

***Note to the Coalitions*****2012 UPDATE ON THE FEDERAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES:  
PROGRAMS, FUNDING, AND NEMW GRANTEES**

In the fall of 2011, the Northeast-Midwest Institute issued a *Note to the Coalitions* on the Federal Partnership for Sustainable Communities – its history, grant programs, and Northeast-Midwest grantees. This *Note* updates information on funding or technical assistance awarded through FY2011 grants. It also details how grants and/or technical assistance are distributed through the three federal agencies involved in the Partnership.

**Background**

In June 2009, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) joined together to form the “Partnership for Sustainable Communities.” The Partnership’s goal is to fashion joint initiatives to improve access to affordable housing, provide more transportation options, and lower transportation costs while protecting the environment and enhancing economic competitiveness in communities around the country.<sup>1</sup>

Funding for the Partnership varies according to agency:

- **HUD** created an Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities in 2010, which was funded through an appropriations line-item under the Community Development Fund (“Sustainable Communities Initiative”). Its FY2010 budget outlay was \$150 million for two grant programs: the Sustainable Communities Regional Planning grant program and the Community Challenge Planning grant program. The FY2011 budget authority was \$100 million (not including 2% across-the-board cut). The FY2012 Minibus nearly eliminated funds for the Sustainable Communities Initiative, maintaining \$2.6 million to be spent on operating expenses only. Choice Neighborhoods is funded separately; it was initially a line-item under the HOPE VI (revitalization of distressed public housing) program. The Choice Neighborhoods program began in FY2010 with a budget of \$65 million and saw its funding level increase to \$120 million in FY2012.
- **DOT** does not have dedicated funding specifically for Sustainable Communities, but its budget includes programs that support Partnership principles. Some of its programs were funded through the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, such as the Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. Other funding comes from annual appropriations. In FY2010 DOT awarded about \$2.4 billion in grants that support Partnership goals. In FY2011, DOT awarded more than \$740 million to such grants. FY2012 DOT appropriations include \$500 million for a fourth round of TIGER grants. The Transportation, Community, and System Preservation (TCSP) program [recently announced](#) an estimated \$29 million available for FY2012. FY2012 funding for other DOT programs that support Partnership goals is not as clear, as the [current authorization](#) of the Federal Transit Administration’s programs only provides contract authority through March 2012.

---

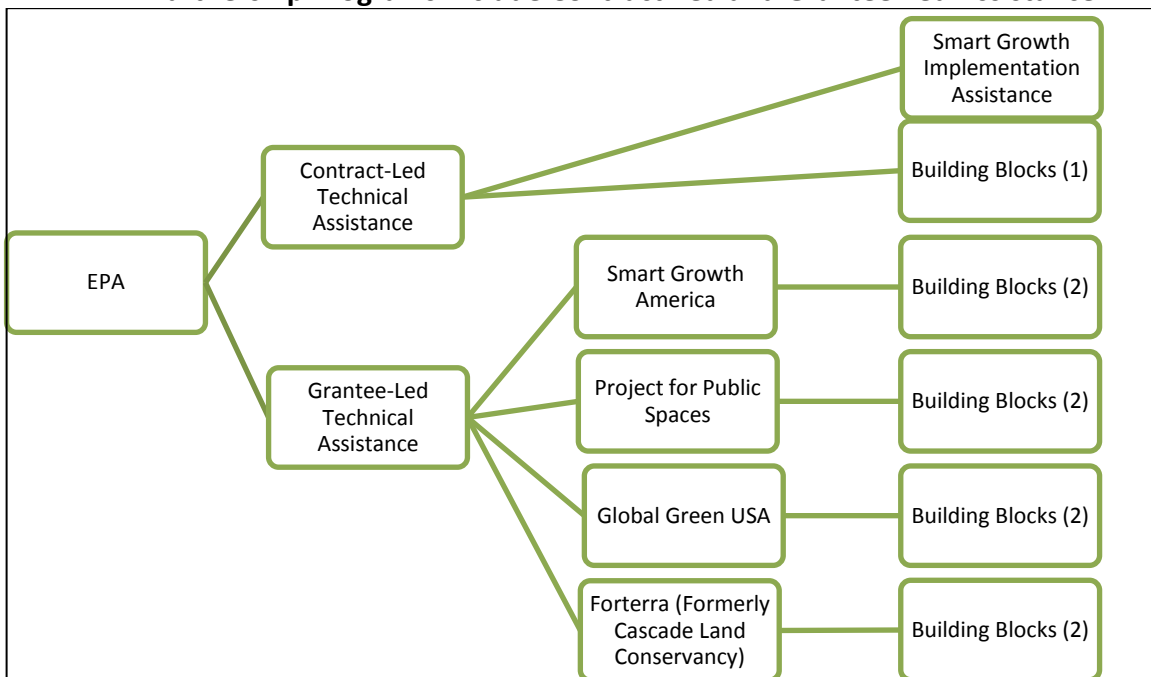
<sup>1</sup> Description of Partnership adapted from: <http://www.sustainablecommunities.gov/pdf/FactSheet.pdf> and <http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/partnership/>; a February 2012 webinar update by senior Partnership leaders is available here: <http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/2012/02/21/partnership-for-sustainable-communities-2012-briefing-materials-now-available/>

