BREAKOUT SESSION FIVE:

TRANSPORTATION, LIVABLE COMMUNITIES,
AND THE NEW ENERGY ECONOMY

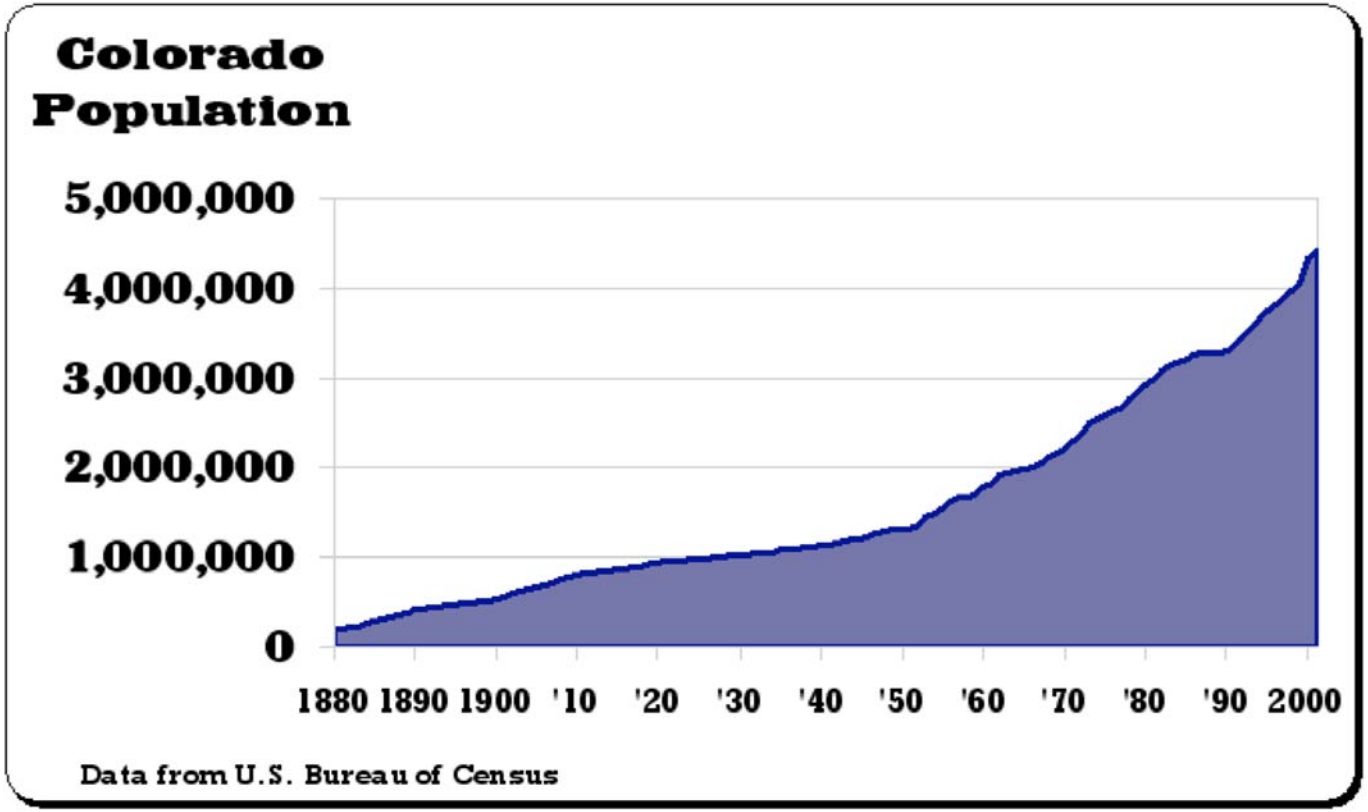
SUSTAINABILITY AND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS:

