The Emerging Southeast MegaRegion

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Case Study: The Southeast
Piedmont Atlantic MegaRegion
PAM SuperCity and MegaRegion

The six states of the southeast
PIEDMONT ATLANTIC MEGAREGION

PAM SuperCity

Four core cities

- Raleigh-Durham
- Charlotte
- Atlanta
- Birmingham

Atlantic Ocean

Gulf of Mexico

core city

six states

South Florida MegaRegion

Miles

0 37.5 75 150 225 300

Georgia Tech College of Architecture
Piedmont Atlantic Megaregion

PAM SuperCity

Two gateway cities with domestic and international links
It is supported by nearby ports...
PAM MegaRegion

And numerous second-tier cities
Population in 2000
13.3 million in the SuperCity
+ 20.6 million in the remainder of the MegaRegion
34 million people [12.1% of U.S. population]
Studying the Region
Studying the Region

Natural environment inventory
Studying the Region

Transportation inventory
Studying the Region

Economic driver inventory
Studying the Region

PAM exports goods to more than 80 countries

U.S. exports (2004): $818 billion
PAM exports (2004): $105 billion [13% of U.S. total]
U.S. export growth, 2000 to 2004 = 4.8%
PAM export growth, 2000 to 2004 = 21.2%

Source: TradStats, U.S. Department of Commerce
Key challenges & opportunities:

- Growth
- Consumption
- Disparities
- Infrastructure
- Fragmentation

which call for Sustainable Solutions
Balancing Needs for Sustainability

Social justice
Economic opportunity
Income equality

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Economic growth and efficiency
Environmental protection

property conflict
development conflict
resource conflict
Challenge, Opportunity: GROWTH

Population Growth, centered on centers

2000
34 million people

2050
57.2 million people

Source: Woods & Poole and calculations
An opportunity to reshape the region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Total sq ft in 2030 (In billions)</th>
<th>New/replacement sq ft (In billions)</th>
<th>% sq ft built 2000-2030</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>75.1</td>
<td>29.7</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>100.6</td>
<td>47.5</td>
<td>47%</td>
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<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>156.7</td>
<td>84.4</td>
<td>54%</td>
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<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>94.7</td>
<td>51.8</td>
<td>55%</td>
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</table>

Southeast water consumption increasing faster than U.S.
PAM states developing land faster than U.S., outpacing population growth

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Inventory
Challenge, Opportunity: DISPARITIES

Poverty rates highest outside urban core

Source: U.S. Census
Lesser educational attainment compared to U.S.

Population includes Males and Females of White, Black, and Hispanic Races.

Source: U.S. Census
Challenge, Opportunity : INFRASTRUCTURE

Congestion increases, especially in Atlanta

annual delay per motorist, 1982-2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>1982</th>
<th>1992</th>
<th>2002</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birmingham</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raleigh-Durham</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td>85 U.S. city</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>35</td>
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Challenge, Opportunity : INFRASTRUCTURE

Lack of interstate passenger rail travel in southeast

Southeast’s share of the AMTRAK national ridership is 3.46%
Challenge, Opportunity : FRAGMENTATION

Six states

PIEDMONT
ATLANTIC
MEGAREGION
Challenge, Opportunity: FRAGMENTATION

504 counties
Challenge, Opportunity: FRAGMENTATION

3,839 cities

Over 4,300 governing bodies
A call for regional governance and planning to:

- turn challenges into opportunities
- address issues spatially
- strategically position regions to compete in the global economy
- respond to emerging technology, economic realignment, and disparities
- improve quality of life

Throughout it all, to reaffirm the significance of place.
RETHINKING TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

BEFORE

PIEDMONT ATLANTIC MEGAREGION

CQGRD

Georgia Tech College of Architecture
RETHINKING TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

AFTER
RESHAPING THE URBAN FORM
RESHAPING THE URBAN FORM
The first century of growth

1800s:

Thomas Jefferson’s call for westward expansion
The second century of growth

1900s:
Public Lands Commission to propose rules for orderly land development and management
National Park Service to conserve and preserve resources
A third century of growth

2000s:
A grassroots call to action for a national growth strategy based on spatial planning and MegaRegions
Without Regional Governance and Planning
With Regional Governance and Planning

Centennial Olympic Park, Atlanta, Georgia
The Madrid Charrette

**Faculty Advisors:** Dr. Cheryl Contant and Dr. Catherine L. Ross of Georgia Tech

**Professional Advisors:** Dr. Karen Mumford, Emory University; Tom Weyandt, Atlanta Regional Commission

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographics and Transportation &amp; Infrastructure:</th>
<th>Economic Development:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jason Barringer</td>
<td>Karen Leone de Nie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolina Blengini</td>
<td>Julie McQueen</td>
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<td>Eric Sundquist</td>
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<th>Equity:</th>
<th>Natural Environment:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Karl Smith-Davids</td>
<td>Lee Lyman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leigh Valletti</td>
<td>Kayah Royal</td>
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<th>Governance:</th>
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<td>Elizabeth Keysar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jared Lombard</td>
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</table>
### Sources

**DEMOGRAPHICS AND PROJECTIONS**
National College Board  
Woods & Poole  
U.S. Census Bureau

**EDUCATION**
National College Board  
U.S. Census Bureau  
National Education Association Research Estimates Database

**ECONOMIC**
Trade Stats Express  
Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Woods & Poole  
U.S. Census Bureau  
National Science Foundation  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
U.S. Maritime Administration  
Fortune Magazine  
Bureau of Economic Analysis

**TRANSPORTATION**
Texas Transportation Institute  
U.S. Census Bureau  
AMTRAK  
Bureau of Transportation Statistics

**ENVIRONMENTAL**
North Carolina Million Acre Plan  
North Carolina Water Supply Plan  
Northwest Florida Water Management District  
The Natural Map  
South Carolina Water Plan  
Southeastern Ecological Framework  
U.S. Geological Survey  
World Wildlife Fund  
Western North Carolina Regional Air Quality Agency  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

**GOVERNANCE**
U.S. Census Bureau  
U.S. Tax Foundation

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