PARTNERING FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

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What Is a Sustainable Community?

“Sustainability means tying the quality and location of housing to broader opportunities, like access to good jobs, quality schools, and safe streets. It means helping communities that face common problems start sharing solutions. It means being a partner to sustainable development, not a barrier”.

~ Secretary Shaun Donovan
HUD–DOT–EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities

1. Provide more transportation choices.
2. Promote equitable, affordable housing.
3. Enhance economic competitiveness.
4. Support existing communities.
5. Coordinate policies and leverage investment.

June, 2009
Roles in the Partnership

**Housing and Urban Development**
- Community Development Block Grants
- Regional Planning
- Community Challenge
- Choice Neighborhoods
- Affordable Housing Programs

**Department of Transportation**
- TIGER Grants
- FTA Core Programs
- FTA Livability Grants
- Flex Funding
- FHWA Discretionary Grants
- United We Ride
- State/Metro Planning
- Intermodal Connectivity

**Environmental Protection Agency**
- Brownfields Restoration
- Smart Growth Technical Assistance
- Water Infrastructure Funds

**U.S. Department of Commerce/EDA**

**U.S. Department of Agriculture**
Demand is Strong in Rural, Suburban, and Urban communities

FY 2011 Community Challenge: Percent of Grantees by population

- 11 grantees (41%)
- 4 grantees (15%)
- 6 grantees (22%)
- 2 grantees (7%)
- 1 grantee (4%)

FY 2011 Regional Planning Grants: Grantees by regional population

- 8 grantees (27%)
- 5 grantees (17%)
- 6 grantees (21%)
- 4 grantees (14%)
- 6 grantees (21%)
- 8 grantees (27%)
- 4 grantees (14%)
- 11 grantees (41%)

- less than 50,000
- 50,000 - 100,000
- 100,000 - 200,000
- 200,000 - 500,000
- 500,000 - 1,000,000
- more than 1,000,000

- less than 200,000
- 200,000 - 500,000
- 500,000 - 1,000,000
- 1,000,000 - 2,500,000
- more than 2,500,000
Transportation is a major component in HUD’s sustainability grants

- Regional transportation planning coordinated with housing and economic development
- Corridor & station area plans
- TOD overlays, building and zoning code updates
- Complete streets with viable housing and businesses
- Inclusive public participation
- Increased mode split among performance goals
- Land acquisition for mixed-income TOD
Economic Development is being Linked to Sustainable Development

- Sustainability must include the economy and a diverse economy is more resilient
- Employee retention is tied to Quality of Life
- Build on the unique strengths/weaknesses of regional economy to identify key industry clusters and ancillary businesses/educational needs
- Local entrepreneurialism must be supported by local land use/urban plans
A Key Focus: Catalyzing Private Market Investments

- Revising building and zoning codes – form based, green, fair
- Identifying focused development opportunities
- Selecting priority public infrastructure projects
Community Involvement is seen as key to Lasting Change

- **New tools**: scenario planning, open source, new media, surveys, charettes, etc
- **New voices**: business, builders, low-income, minority, youth
- **Capacity Bldg** resources targeted to improve and expand community engagement
- **Peer-to-Peer Learning Networks**
Reality: Regional Economies Need to be “Built to Last”

- Diversified economies are more resilient
- Quality of Place is key to attracting and retaining talent
- Smart, sustainable places spur entrepreneurial activity
- Build on local assets to compete nationally and internationally

Sacramento’s Rural-Urban Connections Strategy is a national model for place-based economic strategies
Reality: We cannot afford NOT to Focus, Align + Leverage Investments

- Our “silos” have resulted in inefficient infrastructure and costly lifestyles
- Aligning land use + transportation saves money
- Aligning prepares for more effective private investments

Envision Utah – With focused development and transit, the region saved $3.4B in infrastructure costs
Reality: We need to reduce the cost of living in our communities

Two Views of Affordability

Affordability:
- Housing Costs as Percent of Income
  - 0 to 30%
  - Greater than or Equal to 30%

Housing Affordability:
- 0 to 30% of Area Median Income

Housing + Transportation Affordability:
- 0 to 45% of Area Median Income

Affordability:
- Housing and Transportation Costs as Percent of Income
  - 0 to 45%
  - Greater than or Equal to 45%

Neighborhood Profiles:
- Housing Costs as a Percent of AMI
- Transportation Costs as a Percent of AMI

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60%

1. South Loop, Chicago
   - Housing: 28.76%
   - Transportation: 11.43%

2. Brookfield, Cook County
   - Housing: 28.14%
   - Transportation: 19.62%

3. Yorkville, Kendall County
   - Housing: 27.53%
   - Transportation: 22.54%
Partnership has never been more important

http://sustainablecommunities.gov
http://hud.gov/sustainability

"Let us put our minds together and see what life we can make for our children."
– Tatanka Iyotanka (Sitting Bull), Hunkpapa