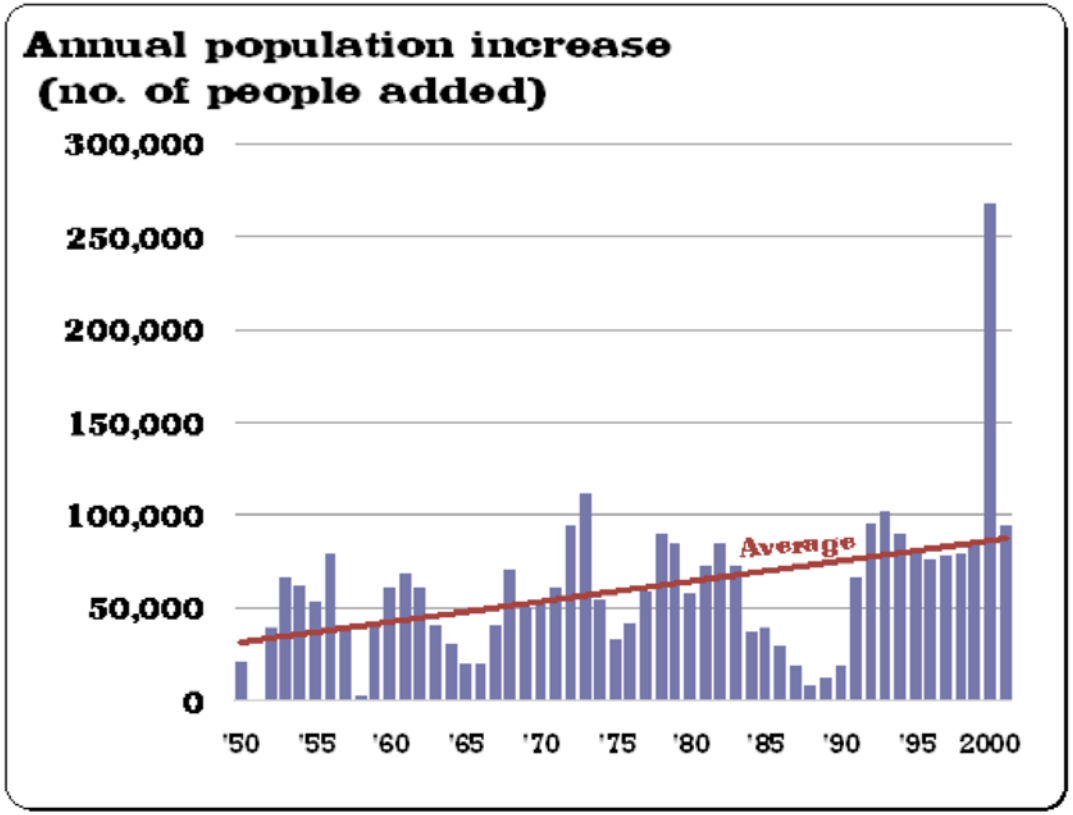
COLORADO PERSPECTIVES

Thomas A. Clark, Ph.D.

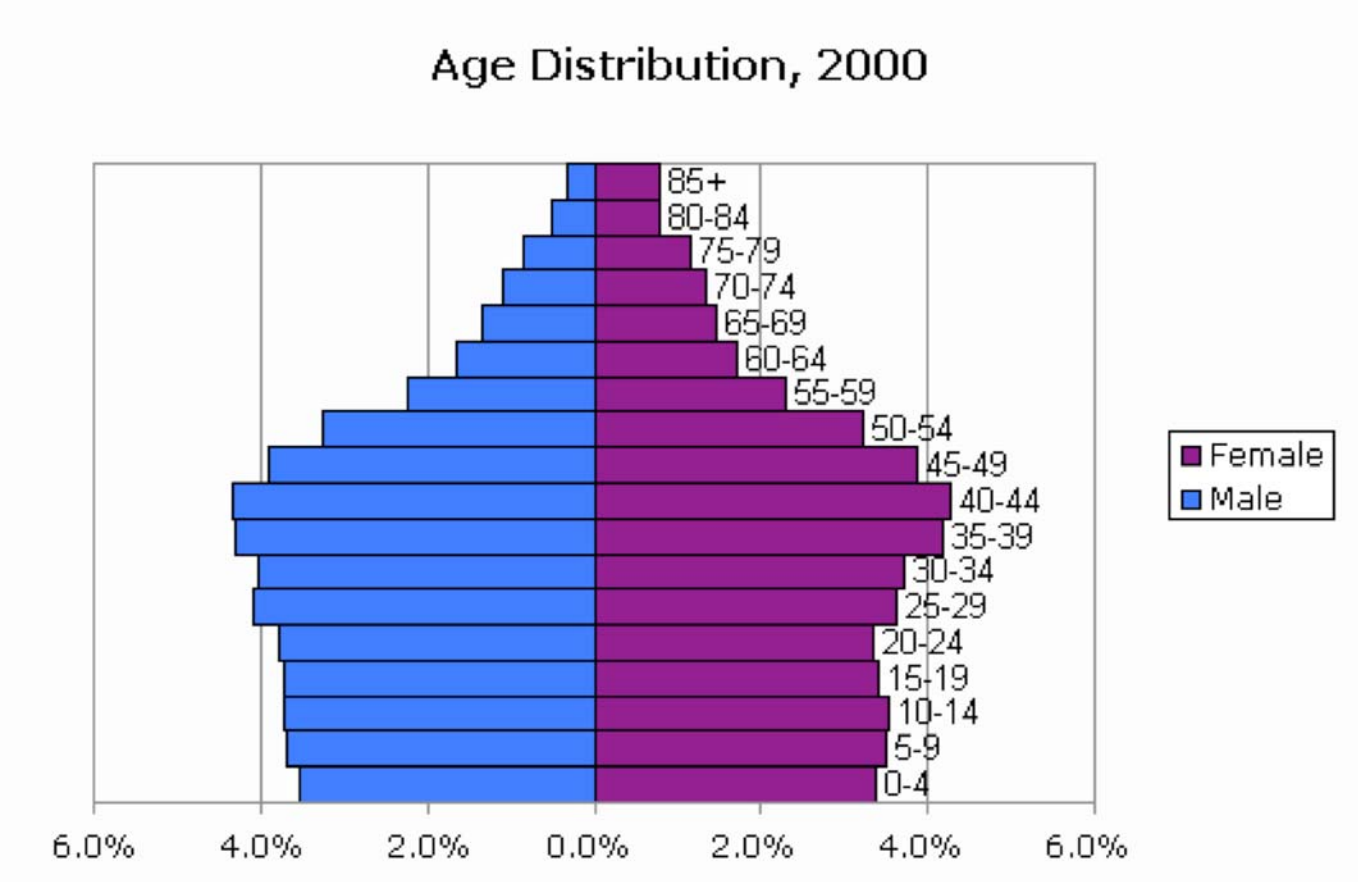
Director, Center for Sustainable Urbanism

