

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
FOR
PROMOTING REGIONAL ACTION ON GROWTH MANAGEMENT
AND
VALLEY VISION, THE REGIONAL LAND USE PLAN

By and among
the Municipalities of the Pioneer Valley Region
and the
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

WHEREAS, the Pioneer Valley region is facing serious problems with development and sprawl, which threaten to degrade community character and natural resources, reduce open space and farmland, and increase traffic congestion and air pollution;

WHEREAS, it is vital that the Pioneer Valley region employ growth management strategies and other planning tools to control sprawl and reduce its negative impacts;

WHEREAS, growing smarter can result in more efficient use of land, preservation of open space and community character, less traffic congestion, more compact and pedestrian-friendly development, revitalizing and focusing growth in existing urban centers, redevelopment of Brownfield areas, less costly municipal services, and improved opportunities for affordable housing;

WHEREAS, the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC), in cooperation with the Valley Development Council and community planning officials, have developed "Valley Vision 2", an updated and revised Regional Land Use Plan, which includes growth management strategies and tools;

WHEREAS, communities must think and act regionally in order to effectively combat sprawl and promote well-planned growth;

WHEREAS, in order to promote more efficient regional growth and development, it is important to achieve mutual consistency of municipal plans and zoning with regional land use plans;

Now, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the communities of the Pioneer Valley region and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission agree to adopt and work cooperatively to implement Valley Vision 2, the Regional Land Use Plan for the Pioneer Valley.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the communities of the Pioneer Valley region and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission agree to work to promote the mutual consistency of municipal plans and zoning with Valley Vision 2.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a regional advisory committee, the Valley Development Council, comprised of public and private sector representatives, shall continue to assist PVPC and the communities in carrying out the goals of this agreement.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the communities of the Pioneer Valley and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission agree to work together to promote well-planned growth and implement Valley Vision 2 in the following ways:

Section 1. Role of the Communities

The communities of the Pioneer Valley region shall have the following roles:

- a. To review, through the Planning Board and/or planning staff, municipal land use or Master plans, zoning and subdivision regulations to determine if they are consistent with Valley Vision, the Regional Land Use Plan;
- b. To consider the adoption and enforcement of land use regulations or bylaws designed to promote efficient growth consistent with Valley Vision.

Section 2. Role of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission shall have the following roles:

- a. To review municipal land use or Master plans, zoning and subdivision regulations to ensure that Valley Vision reflects municipal land use planning and growth management priorities as noted in these documents;
- b. To assist the municipalities in meeting their responsibilities under this Memorandum, including seeking grant resources to provide local technical assistance for land use regulations or bylaws designed to promote implementation of Valley Vision.

Section 3. Role of the Valley Development Council

The Valley Development Council shall be comprised of municipal planners, planning board members, builders, architects, bankers, realtors, conservation commissioners, state officials and other interested citizens, and shall have the following roles:

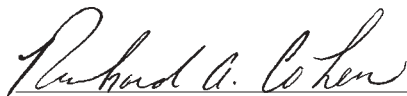
- a. To assist the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission in promoting participation in this agreement, and to assist communities in implementing the goals of the agreement;
- b. To assist in implementing Valley Vision, including establishing public-private partnerships to create smart growth development projects in the region, which can serve as models for future growth.

Section 4. Amendments

This Memorandum may be amended at any time with the approval of all signatories. Any signatory to this Memorandum may rescind their participation through a majority vote of the signatory's governing body, including the Board of Selectmen for a town and the Mayor for a city.

Section 5. Effective Date/Authorization

This Memorandum will become effective for signatories when it is signed by two or more participating parties.



