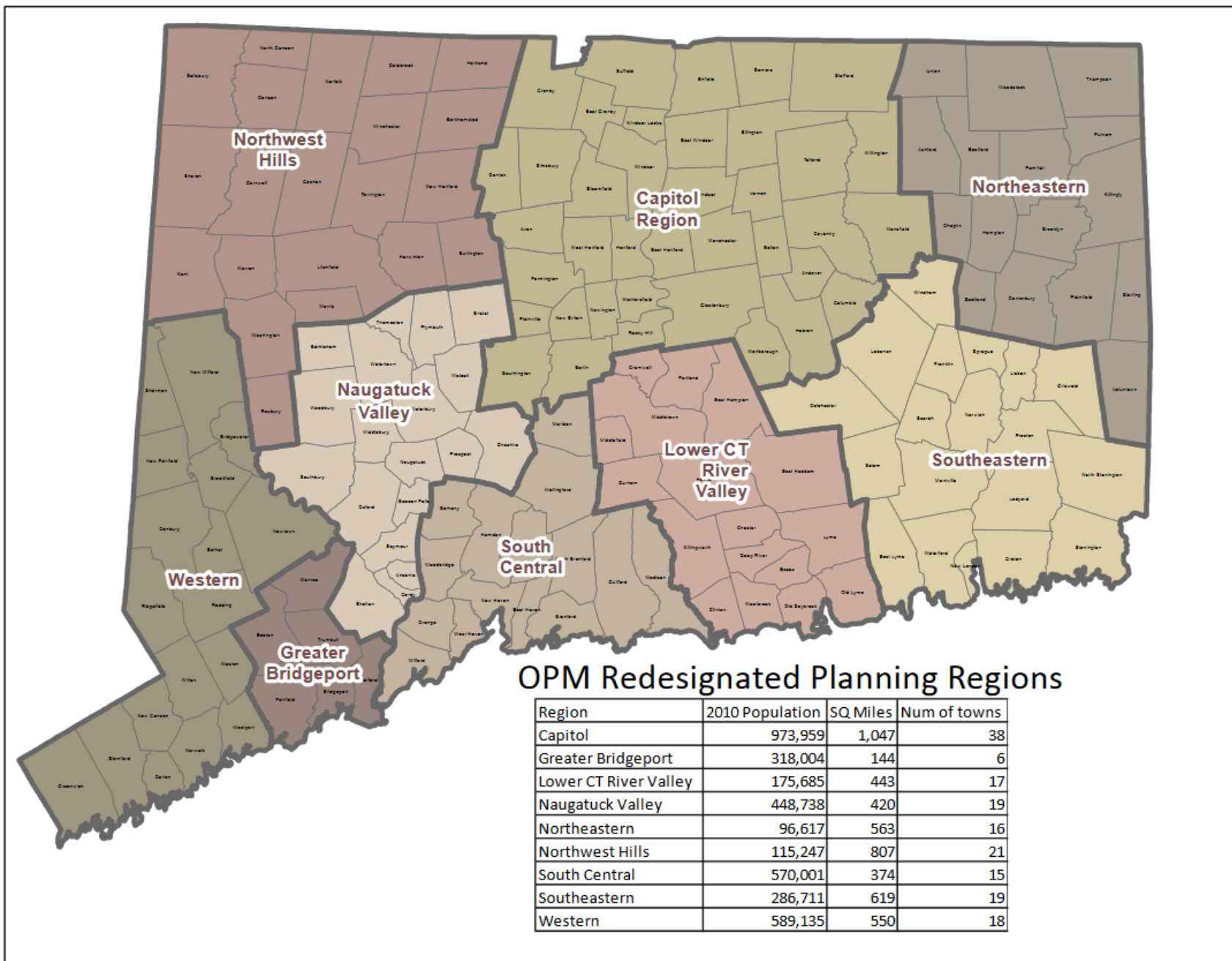
Accelerating Economic Growth in the Capital Region

Presentation to the CT Commission for Economic Competitiveness

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Capitol Region Council of Governments

