



Smart Growth America

Improving lives by improving communities

Application for Smart Growth America Technical Assistance

Complete Streets Consortium Series

Year Six of Seven (2016-2017)

This technical assistance program is funded under a grant to Smart Growth America from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Sustainable Communities' Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Program



Summary

Smart Growth America, through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Sustainable Communities, is offering free technical assistance to help local leaders and residents make their communities more livable, sustainable, and vibrant. Any unit or subdivision of local, tribal or regional government is eligible to apply. The deadline for applications is Thursday, February 2, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. EDT. Only applications for our new Complete Streets Consortium Series will be accepted during this application period.

Applications must be uploaded to the Smart Growth America web page application portal at <https://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/cs-consortium> or emailed to assistance@smartgrowthamerica.org by this time. Paper submissions and late submissions will not be accepted.

For pre-application assistance and inquiries, please email assistance@smartgrowthamerica.org.

Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Program

Smart Growth America's free technical assistance is funded under a grant from the EPA's Office of Sustainable Communities' Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Program. The Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Program funds quick, targeted assistance to communities that face common development programs.

Purpose of the technical assistance

Smart Growth America's technical assistance program, now in its sixth year, helps facilitate local solutions to local development challenges so that participating communities are able to grow in ways that benefit residents and businesses while protecting the environment and preserving a sense of place. The assistance provides the tools and training needed to help local leaders make their communities more livable, sustainable, and vibrant.

As a national leader in the field, Smart Growth America possesses extensive experience working with communities to help them use land strategically, maximize existing resources, and invest public funds in ways that catalyze quality private development. Smart Growth America has already worked with more than 70 communities through this program alone.

Complete Streets Consortium Series

The Complete Streets Consortium Series is a new workshop series for three units of government within the same state. The three applicants join together to form a consortium, with each unit of government receiving their own workshop that builds on the other workshops in the series. The workshops will focus on the relationships between land use and transportation, different modes of travel, multimodal integration, and Complete Streets implementation within the local and regional contexts of the area. This is a unique opportunity for the applicants within the same state to form a mutual support network and also enhance relationships between state and local stakeholders. A core group of eight to ten representatives (this group can include a combination of staff, managers, stakeholders, and community leaders) from each applicant will travel to all of the workshops, seeing how each different applicant is planning on implementing Complete Streets policies and how they can help and or learn from the process.

Eligibility for this technical assistance

Any unit or subdivision of local government, Indian tribe, or regional government is eligible to apply for the Complete Streets Consortium Series. These three applicants do not need to be geographically adjacent, but must make the case that their commitment and cooperation justify the assistance. Each workshop must take place within the jurisdiction of each applying entity.

Post-workshop reporting

Applicants that receive this technical assistance will receive a next steps report with suggestions for follow-up actions. Applicants agree to submit three brief post-workshop progress reports – the first one month after receiving their post-workshop next steps report from Smart Growth America, the second six months after, and the third twelve months after.

Selection process and criteria

Smart Growth America expects to select one consortium of three applicants to receive free technical assistance in this application cycle.

The primary selection criteria are:

- **Interest in smart growth solutions (20% of score)** – Each application should demonstrate interest in smart growth solutions and show that the Complete Streets Consortium Series is an appropriate way to address the applicant's issues—that it helps them overcome barriers to implementing smart growth and sustainable community solutions.

Application for Smart Growth America Technical Assistance

- **Need for technical assistance (20% of score)** – Smart Growth America wants to work with communities that are interested in smart growth and/or sustainable communities development strategies but may need some additional help to define and move forward with local solutions.
- **Involvement of key community leaders (20% of score)** – Smart Growth America will consider the degree to which local government, business and community leaders demonstrate their commitment and capacity to implement the results of the technical assistance.
- **Readiness to implement (20% of score)** – Is the applicant ready to act based upon the tools supplied? Evidence that the applicant is ready for action will help Smart Growth America to determine which applicants will benefit most from technical assistance.
- **Public Involvement Plan (20% of score)** – Smart Growth America will consider the applicant’s capacity to carry out public engagement (particularly to low-income and disadvantaged populations within their communities) and the quality of the proposed engagement plan. We look for applications that address questions such as: How will the applicant get the word out? Is the workshop location accessible? Does the applicant have letters of support from relevant partners?

Other factors that will affect the selection of applicants to receive technical assistance:

- **Geographic diversity** – Smart Growth America wants to work in a variety of states, regions, and communities, from North to South, East and West. We will look at how the communities we select contribute to the diversity of places we have served over the lifetime of this grant.
- **Equity** – Smart Growth America wants to increase our work with low-income and disadvantaged communities who are ready to address issues related to growth and development.
- **Past receipt of assistance** – Smart Growth America likes to leverage work done by others to create more powerful outcomes. Has the applicant received related technical assistance from the EPA or other federal agencies in the past? Is the applicant currently applying for technical assistance from the EPA or other federal agencies? For rural applicants, has the applicant participated in USDA Rural Development-supported programs such as Stronger Economies Together, Promise Zones, or Strikeforce? Be sure to put this in the application, including the name of the program as well as any outcomes you are experiencing.