- **EPA** funds its programs through its Office of Sustainable Communities (formerly “Smart Growth Division”) via annual appropriations. It is difficult to estimate the total amount EPA spent on Partnership programs in FY2010 or FY2011 because its awards are often a blend of contract-led assistance and grants. Through contract-led assistance, EPA serves to create and improve upon existing tools from which communities can benefit. Through grants, EPA enables other organizations to take the lead in assisting a greater variety of places.

The dissemination of grants also varies according to agency:

- **HUD** and **DOT** sign grant agreements directly with the chosen applicants as a result of the discretionary grant awards.
- **EPA’s** process differs from HUD’s and DOT’s. As mentioned above, its awards include contract-led assistance and grants. For FY2011, EPA awarded contract-led technical assistance through two programs: Smart Growth Implementation Assistance and Building Blocks (1) for Sustainable Communities. EPA also awarded grants to four non-profit organizations with expertise in sustainable communities work. These organizations will then provide technical assistance (through the Building Blocks 2 program) to communities that they select (see diagram below) through a competitive process.

#### EPA Partnership Programs Include Contract-Led and Grantee-Led Assistance



## Partnership Programs and Funding Amounts 2010-11

In total, the Partnership coordinates around ten programs across agencies; although at least four of these programs predate the creation of the Partnership. Under the “Sustainable Communities Initiative” heading, these programs provide grants or assistance to various public and private entities and are targeted at a range of specific Partnership goals. The table below details 2010-11 amounts awarded through the Initiative for the region and the nation.

**Partnership Programs and Funding Amounts for 2010-11 Awards in Region and Nation<sup>2</sup>**

Program	NEMW Amount Awarded 2010	Total Amount Awarded 2010	NEMW % of Funding 2010	NEMW Amount Awarded 2011	Total Amount Awarded 2011	NEMW % of Funding 2011
HUD Regional Planning	\$41,928,550	\$98,000,000	43	\$27,460,786	\$67,160,166	41
HUD Community Challenge	\$18,756,430	\$47,953,029	39	\$13,238,209	\$28,725,562	46
HUD Choice Neighborhoods	\$51,000,000	\$122,270,000	42	\$1,401,844	\$3,600,000	39
DOT TIGER I*	\$638,125,667	\$1,498,126,016	43	--	--	--
DOT TIGER II Planning	\$13,135,559	\$27,555,397	48	--	--	--
DOT TIGER II Capital	\$193,584,085	\$556,577,591	35	--	--	--
DOT TIGER III	--	--	--	\$194,319,696	\$511,423,147	38
DOT Urban Circulator/ Bus Livability*	\$137,992,877	\$292,195,618	47	\$77,308,493	\$150,233,503	51
DOT Trans., Community, and Sys. Preservation*	\$19,985,765	\$60,758,006	33	\$24,254,719	\$56,717,500	43
DOT Alternatives Analysis	\$7,450,000	\$15,914,700 <sup>3</sup>	47	\$12,970,000	\$25,415,000	51
EPA Smart Growth Implementation Assistance*	N/A	N/A	--	N/A	N/A	--
EPA Greening America's Capitals	N/A	N/A	--	N/A	N/A	--
EPA Building Blocks – Contract-Led (1)	N/A	N/A	--	N/A	N/A	--
EPA Building Blocks – Grantee-Led (2)	--	--	--	N/A	N/A	--
EPA Sustain. Comm. Brownfields Pilot Projects	N/A	N/A	--	--	--	--
EPA Brownfields Area Wide Planning Pilot	\$1,400,000	\$4,025,000	35	--	--	--