Professor, Department of Planning and Design
College of Architecture and Planning
UCDHSC


Colorado
Population
5,000,000
4,000,000
3,000,000
2,000,000
1,000,000
0
1880 1890 1900 '10 '20 '30 '40 '50 '60 '70 '80 '90 2000
Data from U.S. Bureau of Census


Annual population increase
(no. of people added)
300,000
250,000
200,000
150,000
100,000
50,000
0
Average
'50
'55
'60
'65
'70
'75
'80
'85
'90
'95
2000

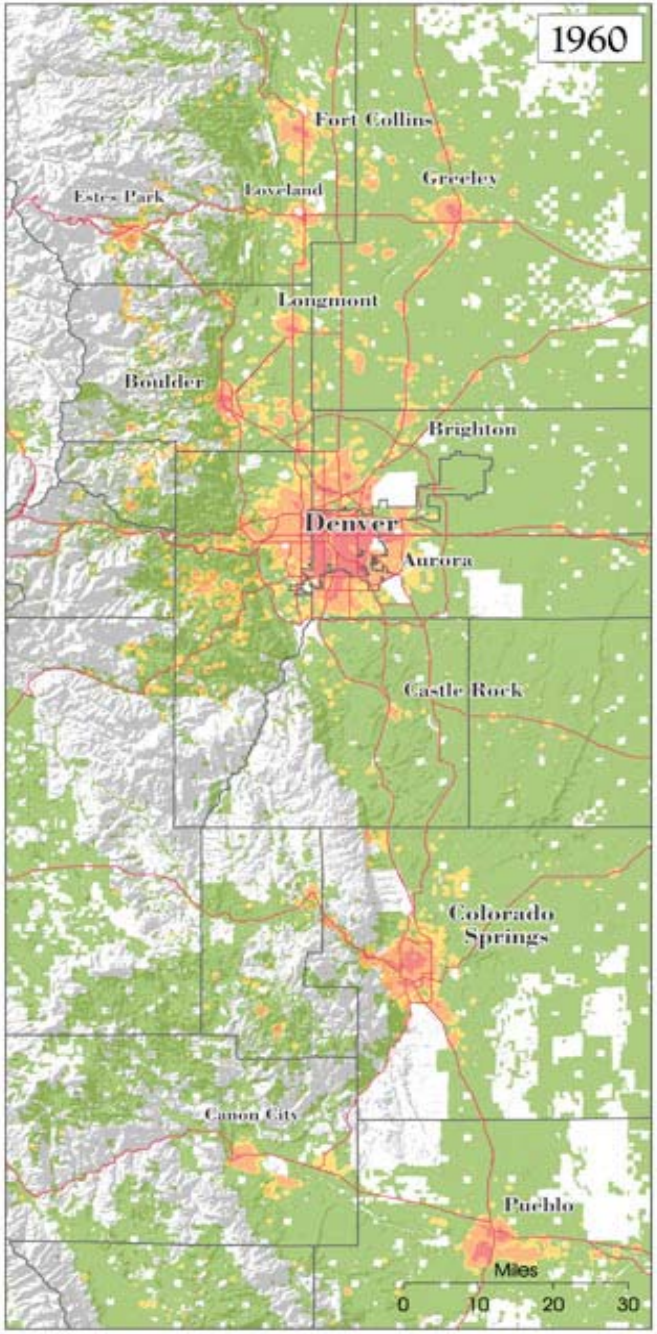
COLORADO'S POPULATION



Acknowledgment

- The following maps of growth on Colorado's Front Range and within the western reaches of the United States were developed by Professor William Travis, Department of Geography, University of Colorado at Boulder, and were exhibited at the Colorado Tomorrow Conference Co-sponsored by the Center for Sustainable Urbanism and the Urban Land Institute.

