

FOR IMMEDIATELY RELEASE: September 20, 2013

## **Mayor Mallory and Agenda 360 to host workshop on transit-oriented development in Cincinnati**

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Cincinnati, OH - Mayor Mark Mallory and Agenda 360, our regional action plan, are hosting a series of meetings on Transit Oriented Development on September 26 and 27, 2013. The workshops will be led by experts from Smart Growth America and are part of a free, grant-funded technical assistance program. The workshops will help inform residents and community leaders about the many benefits of transit, and development surrounding transit, and why they are important to future development in Cincinnati and the surrounding region. The City of Cincinnati has recently adopted a new Comprehensive Plan, updated the Green Cincinnati plan, and is revising its Land Development Code. All three emphasize strategies that will help support smart growth in Cincinnati.

"Transit Oriented Development is a powerful strategy that can help communities throughout the Cincinnati region encourage new development projects," Mayor Mark Mallory said. "It has become clear that there is increasing demand to live near community assets. By making smart transportation decisions, communities provide an incentive to private investment. And, Smart Growth America is the national leader in this area. They will be able to help individual communities learn how to make this a reality."

Area residents are invited to attend an introductory presentation at 6 p.m. on September 26, 2013 that will feature a broad overview of strategies for implementing transit-oriented development in Cincinnati neighborhoods and surrounding communities and how it will benefit the region. The event will be held at the Cincinnati Area Chapter of the American Red Cross (2111 Dana Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45207).

"Smart Growth America is committed to providing training to help local leaders keep their communities livable, sustainable and vital places," said Roger Millar, Smart Growth America Vice President. "This workshop will provide the community with an opportunity to learn more about transit options and transit-oriented development in the context of Cincinnati."

In November 2012, Cincinnati was one of 22 communities selected by Smart Growth America to participate in the free technical assistance program. Stretching from Maine to Washington State, these communities represent major cities, suburban centers, and rural towns alike. The program, made possible through a five-year Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities grant from the

U.S. 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 under this program 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 purposefully 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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