America 2050: A Prospectus
The Emergence of Megaregions

The America 2050 strategy seeks to facilitate the emergence of 10 or more megaregions by focusing on five key objectives:

1. Create capacity for growth.
2. Reestablish upward social and economic mobility.
3. Protect and reclaim region-shaping natural resource systems.
4. Promote new financing and decision-making frameworks.
5. Reform the federal role in land use policy.

For more information about America 2050, visit their website: www.America2050.org

Cascadia
The vision for Cascadia links Seattle, Portland, and Vancouver, British Columbia with high speed rail, while protecting the area's unique and pristine environments. Other strategies highlight these cities' shared high-tech competencies, commitment to environmental sustainability, and creative clusters in film, music, and green building.

Northern California
The high quality of life, cultural heritage, and environmental assets of the Northern California region make it an attractive and expensive place to live. How can sustainable land use strategies be employed while limiting the skyrocketing cost of living?

American Sun Corridor
The American Sun Corridor is equivalent to Indiana's size and population but will add another Indiana's worth of residents by 2060. Located in a desert environment, Phoenix and Tucson -- the megaregion's two largest metropolitan regions -- have stringent water conservation requirements and are promoting the use of desert landscaping. These efforts provide the 10 metros with enough water to support two million people, preparing the Sun Corridor for current and future growth.

Texas Triangle
By 2050, about 75% of people, or 70% of the population, will live in the metropolitan areas that comprise the Texas Triangle. Three of the nation's 10 largest cities are in the Triangle, including Houston, which has a port that handles more foreign tonnage than any other in the U.S. Cultural cohesion creates the potential for collaboration among the metro regions of the Triangle to address land use, transportation, and environmental concerns.

Great Lakes
The Great Lakes megaregion is exploring ways to grow its economy in the face of the shrinking role of the manufacturing sector. The region's assets include the environmental resources and amenities of the Great Lakes and a strong research and cultural tradition tied to its leading public universities.

Northeast
The Northeast is a powerhouse of density and economic output, producing 30% of the nation's Gross Domestic Product with 12% of the population and only two percent of the nation's land area. Over the next generation, the Northeast will add 18 million new residents. This population growth will demand infrastructure investments and economic growth to accommodate these new residents while preserving quality of life.

Southern California
With some of the largest ports in the nation, the economy of Southern California is closely tied to the logistics and goods movement industry. This region is taking aggressive action to build infrastructure that enhances its role as a global gateway while providing opportunities for its fast-growing native-born and immigrant populations.

Piedmont Atlantic
The Piedmont Atlantic is a region of the Southeast whose balance of economic and social growth has led to a high quality of life. The Piedmont is the region's economic core and is anchored by Atlanta and Charlotte.

Gulf Coast
The devastation of Hurricane Katrina and Rita and the displacement of victims along the 1-10 corridor highlighted the environmental, transportation, and economic links of the Gulf Coast. Despite the recent destruction, the region is expected to grow due to the continued re-migration of retirees from the Midwest.

Florida
As the Florida megaregion is one of the fastest growing in the nation and possesses a wealth of diversity, with six of every 10 new residents in the last decade coming from foreign countries. It is both dense and populous, with the major international city of Miami acting as a gateway to Latin America. Regional strategies to protect the Everglades have preserved the natural heritage of the state.