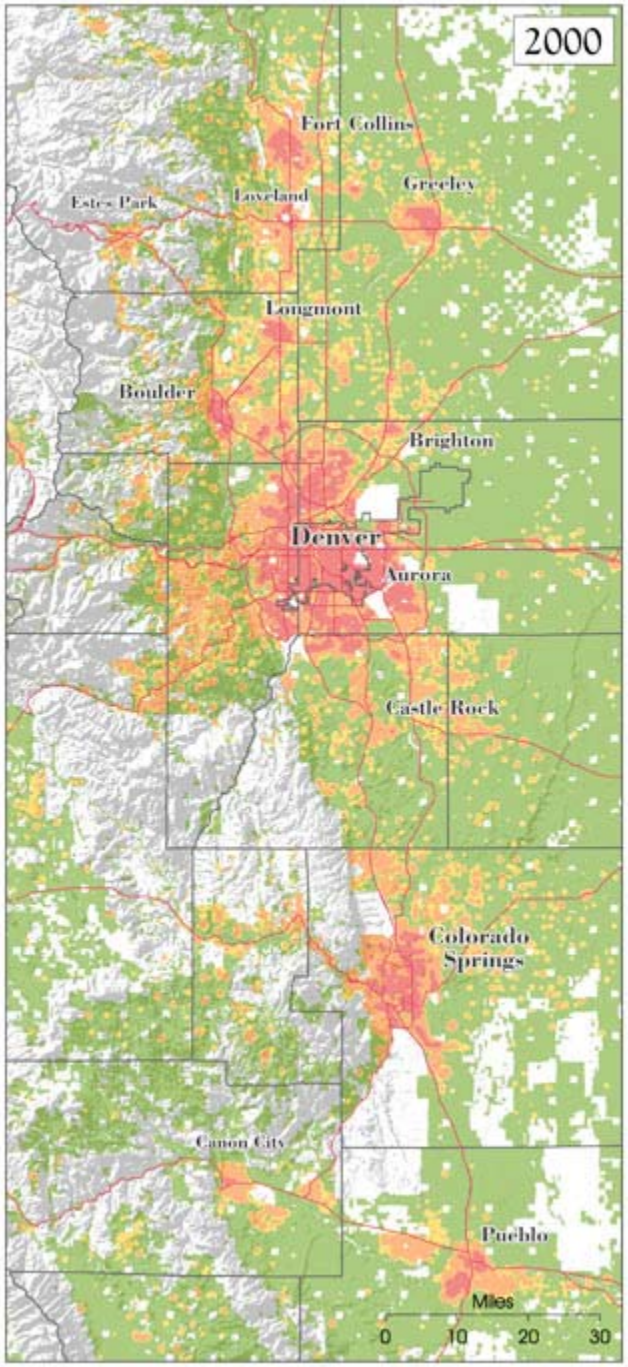
Colorado Front Range, 1960



Land Use Categories

- Rural (<1 unit per 40 acres)
- Exurban (1 unit per 10 to 40 acres)
- Low Density Suburban (1 unit per 0.5 to 10 acres)
- Urban/Suburban (>2 units per acre)
- Not Buildable

