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## **Notasulga, AL aims to jumpstart ‘Main Street’ economic development with aid from Smart Growth America’s technical assistance**

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*Notasulga, AL* — Notasulga residents and town leaders will meet Tuesday with representatives from Smart Growth America as part of a free, grant-funded technical assistance program aimed at helping the town implement initial smart growth strategies and a community-wide plan. The initiative aims to help create jobs and bring appropriate businesses to the town as well as reinforce the sense of community in Notasulga via citizen involvement.

“This program will allow Notasulga to create a tailored plan for economic and community development based on the Town’s resources and needs,” said Mayor Frank Tew.

In September 2011, Notasulga was one of 15 communities nationwide selected from a pool of 90 applications by Smart Growth America to participate in the technical assistance program. Stretching from Maine to Washington State, these 15 communities represent major cities, suburban centers, and rural towns alike.

“Smart Growth America is committed to providing the tools and training to help community leaders keep their cities and towns livable, sustainable and vital places,” said Roger Millar, Director of Smart Growth America’s Leadership Institute. “Notasulga has a strong sense of community pride and wants their plans for the future to advance their goals of family, affordable living, and protecting their natural surroundings.”

The program, made possible through a five-year Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency’s Office of Sustainable Communities, seeks to develop local planning solutions that help communities grow in ways that benefit families and businesses, while protecting the environment and preserving a sense of place. Three other nonprofit organizations—Forterra, Global Green USA and Project for Public Spaces—also received competitively awarded grants this year to help communities get the kinds of development they want.

As a national leader in the field, Smart Growth America has accumulated extensive experience working with communities to help them use land strategically, make the most of existing resources and invest strategically to catalyze private development.

**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](http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org).

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