



**Technical Assistance:
How to Help Communities and
States Get to Smart Growth**

**New Partners for Smart Growth Conference
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US EPA Smart Growth Implementation Assistance Program

- What is the SGIA program?
- Who has the political will?
- What SGIA provides
 - Who
 - What
- Lessons learned

Program Goals

1. Support communities who want to implement smart growth policies
2. Create regional examples of smart growth that can catalyze similar projects in the area
3. Identify common barriers and opportunities for smart growth development and create new tools that other communities can use.
4. Projects serve multiple benefits – one focus with several coordinated results achieved.
5. Inform EPA's own policy practice. Selected projects will be evidence of cutting edge challenges, examples of leaderships in smart growth and solutions that can be replicated across the country.

Key Focus Areas

- Climate change (both mitigation and adaption to)
- Green job development
- Corridor redevelopment
- Green building development
- Suburban retrofitting
- Disaster resiliency

What is SGIA?

- Smart Growth Implementation Assistance programs: cities, states, regional governments, tribes, etc.
- 24 communities thusfar
- 2009 – 3-5 new SGIA communities
- Identify applicants that are ready for implementation

2008 Communities

- Connecticut Regional Council of Government
- New York City: Community and Neighborhood Economic Development
- Miami-Dade County

What does “ready” mean?

- Commitment to smart growth -**political will**
- Clear project -discrete and manageable
- Steps to implement changes identified from the start
- Broad partnership to make it happen

Important model for success

Ready gets Results

- McCall, ID:
SGIA report adopted *in toto* as amendment to comprehensive plan
- College Park, MD:
City funding Form Based Code; County is funding planning for implementation of many recommendation.
- Laconia, NH:
Key land owners redeveloping gateway for urban downtown
- Spokane, WA:
Considering realignment of downtown grid
- Houston, TX:
METRO and DPW considering developer partnerships on TOD sites
- California Dept of Transportation:
Development of a Mobility guidebook for considering transportation funds

Who provides SGIA?

- EPA staff
- Specialized teams assembled for each TA site



What makes the SGIA successful?

Brings together stakeholders

- The right “push” at the right time

Relatively small projects at the right time can produce substantial change

- Teams are:
 - Multi-disciplinary. A transportation policy is a development policy is an environmental policy is an economic development policy.
 - Practitioners
 - Incredibly smart and hard-working

More information: EPA SGIA

- Descriptions and completed reports:

- Aquidneck Island, Rhode Island
- Atlanta Regional Commission, Georgia
- California Department of Transportation
- Cheyenne, Wyoming
- College Park, Maryland
- Denver, Colorado
- Driggs and Victor, Idaho
- Greensboro, North Carolina
- Houston, Texas
- Laconia, New Hampshire
- Marquette, Michigan
- McCall, Idaho
- Pamlico County, North Carolina
- Phoenix and Mesa, Arizona
- Porter County, Indiana
- Riverside County, California
- Sanitation District # 1, Kentucky
- Sussex County, Delaware
- Spokane, Washington
- Taos, New Mexico
- Wells, Maine

Applying for SGIA

EPA announced a new Request for Applications (RFA) this week. Submissions are due April 23, 2009

For more information, visit:

www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sgia

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