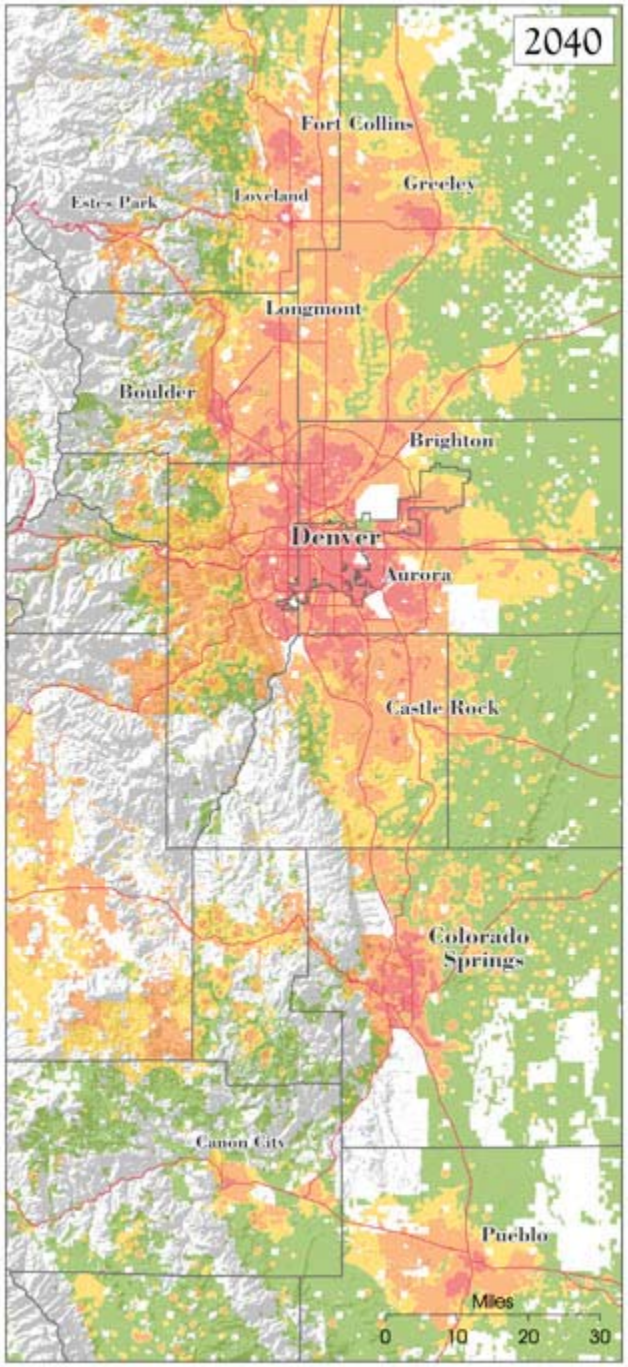
Colorado Front Range, 2000



Land Use Categories

- Rural (<1 unit per 40 acres)
- Exurban (1 unit per 10 to 40 acres)
- Low Density Suburban (1 unit per 0.5 to 10 acres)
- Urban/Suburban (>2 units per acre)
- Not Buildable

Colorado Front Range, 2040

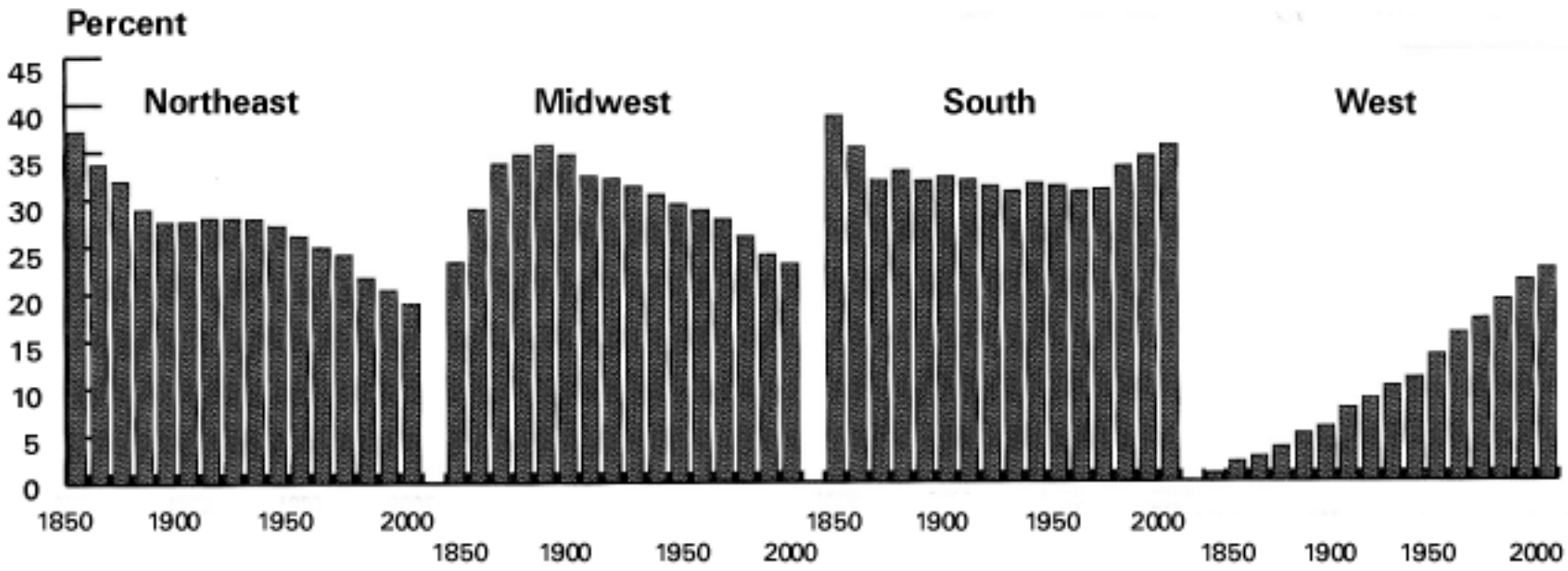


Land Use Categories

- Rural (<1 unit per 40 acres)
- Exurban (1 unit per 10 to 40 acres)
- Low Density Suburban (1 unit per 0.5 to 10 acres)
- Urban/Suburban (>2 units per acre)
- Not Buildable