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CRCOG and CEDS Background

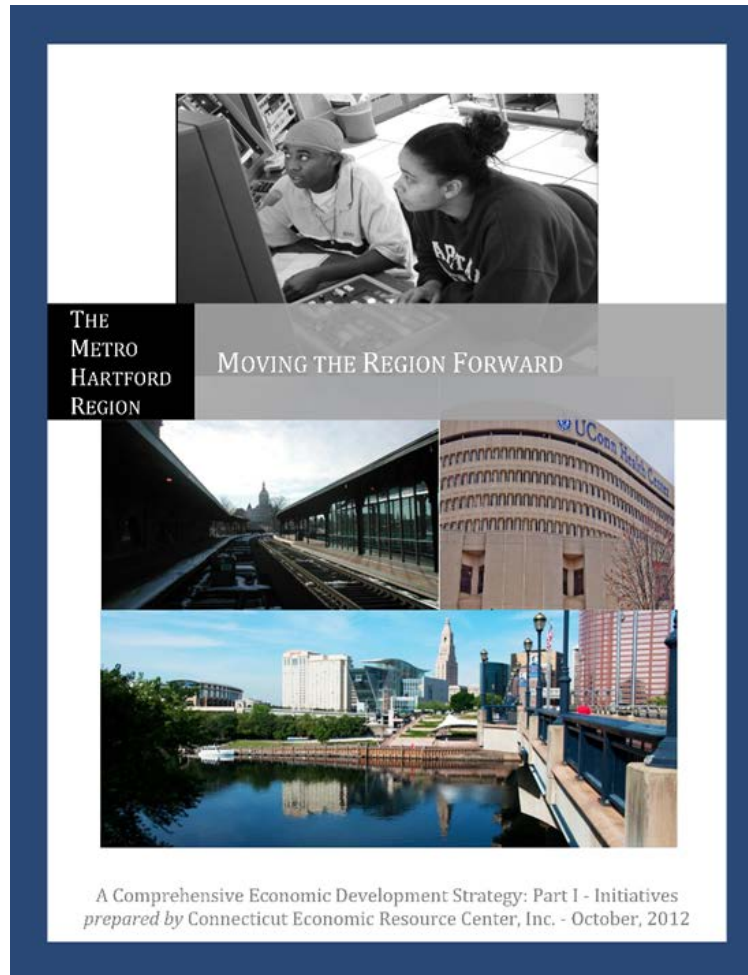
- CRCOG serves 38 cities and towns
- Population is just under 1 million residents
- The region expanded from 30 to 38 municipalities in 2014
- Prior to 2014 four CRCOG municipalities were part of the Central Connecticut Regional Planning Agency's CEDS; four municipalities were part of the Windham/Northeast Connecticut CEDS
- Previous CEDS process was managed by the Metro Hartford Alliance
- Following the 2014 consolidation, CRCOG and the Metro Hartford Alliance agreed to a pass off of the CEDS for the expanded region

Why CRCOG as a CEDS Coordinator?

- Much of CRCOG's existing work has significant economic development impacts
- Metropolitan Planning Organization for the region
- Transportation planning (CTfastrak, New Haven – Hartford – Springfield Rail, next Hartford Springfield Boston rail service)
- Land-use planning Plan of Conservation and Development with a lot of work in Transit-Oriented Development going back a decade
- Natural Hazards Mitigation Planning
- Municipal services -- Regional Purchasing Council, Nutmeg Network/Cloud
- Makes sense to integrate transportation, land-use, hazard mitigation, municipal services, and economic development in one agency

The Current CEDS

<http://goo.gl/4aqb7u>



The Current CEDS

Part 1: Initiatives

Vision: Why Implement This CEDS

Regional Initiatives:

- Cluster Initiative
- Workforce and Education Initiative
- Infrastructure Initiative
- Downtown Hartford Initiative
- Cross-Cutting Initiatives

Implementation

Part 2: Trend Analyses

Part 3: Industry Analyses

The New CEDS for the Capital Region

- Moving away from focus on industrial parks and incentive packages
- Shifting focus to drivers of economic development
- Five principles based on the Regional Economic Strategy for the Central Puget Sound Region:
 - Ensuring residents have access to **family wage jobs** and employers have access to **world class talent**.
 - Fostering a regional **business climate** that supports high quality investment and job creation.
 - Harnessing the **entrepreneurship and technology innovation** assets in the region.
 - Advancing the region's **infrastructure** to meet the demands of a **globally connected** modern economy.
 - Ensuring a healthy and beautiful environment, vibrant and thriving communities and a **high quality of life** for all the region's residents.

Next CEDS

- Talent driver
- Infrastructure driver

Conferences Leading to Next CEDS

- **Advanced manufacturing** on Price Waterhouse six factors for New England to remain competitive in manufacturing – 10 billion dollar exports just for the capital region
- **Innovation and entrepreneurship** best practices – Brookings and Hartford Health Works
- **Anchor institutions** and economic development – Penn expert
- Next: attracting and retaining **skilled millennials** to mid sized communities
- Next: **Industry 4.0** and Internet of Things with German Consulate
- **Anchor institutions and TOD** study underway

Status of the CEDS process

- Working with CT OPM and CT DECD seeking state designation as the Regional Economic Development District with the 38 town boundary
- Will apply for federal grant funding to develop the new CEDS
- Based on the results of the CEDS, may seek federal Economic Development District status



Thank you!

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