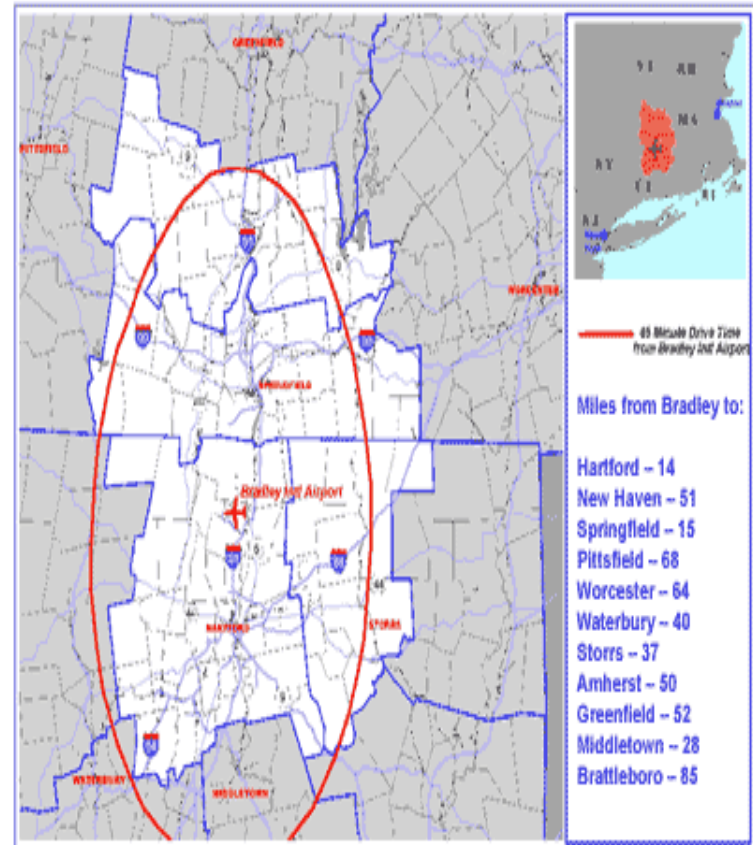


History of Regional Coordination in Springfield and the Pioneer Valley

- Plan for Progress 1994
- EDC, EDP are outgrowths of this Plan
- Regionalization trumps parochialism
SLOWLY
- Finance Control Board, coupled with mortgage predators, shifting job trends, and resurgence of drug trade and gangs, severely wounds Springfield mid-decade

History of Regional Coordination in the Pioneer Valley (cont.)

- ULI Plan 2006 – protect and defend CBD, tepid response from banking community
- Knowledge Corridor – top 15 Metro area
- Gateway Cities study
- FRBB engages 2008



Sharp Focus on Our Unique Challenges



- **Workforce** – health care/nursing, precision manufacturing, early elementary, green
- **Education** – Early Elementary, Level 4, Community Colleges, After School/Out of School
- **Shelter** – Housing First/Rapid Re-Housing, preserving existing housing stock
- **Health/Nutrition** - readiness to learn and work, obesity issues, primary healthcare/dentistry
- Public Safety as a means to these ends

Challenges



- Too many small service agencies and support groups
- City finances and tax base
- Persistent poverty and racism
- Very small base of funders
- Need to cultivate multicultural leadership
- Reorganization/ fiscal limitations on State

Strengths/Positive Developments

- Diversified and stable jobs base
- Regional Employment Board, Colleges
- Resurgence of City government – Mayor, School Superintendent, Police Commissioner, City Council, School Committee, Finance Division, CAFO, coordination with Congressman
- Functioning public/private partnership

Next Steps



- Marketing labor force strengths in spite of high level demographic issues
- Locational, infrastructure, cost advantages
- Cultivate 25,000+ new workers – funding for community colleges
- Level 4 schools/Promise Neighborhood?
- Strengthen major convening agencies, align and/or consolidate smaller providers
- Attack teen pregnancy/teen incarceration