

HUD FY2011 Sustainable Communities Grantees

Arkansas

The **East Arkansas Planning and Development District** will be awarded **\$2,600,000** to develop an *East Arkansas Regional Planning Consortium Sustainability Plan*. This effort will support a community and multijurisdictional planning effort that integrates housing, land use, economic development, transportation and infrastructure investments. The project will assist area jurisdictions and the region in addressing challenges that are interrelated but are often not addressed comprehensively, including such challenges as revitalization, access to jobs, education and services, energy and other resource conservation and environmental impact. This three-year project will begin with a substantial community outreach component that will be supported by the development of a regional inventory of underutilized assets enhanced by digital modeling tools to help communities envision the greater outcomes such assets can provide as strategies are implemented.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Regional studies will be integrated into this process addressing issues including housing, transportation, water infrastructure, energy, local food, and access to each of these.
- Collection and management of data will be carried out to ensure decisions are well-informed and communicated across all jurisdictions.
- The Arkansas Development Finance Authority will use the housing element of this project for inclusion into the broader statewide housing market analysis and needs assessment to provide the required planning and documentation for applying for other non-federal entitlement, federal competitive, and foundation/private funds.

Funding Amount: \$2,600,000

Core Partners: Crossroads Coalition, NE Arkansas Coalition, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Arkansas State University, Five Community Colleges, JQuad Planning Group

HUD Region: 6

Metroplan will be awarded **\$1,400,000** to develop *Metro 2040: Blueprint for a Sustainable Region* in order to create a regional sustainability plan for the Central Arkansas region. The target area is located in the heart of Arkansas, where the Mississippi Delta meets the Ouachita Mountains. Anchored by Little Rock and North Little Rock, the Central Arkansas region is comprised of four counties and has a population of 675,000. This effort will align current efforts to holistically address transportation, housing, development patterns, health and environmental needs, and economic development. The *Blueprint* will develop a comprehensive regional plan for the sustainability of the Central Arkansas region, addressing the full complement of Livability Principles in an integrated fashion, with a 30-year planning horizon. With the support of seven institutions of higher education and other partners, the Central Arkansas Sustainability Consortium is poised to help make Central Arkansas a better place to live, work, play, and learn.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- The plan will focus on deeper public engagement through paying community liaisons who will conduct focused interviews to provide meaningful stakeholder input into the plan.
- Funding will provide for the coordination of new partners and integration of services across the region.
- Funding will provide the resources needed to take the plan from the regional level down to the local level by coordinating at least five technical planning studies for the area projects.

Funding Amount: \$1,400,000

Core Partners: Little Rock Housing Authority, Benton Housing Authority, Arkansas Coalition of housing and Neighborhood Growth for Empowerment, Arkansas energy Office & Arkansas Economic Development Commission, Pulaski Technical College, Little Rock Regional Chamber of Commerce, Central Arkansas Planning and Development District, Arkansas Coalition for Obesity Prevention & Arkansas Department of Health, Arkansas Baptist College, Hendrix College, University of Central Arkansas Center for Community and Economic Development, University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service, Philander Smith College, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Boys and Girls Club of Central Arkansas

HUD Region: 6

California

The **Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC)** will be awarded **\$4,991,336** to develop a *San Francisco Bay Area Regional Prosperity Plan* for the Nine County San Francisco Bay Area region. This initiative will increase access to regional prosperity for workers, by creating middle-income jobs and developing and preserving affordable housing in transit-served communities. There will be two interconnected areas of work: a community-rooted process to develop and implement a regional *Economic Opportunity Strategy* to expand economic opportunities for low and moderate income people, and the implementation of a strategy for *Housing the Workforce* by creating and preserving housing affordable to low income workers. The implementation of this plan will link underserved communities with policy experts and government agencies to align infrastructure investments with access to the jobs and housing improvements to access economic opportunity.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Creation of new job/small business opportunities or improved job/small business access in both transit-served job centers and in communities with a strong concentration of unemployment and poverty
- Investment of regional infrastructure into these communities to create jobs and enhance opportunity structures
- Development of workforce and small business expansion pathways to channel workers and firms into this growth
- Creation of a regional plan to close the funding gap for affordable housing development and preservation with a funding toolkit of both regional and local mechanisms

Funding Amount: \$4,991,336; Category 2

Core Partners: Association of Bay Area Governments, The San Francisco Foundation, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, The Great communities Collaborative, Bay Area Council, council of Community Housing Organizations, Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California, Urban Habitat

HUD Region: 9

Colorado

Denver Regional Council of Governments will be awarded **\$4,500,000** for the *Metro Vision – From Regional Framework to Strategic Action Plan*. Due to the recent construction of 6 new fix-rail corridors, DRCOG anticipates a region with greater access to job opportunities across the entire income spectrum, lower combined transportation and housing costs, reduced consumption of fossil fuels, and ultimately the development of concentrated, mixed-use, pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly “urban centers” along transit lines that allow residents to easily access their daily needs. The planning process is divided into five main categories, with the first three (regional, corridor, and site specific) representing district interrelated planning levels and the remaining two (stakeholder engagement and outcomes assessment; knowledge sharing) cut across and support planning efforts at all three levels. The overall goal of this proposal is to align investments, programs and policies to generate benefits beyond the transit lines themselves.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Detailed execution planning at the corridor level will bring *Metro Vision* closer to implementation, and will focus on the three transit corridors currently under construction as part of the EAGLE P3 public-private partnership.
- Corridor-level planning will lead to identification and selection of three Catalytic Projects (one at each of the corridors) at specific sites that offer the potential for transformational changes.
- Valuable Lessons for other transit station areas throughout the region will result from pre-development planning, environmental review and policy changes that catalyze redevelopment at these sites.

