# **Partnership for Sustainable Communities**







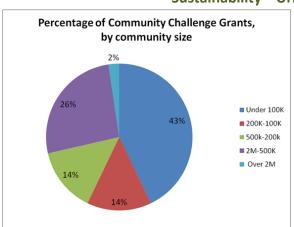
# **HUD Sustainable Communities Initiative: Two Years of Progress**

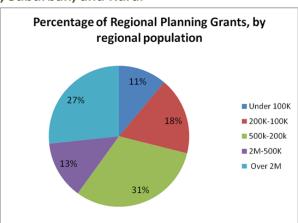
Since its establishment in 2010, HUD's Sustainable Communities Initiative has helped rural, suburban, and urban communities across the United States link jobs and housing, foster sustainable, long-term economic growth, and protect America's environmental assets through the Regional Planning and Community Challenge grant programs. For Fiscal Year 2013, the President is requesting \$100 million to restore funding for HUD's Sustainable Communities Initiative to bolster a national economy built to last from the bottom up by the citizens, business, and local leaders from communities and regions across the country.

Over the last two years, HUD has awarded 152 grants in 48 states, totaling \$240 million that have in turn secured almost \$253 million in private investment and commitments from local partners. The communities that have received these grants vary from rural and tribal communities in West Virginia, South Dakota, and Washington to larger cities like Chicago, Seattle, and Kansas City.

Demand for these grant programs have remained strong. Almost 1,500 applications were submitted over two years from every state of the nation and over 400 Congressional letters of support from Republican and Democratic leaders alike. Given available funding, only 11 % were able to be funded. In recognition of this unmet demand, and the quality of innovative approaches being developed HUD established Preferred Sustainability Status for an additional 20 regions and communities. PSS communities receive technical skill training, access to our peer-to-peer network, and bonus points on other HUD discretionary grant applications.

### Sustainability—Urban, Suburban, and Rural





- Statewide grants were awarded in FY2011 to New Hampshire and Rhode Island, and several states such as North Carolina, Texas, and California have grants supporting work in multiple regions across the state; additional bi-state efforts are being supported in Nebraska/Iowa, Kansas/ Missouri, New York /Connecticut, and Idaho/Wyoming.
- Regional and Community Challenge grants have been awarded to tribal organizations, including: the Hopi
  Tribe, AZ; Pueblo de cochiti Housing Authority, NM; Northwoods NiiJii Enterprise Community, Inc., WI;
  Spokane Tribe of Indians, WA.
- In rural South Dakota, a Regional Planning grant is revitalizing the PINE RIDGE INDIAN RESERVATION. The reservation lacks basic amenities, like banks and grocery stores, and has an unemployment rate of 47 percent. With help from HUD, the local community development organization is crafting the reservation's first economic development plan, devising ways to increase job training and streamline business regulations to enhance access to capital.



### An Economy Built to Last

Cultivating vital, high opportunity places, hubs of our talented, young workforce, makes America more economically competitive. Promoting location-efficient development lowers infrastructure costs and swiftly moves peoples and goods through American cities. To this end, HUD's Sustainable Communities grants have provided \$240 million in upfront investment capital to communities and regions across the country—to help them realize their vision and thrive in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Global Economy.

- HUD conservatively estimates that almost 4,500 jobs will be created as a direct result of these grants, with additional job creation supported through leveraged resources from project sponsors.
- INDIANAPOLIS, IN, is making investments to attract workers and businesses with a HUD-sponsored neighborhood redevelopment strategy and 60 miles of DOT-funded sustainable transportation infrastructure.
- The integrated housing, transportation, and economic development strategy employed in MEMPHIS, TN, has driven corporations like FedEx, Electrolux, Mitsubishi, and Nucor Steel to expand operations in the city and create additional jobs.

Across the country, taxpayers are seeing how plans that HUD is funding can conserve resources and save them money. These grants are supporting local and regional strategies to make government work smarter, ensuring every dollar invested achieves multiple benefits.

- If everyone living in the regions currently supported by this program were able to drive one less mile per day, residents of these regions would be driving 48 trillion fewer miles per year and save approximately \$8.5 billion annually just on gas. If families saved half of that money and spent the other half, then we would see \$4.25 billion recirculated into local economies, creating approximately 46,000 jobs per year.
- SALT LAKE CITY, UT, has found that it can save \$4.3 billion in infrastructure costs if it focuses development on the region's transportation system and existing communities.
- Strengthening its competitive advantage in the global marketplace, the CHICAGO metropolitan area has devised a plan that will save \$1.5 billion in future infrastructure spending.

#### **Expanding Opportunity**

Implementing sustainable communities approaches not only meets current demand for homes in these neighborhoods, but also positions communities to meet future needs and market conditions. Ensuring equitable development – for example, by providing a range of housing choices – helps communities retain young people, attract new residents, and lift the standard of living for low-income residents.

• In AUSTIN, TX, with a \$3.7 million grant from HUD as the catalyst, the city is linking its long-term regional transportation plan to 37 mixed-income communities near transit and job centers. This grant with help create at least 7,000 permanent jobs and thousands more in the construction sector.

#### **Partnership for Sustainable Communities**

OSHC represents HUD on the Partnership for Sustainable Communities, working with the Department of Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency to align resources and reduce bureaucratic barriers to sustainable development. Together, HUD and DOT jointly awarded 62 coordinated housing and transportation planning grants in FY2010. This unprecedented partnership has created numerous successes at the local level that would have been impossible without such collaboration.

- RANSON, WV, recipient of 2010 Community Challenge and TIGER II grants, has become a national model
  of rural sustainable development. HUD's grant is being used locally to update the zoning code to help
  bring new residents and businesses downtown. Complete Streets improvements funded by DOT are
  restoring Ranson's commercial corridor are. EPA funds are helping the city clean-up and restore
  contaminated sites. An industrial town beleaguered by job loss, Ranson has leveraged federal funding into
  community revitalization.
- In August 2011, the Partnership issued "Federal Barriers to Housing and Transportation Coordination", highlighting hindrances to local and regional innovation and offering solutions for their ills.

