

Suburbs and Schools: Allies or Enemies to Multi-Generational Planning

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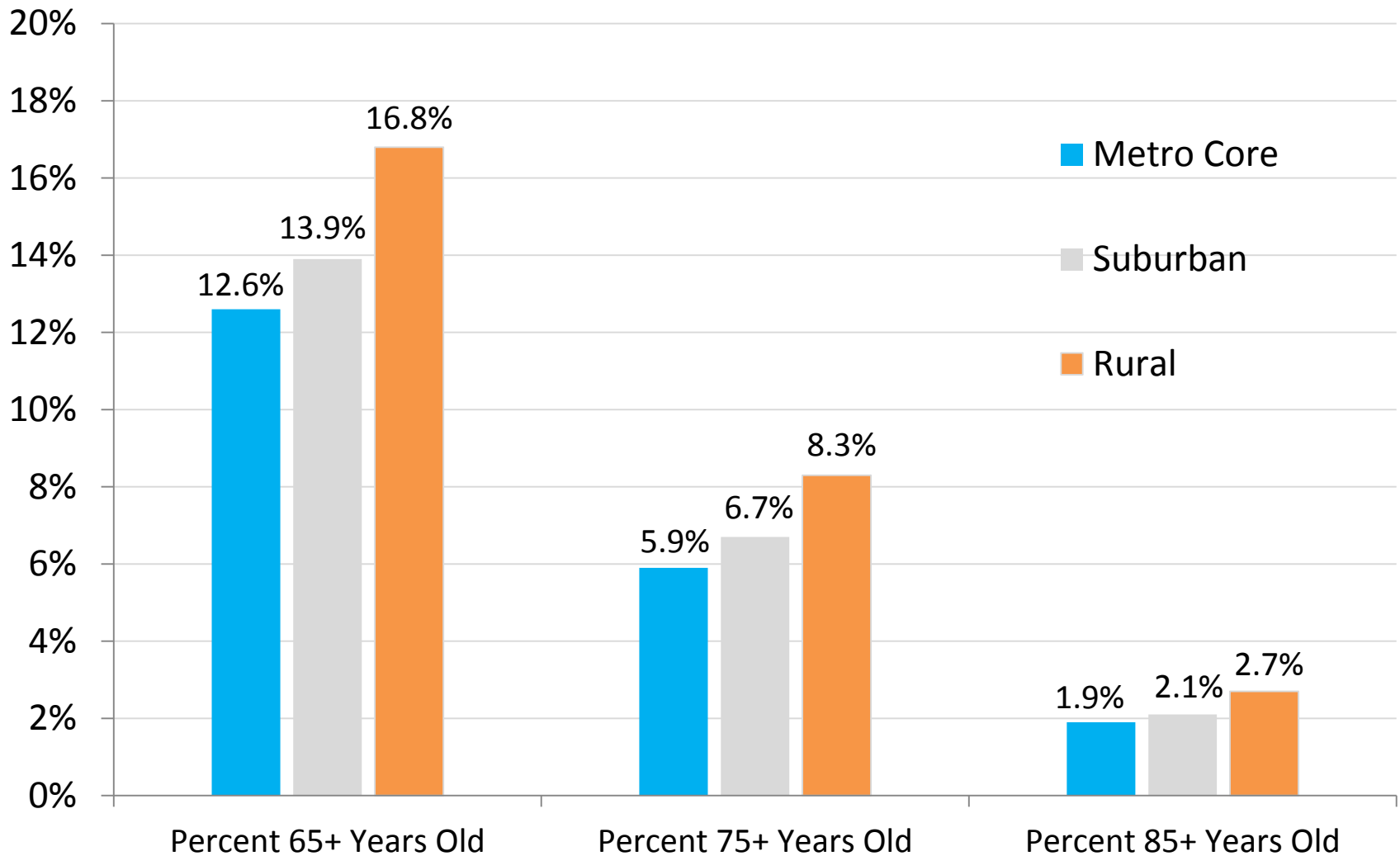


The Planning Across Generations Project at Cornell University is supported by funding from USDA National Institute for Food and Agriculture Research.

