

Strong Cities, Strong Communities

An Innovative Approach to Local/Federal Partnerships

Denver, 2014, New Partners for Smart Growth Conference



Strong Cities, Strong Communities, An Innovative Approach....

Panelists:

- Matt Dalbey, PhD, Director Federal and State Division, Office of Sustainable Communities EPA, Washington DC
- Carolyn Mulvihill, Environmental Program Specialist, EPA San Francisco
- Jon Grosshans, Community Planner, EPA, Chicago
- Sarah Sieloff, HUD Project Lead, Strong Cities Strong Communities, HUD, Memphis

Moderator: Chris Beck, Senior Projects Advisor, USDA Rural Development, Washington DC.

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Goals for Session

- Quick overview of current federal place-based initiatives
- Overview of Strong Cities Strong Communities (SC2)
- Short presentations from three target cities
 - Fresno
 - Memphis
 - Detroit
- Interactive Learning. Break up into work groups to discuss in more detail the city that interests you and you provide feedback on how federal efforts might be more effective.
- Reconvene for shared learning of value to all.

Some Current Place-Based Initiatives at Federal Level

- **Partnership for Sustainable Community** (HUD/DOT/EPA)—interagency collaboration focused on six livability principles. <http://www.sustainablecommunities.gov/>
- **EPA Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities**—targeted technical assistance around smart growth strategies. <http://www.epa.gov/dced/buildingblocks.htm>
- **USDA Strike Force**—targeted technical assistance to persistent high poverty rural counties to access USDA programs more effectively. http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?navid=STRIKE_FORCE
- **Promise Zones**—multi-agency technical assistance to combat poverty in rural regions and targeted city neighborhoods. http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/economicdevelopment/programs/pz
- **Know Your Farmer Know Your Food**—USDA effort aimed at providing information about developing and implementing local and regional food systems. <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/knowyourfarmer?navid=KNOWYOURFARMER>
- **Rural Jobs Accelerator** (USDA/Eco Dev Admin/Appalachian and Delta Regional Commission.)—Three year grants to support planning and implementation around rural regional economic cluster strategies. <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ruraljobsaccelerator.html>
- **Strong Cities Strong Communities.** Multi-agency effort providing federal staff based in mayor's office to facilitate improved federal investment in historically challenged communities. <http://www.huduser.org/portal/SC2/home.html>

USDA Rural Development



Committed to the future of rural communities.

Partners to help rural communities and small towns with infrastructure financing to sustain the rural economy. Current emphasis includes improving opportunity in high poverty communities via targeted program investments, promoting the bio-based economy, and supporting durable local/regional food systems.

America's rural infrastructure bank:

- Affordable housing
- Broadband installation
- Rural electric
- Clean water—drinking and waste
- Community and civic buildings (incl education/libraries)
- Business loans, both traditional and for infrastructure
- Renewable energy (incl bio fuels)
- Capacity building grants

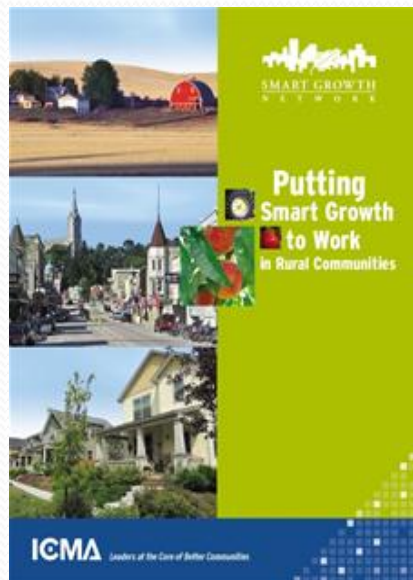
Contact Rural Development State Offices:

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/StateOfficeAddresses.html>

Online Resources— Partnership for Sustainable Communities



http://www.sustainablecommunities.gov/pdf/federal_resources_rural.pdf



[http://icma.org/en/icma/knowledge_network/documents/kn/Document/301483/Putting Smart Growth to Work in Rural Communities](http://icma.org/en/icma/knowledge_network/documents/kn/Document/301483/Putting_Smart_Growth_to_Work_in_Rural_Communities)



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