\* Predates Partnership for Sustainable Communities

<sup>2</sup> A map of all these grants is available at: <http://www.sustainablecommunities.gov/community.html>

<sup>3</sup> Out of a total of \$24,947,988, some funds (\$9,033,288) were not allocated.

## Partnership for Sustainable Communities Initiative Grants and Grantees

This section provides details on specific Partnership for Sustainable Communities grants to entities in the Northeast-Midwest region in 2011.

### ❖ HUD Regional Planning Grants

The Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program supports metropolitan and multi-jurisdictional planning efforts that integrate housing, land use, economic and workforce development, transportation, and infrastructure investments so that jurisdictions can simultaneously consider: (1) economic competitiveness and revitalization; (2) social equity, inclusion, and access to opportunity; (3) energy use and climate change; and (4) public health and environmental impact.<sup>4</sup> Summaries of each award, announced November 2011, can be accessed through HUD's website [here](#).

#### Northeast-Midwest Region Regional Planning Grantees, FY11

Applicant	State	Amount
Baltimore Metropolitan Council	MD	\$3,503,677
Tri-County Regional Planning Commission	MI	\$3,000,000
Northwest Michigan Council of Governments	MI	\$660,000
Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Area Planning Agency (MAPA)	NE/IA	\$1,022,500*
Nashua Regional Planning Commission	NH	\$3,369,648
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey	NJ	\$5,000,000
Adirondack Gateway Council Inc	NY	\$750,000
Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority	NY	\$2,000,000
County of Erie Pennsylvania	PA	\$1,800,000
Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation	PA	\$3,400,000
State of Rhode Island	RI	\$1,934,961
Northwest Regional Planning Commission	VT	\$480,000
Two Rivers-Ottawquechee Regional Commission	VT	\$540,000
<b>NEMW Total</b>		<b>\$27,460,786</b>
<b>National Total</b>		<b>\$67,160,166</b>
<b>NEMW % of National Total</b>		<b>41%</b>

\*Estimated NEMW state's portion of multi-state grant

### ❖ HUD Community Challenge Grant

The Community Challenge Planning Grant Program aims to foster reform and reduce barriers to achieving affordable, economically vital, and sustainable communities. Such efforts may include amending or replacing local master plans, zoning codes, and building codes to promote mixed-use development, affordable housing, the reuse of older buildings and structures for new purposes, and similar activities with the goal of promoting sustainability at the local or neighborhood level. This program also supports affordable housing through

<sup>4</sup> Description taken from:

[http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/sustainable\\_housing\\_communities/sustainable\\_communities\\_regional\\_planning\\_grants](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/sustainable_housing_communities/sustainable_communities_regional_planning_grants)

inclusionary zoning ordinances and other activities to support planning implementation.<sup>5</sup> Summaries of each award, announced November 2011, can be accessed through HUD's website [here](#).