Funding Amount: \$4,500,000; Category 2

Core Partners: Mile High Transit Opportunity Collaborative, Reconnecting America, Enterprise Community Partners, Urban Land Conservancy, Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation, The Piton Foundation, The National Renewable Energy Laboratory, The University of Colorado-Denver, PlaceMatters, FRESC: Good Jobs, Strong Communities, Transit Alliance, Regional Transportation District

HUD Region: 8

Florida

The **East Central Florida Regional Planning Council** will be awarded **\$2,400,000** to develop *Transit as an economic catalyst: planning for sustainable and inclusive growth around East Central Florida's Sun Rail stations*. The region will use this Category 2 plan to develop and prepare for implementation of sustainable and inclusive community development plans around the future station locations for East Central Florida's SunRail commuter rail system. Development around the SunRail station will attract higher paying jobs as well as access to these jobs using public transport, promote social equity and access to opportunity, provide more transportation choices reducing energy use, provide affordable and energy efficient housing around the stations, encourage sustainable, compact urban development around the stations, and integrate/leverage investments among state regional and local transportation, economic development, housing, community development as well as other agencies.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Assessment of affordable housing needs near all 12 Phase I SunRail stations, as well as development of strategies for encouraging the provision of needed affordable housing.
- Alignment with economic and workforce development strategies to ensure the overall station area plans to improve access to jobs and incentivize further investment in these communities.
- Alignment with state, regional, and local transportation plans to provide appropriate local transit, bicycle and pedestrian connections to SunRail stations.
- Development of strategies to help revitalize minority/low-income neighborhoods adjacent to the SunRail stations and provide equitable outcomes for all residents.

Funding Amount: \$2,400,000; Category 2

Core Partners: Central Florida Regional Transportation Authority, FDOT (District 5), Lake-Sumter MPO, METROPLAN ORLANDO, Space Coast TPO, Volusia TPO, Creative Village Development, LLC, Shimberg Center for Housing Studies, University of Florida, Nonprofit Housing Roundtable of Central Florida, Orlando Health, Health Council of East Central Florida, *myregion.org*, Urban Land Institute

HUD Region: 4

Idaho/Wyoming

Fremont County, Idaho is awarded **\$1,500,000** to develop the *Regional Plan for Sustainable Development for the Western Greater Yellowstone Area*. This will include a Greater Yellowstone Framework for Sustainable Development, a Comprehensive Resource Plan and Sustainability Strategy, and a Model Development Code. The effort will connect an area that extends across two states and two national parks. The outcome of these studies and pilot jurisdictions will create a clear framework from which the consortium can move forward into the implementation stage of the plan. This framework will allow a group of local governments that share a common landscape come together to create a standardized code by which they can develop meaningful and effective plans for their respective jurisdictions. The consortium members understand the long-term benefits that will come from a well-structured and well-executed sustainability plan that reflects the cross-cutting lessons across jurisdictional boundaries.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Create a clear framework from which the consortium can move forward into implementation
- Develop a locally supported code

Funding Amount: \$ 1,500,000

Core Partners: *Idaho:* Rexburg, Madison County, St. Anthony, Ashton, Island Park, Teton County, Driggs, Victor; *Wyoming:* Teton County; Yellowstone Business Council; USDA Forest Service; Bureau of Land Management; Idaho Department of State Lands

HUD Region: 10

Iowa/Nebraska

Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Area Planning Agency (MAPA) will be awarded **\$2,045,000** to develop a *Regional Plan for Sustainable Development*. The plan will include the development of several scenarios for future growth that represent different ways of achieving equilibrium between the goals of equity, environmental sustainability, and economic growth in the future development of the Omaha-Council Bluffs metropolitan region. The scenarios will be developed through an extensive community engagement process at the regional, local, and neighborhood scales.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Provide citizens, policy-makers, and providers of public services with a clear and comprehensive vision, based in shared community values, of how the region should develop over the next 40 years.
- Illuminate the workings of the many systems that support the region and the ways in which they complement and compete with one another
- Grapple with ways of improving governance and the delivery of services that enhance regional livability and narrow persistent disparities in the community.

Funding Amount: \$ 2,045,000

Core Partners: *Nebraska:* Douglas, Sarpy, Washington, and Saunders Counties; Omaha, Bellevue, La Vista, Gretna, Papillion, Blair. *Iowa:* Pottawattamie, Mills, and Harrison Counties; Council Bluffs

HUD Region: 7

Kansas

The **Flint Hills Regional Council** will be awarded **\$1,980,000** to develop a *Flint Hills Regional Plan for Sustainable Development* for the Flint Hills eco-Region. The plan will build on existing work and extend that model to the remaining counties of the eco-Region through community engagement, and land use modeling. Through this approach, the consortium will identify, track, and measure performance for the eco-Region, from its natural resources to the embedded and emergent economic and land use systems.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- The plan will leverage the region's unique environment to help sustain the economic viability of smaller towns throughout the region and ensure continued vibrancy of its more urban metropolitan areas.
- The plan will help ensure the 100,000 acres of Ft. Riley training land is not compromised by unplanned urban growth to maintain the fort's ability to conduct and sustain its training missions to support national defense.

Funding Amount: \$1,980,000

Core Partners: Kansas State University, Fort Riley, Flint Hills Discovery Center, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce.

HUD Region: 7

Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP) will be awarded **\$1,500,000** to develop a Category 1 *South Central Kansas Regional Plan for Sustainable Development*. Through this plan, REAP will provide the region with a framework to address economic competitiveness, social equality, energy use, and the public health and environment in a cooperative manner as well as develop an integrated policy that addresses housing, land use, economic and workforce development, transportation, and infrastructure investments. The plan will ensure the region's economic competitiveness by including a coordinated plan to foster long-term job creation with adequate infrastructure to affordably access employment and services as well as ensure the next generation has access to the same affordable housing, transportation and economic opportunity in the future.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Creation of a shared elements plan in regional transportation, housing, water, and air quality plans tied to local comprehensive land use.
- Reduction of social and economic disparities for the low-income, minority communities and other disadvantaged populations within the region
- Increase in participation and decision making in developing and implementing a long range vision for the region by populations traditionally marginalized in public planning processes.
- Improvement of public health outcomes that result from creating safer, more walkable neighborhoods.

Funding Amount: \$1,500,000

Core Partners: Wichita State Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Affairs, Environmental Finance Center, Regional Economic Area Partnership Water Resources Committee, Wichita State University Center for Community Support and Research, Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Department, Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, Workforce Alliance and Kansas WorkforceONE, Kansas Small Business Development Center, Visioneering, Kansas Health Foundation, University of Kansas School of Medicine, Wichita Downtown Development Corp, Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, Inc., Ponder: Connect Marketing

HUD Region: 7

Maryland

The **Baltimore Metropolitan Council** will be awarded **\$3,503,677** to create a *Regional Plan for Sustainable Development* for the entire Baltimore region. The region will follow an 8 phase process over the next three years that will incorporate housing, transportation, and workforce development strategies to drive growth and investment over the next 25 years. Furthermore, the plan will produce stand alone regional housing and workforce development plans as well as a series of robust demonstration efforts in green and healthy housing, watershed protection, transit-oriented development, and finally a financing plan to fund the ongoing implementations mentioned above.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Increased participation and decision-making in developing and implementing a long-range vision for the region by populations traditionally marginalized in the decision making process.
- Initial reductions in social and economic disparities for low-income residents of the region as well as decreased per capita VMT and overall combined housing and transportation costs per household
- Increased share of residential and commercial construction on underutilized infill development sites
- More equitable distribution of housing that is affordable to all and increased proportion of the local population adequately prepared to participate in growth sectors

Funding Amount: \$3,503,677

Core Partners: University of Maryland National Center for Smart Growth, Maryland Department of Planning, Maryland Department of Transportation, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Enterprise Community Partners, The Baltimore Neighborhood Collaborative, Baltimore Integration Partnership, Maryland Transportation Alliance, Citizens Planning and Housing Assn, Inc. Baltimore Regional Initiative Developing Genuine Equity, Morgan State University

HUD Region: 3

Michigan

The **Tri-County Regional Planning Commission**, will be awarded **\$3,000,000** to create the *Mid-Michigan Program for Greater Sustainability*. The Tri-County Regional Planning Commission will provide more detail on the existing regional planning effort, *Choices for our Future*, specifically in the areas of governmental issues, a healthy economy and healthy environment, transportation and other infrastructure, open space and resource protection, and growth and redevelopment. Some initiatives related to these planning areas are well developed, with concrete objectives and benchmarks, some are in development, and others have received little attention to date and represent gaps that need to be addressed.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Build on existing regional planning investments to create fine-tuned execution plans for high-priority initiatives in *Choices for our Future*
- Better integrating planning and developing performance measures for housing, economic development, and infrastructure to guide difficult decisions on where to strategically invest, and disinvest, in the region
- Building capacity for local sustainability planning and better coordinate efforts at the regional level through a Consortium that includes offices, agencies and stakeholders in Clinton, Ingham, and Eaton Counties of mid-Michigan

Funding Amount: \$3,000,000; Category 2

Core Partners: Greater Lansing Housing Coalition, Mid-Michigan Environmental Action Council, Michigan State University, Michigan Energy Options, Ingham County, Clinton County, Eaton County, City of Lansing, City of East Lansing, City of Williamston, Village of Webberville, Township of Leroy, Township of Williamstown, Charter Township of Meridian, Charter Township of Lansing

HUD Region: 5

The **Northwest Michigan Council of Governments** will be awarded **\$660,000** to develop the *Grand Vision to Grand Action: Regional Plan for Sustainable Development*. The purpose of the plan is to augment northwest lower Michigan's capacity to build economically competitive, healthy, environmentally sustainable, and opportunity-rich communities to create local economies through regional efforts. The plan will improve regional planning efforts that integrate housing, transportation, economic development and environmental infrastructure investment decisions and increase state, regional, and local capacity to incorporate sustainability principles and social equity into community planning.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Establish and secure coordinated contracts and intergovernmental agreements.
- Analyze existing data and materials and implement additional research, data collection, assessments and analysis as necessary addressing such issues as land use, housing, economic development, workforce, environmental stewardship elements, transportation opportunities, energy use and reduction and many more.

- Align regional efforts with local master plans, zoning ordinances, and regulations to support economic development, and greater transportation and housing choices.

Funding Amount: \$660,000

Core Partners: Northwest Michigan WORKS!, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Michigan Land Use Institute, Traverse Bay Economic Development Corporation, Northern Lakes Economic Alliance, SEEDS Inc., Traverse Bay Poverty Reduction Initiative, Disability Network, Human Services Collaborative Boards, Northwestern Michigan College, NorthSky Non-Profit Network.

HUD Region: 5

Montana

Opportunity Link will be awarded **\$1,500,000** to develop the *Northcentral Montana Regional Planning for Sustainable Development*. This process will engage regional governments, planners, stakeholders and residents throughout a 36-month period to develop a high road approach to emerging jobs and contracts, and a series of baseline and benchmark metrics that can guide evaluation of progress. Opportunity Link will provide GIS-based scenario planning, training in comprehensive sustainable plan, and one-on-one follow-up technical assistance to government planning offices. Training opportunities will be provided throughout the project period with current data and new resources made available to residents, organizations and planners online through the Northcentral Montana Sustainable Communities Clearinghouse.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Engage regional governments, planners, stakeholders and residents throughout a 36-month period to develop citizen involvement, government coordination, a high road approach to emerging jobs and contracts, and a series of baseline and benchmark metrics that can guide evaluation of progress
- Creation of coordinated plan elements in areas of transportation; housing; economic development; and quality of life issues, including potable and storm water management, obesity and diabetes reduction.

Funding Amount: \$ 1,500,000

Core Partners: Cascade County, Teton County, Chouteau County, Toole County, Glacier County Blackfeet Indian Reservation, Hill County Fort Belknap Indian Reservation, Judith Basin County, Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation, Liberty County City of Great Falls, Great Falls MPO, Phillips County City of Havre, Pondera County

HUD Region: 8

Nebraska/Iowa

Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Area Planning Agency (MAPA) will be awarded **\$2,045,000** to develop a *Regional Plan for Sustainable Development*. The plan will include the development of several scenarios for future growth that represent different ways of achieving equilibrium between the goals of equity, environmental sustainability, and economic growth in the future development of the Omaha-Council Bluffs metropolitan region. The scenarios will be developed through an extensive community engagement process at the regional, local, and neighborhood scales.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Provide citizens, policy-makers, and providers of public services with a clear and comprehensive vision, based in shared community values, of how the region should develop over the next 40 years.
- Illuminate the workings of the many systems that support the region and the ways in which they complement and compete with one another
- Grapple with ways of improving governance and the delivery of services that enhance regional livability and narrow persistent disparities in the community.

Funding Amount: \$ 2,045,000

Core Partners: **Nebraska:** Douglas, Sarpy, Washington, and Saunders Counties; Omaha, Bellevue, La Vista, Gretna, Papillion, Blair. **Iowa:** Pottawattamie, Mills, and Harrison Counties; Council Bluffs

HUD Region: 7

Nevada

The **City of Henderson Department of Community Development**, on behalf of the **Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition (SNRPC)**, in Clark County, NV, is awarded **\$3,488,000** to conduct the *Southern Nevada Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Initiative*. The Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition serves as the Strategic Planning Authority for local governments in the greater Las Vegas Metropolitan Area region. SNRPC is organized to promote regional collaboration and planning for quality of life issues transcending governmental jurisdictional boundaries. A ten member governing Board, guided by a Technical Committee, focuses on planning for balanced economic, social, physical, environmental and fiscal development and orderly management of the region's growth.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Provide an integrated platform from which to work with local jurisdictions, citizens' groups, and policy experts in the region to garner the resources needed to fully implement plan recommendations
- Develop strategies to strengthen and sustain the economic and social fabric of Southern Nevada communities

Core Partners: Southern Nevada Housing Authority, Southern Nevada Water Authority, RTC of Southern Nevada, Conservation District of Southern Nevada, Boulder City, City of Las Vegas, City of Henderson, Clark County, City of North Las Vegas, Clark County School District, UNLV-Brookings Mountain West/Lincy Institute

Funding Amount: \$ 3,488,000

HUD Region: 8

New Hampshire

Nashua Regional Planning Commission will be awarded **\$3,369,648** for the *New Hampshire Sustainable Communities Initiative*. The project will increase the capacity of the state to create integrated, coordinated, and sustainable regional plans, establish a consistent planning and policy framework, and coordinate local plans into an overall statewide strategy. The Initiative will capitalize on and incorporate shared principles included in existing plans to fulfill local and regional priorities. These practices will make it possible for large communities and small villages throughout the state to achieve economic vitality while safeguarding natural resources, character and rural landscape.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Reduced social and economic disparities for low-income and communities of color within the region.
- Increase in affordable housing units located close to major employment centers, parks green space, and vital amenities such as hospitals and schools.
- Increased share of residential and commercial construction on underutilized infill development sites encouraging revitalization.
- Improved health outcomes that result from creating safer, more walkable neighborhoods.
- Increased number of communities prepared for flooding/other climate change related impacts.
- Increased investments in water infrastructure for drinking water, wastewater, and storm water systems.

Funding Amount: \$3,369,648

Core Partners: Conservation Law Foundation, Healthy Eating Active Living NH, NH Charitable Foundation, NH Energy and Climate Collaborative, NH Creative Communities Network, Family Assistance Advisory Council of NH, Plan NH, University of New Hampshire Carsey Institute, NH GRANIT, Carbon Solutions of New England, Cooperative Extension

HUD Region: 1

New Jersey

The State University of New Jersey's Edward J. Bloustein School for Policy and Planning at Rutgers will be awarded **\$5,000,000** to develop a *Regional Plan for Sustainable Development* for the 13-county North Jersey Transportation Authority region. The plan will be both "place-based" and "issue-based" and will use sustainability, transit system connectivity, and transit-oriented development as the central framework for integrating plans, regulations, investments, and incentive programs at all levels of government to improve economic and environmental conditions, while promoting regional equity and resource efficiency. The outcome of plan implementation will be a more sustainable future for the region that invests in existing communities where housing, jobs, educational, cultural, and recreational opportunities are made more easily accessible to most residents of the region.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- The planning process will help break down silos and engage a broader range of regional stakeholders in the planning process to develop a shared vision for the future and to integrate plans across jurisdictions, functional areas and organizations.
- Prioritize redevelopment as the primary means of accommodating future growth in population and employment ensuring land use planning throughout the region.
- Advance sustainable development by seeking to change the current trajectory of growth patterns in the region away from continued sprawl to a more equitable and sustainable pattern of land development that supports existing communities and healthy, economically productive lives for the region's citizens.
- Harmonize existing plans, to foster a new, integrated regional vision for where future housing development (including housing affordable to a range of income levels), employment and education centers, transportation infrastructure, water infrastructure, and other investments should be made

Funding Amount: \$5,000,000; Category 2

Core Partners: New Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, New Jersey Transit, New Jersey Office of Planning Advocacy, Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey, Municipal Land Use Center at the College of New Jersey, New Jersey Future, New Jersey Regional Coalition, Plan Smart NJ, Regional Plan Association

HUD Region: 2

New Mexico

Doña Ana County will be awarded **\$2,000,000** to develop the *Camino Real: Regional Plan for Sustainable Development*. Through grouping the work into 6 component areas, Doña Ana County hopes to

bring new economic development opportunities to the area while preserving the historical settlement pattern of Camino Real. The plan will integrate housing and transportation planning to minimize vehicle miles traveled, and explore innovative ride-sharing and public transit options. The plan will provide a rationale for capital spending decisions so that infrastructure resources that permit higher residential densities are combined in ways that protect existing traditional communities and agricultural lands while encouraging growth patterns that support public transit options. In doing so, this project will build local capacity to plan, promote community engagement and support a more sustainable future.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Establishment of coordinated intergovernmental planning and secure agreements
- Alignment of infrastructure investment to ensure equitable land use planning
- Identification of measures to track progress in the creation of sustainable communities
- Engagement in site-specific planning and design of capital projects or programs

Funding Amount: \$2,000,000

Core Partners: City of Las Cruces, New Mexico State University, South Central Council of Governments, Las Cruces Metropolitan Planning Organization, El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization, Colonias Development Council, Tierra del Sol Housing corporation

HUD Region: 6

New York

Adirondack Gateway Council, Inc. will be awarded **\$750,000** to fund the *Adirondack Gateway Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Program* for the Adirondack Gateway Region. The primary goal of the program is to create a comprehensive regional development plan that will serve as a guide for local, regional and state policies and investments and enable the region to grow in a sustainable manner over the next 20 years. This Plan will address the inter-related challenges of housing, transportation, environmental impact, economic and workforce development. It will focus on strategies for improving telecommunications/broadband access, education, energy use, and health/wellness issues faced by the Adirondack Gateway Region.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Creation of a regional profile, series of GIS maps, library and inventory of all local planning documents, including development of sustainability data indicators.
- Creation of an economic development strategy and infrastructure plan.
- Creation of housing needs analysis and plan.
- Creation of an environmental quality improvement plan.

Funding Amount: \$750,000

Core Partners: Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation Council, Glen Falls Industrial Development Agency, Greater Glens Falls Local Development Corporation, Glens Falls Housing Authority, Greater Glens Falls Transit,

HUD Region: 2

The **Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority** will be awarded **\$2,000,000** to develop a *Regional Plan for Sustainable Development* for the Erie and Niagara counties that make up the Buffalo Niagara region. The region seeks to develop adopt sustainable development strategies, fill key gaps in planning and set the stage for a more vital future for Buffalo and Niagara. Funding will support the creation of a Citizen Planning School to build capacity on sustainability issues and public facilitation techniques and hold six regional sustainability visioning sessions.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Support public engagement, knowledge transfer and capacity building through an online forum and open regional dialogue with policy information and analysis, webinars and technical assistance
- Analyze existing planning documents and hold public planning sessions to develop a Regional Housing Plan, Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Food Access Plan
- Creation of Implementation Strategies that target specific stakeholders and deliver webinars and technical assistance sessions to stakeholders
- Creation of project-specific implementation strategies, scenario modeling, and “implementation councils” and updated regional GIS systems.

Funding Amount: \$2,000,000

Core Partners: The Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council, Erie County, Niagara County, City of Buffalo, City of Niagara Falls, University at Buffalo Regional Institute, Local Initiatives Support Corporation Buffalo, Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, Belmont Housing Resources for WNY, Inc., Buffalo Niagara Partnership

HUD Region: 2

North Carolina

The **Centralina Council of Governments** will be awarded **\$4,907,544** to develop the *CONNECT Vision: Connecting Vision to Plan*. The goals of the project are to translate the adopted *CONNECT* Regional Vision, a values-based document, into an implementable planning document with performance metrics in a way that fully engages the full diversity of the region’s population. These goals will be realized through interjurisdictional collaboration that reaches beyond government to engage residents, businesses, and diverse stake holders with an end result being a Regional Plan for Sustainable Development. The achievement of this plan will produce reduced growth in vehicle miles traveled, reduced unemployment rates, reduced housing and transportation costs for families, and support economic and housing revitalization efforts in the small cities and towns around the region.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Robust public engagement in choosing the regional preferred development scenario, establishing implementation strategies, and recommending priorities and performance metrics.
- Creation of a regional planning database and a process for keeping it current
- Creation of regional performance metrics, allowing appointed officials, business leaders and members of the community to gain a working understanding of sustainability planning and assessing progress towards locally-defined goals.

Funding Amount: \$4,907,544; Category 2

Core Partners: Catawba Regional Council of Governments, The University of North Carolina – Charlotte, The Lee Institute, Urban Land Institute, Mecklenburg County CONNECT council, City of Charlotte CONNECT council, Charlotte Housing Authority, Regional Workforce Alliance, Charlotte Regional Partnership CONNECT council, Johnson C. Smith University, Winthrop University

HUD Region: 4

Cape Fear Council of Governments will be awarded **\$1,130,000** to develop a *Lower Cape Fear Regional Plan for Sustainable Development*. The Regional Plan for Sustainable Development will integrate choices and decisions surrounding housing, economic development, transportation, energy, water and environmental quality. The plan will build upon the values unique among the region’s communities, and include a variety of viable options for transportation, workforce housing, and that works in collaboration to advance common goals. Once completed, the regional plan will be used as a guide for local and regional entities when creating or amending their plans, policies, regulations or programs and will be used to align the plans, policies and regulations that already exist in the region.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- The plan will enable the Lower Cape Fear region to meet the challenges of economic competitiveness with revitalization.
- The plan will enable the region to meet the challenges of rapid population growth with social equity, inclusion and access to opportunity.
- The plan will enable the region to meet the challenges of climate change and energy use in a manner that minimizes impacts to public health and the environment.

Funding Amount: \$1,130,000

Core Partners: New Hanover County, Brunswick County, Pender County, Wilmington Metropolitan Planning Organization, Wilmington Housing Authority, Brunswick Housing Opportunities, Cape Fear Regional Community Development Corporation, City of Wilmington, Wave Transit, AMEZ Housing

HUD Region: 4

North Dakota

Rural Economic Area Partnership Investment Fund will be awarded **\$1,500,000** to develop a *Western North Dakota Sustainability Plan*. Western North Dakota is seeking to conduct a regional sustainability planning process to address unprecedented growth dynamics resulting from the dramatic expansion of the oil production industry. The Region is proposing a seven-fold initiative designed to address immediate needs resulting from emerging growth challenges. It is the aim of this regional sustainability planning effort to conduct a series of initiatives, all designed to support a sustainable future and diversified economy for the region.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Addressing the immediate, short term needs of communities and counties to meet growth management challenges.
- Capitalization on one of America's strongest rural economies for entrepreneurial development.
- Set the stage for economic diversification based on the strengths of the oil and agriculture industries

Funding Amount: \$1,500,000

Core Partners: SW Reap, The Association, Building Communities, AE2S Nexus

HUD Region: 8

Pennsylvania

The **County of Erie** will be awarded **\$1,800,000** to develop the *Destination Erie: Regional Plan for Sustainable Development*. The plan will follow a 3 phase process moving from project initiation and regional assessment, to creating a vision for the future and finally to the creation of a regional sustainability action plan. The process will develop focus on strategies for creating a sustainable economy, and build on Erie's past to set the course towards a sustainable future and engage the community and build partnerships for action. The Consortium will focus on regional capacity building throughout the process, with the goal of securing specific commitments to ensure the plan strategies and actions will be implemented.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Creation of a shared community vision of a sustainable future
- Creation of a detailed implementation program with actions, timeframes, responsibilities, and metrics to measure progress

