



## **BLUEGRASS REGIONAL LAND USE RESOLUTION**

*A Resolution Outlining and Adopting A Common Set of Principles that Promote Conversation and Establish A Broad Framework Upon Which Stakeholders May Build to Implement Effective Regional Land Use Planning.*

**WHEREAS** – The Bluegrass Regional Landscape is our defining feature, renowned for the quality of its agricultural and natural resources, and fully deserving of the best available and most carefully considered intentional and collaborative planning efforts by its Stakeholders; and,

**WHEREAS** – There is a fundamental need for continued deliberate, collaborative, balanced, and responsible Land Use Planning in the Bluegrass Region; and,

**WHEREAS** – Ensuring that a reasonable balance is struck and maintained between addressing the ongoing need for regional quality of life concerns and economic development, of which agriculture should be a critical component; and,

**WHEREAS** – A diverse partnership-style coalition of Stakeholders, employing a set of broadly accepted, common and fundamental principles is the key to establishing an effective and mutually beneficial Land Use Planning Framework; and,

**WHEREAS** – Such a Framework will result in maintaining, enhancing and celebrating the development and expansion of the distinct character of our cities and counties while protecting the many natural features that make up the unique Bluegrass “Brand;”

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Directors for Bluegrass Tomorrow Incorporated; with input from a wide array of regional stakeholders and organizations, adopts the following principles as a common-ground starting point for discussions, decisions, and local policy development in support of improved Land Use Planning across the Bluegrass Region.

1. Effective communication between all Stakeholders in the Region is fundamental to the success of any collaborative effort. Therefore, all stakeholders will place a priority on improving inter-organizational communication with respect to transparency of planning, education of the citizenry, and outreach beyond individual city and county boundaries.

2. Planning in support of solutions to regional issues will be collaborative, balanced, based on shared responsibility between urban and rural. It will respect realistic and reasonable environmental sensitivities and address relevant cultural, heritage, natural resources, and tourism needs and opportunities in the Bluegrass Region, which supports a multi-billion-dollar travel and tourism industry related to the land.
3. Agriculture is a key economic driver in the Region. Preserving prime agricultural lands and working to limit sprawl are generally recognized and accepted as being of critical importance to the Bluegrass Region. Such concepts as these, as already contained within existing municipal, county, and joint comprehensive plans should be supported.
4. Due to the importance of inter and intra-regional connectivity, planning for multi-modal transportation related projects and road improvements that improve connectivity should receive the same balanced, collaborative approach.
5. A need exists to tie together individual county land use maps for analysis to identify and highlight areas of possible opportunity or conflict, including connectivity of corridors, land use designations, infrastructure, urban service boundaries, and land use planning along county boundaries.
6. The concept of infill and redevelopment and rehabilitation is important and is broadly supported within the region, in comparing comprehensive plans in 18 counties. It should be a standing factor in land use planning deliberations.
7. The broad-based, shared regional land use planning partnership formed to plan the "Conversation with the Region on Land Use Planning," should continue and be expanded. Additional ongoing input from elected officials, local governments, planners, and stakeholders to guide future planning efforts in the 18-county region, will ensure focus on mutually agreed upon principles, encourage consistency and continuity of design standards, and maximize opportunities for economic development and promulgation of our Bluegrass "Brand."

Adopted:

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman, Bluegrass Tomorrow Date:

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
President CEO, Bluegrass Tomorrow Date: