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Town of Campbell to host public workshop on smart growth zoning codes for small cities

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Campbell, NY — Town of Campbell officials and local residents will meet with representatives from Smart Growth America on April 24 and 25, 2013 as part of a free, grant-funded technical assistance program. The workshops will aim to give Campbell the tools it needs to preserve its character, while creating strategies that allow the town to move toward a more sustainable future.

“The Town of Campbell feels very fortunate to have been selected for this technical assistance workshop,” said Town Supervisor David Tennent. “We’re eager to learn what Smart Growth America has to teach us regarding strategies for improving our zoning code and planning for sustainable growth in our town, and we hope that anyone who is interested in sustainable planning and smart growth can join us at the public workshop on April 24.”

Nicolette Barber, AICP, with Hunt Engineers, Architects & Land Surveyors, who is a consultant for the town and working closely with the technical assistance team said, “Campbell is a small town that would like to maintain and enhance its rural character. In planning for its future, the town is not looking to compete with the regional shopping centers or expand its population by leaps and bounds. Rather, what residents would like are more opportunities for local shopping, social events and recreation. To the extent that the Comprehensive Plan Committee could help promote that through smart growth strategies learned from Smart Growth America, they would like to do so.”

Town of Campbell residents are invited to join the workshop’s first day for an introductory presentation that will feature a broad overview of sustainable land use codes. The event will be held Wednesday, April 24, 2013 from 7:00–9:00 PM at Campbell-Savona Junior/Senior High School, 8455 County Route 125, Campbell, NY 14821.

“Smart Growth America is committed to providing training to help community leaders keep cities and towns livable, sustainable and vital places,” said Roger Millar, Director of Smart Growth America’s Leadership Institute. “Since Campbell is currently revising their comprehensive plan, the workshop on smart growth zoning codes will be beneficial to their long-term development. Our team will give Campbell a variety of implementation tools that will pave the way for attracting new residents and businesses, as well as help them use their zoning code to deal with floodplain issues.”

In November 2012, the Town of Campbell 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 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.

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