Getting Beyond Stereotypes:

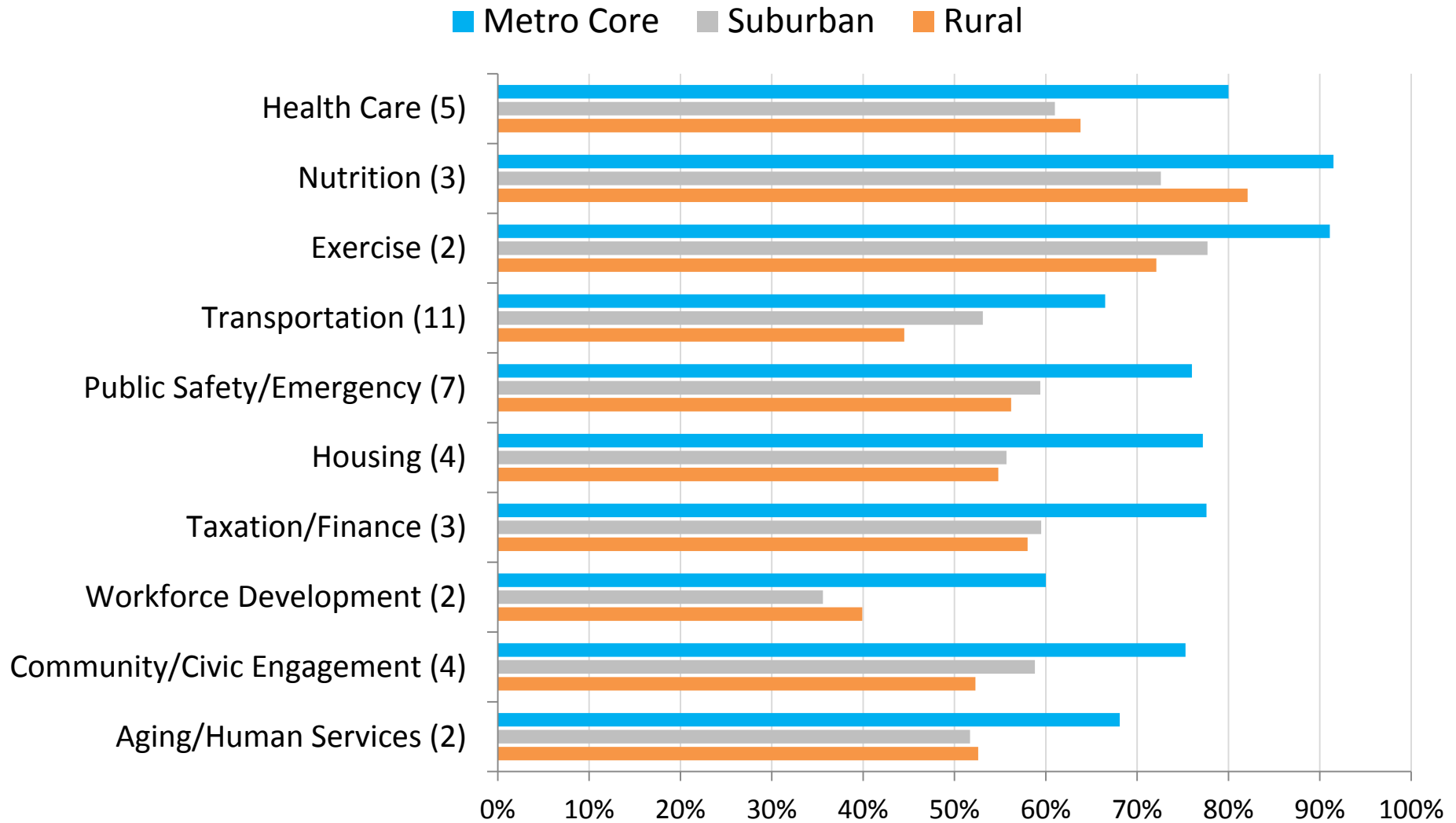
- » **Rural and suburbs also plan for aging:** New Urbanism is not the only option.
- » **Suburbs embrace New Urbanism:** Lifelong Communities - Atlanta.
- » **Bringing schools to the table in all communities:** Joint Use Agreements

More seniors live in rural areas and suburbs...



Source: 2010 U.S. Census population data for 1,430 Maturing of America survey respondents

...but rural and suburbs lag in elder service delivery.



Source: Data from 1,430 local governments through National Association of Area Agencies on Aging's 2010 Maturing of America survey. Numbers in parentheses indicate the number of survey questions in each category.

Suburbs lead in multi-generational land-use planning

	Local government <i>has in place</i> :		
	Zoning requirements that support “ complete street ” design	Building codes that incorporate universal design in new construction	Zoning requirements that support aging in place
Metro core	49.4%	45.0%	42.2%
Suburban	55.5%	54.9%	48.9%
Rural	43.9%	44.1%	31.4%

Source: Data from 1,430 local governments through National Association of Area Agencies on Aging’s 2010 Maturing of America survey

Atlanta: The challenge of sprawl





“A Lifelong Community is a place individuals can live throughout their lifetime that provides a full range of options to residents, ensuring a high quality of life for all.”



