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## **Smart Growth America to provide free smart growth technical assistance to select communities**

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*Washington, DC* – Smart Growth America is pleased to announce technical assistance is now available to communities interested in smart growth strategies free of charge.

The new program has been made possible by a five-year technical assistance grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The grant will be used to provide direct technical assistance to communities across the nation on how to develop local solutions to help their communities grow in ways that benefit families and businesses while protecting the environment and preserving a sense of place.

Smart Growth America will be offering twelve “ready-to-go” technical assistance tools as part of the program, including: Implementing smart growth 101; Planning for economic and fiscal health; Sustainable land use code audit; Complete streets workshop; Using LEED-ND to accelerate the development of sustainable communities; Walkability workshop/audit; Regional planning for small communities; Smart growth zoning codes for small cities; Transportation performance measurement; “Cool planning”; Parking audits; and Implementing transit-oriented development 101.

“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. “This grant will allow us to work with communities across the nation to help them design and implement effective ‘home grown’ smart growth strategies.”

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.

### **Apply today for free technical assistance**

Communities interested in this free-of-charge technical assistance can go to [www.smartgrowthamerica.org/sc-tech-assistance](http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/sc-tech-assistance) to learn more about this exciting opportunity. Full application guidelines as well as a digital application form are available there.

In addition, Smart Growth America will be hosting a webinar to discuss this technical assistance and the application process on Wednesday, October 12, 2011 at 2:00 PM EDT. Anyone interested in learning more about this opportunity can [register for the webinar by clicking here](#).

The technical assistance is funded by US EPA'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—Cascade Land Conservancy, Global Green USA and Project for Public

Spaces—also received competitively awarded grants under this program this year 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](http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org).

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