Final recipients will be notified via a phone call and will also be announced on our website.

Application form

This application form is for the new Complete Streets Consortium Series. The deadline for applications is Thursday, February 2, 2017 at 5:00 PM EDT.

Applications must be uploaded to the Smart Growth America web page application portal at <http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/cs-consortium> or emailed to assistance@smartgrowthamerica.org by this time. Paper submissions and late submissions will not be accepted.

A complete application will include three filled out application forms, one from each applicant, as well as three letters of commitment signed by the chief executive of each applying entity. This letter should not only show the commitment of all three communities to the workshop, but should also make the case as to why the three applicants present the most compelling choice to receive the series. The letter of commitment must be uploaded with the application.

Members of the Consortium:

Member this application is for:

Agency CEO or other individual authorized to enter into agreements:

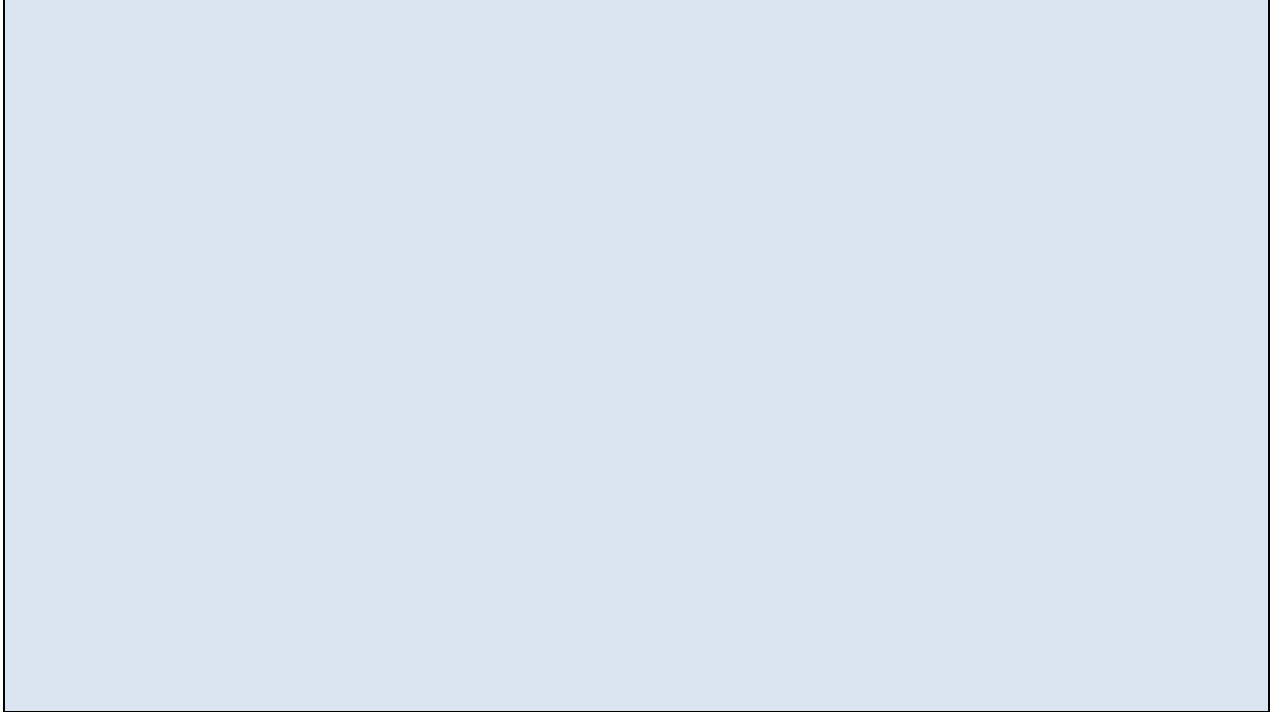
Contact person name, title, email, phone:

Organization address, phone and website:

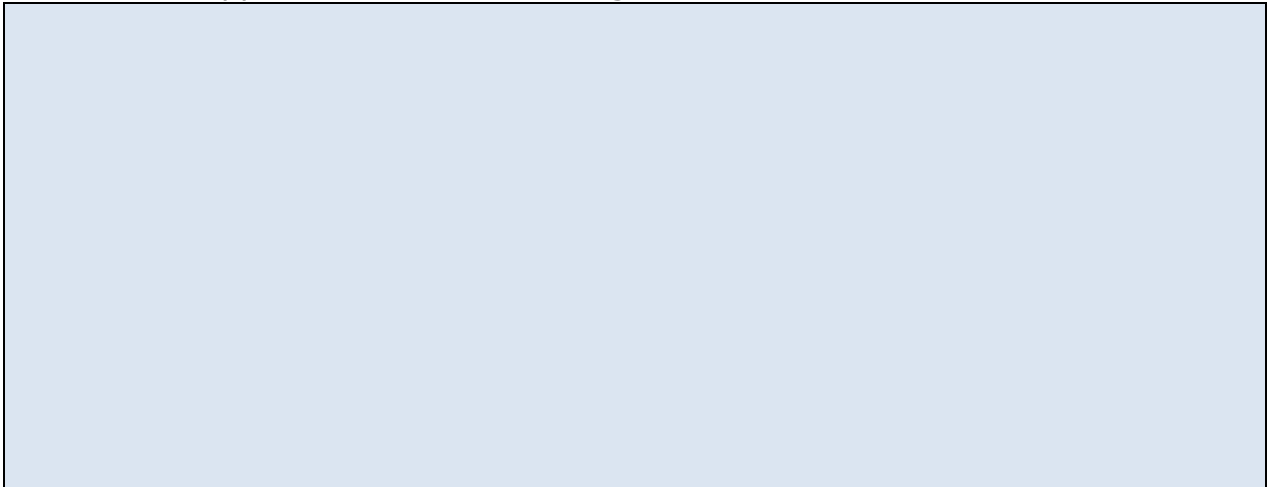
Form of government (local, regional, tribal):

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What is the applicant's need for technical assistance? How will Complete Streets Consortium Series help your jurisdiction overcome the barriers to implementing smart growth?



What is the applicant's interest in smart growth solutions?

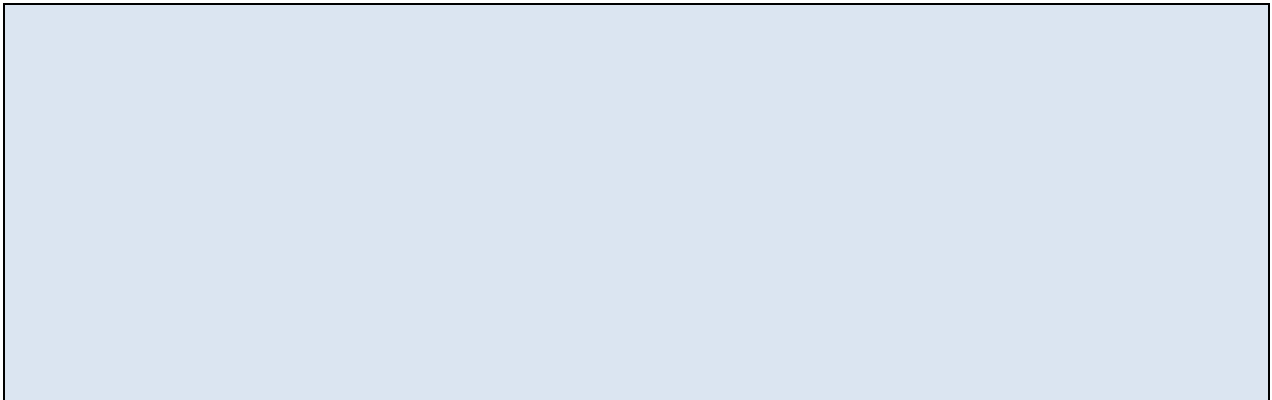


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To what level are community leaders (elected, business, community) committed to pursuing complete streets?



How do you propose to implement the smart growth solution(s) once assistance is received?



Application for Smart Growth America Technical Assistance

Describe your plan for involving the public in the technical assistance.

To what degree does your plan address equity issues? Specifically, how does your plan address disadvantaged communities?

Have you received related technical assistance from the EPA, other federal agencies (including USDA Rural Development if you are a rural community), or their contractors or grantees in the past?

Yes No

If so, describe the assistance, including how the new assistance you are requesting of Smart Growth America would build upon or complement the past assistance.

Are you applying for related technical assistance from the EPA, other federal agencies (including USDA Rural Development if you are a rural community), or their grantees or contractors?

Yes

No

If so, describe the assistance, including how that assistance would complement the assistance you are requesting of Smart Growth America.

Letter of Commitment

To help us assess community support for smart growth solutions, Smart Growth America requires a letter of commitment signed by the mayor, county commission chair, or comparable elected leader. The letter should state the commitment of local elected leaders to implement any local initiatives that result from the smart growth technical assistance offered.