#### **Northeast-Midwest Region Community Challenge Grantees, FY11**

<b>Applicant City</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Town of Stamford	CT	\$1,105,288
Town of Mansfield	CT	\$610,596
City of Freeport	IL	\$295,419
The Village of Oak Park	IL	\$3,000,000
City of Boston	MA	\$1,865,160
City of Worcester	MA	\$930,000
Montachusett Regional Planning Authority	MA	\$129,500
County of Washtenaw	MI	\$3,000,000
City of Grand Rapids	MI	\$459,224
New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority	NH	\$1,000,000
City of Binghamton	NY	\$486,058
City of Warren	OH	\$356,964
<b>NEMW Total</b>		<b>\$13,238,209</b>
<b>National Total</b>		<b>\$28,725,562</b>
<b>NEMW % of National Total</b>		<b>46%</b>

#### **❖ HUD Choice Neighborhoods**

The Choice Neighborhoods Program aims to transform distressed neighborhoods and public and assisted projects into viable and sustainable mixed-income neighborhoods by linking housing improvements with appropriate services, schools, public assets, transportation, and access to jobs. In addition to public housing authorities, the initiative involves local governments, non-profits, and for-profit developers in undertaking comprehensive local planning with residents and the community.<sup>6</sup> Summaries of each award, announced January 2012, are available through a link on [HUD's web page](#).

#### **Northeast-Midwest Region Choice Neighborhood Grantees, FY11**

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority	Cincinnati	OH	\$201,844
Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority	Cleveland	OH	\$300,000
Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority/Ohio State University/City of Columbus/National Church Residences	Columbus	OH	\$300,000
Rockford Housing Authority	Rockford	IL	\$300,000
City of Springfield/Springfield Housing Authority	Springfield	MA	\$300,000
<b>NEMW Total</b>			<b>\$1,401,844</b>
<b>National Total</b>			<b>\$3,600,000</b>
<b>NEMW % of National Total</b>			<b>39%</b>

<sup>5</sup> Description adapted from: <http://www.sustainablecommunities.gov/grants.html>

<sup>6</sup> Description adapted from: [http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/programs/ph/cn](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/public_indian_housing/programs/ph/cn)

### ❖ DOT Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Grant: TIGER III

This is the third round of the TIGER Discretionary Grant Program. The program aims to spur a national competition for innovative road, rail, transit, and port projects that promise significant economic and environmental benefits to an entire metropolitan area, a region, or the nation. Each project is multi-modal, multi-jurisdictional, or otherwise challenging to fund through existing programs. TIGER III is funded through Division B of the Department of Defense and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011 (Pub. L. 112-010, Apr. 15, 2011).<sup>7</sup> Summaries of each award, announced December 2011, can be accessed through DOT's website [here](#).

#### Northeast-Midwest Region TIGER III Grantees, FY11

Project Name	State	Amount
Stamford Intermodal Access	CT	\$10,500,000
Chicago Blue Line Renewal & City Bike Share	IL	\$20,000,000
Alton Regional Multimodal Station	IL	\$13,850,000
IL 83 (147th Street) Reconstruction	IL	\$10,438,000
Merrimack River Bridge Rehabilitation	MA	\$10,000,000
Kennebec Bridge Replacement	ME	\$10,810,000
Smiths Creek Road & Bridge Reconstruction	MI	\$3,650,000
Minneapolis Transit Interchange Construction	MN	\$10,000,000
Northfield Multimodal Integration	MN	\$1,060,000
South Jersey Port Rail Improvements	NJ	\$18,500,000
Buffalo Main Street Revitalization	NY	\$15,000,000
Syracuse Connective Corridor	NY	\$10,000,000
Mayfield Transit Station	OH	\$12,503,200
Cincinnati Streetcar Riverfront Loop	OH	\$10,920,000
Rutherford Intermodal Facility Expansion	PA	\$15,000,000
Carrie Furnace Flyover Bridge	PA	\$10,000,000
IMPACT Philadelphia	PA	\$10,000,000
St. Albans Main Street Reconstruction	VT	\$2,088,496
<b>NEMW Total</b>		<b>\$194,319,696</b>
<b>National Total</b>		<b>\$511,423,147</b>
<b>NEMW % of National Total</b>		<b>38%</b>

### ❖ DOT Funds for Bus Livability Projects

The Bus Livability Program makes funds available to public transportation providers to finance capital projects to replace, rehabilitate, and purchase buses and related equipment and to construct bus-related facilities.<sup>8</sup> Summaries of each award, announced October 2011, can be accessed through DOT's website [here](#).

<sup>7</sup> Description taken from: <http://www.dot.gov/recovery/tiger100218.html>, <http://www.dot.gov/tiger/index.html> and <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&opId=101593>. TIGER I was funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009; TIGER II, which was divided into capital grants and planning grants, was funded through FY2010 appropriations.

<sup>8</sup> Description taken from: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&opId=101593>

**Northeast-Midwest Region Bus Livability Grantees, FY11**

<b>Recipient</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Greater Hartford Transit District	CT	\$1,692,107
City of Coralville	IA	\$4,000,000
Chicago Transit Authority	IL	\$6,000,000
Rock Island County Metropolitan Mass Transit District	IL	\$2,082,400
Springfield Mass Transit District	IL	\$866,000
Bloomington Public Transportation Corporation	IN	\$24,900
Fort Wayne Public Transportation Corporation	IN	\$152,784
Massachusetts Department of Transportation	MA	\$6,000,000
Maryland Transit Administration	MD	\$411,500
Maine Department of Transportation	ME	\$1,219,000
Maine Department of Transportation	ME	\$77,978
Ann Arbor Transportation Authority	MI	\$2,625,000
Harbor Transit/City of Grand Haven	MI	\$607,200
Mass Transportation Authority	MI	\$3,000,000
Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation	MI	\$4,995,000
Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit	MN	\$2,602,400
New Jersey Transit Corporation	NJ	\$4,662,000
Capital District Transportation Authority (CDTA)	NY	\$5,500,000
New York City Department of Transportation	NY	\$8,446,224
New York City Department of Transportation	NY	\$3,406,400
Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority (NFTA)	NY	\$3,577,600
Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority	OH	\$3,000,000
Lehigh and Northampton Transportation Authority	PA	\$4,000,000
Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA)	PA	\$5,000,000
Chittenden County Transportation Authority	VT	\$3,360,000
<b>NEMW Total</b>		<b>\$77,308,493</b>
<b>National Total</b>		<b>\$150,233,503</b>
<b>NEMW % of National Total</b>		<b>51%</b>

**❖ DOT Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Program (TCSP)**

The Transportation, Community, and System Preservation (TCSP) Program provides funding to states, metropolitan planning organizations, local governments, and tribal governments to plan and implement strategies which improve the efficiency of the transportation system: reduce environmental impacts; reduce the need for costly future public infrastructure investments; ensure efficient access to jobs, services, and centers of trade; and examine development patterns and identify strategies to encourage private sector development patterns which achieve these goals.<sup>9</sup> A full list of grantees can be found on the Highway Administration's website [here](#).

**Northeast-Midwest Region Transportation, Community, and System Preservation Grantees, FY11**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Multimodal Downtown Wayfinding System	New Haven	CT	\$391,320
Complete Street Strategy for Downtown New Britain	New Britain	CT	\$1,304,400

<sup>9</sup> Description adapted from <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tcsp/projects.html>.



<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Garasches Lane from Business US 13	Wilmington	DE	\$521,760
Oak Forest Station Facility Redevelopment	Oak Forest	IL	\$1,304,400
North Main Street Reconstruction	Troy	IL	\$163,050
State Street Resurfacing/Reconstruction Project	Calumet City	IL	\$260,880
Veterans Memorial Trail – Phase II Engineering	Homer Glen	IL	\$652,200
I-94/US 421 Economic Development Area Infrastructure Investment	Michigan City	IN	\$1,304,400
Prairie Street Grade Separation	Elkhart	IN	\$1,956,601
Loras College Parkway	Dubuque	IA	\$489,150
Modification of I-95 Exit 113	Augusta	ME	\$1,173,960
Reconnecting West Baltimore	Baltimore	MD	\$1,669,632
Pulaski Highway Revitalization Project	Baltimore	MD	\$130,440
Quincy Center Multimodal Enhancement and Preservation Project	Quincy	MA	\$978,300
Commonwealth Avenue, Phase 2	Boston	MA	\$1,000,000
Reo Town Complete Streets Project	Lansing	MI	\$326,100
Detroit Region Aerotropolis Development Corporation Transportation Planning Project	Detroit	MI	\$260,880
City of Cosmos Reconstruction Project	Cosmos	MN	\$1,956,601
US 3 Exit 36 Southbound Planning Study	Nashua	NH	\$195,660
Planning for Emerging Centers	Hackensack	NJ	\$130,440
Bloomfield Center Intersection Improvement Project	Bloomfield	NJ	\$847,860
Route 248 Sidewalk Project	Independence	NY	\$391,320
Wyandanch Intermodal Plaza and Roadway Network Construction (New York)	Babylon	NY	\$1,956,601
Warrensville/ Van Aken Intersection Reconfiguration	Cleveland	OH	\$453,804
Traffic Signal Upgrades to Improve Mobility and Safety	Philadelphia	PA	\$3,261,000
Warwick Station Transit Oriented Development Implementation Plan	Warwick	RI	\$847,860
Chittenden County Travel Demand Management (TDM) Pilot Program	Chittenden County	VT	\$326,100
<b>NEMW Total</b>			<b>\$24,254,719</b>
<b>National Total</b>			<b>\$56,717,500</b>
<b>NEMW % of National Total</b>			<b>43%</b>

