The Cascadia Corridor: New Geography, New Opportunity

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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

20th Century Metropolitan Form



21st 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						Growth 970-204 1	Percent Growth 970-204
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	8 18,297	153%
Las Vegas	323	1,674	2,407	3,416	4,442	2 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		Change Percent	Asian 1990		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 Area	Other 1990		Other Change Percent	Non White 1990		Change	Change	Population Change 1990-2040	Share Minority
Puget Sound	44	73	68%	460		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)

Megapolitan Area	Units Supported 2010	Growth- Related Units, 2010-40	Units Replaced 2010-40	Total Units Built 2010-40	
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	Change in Nonresidentia I Space Supported, 2010-40, Square Feet (000s)	2010-40,	
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	04 02
8	Los Angeles-San Jose	0/ 10
9	Boston-Washington	02 70
10	Dallas-Houston	01.37
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 29th 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





