

Foreword

Audubon New York is pleased to be able to bring you the proceedings from our third annual Smart Growth Conference held on April 23, 2001. The conference would not have happened if it were not for the support and hard work of the conference sponsors and co-sponsors, all of which are part of the Smart Growth Working Group (see Appendix B). It was a great success with more than 400 people in attendance.

Kicking off this year's conference was Conference Chairperson Lieutenant Governor Mary O. Donohue, who presented an overview of the Quality Communities Interagency Task Force Report. Throughout these proceedings you will read the comments and reactions on the report, as well as explore the possibilities for its implementation.

We would like to thank all those who presented at the conference and moderated panels. Each panel member provided their expertise and insight on many topics ranging from revitalizing downtowns, community planning, farmland and open space protection, transportation and economic development.

I also extend our gratitude to Tony Nelessen, President of A. Nelessen Associates, who led a lunch program on creating a community vision. As Tony shared his case studies, one has only to agree with his comment that, "Great places have the result of great vision and commitment with the sensitivity to nature, the human psyche and sensitivity to spatial order."

Each of the first three Smart Growth Conferences has moved us closer to a commitment to liveable communities across New York state. With this commitment and the tools in hand, we look forward to working with diverse organizations and communities to promote smart growth principles. Visit our website at <http://ny.audubon.org> for updates on these programs.

Audubon New York would like to thank Lieutenant Governor Donohue for her leadership and for her role as conference chair, as well as all those who sponsored, supported, attended and participated in our conference.

Sincerely,



David J. Miller
Executive Director, Audubon New York
Chair, Smart Growth Working Group



*Lieutenant Governor Mary O. Donohue and
Audubon New York's Executive Director David J. Miller.*