### ❖ DOT Alternatives Analysis

The Alternatives Analysis program assists state and local authorities in evaluations of transportation options for broadly defined corridors. To be eligible, at least one of the alternatives under consideration must be a new fixed-guideway system or an extension of an existing fixed-guideway system.<sup>10</sup> Summaries of each award, announced October 2011, are available [here](#).

<sup>10</sup> Description adapted from: [http://www.fta.dot.gov/grants/13094\\_7395.html](http://www.fta.dot.gov/grants/13094_7395.html)



### Northeast-Midwest Region Alternatives Analysis Grantees, FY11

Recipient	City	State	Amount
City of New Haven	New Haven	CT	\$760,000
Greater Bridgeport Transit Authority	Bridgeport	CT	\$180,000
Chicago Transit Authority	Evanston	IL	\$2,000,000
Tri-County Regional Planning Commission	Peoria	IL	\$160,000
City of Indianapolis	Indianapolis	IN	\$2,000,000
Ann Arbor Transportation Authority	Ann Arbor	MI	\$1,200,000
Interurban Transit Partnership	Grand Rapids	MI	\$600,000
Southeast Michigan Council of Governments	Detroit	MI	\$2,000,000
Metropolitan Council / Metro Transit	Saint Paul	MN	\$600,000
Capital District Transportation Authority	Albany	NY	\$400,000
Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority	Buffalo	NY	\$1,200,000
Town of Babylon	Lindenhurst	NY	\$360,000
Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority	Cleveland	OH	\$1,000,000
METRO Regional Transit Authority	Akron	OH	\$270,000
Port Authority of Allegheny County	Pittsburgh	PA	\$240,000
<b>NEMW Total</b>			<b>\$12,970,000</b>
<b>National Total</b>			<b>\$25,415,000</b>
<b>NEMW % of National Total</b>			<b>51%</b>

### ❖ EPA Smart Growth Implementation Assistance (SGIA)

The SGIA program is an annual, competitive solicitation open to state, local, regional, and tribal governments that want to incorporate smart growth techniques into future development. Selected communities receive in-depth direct technical assistance from a contracted team of national experts in one of two areas: policy analysis (e.g., reviewing state and local codes, school siting guidelines, transportation policies) or public participatory processes (e.g., visioning, design workshops, alternative analysis, build-out analysis).<sup>11</sup> Instead of a direct grant, each SGIA recipient receives contractor assistance valued between \$80,000 and \$90,000. Summaries of each award, announced in March 2012, are available [here](#).