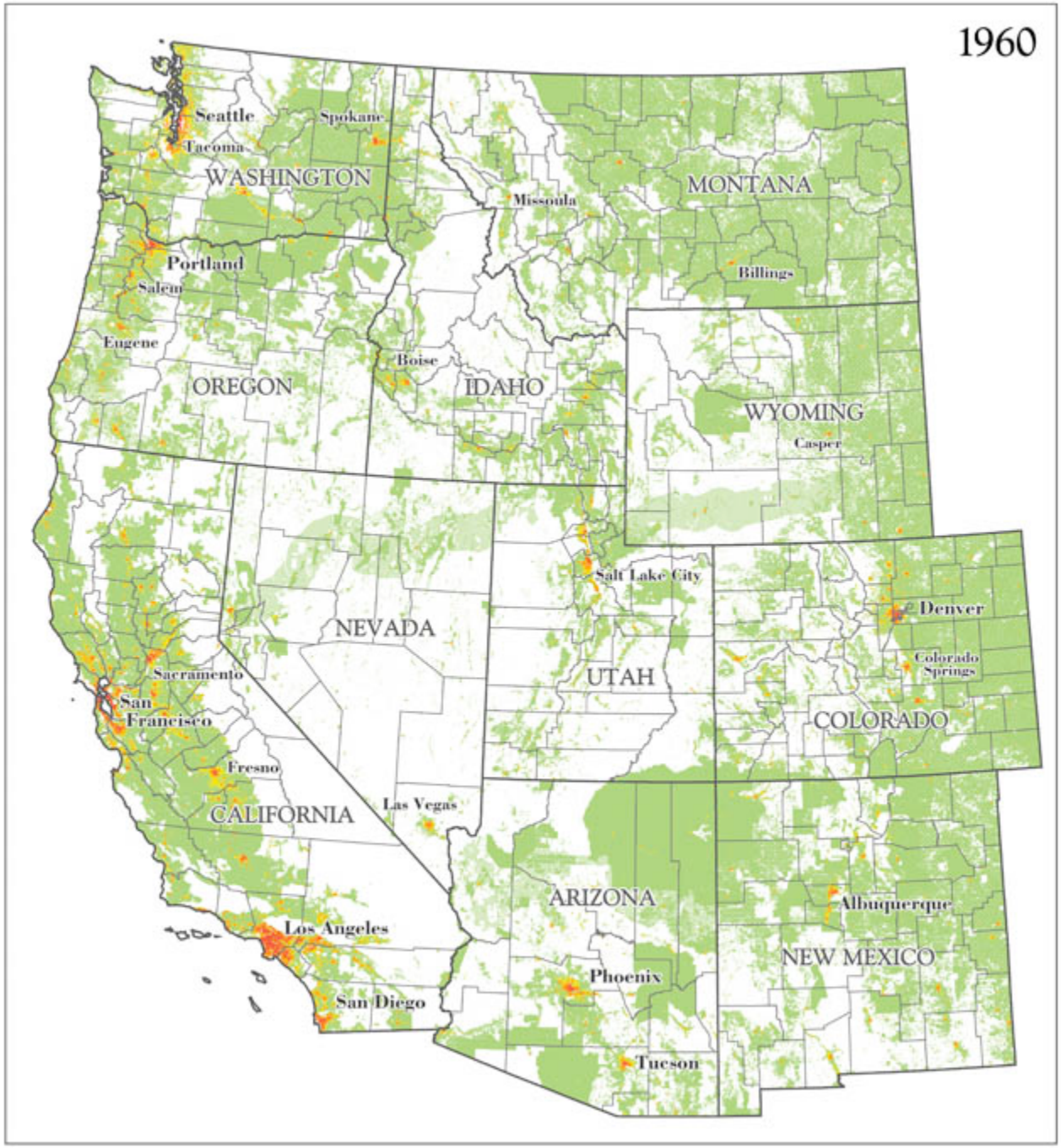
THE WESTERN UNITED STATES

Share of U.S. Population in Each Region, 1850-1999



Source: Masnick, George (2001) "America's Shifting Population: Understanding Migration Patterns in the West." See *Further Readings* for complete source.

