Southern Rural and Urban Sustainability Projects

PROGRESS WITH THE PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
Region 4 EPA and Partners Collaborate

- **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act**
  - Provided funding to agencies to invest in housing, roads, environmental projects
  - Provided great opportunity to cooperate more than usual

- **Interagency collaboration initiated in early 2009**

- **Criteria for selection of projects**
  - Vulnerable community present
  - Opportunity for TOD
  - Potential to establish “green” jobs
  - Multiple agencies investing
  - Mixture of rural, urban and suburban
  - Within driving distance of Atlanta
  - Reasonable timeframe for completion

**Venn Diagram**
- Social
- Economic
- Environmental
Partnership for Sustainable Communities: Beginnings

- Began June 2009 with agreement between HUD, DOT and EPA
- Federal agencies to work more efficiently and to cooperate more fully in providing services to public:
  - Provide More Transportation Choices
  - Promote Equitable, Affordable Housing
  - Enhance Economic Competitiveness
  - Support Existing Communities
  - Coordinate and leverage federal policies and investment
  - Value Communities and Neighborhoods
Partnership Projects and Process

- **Project beginnings**
  - Agencies met to discuss potential activities
  - Engaged contacts in each location
  - Discussed collaboration potential, interest

- **Developing partnerships**
  - Meetings
  - “Visions”
  - Project outlines
  - Committed to “long term” involvement
Nine Projects and Counting!
South Atlanta Project

PROGRESS WITH THE PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
NPU-V
NPU-V Challenges/Opportunities

- Area was center of housing foreclosure crisis
- Several brownfield sites in vicinity
- Urban location with high unemployment
- Need for job training
- Environmental issues
- Multiple agency investments
- Met proximity goal
Project Partners

- Center for Working Families
- Annie E. Casey– Civic Site
- SNDSI
- Georgia Stand Up
- Partnership for the Preservation of Pittsburg
- Eco-Action SAFE—CARE
- Atlanta Beltline
- NPU-V
- City of Atlanta
- Atlanta Regional Commission
- Congressman Lewis
- Senator Isaakson
- HUD
- EPA
- DOL
- DOT
- EDA
Federal Actions To Date

- Meetings with EPA leadership and community
- BF—Targeted Brownfields Assessment
- New HUD Lead/Healthy Homes grants $2.1M to City, $800K to Center for Working Families
- Green jobs committee
- Inviting greater involvement by other partners—FTA, Atlanta Regional Commission, FHWA, Economic Development Administration
Partnerships: DOA, EPA, HUD
Partnerships: DOI, EPA,
Partnerships: HUD
Partnerships: Southface Energy Institute, DOE, HUD, EPA
My two favorite places
Partnerships: DOJ, HUD, EPA, DOE
Partnerships:

DOT
FTA

HUD
EPA
Partnerships: HUD, CDC

Southside Medical Center's Annual Back to School Immunization Drive

Southside Medical Center, July 31, 2010
Partnerships: FTD, DOT, EPA, DOC
Fort McPherson
Partnerships: DOA, HUD, DOC, DOT, DOI
Partnerships:
North Carolina and The Asheville Project

PROGRESS WITH THE PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
North Carolina Regional Applicants for HUD Sustainable Communities Grants (2010)

2010 Regional Applicants:
- Western North Carolina
- PART
- CONNECT Consortium
- PRISM Research Triangle
- Kerr Tar Region
- Planit EAST
- City of Wilmington

Regions Planning to Apply in 2011:
- Rocky Mount-Edgecombe-Nash
- BRAC-RTF
Common Features

- 2-3 year process to prepare a Regional Plan for Sustainable Development
- Integrating transportation, land use, housing, infrastructure plans at regional scale as never before
- Extensive outreach, engaging groups often left out
- Use of metrics and modeling to compare scenarios
- Regional governance to build consensus, promote adoption and implementation
- Managing growth to help region's economic competitiveness
Piedmont Triad

- Lead applicant: Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation (PART) - $1.6 million
- Region hit hard by transition from old economy
- ‘Sustainability Centers and Hubs' to revitalize distressed areas
- Healthy communities element
- Partners committed significant leverage
- Grassroots outreach by WSSU, UNC-G, NCA&T
WNC Livable Communities Initiative

- Lead applicant: Land of Sky Regional Council – $1.6 mil
- Builds upon existing local and regional plans/strategies and weaves them into one actionable implementation strategy
- “Double reality check“ among region’s communities
- Incorporates EDA CEDS priorities into Livability Principles
- Energy economy- a core focus
- Some funding will fill regional data/information gaps needed to create an integrated sustainability plan
DOT Tiger II Planning Grants