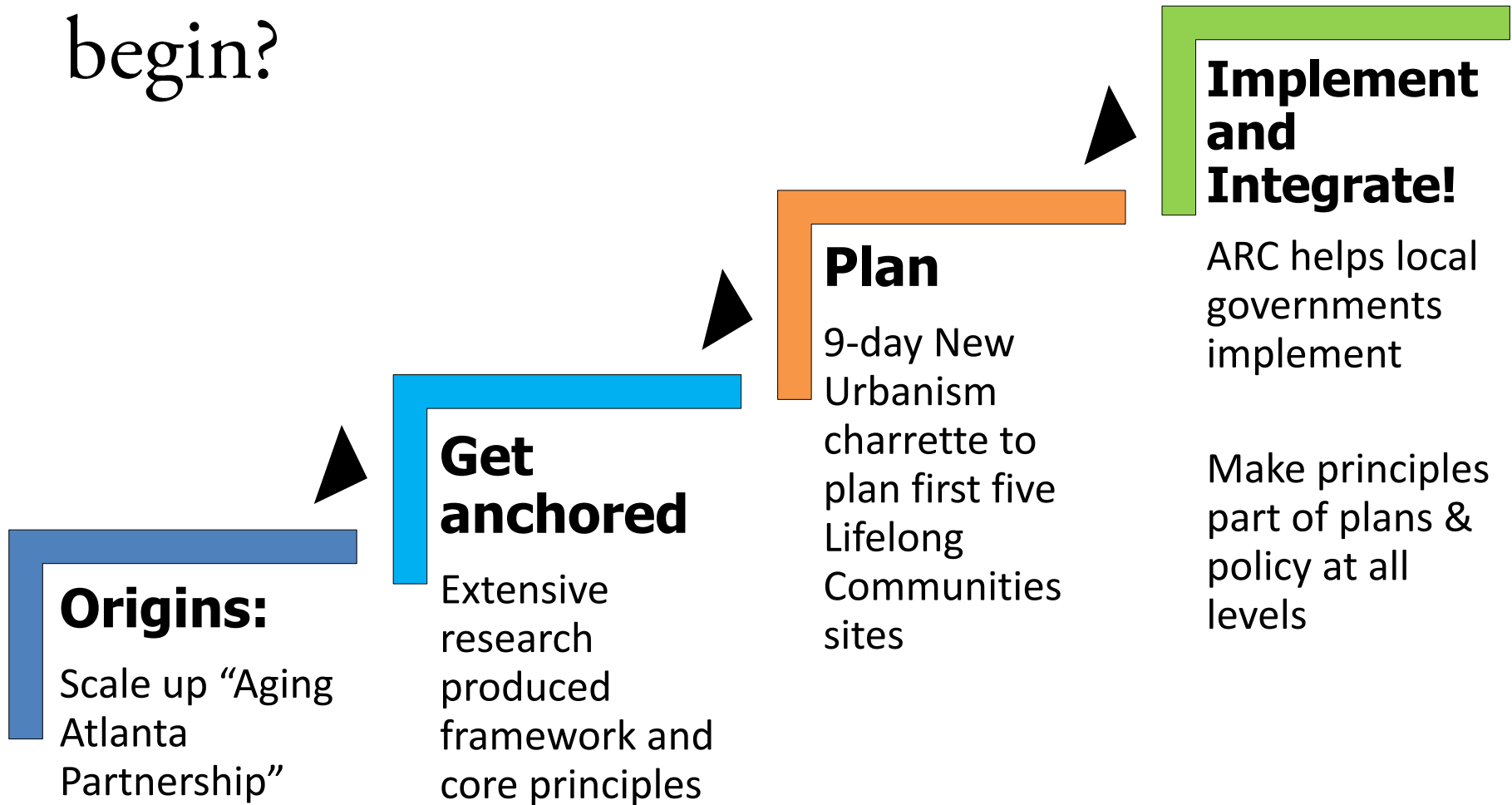
**“Most of the region’s
communities are not
lifelong communities.”**



Lifelong Communities Initiative: Context & Defining Elements

- » Launched and led by Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC)
- » ARC serves as AAA for the region
- » Involves 10 counties, 68 cities
- » Local government implements with support from ARC
- » Based in New Urbanism principles – “retrofitting sprawl”

How did they begin?



8 Core Principles

- » Connectivity
- » Pedestrian access and transit
- » Neighborhood retail and services
- » Social interaction
- » Diversity of dwelling types
- » Healthy living
- » Consideration for existing residents

Implement
and
Integrate

ARC helps

Plan

9-day M
Urbanis
charret
focused
five Life
Comm
sites

3 **Goals** adopted as agency policy and framework:

- » Provide **housing & transportation** options
- » Encourage **healthy lifestyles**
- » Expand **access to services**

Origins:

Scale up "Aging Atlanta Partnership"

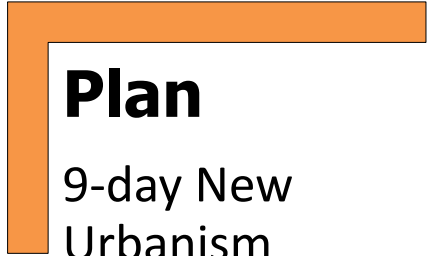
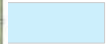
Get anchored