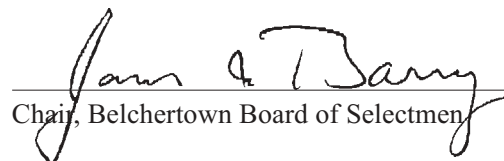
Mayor, City of Agawam

03 OCT 2006

Date

Chair, Amherst Board of Selectmen

Date



Chair, Belchertown Board of Selectmen

2/5/07

Date

Chester Broughton
Chair, Blandford Board of Selectmen

10-23-06
Date

Duane M. Panaccione
Chair, Brimfield Board of Selectmen

4-2-07
Date

[Signature]
Chair, Chester Board of Selectmen

6/5/06
Date

Robert A.
Chair, Chesterfield Board of Selectmen

11/13/06
Date

Mikhael. Benonette
Mayor, City of Chicopee

9/6/06
Date

Russell 2 Sears Jr
Chair, Cummington Board of Selectmen

Date

Epifanio
Chair, East Longmeadow Board of Selectmen

4/24/07
Date

[Signature]
Mayor, City of Easthampton

3-21-2007
Date

Kevin C. Jacy
Chair, Goshen Board of Selectmen

July 31, 2006
Date

Paul [Signature]
Chair, Granby Board of Selectmen

8-7-2006
Date

Richard C. Woodger
Chair, Granville Board of Selectmen

1/29/07
Date

Joyce A. Chenglo
Chair, Hadley Board of Selectmen

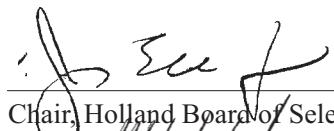
3/7/07
Date

Duane E. Moser
Chair, Hampden Board of Selectmen

January 24, 2007
Date

Sam Williams
Chair, Hatfield Board of Selectmen

9-25-06
Date


Chair, Holland Board of Selectmen

2/2/06

Date


Mayor, City of Holyoke

8/10/06

Date


Chair, Huntington Board of Selectmen

6-14-06

Date


Chair, Longmeadow Board of Selectmen

5/1/06

Date


Chair, Ludlow Board of Selectmen

8/27/07

Date

acting Chair - Larry Pease
Chair, Middlefield Board of Selectmen

8/14/06

Date

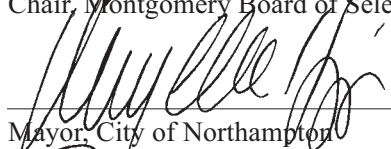
Chair, Monson Board of Selectmen

Date


Chair, Montgomery Board of Selectmen

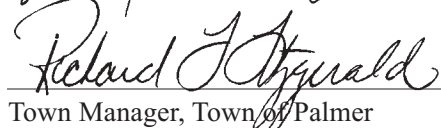
6/08/06

Date


Mayor, City of Northampton

9/19/06

Date


Town Manager, Town of Palmer

12/5/06

Date


Chair, Pelham Board of Selectmen

2/7/07

Date


Chair, Plainfield Board of Selectmen

8/23/06

Date


Chair, Russell Board of Selectmen

12/19/06

Date


Chair, South Hadley Board of Selectmen

12/6/06

Date



Chair, Southampton Board of Selectmen

11/21/06

Date



Chair, Southwick Board of Selectmen

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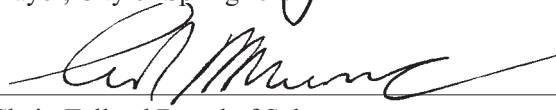
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Mayor, City of Springfield

12/14/06

Date



Chair, Tolland Board of Selectmen

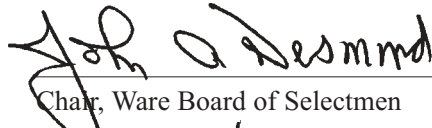
8/13/07

Date



Chair, Wales Board of Selectmen

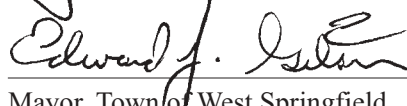
Date



Chair, Ware Board of Selectmen

Sept 26, 2006

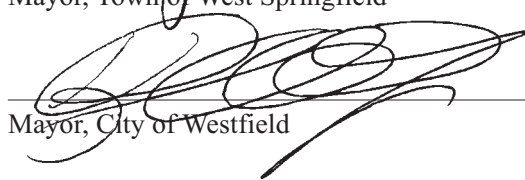
Date



Mayor, Town of West Springfield

December 7, 2006

Date



Mayor, City of Westfield

Date

Chair, Westhampton Board of Selectmen

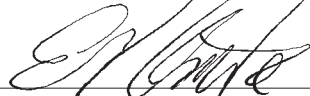
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Chair, Wilbraham Board of Selectmen

10/30/06

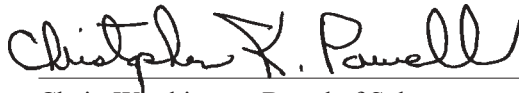
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Chair, Williamsburg Board of Selectmen

10/27/06

Date



Chair, Worthington Board of Selectmen

MAY 30, 2006

Date



Executive Director, Pioneer Valley Planning
Commission

JUNE 1, 2007

Date