### Northeast-Midwest Region SGIA Grantees, FY11

Recipient	State
State of Vermont	VT
Madison County	NY
<b># of NEMW Recipients</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Total # of Recipients</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>NEMW % of National Total</b>	<b>40%</b>

### ❖ EPA Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Program

The Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities program seeks to provide quick, targeted technical assistance to communities using a variety of tools that have demonstrated results and widespread application. This technical assistance will help selected local and/or tribal governments to implement development approaches

<sup>11</sup> Description taken from: <http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sgia.htm>

that protect the environment, improve public health, create jobs, expand economic opportunity, and improve overall quality of life. The purposes of delivering these tools are to stimulate a discussion about growth and development, strengthen local capacity to implement sustainable communities approaches, and provide ideas on how to change local policies and procedures to make communities more economically and environmentally sustainable. As noted previously, this assistance is provided in two ways: directly from EPA (Building Blocks 1) and by four nonprofit organizations that received grants to support their own technical assistance programs (Building Blocks 2). More information on the kinds of technical assistance communities will receive is available on EPA's website [here](#).

EPA has selected 56 communities in 26 states to receive contract-led assistance in 2012. Thirty of those communities are located in the NEMW region.

#### **Northeast-Midwest Region Building Blocks 1 (Contract-Led) Grantees, FY11**

<b>Focus of Assistance</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>State</b>
Parking Audits	Simsbury	CT
Walking Audit	Lewes	DE
Smart Growth Zoning Codes for Small Cities and Rural Areas	Dallas Center	IA
Smart Growth Zoning Codes for Small Cities and Rural Areas	Van Meter	IA
Smart Growth Zoning Codes for Small Cities and Rural Areas	Woodward	IA
Green Building Toolkit	Niles	IL
Linking Land Use to Water Quality	Campton Hills	IL
Linking Land Use to Water Quality	Lakemoor	IL
Linking Land Use to Water Quality	Round Lake Heights	IL
Smart Growth Guidelines for Sustainable Design and Development	Lansing	IL
Smart Growth Guidelines for Sustainable Design and Development	Olympia Fields	IL
Smart Growth Guidelines for Sustainable Design and Development	Hazel Crest	IL
Complete Streets	Roxbury	MA
Green Streets Strategy	Northampton	MA
Parking Audits	Holyoke	MA
Using Smart Growth to Produce Fiscal and Economic Health	Fall River	MA
Green Streets Strategy	East Lansing	MI
Walking Audit	Jackson	MI
Parking Audits	Hennepin County	MN
Green Streets Strategy	Passaic County	NJ
Parking Audits	Trenton	NJ
Walking Audit	Jersey City	NJ
Complete Streets	Binghamton	NY
Smart Growth Zoning Codes for Small Cities and Rural Areas	Onondaga County	NY
Using Smart Growth to Produce Fiscal and Economic Health	Stony Point	NY
Parking Audits	Greensburg	PA
Smart Growth Zoning Codes for Small Cities and Rural Areas	Marietta	PA
Using Smart Growth to Produce Fiscal and Economic Health	Northampton County	PA
Walking Audit	Newtown Borough	PA
Complete Streets	Burlington	VT
<b># of NEMW Recipients</b>		<b>30</b>
<b>Total # of Recipients</b>		<b>56</b>
<b>NEMW % of National Total</b>		<b>54%</b>

## Northeast-Midwest Region Building Blocks 2 (Grantee-Led)

Between November 2011 and January 2012, three of the non-profit organizations given grants to support their technical assistance programs—Smart Growth America, the Project for Public Spaces, and Global Green—announced which communities will receive their assistance. The fourth organization, Forterra, is expected to announce its recipient communities later this year; Forterra will partner with three other organizations, each of which focuses on different regions/locales within the U.S.

### Northeast-Midwest Region Building Blocks 2 Grantees (Selected by Smart Growth America)

Recipient	State
City of Eastport	ME
Northern Maine Development Commission	ME
Township of Byram	NJ
City of Newark	OH
Derry Township	PA
City of Pittsburgh	PA
<b># of NEMW Recipients</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Total # of Recipients</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>NEMW % of National Total</b>	<b>40%</b>

### Northeast-Midwest Region Building Blocks 2 Grantees (Selected by Project for Public Spaces)

Recipient	City	State
University City District	Philadelphia	PA
West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission	Eau Claire	WI
Lower Eastside Action Plan	Detroit	MI
Toledo-Lucas County Sustainability Commission	Maumee	OH
<b># of NEMW Recipients</b>		<b>4</b>
<b>Total # of Recipients</b>		<b>10</b>
<b>NEMW % of National Total</b>		<b>40%</b>