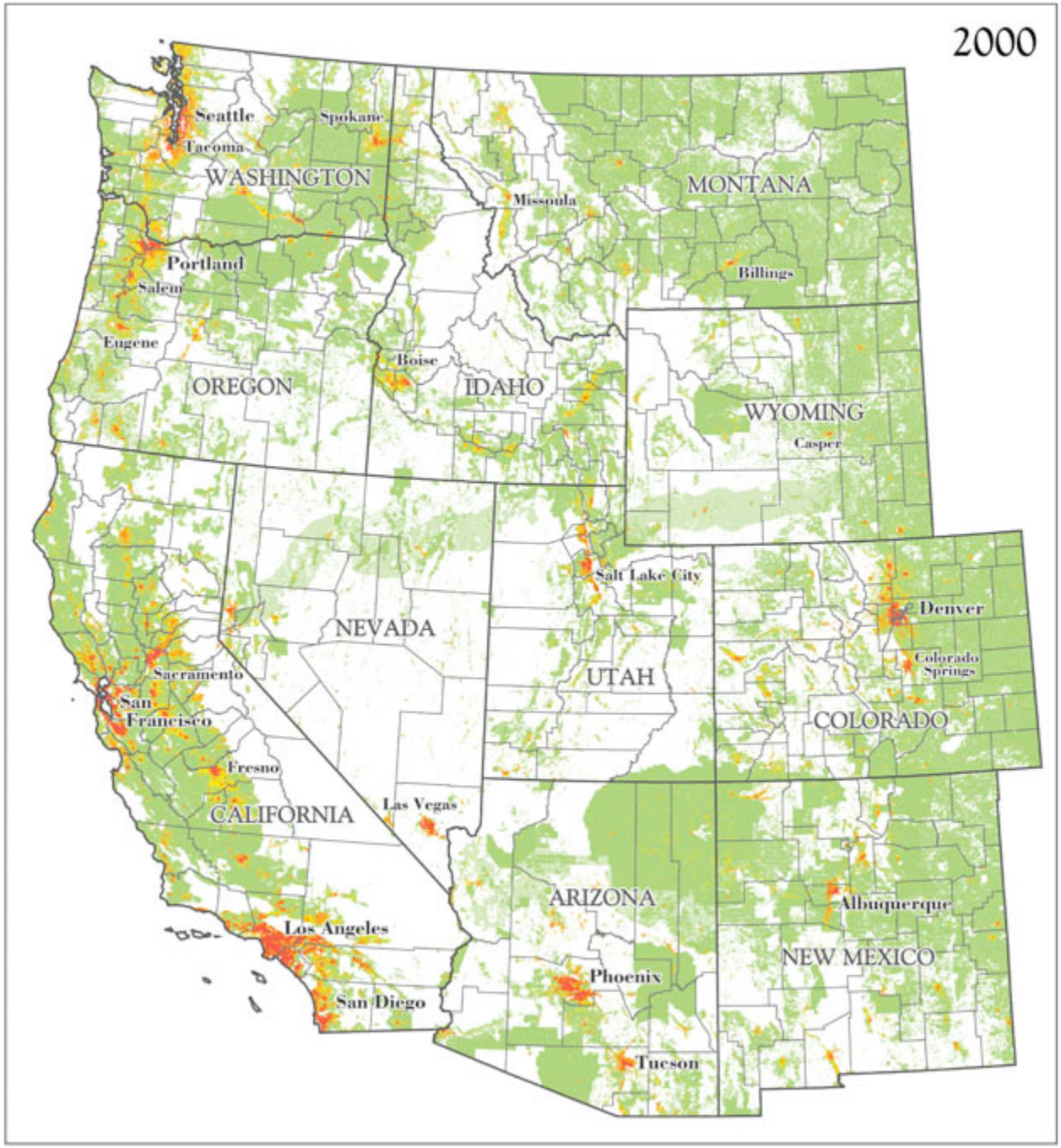
Western US, 1960



Land Use Categories

- Rural (<1 unit per 40 acres)
- Exurban (1 unit per 10 to 40 acres)
- Low Density Suburban (1 unit per 0.5 to 10 acres)
- Urban/Suburban (>2 units per acre)
- Not Buildable