Funding Amount: \$1,800,000

Core Partners: Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership, Regional Center for Workforce Excellence, Jefferson Educational Society, Northwest Regional Planning and Development Commission, Erie Area Transportation Study Metropolitan Planning Organization, Housing Authority of City of Erie, Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority, Penn-State Behrend economic Research Institute, Erie County Redevelopment Authority, School District of the City of Erie, Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, Lake Erie Region Conservancy, Erie Western Pennsylvania Port Authority, The Erie Community Foundation, The United Way of Erie, Economic Development Corporation of Erie County, Ben Franklin Technology Partners, Black Family Foundation, Manufacturers and Business Association

HUD Region: 3

Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation will be awarded **\$3,400,000** to develop the *Lehigh Valley Sustainability Plan*. This initiative will promote the adoption of affordable housing policies at the municipal level and foster transit related land development to support public transportation. The Plan will include an assessment of the regional Jobs/Housing balance and a regional economic development plan that promotes sustainability. Topics covered in the plan include growth trends and forecasts, natural resources, farmland preservation, land use, economic development, housing, transportation, community utilities, parks and recreation and historic preservation. All types of communities will be targeted in this process to ensure all populations are given voice in direction of the region.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- An update to the report titled *An Affordable Housing Assessment of the Lehigh Valley, 2007* that will direct the implementation strategies of the Lehigh Valley Affordable Housing Effort.
- The Consortium will foster transit related land development as a key component to creating a more livable Lehigh Valley.
- The region will become more sustainable by fostering three catalytic projects that will directly improve walkability, support existing communities and increase the access to jobs for these neighborhoods

Funding Amount: \$3,400,000; Category 2

Core Partners: Lehigh Valley Planning Commission, community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, Lehigh and Northampton Transportation Authority, Renew Lehigh Valley, Lehigh County Department of Community and Economic Development, Northampton county Department of Community and Economic Development, Wildlands Conservancy

HUD Region: 3

Rhode Island

The **Rhode Island Division of Planning**, will be awarded **\$1,934,961** to develop a plan for A *Sustainable Road Island*. This plan would address subject matter gaps related to housing and economic development in Rhode Island's State Guide Plan. The plan will use HUD's Livability Principles as evaluation criteria to synthesize goals, strategies and actions contained in the substantially linked Land Use, Transportation, Economic Development and Housing State Guide Plan Elements, into an integrated implementation program outlining steps that will move the region from planning to action.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- The Identification and Delineation of specific geographic areas within the State that are most suitable for infill and development including areas most appropriate for infrastructure investment.
- Capacity Building within state and local government and among participants in the planning process by increasing skills and technical expertise in sustainable development.
- Utilization of a public participation strategy to reach target populations, engaging them in the planning process and ensuring sustained participation throughout the RPSD implementation.

Funding Amount: \$1,934,961

Core Partners: Rhode Island Housing, Rhode Island Public Transit Authority, Rhode Island Department of Transportation, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation, Rhode Island Department of Health, Local Initiatives Support Corporation, Grow Smart Rhode Island, Rhode Island Legal Services

HUD Region: 1

Tennessee

Shelby County Government will be awarded **\$2,619,999** to develop a *Mid-South Regional Greenprint and Sustainability Plan*. The development plan will address the critical need for initiating long-term comprehensive land use planning in the region. Effective community engagement and capacity building are critical to the process and the project proposes to demonstrate a citizen-based regional planning process, driven by a consortium working in partnership with governmental bodies and the private sector to establish a regional vision and structure for ongoing engagement and setting goals for the major focus areas of the working groups. Once a vision has been developed and working groups have established goals and priorities, the project will advance to funding sub-area or topic-focused plans or pilot planning efforts from the regional to the neighborhood level. Implementation of these sub-plans is expected to occur through adoption of formal policy recommendations, citizen advocacy and re-alignment of budgets, capital improvement plans and investments/staffing.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Increased participation and decision by traditionally marginalized populations as well as increase in access to greenways, bikeways and other modes of alternative transportation including low-income and minority neighborhoods.

- Reduced social and economic disparities for disadvantaged populations in the target subareas, including gradual reduction in poverty levels and a measurable increase in essential goods and services in low-income neighborhoods.
- Increase in affordable housing located close to walking trails, parks, and schools and improved public health outcomes resulting from creating safer, more walkable neighborhoods.