Extensive research produced framework and core principles



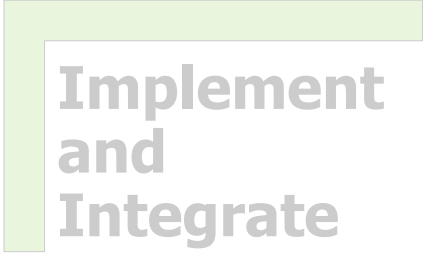
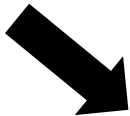
Atlanta Partnership

framework and core principles



Plan

9-day New Urbanism charrette created master plans for first five Lifelong Communities sites



Implement and Integrate

ARC helps local governments implement

Make principles part of plans and policy at all levels



How did they begin?

Origins:

Scale up “Aging Atlanta Partnership”

Get anchored

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Plan

9-day New Urbanism charrette focused on first five Lifelong Communities sites

Implement and Integrate!

ARC helps local governments implement

Make principles part of plans & policy at all levels

What's happening on the ground now?

Longer-Term

- » Form-based code
- » Community-integrated senior housing
- » Created new RD-3 zoning district for “Active Adults”
- » Target key roads for pedestrian improvements

Find a balance

Shorter-Term

- » Walkability assessments
- » Farmers markets
- » Inter-generational community gardens
- » Websites geared toward seniors
- » Nutrition and preventative health classes



Joint Use:
Bringing Schools to
the Table

Joint Use: The Basics

What?

- » 2 or more entities – often a school and a city – share indoor or outdoor space



Why?

- » **Obesity** rates
- » **Lack of places for physical activity** – especially in low-income & minority neighborhoods
- » More efficient **use of scarce resources**
- » **Growing demand** for services

How?

- » **Informal**

or

- » **Formal, or *Joint Use Agreement (JUA)***

Project:

Neveln Community Center

Community resource center brings range of organizations, services, and ages under one roof to support at-risk individuals and families

Key Partners:

- Community members
- Ankeny School District
- City of Ankeny
- Non-profit organizations
- Chamber of Commerce
- Historical society

Making it Work

- Building is owned by the school, managed by volunteers, overseen by a local board of directors.
- Tenants – mostly service providers – pay low rent
- Community planned and implemented
- Creative funding arrangements; many donated dollars and resources

Ankeny, IA
(Pop. 45,562)



Joint Use: What it Takes

- » Identify the **need** & define the **goals**
- » **Build stakeholder support** – including leaders
- » Get **legal expertise** to craft the Joint Use Agreement
- » **Collaborative spirit**



Rutgers Univ. shares pool and swim instruction with local YMCA – *New Jersey*



ImaginOn, a shared library and children's theatre – *Charlotte, NC*

Key Challenges & Perceived Barriers

- » Maintenance
- » Operations
- » Liability & Security
- » Costs
- » Scheduling & Staffing
- » Resolving Conflict

Resources!

» ChangeLab Solutions

<http://changelabsolutions.org>

- Checklist for Developing a JUA
- Model JUAs
- Model Joint Use Resolutions
- 50-State Liability Scan

» Center for Cities & Schools

<http://citiesandschools.berkeley.edu/>

- Report: *Partnerships for Joint Use: Expanding the Use of Public School Infrastructure to Benefit Students and Communities*
- Joint Use Cost Calculator



Project: 12 school play spaces opened to community



Key Partners:

- City of Tucson
- Tucson Unified School District
- Tucson Police Department

Making it Work:

- Identified need through City-led “playspace audit”
- Clear, specific goal: every resident within ½ mile of park
- Elected officials championed the issue
- Overcame security/liability concerns
- City attorney helped craft agreement
- Police department officially involved
- Low cost



Planning for Aging

- » *Issue brief: “New York City and Atlanta: Cities Plan for the Aging Population”* www.mildredwarner.org/p/134
- » *Issue brief: “Planning for Aging: Rural Responses to the Challenge”* www.mildredwarner.org/p/146
- » *Conference: Aging in Place track at APA Conference, April 2013*
- » **Atlanta Regional Commission, Lifelong Communities** www.atlantaregional.com/aging-resources
 - *Includes model ordinances, a Lifelong Communities Handbook, and many other tools and resources.*

Joint Use:

- » *Issue brief: “Joint Use: School City Collaboration”* www.mildredwarner.org/p/147
- » *APA Webinar: “Creating More Active Communities through Joint Use Agreements”* www.activelivingresearch.org/node/12520

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This presentation can be viewed and downloaded at:
<http://www.mildredwarner.org/webinar021513>

