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Twenty two communities to receive free training sessions from Smart Growth America in 2013

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Washington, DC – Twenty two communities nationwide will receive free technical assistance in 2013 from Smart Growth America, benefitting from 1- or 2-day training sessions made possible through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities program.

"Smart Growth America is committed to providing the tools and training to help community leaders keep their cities and towns livable, sustainable and economically prosperous places," said Smart Growth America Vice President Roger Millar. "We are excited about working with each of these communities to develop local solutions that support thriving neighborhoods now and for generations to come."

The communities to receive technical assistance are:

- Buena Vista Charter Town, Michigan
- City of Blue Springs, Missouri
- City of Boulder, Colorado
- City of Carlisle, Iowa
- City of Charlotte, North Carolina
- City of Chula Vista, California
- City of Cincinnati, Ohio
- City of Fairfax, Virginia
- City of Houston, Texas
- City of Port Isabel, Texas
- City of Virginia Beach, Virginia
- Cuyahoga County, Ohio
- Dauphin County, Pennsylvania
- Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, Iowa
- Graham County, North Carolina
- Harlem Park Neighborhood Council, Maryland
- Missoula County, Montana
- Northwest Colorado Council of Governments, Colorado
- Town of Campbell, New York
- Town of Winchester, Connecticut
- Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency, Nevada
- Village of Park Forest, Illinois

This year, Smart Growth America received a total of 65 applications for its free technical assistance program from 31 states. The 22 communities selected to receive technical assistance exhibited the strongest interest in and need for smart growth tools, and clearly demonstrated a commitment from local business, community and political leaders to implement local smart growth solutions.

About Smart Growth America's free technical assistance: Smart Growth America offered twelve "ready-to-go" technical assistance tools as part of the program that helps communities build stronger local economies, protect the environment, preserve sense of place, and improve overall quality of life. The technical assistance is funded through a grant to Smart Growth America from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Sustainable Communities under their Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Program. The Building Blocks program funds quick, targeted assistance to communities that face common development problems. Three other nonprofit organizations—Forterra,

Global Green USA and Project for Public Spaces—also received competitively awarded grants under this program to help communities get the kinds of development they want.

Smart Growth America is the only national organization dedicated to researching, advocating for and leading coalitions to bring smart growth practices to more communities nationwide. From providing more sidewalks to ensuring more homes are built near public transportation or that productive farms remain a part of our communities, smart growth helps make sure people across the nation can live in great neighborhoods. For additional information visit www.smartgrowthamerica.org.

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