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## **Smart Growth America announces 18 communities selected to receive smart growth technical assistance**

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Washington, DC – Smart Growth America today announced the 18 communities selected to receive the organization's 2014 free smart growth technical assistance. Each community will receive a 1- or 2-day training session with an expert from Smart Growth America on the issue of their choosing. This technical assistance was made possible through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities program.

The winning communities are: City of Emmett, ID; City of Green River, WY; City of Hot Springs, AR; City of Huntington, WV; City of Indianapolis, IN; City of Memphis, TN; City of Portsmouth, NH; City of Salisbury, MD; City of San Diego, CA; County of Kauai, HI; Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, IA; East Central Florida Regional Planning Council, FL; Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes of Poplar, MT; Kenosha County, WI; Person County, NC; North Central Texas Council of Governments, TX; Pasco County, FL; and Town of Queensbury, NY.

Past technical assistance workshops focused on issues including transit-oriented development, Complete Streets, smart growth zoning, parking management, economic development and fiscal health and transportation performance measurement, among others.

"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, Vice President of Smart Growth America's Leadership Institute. "We are excited about working with each of these communities to develop local solutions that support thriving places now and for generations to come."

"Cities are complex places that need critical thinking and unique initiatives. This technical assistance opportunity will allow Indianapolis to access top-notch national thought leadership to leverage with our own planning community," said Adam Thies, Director of Metropolitan Development for the City of Indianapolis. "Ultimately, this opportunity will be a fantastic addition to our Plan 2020 community-wide planning initiative in 2014-15."

Smart Growth America received nearly 100 applications for technical assistance from 40 states. While all of the applications were worthy, the 18 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 offers twelve "ready-to-go" technical assistance tools that help

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 the 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.

**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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