Funding Amount: \$2,619,999

Core Partners: The West Memphis MPO, The Mid-South Regional Greenways Steering Committee, ULI-Memphis, The Hyde Family Foundation, Memphis Regional Design Center, Community Development Council of Greater Memphis, Mid-South Peace and Justice Center

HUD Region: 4

Texas

Heart of Texas Council of Governments will be awarded **\$660,000** to develop a *Regional Plan for Sustainable Development (RPSD)* for the Development that has community engagement at its core and focuses primarily on gathering and integrating data and recommendations for three key areas: community, economy, and environment. The Regional Plan for Sustainable Development will include assessment and mapping of existing conditions as well as analysis and recommendations in the following areas: housing; transportation; water; infrastructure; air quality; solid waste; community engagement and engagement resources; entrepreneurship and small business; community priorities, needs, and concerns; issues creating disparities in access; economic vulnerability points, both for physical communities and for characteristic communities; and climate vulnerability points, especially drought and subsequent flooding.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- The plan will align local sustainability practices and goals with state and federal priorities and resources, which will in turn leverage additional investment into implementation.
- By working together in the process to develop and implement a RPSD, emergency preparedness planning will be developed and updated reciprocally with the RPSD.
- The RPSD will contain a specific plan for ongoing community engagement, which will offer strategies to increase engagement levels and to increase engagement impact.

Funding Amount: \$660,000

HUD Region: 6

Vermont

Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) will be awarded **\$480,000** to develop a plan for *Healthy, Vital and Strong Communities in Northwest Vermont* for the Counties of Grand Isle and Franklin.

Through this plan, NRPC proposes to link a community health, economic vitality and social engagements toward a more vibrant future for the region. NRPC would achieve this link through: Filling gaps in the existing regional plan to improve health outcomes for citizens in rural and urban communities of the region. The plan will also focus on strategies to improve economic vitality and reduce poverty and engage the region's citizen's in the planning process.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Provide small grants to organizations working in the region to implement programs that will educate the public about healthy community benefits, reduce/prevent drug and alcohol abuse, improve access to exercise for adults, connect school-aged children with safe rides home, improve access to childcare, and create pedestrian-oriented development code amendments.
- Provide small grants to organizations working on workforce development programs, mentoring services for adults, improved public transit, programs to attract and retain local businesses, childcare programs that address regional childcare shortage and local comprehensive plan amendments to further local economic development.
- Creation of Implementation strategies for regional collaboration for disaster response.

Funding Amount: \$480,000

Core Partners: Franklin County Industrial Development Corporation, Lake Champlain Islands Chamber of Commerce, Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, Vermont Council on Rural Development, University of Vermont Center for Rural Studies, Northwest Medical Center, Rural Partnerships Inc., St. Albans Recreational Department, Vermont Department of Health, Grand Isle Clean Team

HUD Region: 1

Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission, will be awarded **\$540,000** to develop an *East Central Vermont Regional Plan for Sustainable Development* for the 40-town Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission (TRORC) and the Southern Windsor County Regional Planning Commission (SWCRPC) region of East Central Vermont. This grant will mesh the disparate planning programs of several regional organizations, with input from an even wider group of stakeholders. Planning efforts will be guided by extensive public input. The plan will focus on addressing housing, transportation, public utilities, natural resources and energy use in ways that bend the impacts of development toward a region that uses less energy, is more healthy and walkable, is more affordable and creates increased economic opportunity.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Alignment of public services with private sector needs and public funding
- Development of a housing plan that identifies the need for different housing types, including units that are accessible to people with disabilities, and a range of affordable options based on different income levels.

- Development of a transportation network that holistically recognizes the interactions between a multi-modal transportation network, land use context, economic development policies, and environmental effects
- Identification of a preferred growth scenario by comparing a spatial analysis and representation of three scenarios in the east central Vermont region.
- Greater concentration of development in previously built areas

Funding Amount: \$540,000

Core Partners: South Windsor County Regional Planning Commission, Vital Communities, Sustainable Energy Resource Group, Housing Vermont, Vermont Natural Resources Council, Land Use Clinic at Vermont Law School, Champlain College, Vermont Economic Development Authority, Randolph Area Community Development Corporation, Upper Valley Housing Coalition, Upper Valley Land Trust

HUD Region: 1

Wyoming /Idaho

Regional Planning Grant Award

Fremont County, Idaho is awarded **\$1,500,000** to develop the *Regional Plan for Sustainable Development for the Western Greater Yellowstone Area*. This will include a Greater Yellowstone Framework for Sustainable Development, a Comprehensive Resource Plan and Sustainability Strategy, and a Model Development Code. The effort will connect an area that extends across two states and two national parks. The outcome of these studies and pilot jurisdictions will create a clear framework from which the consortium can move forward into the implementation stage of the plan. This framework will allow a group of local governments that share a common landscape come together to create a standardized code by which they can develop meaningful and effective plans for their respective jurisdictions. The consortium members understand the long-term benefits that will come from a well-structured and well-executed sustainability plan that reflects the cross-cutting lessons across jurisdictional boundaries.

Anticipated Project Benefits:

- Create a clear framework from which the consortium can move forward into implementation
- Develop a locally supported code

Funding Amount: \$ 1,500,000

Core Partners: **Idaho:** Rexburg, Madison County, St. Anthony, Ashton, Island Park, Teton County, Driggs, Victor; **Wyoming:** Teton County; Yellowstone Business

Council; USDA Forest Service; Bureau of Land Management; Idaho
Department of State Lands

HUD Region: 10