

**U.S. Department of Housing  
and Urban Development**

**Certification of Consistency with Sustainable Communities Planning and Implementation**

I certify that the proposed activities/projects in this application are consistent with the Livability Principles advanced by communities in the FY2010 Sustainable Communities Regional Planning and HUD-DOT Challenge Grants.

(Type or clearly print the following information)

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the Federal Program to  
which the applicant is applying: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the Preferred Sustainable  
Communities Status Community: \_\_\_\_\_

I further certify that:

- (1) The applicant is engaged in activities, that in consultation with the designated Point of Contact of the HUD designated Preferred Sustainability Status Communities, further the purposes of the regional planning grant program;
- (2) The applicant's proposed activities either directly reflect the Livability Principles cited and contained in HUD's General Section to the FY2011 NOFAs or will result in the delivery of services that are consistent with the goals of the Livability Principles;
- (3) The applicant has committed to maintain an on-going relationship with the HUD Preferred Sustainability Status Communities for the purposes of being part of the planning and implementation processes in the designated area.

Name of the Official Authorized to Certify the Preferred

Sustainable Communities Status meets

the above criteria to receive bonus points: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

(mm/dd/yyyy)

**NOTE:** To receive points for this policy priority, applicants must go beyond the basic minimum requirements of the NOFA to which they are applying, and must commit to incorporate into their proposed activities the appropriate Livability Principles described by the Partnership for Sustainable Communities, which includes HUD, the Department of Transportation, and the Environmental Protection Agency. These activities include: metropolitan regional plans, neighborhood plans, infrastructure investments, site plans, or architectural plans, so that resulting development or reuse of property takes into account the impacts of the development on the community and the metropolitan region, consistent with sustainable development as expressed in the Livability Principles, as follows:

(1) **Provide More Transportation Choices.** Develop safe, reliable, and economical transportation choices to decrease household transportation costs, reduce our Nation's dependence on foreign oil, improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and promote public health.

(2) **Promote equitable, affordable housing.** Expand location - and energy-efficient housing choices for people of all ages, incomes, races, and ethnicities to increase mobility, improve access to jobs, expand educational opportunities, and lower the combined cost of housing and transportation.

(3) **Enhance Economic Competitiveness.** Improve economic competitiveness through reliable and timely access to employment centers, educational opportunities, services, and other basic needs of workers, as well as expanded business access to markets.

(4) **Support Existing Communities.** Target federal funding toward existing communities—through strategies like transit-oriented, mixed-use development, and land recycling—to increase community revitalization and the efficiency of public works investments and to safeguard rural landscapes.

(5) **Coordinate Policies and Leverage Investment.** Align federal policies and funding to remove barriers to collaboration, leverage funding, and increase the accountability and effectiveness of all levels of government to plan for future growth, including making smart energy choices, such as locally generated renewable energy.

(6) **Value Communities and Neighborhoods.** Enhance the unique characteristics of all communities by investing in healthy, safe, and walkable neighborhoods—rural, urban, or suburban.

All applicants must demonstrate the direct impact of their program as described in the specific NOFA to which they are applying. Specific outcomes will be identified in individual program NOFAs. To receive points for this policy priority, applicants must produce activities that exceed requirements of the NOFA to which they are applying, detailing how they will achieve outcomes in areas such as:

(a) Neighborhood Sustainability Standards. Identify projects or activities consistent with adoption of LEED 2009 for Neighborhood Development (LEED-ND) Rating System or a similar neighborhood sustainability standard.

(b) Combined Housing and Transportation Cost Burden. Prioritize the reduction of the proportion of residents in the affected project area or development who will face a combined housing and transportation cost burden of 45 percent their of average household income. Estimate the proportion of residents of the affected project area or development currently facing this cost burden (based on a calculator such as the Center for Neighborhood Technology's calculator located at <http://htaindex.cnt.org/>) and estimate the proportion of residents who will have their cost burden reduced below 45 percent as a result of actions undertaken by the grantee.

(c) Energy Efficiency and Green Development. Identify the number of buildings or units that will be built or rehabilitated to a recognized green building rating standard by utilizing one of several recognized green rating programs for new construction or substantial rehabilitation, including such programs as the Energy Star Plus Indoor Air Package or Energy Star Advanced New Home Construction; Enterprise Green Communities Initiative; the NAHB Green Building Standards; LEED for Homes (for single family); LEED New Construction (for multifamily or commercial development); as well as regionally or locally recognized green standards such as Earthcraft or Built Green.

(d) Healthy Design. Identify the number of buildings that will be built or rehabilitated incorporating healthy design features that meet or exceed the mandatory requirements identified in a green building standard such as the Enterprise Green Communities “Healthy Living Environment” criteria (Category 7) or similar requirements in other national or locally recognized green rating programs.

(e) Universal Design/Visitability. Identify the number of disability-accessible proposed housing projects, retail establishments, and/or community facilities to be created or rehabilitated incorporating universal design or visitability standards and which exceed accessibility requirements. Universal design is the design of the living environment to be usable by all people regardless of ability. More information about universal design can be found at (<http://www.universaldesign.org/>).

Visitability means that there is at least one entrance at grade (no steps), approached by an accessible route such as a sidewalk, and that the entrance door and all interior passage doors are at least 2 feet, 10 inches wide, allowing 32 inches of clear passage space. A visitable home also serves persons without disabilities, such as a mother pushing a stroller or a person delivering a large appliance. More information about visitability is available at (<http://www.visitability.org/>).

(f) Measuring energy efficiency. Identify how you will collect and utilize data about energy load, usage, and costs in a systematic fashion to set energy reduction goals and manage energy use in your property/properties.