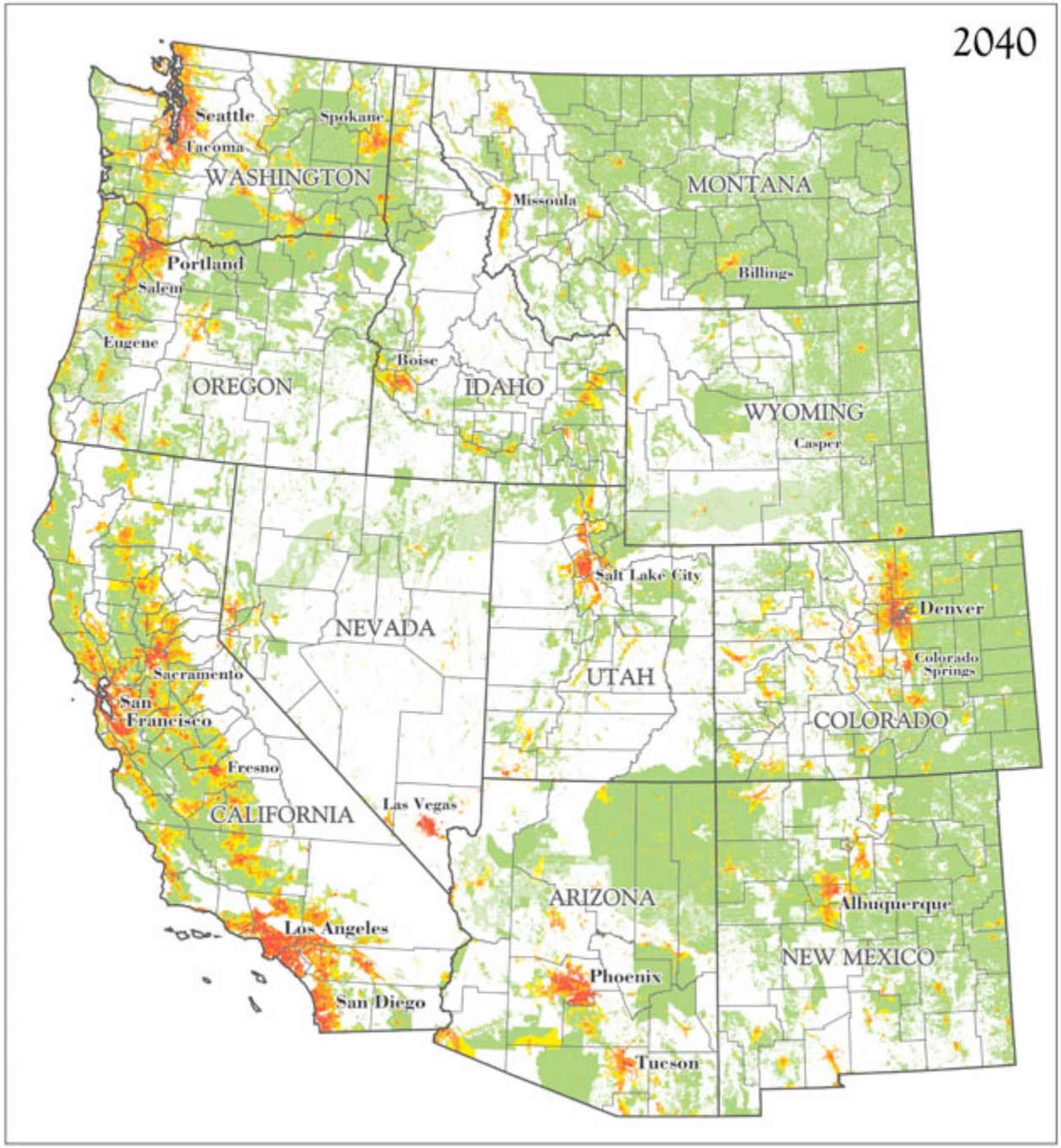
Western US, 2000



Land Use Categories

- Rural (<1 unit per 40 acres)
- Exurban (1 unit per 10 to 40 acres)
- Low Density Suburban (1 unit per 0.5 to 10 acres)
- Urban/Suburban (>2 units per acre)
- Not Buildable

Western US, 2040



Land Use Categories

- Rural (<1 unit per 40 acres)
- Exurban (1 unit per 10 to 40 acres)
- Low Density Suburban (1 unit per 0.5 to 10 acres)
- Urban/Suburban (>2 units per acre)
- Not Buildable

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION

- **1. COORDINATE ACROSS THREE SCALES: INTERSTATE, REGIONAL AND LOCAL**
- **2. FIND THE RIGHT MODAL MIX AT EACH SCALE, MAXIMIZING INTER-CONNECTIVITY**
- **3. LOCATE FACILITIES SO AS TO PROMOTE GROWTH WHERE THERE IS THE CAPACITY TO ACCOMMODATE GROWTH**
- **4. COORDINATE TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE**
- **5. ACCESS TRUMPS MOBILITY WHEN TRIP ENDS ARE MORE COMPACT**
- **6. CONSERVE LAND, MATERIAL AND ENERGY INPUTS**
- **7. THE ETHICAL APPRAISAL OF ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS MUST WEIGH THE FULL RANGE OF BOTH LOCAL AND NON-LOCAL COSTS AND BENEFITS**

HIGHWAYS AREN’T THE WHOLE ANSWER