- **City of Asheville**
  - $850,000
  - Development of East Riverside
  - Multi-modal transportation
  - Affordable housing

- **City of Lexington**
  - $700,000
  - Multi-modal transit station
  - Passenger station and hub for bus, taxi, bicycle and pedestrian networks
North Carolina recognized for commitment of DENR, NCDOT, Commerce Secretaries – Sustainability Task Force legislation

Regions mobilized to pursue common interests, engage with state agency staff

HUD-funded agencies pledged support for Livability Principles in 2011 Consolidated Plans

Other departments looking at how their programs can align and support – Interagency Leadership Team
Keeping Momentum in NC-Regional and Local Scale

Western North Carolina
Livable Community Initiative

Asheville East of the RiverWay
Multimodal Neighborhood
Commonalities- Federal/Local Efforts

- Exploring Benefits of Collaboration
- Clarifying work areas
- Who will do what
- Strengthening the network
- Core partners act

Implementation

- Benchmarks, Outcomes, Evaluation
- Adjust, Reiterate?
Community Collaboration

What's it gonna take to improve our performance possibilities?

Regional

Working together

Federal Grant

Change of land use and urban development

Leave a Legacy

See whole system

If you had a year to live... hmmm...

Regionalism

Quality of life

Assessing

Moving together

Acting

Importing to support energy demands

Look at or for alternative

Leaders show up

Air quality

Key issues

Clean energy

Housing

Transportation

Jobs

Think globally, act locally

Communication community
The National Historic Civil Rights Trail

PROGRESS WITH THE PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
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What is the National Historic Civil Rights Trail?
The National Historic Civil Rights Trail
Old, Abandoned Gas Stations
Visioning Selma
Community Engagement Activities

Planning with Federal, State, and Local Agencies with Communities

Exchanging information

Site Tours

Partnership for Sustainable Communities

HUD, Federal Highway Administration, EPA, National Park Service, AL DOT, and City of Montgomery at Whitehall Interpretive Center
National Park Service Partnership

• **NPS Views on Selma/Montgomery Federal Partners Work.....**
  
  - Increased visibility with federal and state partners which emphasizes importance of the Historic Trail in making society more inclusive of all citizens.
  - Synergistic approach enhances ability to pool resources and address issues; resources used more effectively and efficiently.
  - Partners support small communities along Trail that still lack basic support services. Helping these communities find answers, sometimes at little or no cost, enables them to spend more time engaged in broader activities along the Trail.
Visioning is an innovative interview and visualizing technique for capturing and integrating individual and community visions. Visioning creates an open community forum designed to listen and obtain diverse individual visions with the goal of integrating these visions into a regional or community vision.
Residents wanted park improvements

AL DOT can provide sidewalks and alternative transportation support

Local architects provided drawings

Excellent examples for neighboring communities

Create Partnerships that last

Sidewalks are in place
Hayneville Visioning

Visions for Redevelopment are presented to community representatives
Collaboration and Community Engagement Gets Results


- Hayneville – AL DOT and US Army Corps of Engineers reviewing local highway and bridge needs and water supply and water treatment issues

- Selma – National Park Service and Selma jointly developing new Interpretive Center

- Sustainability Workshop in Selma will provide new ideas and technical assistance to communities
The Plan – Promoting Revitalization and Sustainability

- Conduct and prioritize inventory of abandoned USTs and other brownfields that need environmental assessment, cleanup WITH local governments and community
- Engage community and local, State, Federal and Private Partners – include all partners in “Visioning” sessions
- Identify economic development opportunities that overlap UST locations and partners WITH the community
- Address environmental issues and development issues simultaneously - identify needs and governmental (i.e., grants, etc.) resources to support WITH Federal Partners and community
- Green remediation approaches are encouraged
- Support results - Collect Feedback and Followup with partners to ensure success
Community Engagement Team in Selma
Initial Results – National Historic Civil Rights Trail

- Montgomery Improving Civil Rights Trail Gateway
- Hayneville Daycare Center Design
- Selma Marina Redevelopment
- New Partnerships addressing numerous improvements
- Transit along National Historic Civil Rights Trail
Coordination and Results

- Accelerating and expanding the cleanup and revitalization of petroleum brownfields requires:
  - Collaboration
  - New and strengthened partnerships
  - Creation of new approaches and models for the assessment, cleanup, and sustainable reuse of petroleum properties
- Involves coordination among governments at the federal, state, tribal and local levels and across tank remediation, brownfields, revitalization, and economic development programs
Questions for any presenter??