Housing Underproduction in the US: Economic, Fiscal and Environmental Impacts of Enabling Transit-Oriented Smart Growth to Address America's Housing Affordability Challenge

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Examine the impact of supply constraints on housing production

 Model economic and fiscal impacts supported through additional housing production nationally

Housing Prices more than doubled in some areas since 2000





Homeownership decreasing for all ages



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

U.S. renter cost burden increasing



25% of renters nationally spend more than 50% of income on rent

Source: Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies

Percent of Households that are Cost Burdened



All Households (Owner + Renter) in 2015

Cost Burdened = Spending 30%+ of Gross Income on Housing



Individual Home Prices have not Recovered from 2007 Peak

% of Homes Recovered to Pre-Recession Peak Value, by Zip Code





of Homes Recovered Peak Value vs. Income Growth



Housing starts haven't kept pace with household formation



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

"Our GDP growth has been diminished by increased constraints to housing supply in high productivity cities like New York, Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, San Jose and most of Southern California. Lowering regulatory constraints in these cities to the level of the median city would expand their workforce and increase U.S. GDP by 9.5 percent (or just under \$2 trillion)."

— Chang-Tai Hsieh and Enrico Moretti,

"Why Do Cities Matter? Local Growth and Aggregate Growth" (2015)

Contributes to existing literature through:

- I) Econometric model to calculate housing supply elasticity and under-production of units
- 2) Model how and where to distribute new housing units in different growth scenarios
- 3) Use REMI to model dynamic economic and fiscal impacts of housing production growth
- 4) Discuss local and national policies to incentivize additional units of housing production



Task I) Quantify underproduction of housing

- Task 2) Model growth scenarios
- Task 3) Quantify economic and fiscal impacts
- Task 4) Discuss national and local policy options

- Methodology:
 - Econometric model to estimate supply elasticity
 - Calculate baseline through 2000
 - Estimate number of units in 2015 if market were in historic equilibrium
 - Subtract forecast from the actual 2015 stock to determine underproduction of units

Data Inputs:

- Housing Price Index
- Housing Stock
- Population
- Employment
- Income

7.3 million housing units under produced from 2000 to 2015



Price Impacts from Additional Production over 20 years





HOUSING PRICE REDUCTION AFTER 20 YEARS OF ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION





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Satellite data used to calculate density--Portland, OR



Density calculated based only on developed land categories

Source: NLCD 2011

Units Per Developed Acre – Portland Metro

ADJUSTED HOUSING DENSITY, PORTLAND METRO AREA





Source: NLCD 2011, U.S. Census

How and where growth occurs

How = Housing Prototypes



Where = Growth Scenarios

Housing Prototypes

New housing units are distributed as 3 prototypes:



Single Family 5 Units per Acre



Mid-Rise Podium Up to 5 stories 120 Units per Acre



Tower High Rise 6+ stories 240 Units per Acre

Growth Scenarios: Add Density

Prototypes are distributed as follows:

Current Density	% Tower	% Podium	% Single Family Homes	
30.0+ units per acre	100% tower			
12.5 – 30 units per acre	50% tower	50% podium		
5.0 – 12.5 units per acre		100% podium		
3.0 – 5.0 units per acre		25% podium	75% SFH	
1.0 – 3.0 units per acre			100% SFH	
Less than 1.0 units per acre	Development Threshold- no density added			

Existing Density Examples – Prototype Assignment



Growth Scenario Prototype Distribution Nationally



Benefits of Smart Growth Scenario

- Target low VMT areas for growth
- Transit corridors and employment centers

Improved economic and fiscal impacts

Fewer cars on the road and CO2 emissions

Bay Area -- VMT in Transit Corridors

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF SMARTER GROWTH: LOWER VEHICLE MILES TRAVELED



Housing Density vs.VMT in the Bay Area



IN THE BAY AREA					
N	MEDIAN HOUSING Density	99TH % HOUSING Density			
TRANSIT CORRIDOR	12	125			
NON-TRANSIT CORRIDOR	5	43			
	MEDIAN VMT	99TH % VMT			
TRANSIT CORRIDOR	18	44			
NON-TRANSIT CORRIDOR	28	57			

Is car commute mode split a good proxy for VMT?