### Northeast-Midwest Region Building Blocks 2 Grantees (Selected by Global Green)

Recipient City	State
Lafayette	IN
Dearborn	MI
Eden Prairie	MN
Philadelphia	PA
<b># of NEMW Recipients</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Total # of Recipients</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>NEMW % of National Total</b>	<b>50%</b>

### ❖ EPA Greening America's Capitals

The Greening America's Capitals program helps state capitals develop a plan for distinctive, environmentally friendly neighborhoods that incorporate innovative green building and green infrastructure strategies. EPA will fund a team of designers to visit each city to produce schematic designs and illustrations, as well as implementation strategies, intended to catalyze or complement a larger planning process for the pilot neighborhood.<sup>12</sup> This program assists three to five communities per year. In 2010, two out of five selected cities were from the Northeast-Midwest region; ***no NEMW cities were chosen in 2011.*** Summaries of the awards can be accessed through EPA's website [here](#).

### ❖ EPA Sustainable Communities Brownfields Pilot Projects

The Sustainable Communities Brownfield Pilot Program provides direct technical assistance from EPA to: plan for the eventual assessment, cleanup, and sustainable redevelopment of brownfield sites and associated long term quality of life improvements; plan for area-wide brownfield redevelopment; and provide expert environmental and economic analysis. Other potential areas of technical assistance from EPA include: addressing community needs such as affordable housing creation and preservation; access to transit, air, and water quality improvements; access to fresh, local food; energy efficiency improvements; renewable energy strategies; and access to green space for recreation. HUD and DOT officials serve on the technical assistance teams in order to help identify how these pilots can complement and build on past and future investments, as well as identify opportunities to bring relevant resources from their agencies as the pilots progress.<sup>13</sup> Three out of the five projects selected in February of 2010 were from the NEMW region; summaries of each award can be accessed through EPA's website [here](#). ***This program did not continue in 2011.***

### ❖ EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Initiative

The purpose of this initiative is to facilitate community involvement in developing an area-wide plan for brownfields assessment, cleanup, and subsequent reuse. The pilot program will help further community-based partnership efforts within underserved or economically disadvantaged neighborhoods by confronting local environmental and public health challenges related to brownfields, while creating a planning framework to advance economic development and job creation. Each recipient receives up to approximately \$175,000 in grant funding and/or direct technical assistance from the Agency.<sup>14</sup> Summaries of each 2010 award can be accessed through links on EPA's website [here](#). ***This program did not continue in 2011, but a 2012 solicitation is expected in spring 2012.***

## Conclusion

Much of the national program activity coordinated by the Partnership for Sustainable Communities in 2010 and 2011 occurred in the Northeast-Midwest region. In considering Partnership program activity for which award amounts are available for FY2011, Northeast-Midwest grantees received approximately 42% of the total. In the case of a few programs, half of the national funds distributed went to the NEMW region. The

---

<sup>12</sup> Description taken from: <http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/greencapitals.htm>

<sup>13</sup> Description adapted from: [http://epa.gov/brownfields/sustain\\_plts/factsheets/scbpb\\_fs\\_web\\_final.pdf](http://epa.gov/brownfields/sustain_plts/factsheets/scbpb_fs_web_final.pdf)

<sup>14</sup> Description adapted from: [http://epa.gov/brownfields/areawide\\_grants.htm](http://epa.gov/brownfields/areawide_grants.htm)

total amount appropriated to NEMW regional projects for these programs so far (FY2010-11) is at least \$1.5 billion. If the programs also deliver their intended benefits to the recipient communities, their value to the region would go well beyond this dollar amount. Assessment and quantification of these direct and indirect benefits should be initiated now on a grant-by-grant basis to help determine program effectiveness over time.

---

Prepared by Colleen Cain, PhD, Northeast-Midwest Institute ([ccain@nemw.org](mailto:ccain@nemw.org))

Special thanks to staff at DOT, EPA, and HUD for their assistance.