Smart Growth Benefit – Fewer Emissions and Cars

3.3 million units produced in California

	VMT per day	Cars per year	
More of the Same	110 Million	3.6 Million	
Smart Growth	72 Million	2.3 Million	
Smart Growth Benefits	38 Million Miles per day	I.3 Million Cars per year	

Growth Scenarios – Bay Area Example

Maximum Density

MAXIMUM DENSITY



Smart Growth



I 67 UPA for tower75 UPA for tower/podium50 UPA for podium



Prioritize low VMT transit stops
300% increase within ¹/₄ mile of transit
200% increase within ¹/₂ mile of transit



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If additional housing were built in each scenario (step 2) to meet underproduction amounts (step 1), what economic and fiscal impacts would be supported?

Use REMI PI+ model to estimate impacts related to increased housing production

How much does it cost to build these units?

- Each scenario builds different numbers of single family homes, podiums, and towers
- Each prototype has different costs of construction, infrastructure, and causes different environmental considerations
- Each region has different costs of construction, different impact fee regulations, different building permits and fees, different tax rates, etc.
- How much would each state's economy, labor force, or personal income grow?

Modeling Additional Housing Production

- I.18 Million Starts in 2016, I million average last 5 years
 - I/20th of total underproduction is 366,000 units
 - Represents a 31% increase in current unit production
- Industry needs time to train labor to ramp up production
- Production in max year is less than previous cycle peak



REMI Model Assumptions

Hard construction costs

- Tower & Podium: start with historical data by prototype, use RS Means cost index to adjust by state
- Single Family Homes: Census 2016 Permits and Values data

Soft construction costs

- I.6% of hard costs for single family homes
- I 2.0% of hard costs for podium and tower
- Infrastructure costs (provided by Arup Engineering)
 - Scaled based on Smart Growth America Study to scenarios
 - Installation costs and ongoing operations & maintenance
 - Government sector pays for infrastructure through bond issuance
 - Offset by impact fee revenue estimated by state

Housing prices adjusted (down) based on supply elasticity

Household consumption reallocated to pay for new units

- Overall price of housing in the market decreases...however
- New housing costs more than the current stock
- Need to reallocate household consumption to account for increased costs of new units

Inputs into the model

REMI Model Linkages (Excluding Economic Geography Linkages)





\$ 2 trillion increase in cumulative GDP over 20 years



More than 2 Million jobs supported in peak year of production

ANNUAL U.S JOBS BY SCENARIO 20-YEAR PRODUCTION PERIOD COMPARED TO BASELINE



Study Utilized 2 REMI Model Specifications



4 Region Model California, Oregon, Washington, and Rest of US



51 Region Model

Preferred model, selected for primary report results

Comparing results from the 4 models – Oregon example

4 Region -- Cumulative GDP Impacts



Comparing results from the 4 models – Oregon example

51 Region -- Cumulative GDP Impacts



Comparing results from the 4 models – Oregon example

Cumulative GDP Impacts



Why does U.S. Production generate benefits for Oregon





Federal Cumulative Revenue by Scenario through 20 years



The blue area represents cumulative payroll tax and the brown area represents personal income taxes. Corporate taxes and other federal revenue sources are not shows in these calculations.

Net Local Fiscal Revenue through 2045

Cost of infrastructure is not supported by fiscal revenue in More of the Same

GROWTH SCENARIO	TOTAL ACRES Required	INFRASTRUCTURE IINSTALLATION COST	INFRASTRUCURE Total 0&m spend	TOTAL IMPACT FEES	PROPERTY TAX Revenue	NET TAX REVENUE
MORE OF THE SAME	602,051 ¹	\$612,041,200,836	\$14,223,456,016	\$54,272,253,249	\$204,353,021,677	\$(367,639,381,926)
SMART GROWTH	148,442	\$84,741,386,954	\$3,506,937,451	\$39,904,589,077	\$225,193,796,354	\$176,850,061,026
MAX DENSITY	40,082	\$20,592,603,598	\$946,926,147	\$36,449,419,162	\$271,694,738,442	\$286,604,627,859

Smart Growth generates positive fiscal revenue

Local Fiscal Revenue By Scenario Nationally through 2045





More than \$600 Billion difference in local revenue through 2045







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Policy Framework

1. BY-RIGHT APPROVAL

Establish "by-right" high-density residential development in a half-mile radius around a transit station (roughly 5 percent of a metropolitan region's land area);



2. IMPACT FEE RECALIBRATION

Recalibrate impact fees to reflect actual costs of infrastructure service for high-density development;



3. PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT

Use 10-year property tax abatement as a gap-finncing tool for new affordable housing production;



4. VALUE CAPTURE

Establish mechanisms to capture value created through up-zones and tax abatement investments to be used as dedicated funding for a range of housing programs.

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