



## **TODAY'S CALL TOPIC**

### **HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grants**

#### **Speaker:**



**Andrew Seth**  
*Executive Director*  
Climate Communities



#### **Stay Connected with Climate Communities**

Beginning August 4, Climate Communities' weekly training webinars will be limited to **members only**.

Contact Andrew Seth at [andy@climatecommunities.us](mailto:andy@climatecommunities.us) for membership details.

**June 30, 2011**

**For more information: [www.climatecommunities.us](http://www.climatecommunities.us)**

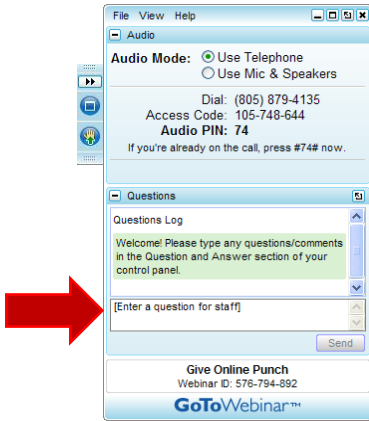


## **Upcoming Webinars**

- July 7:** Toledo, OH Port Authority on Establishing an Effective RLF
- July 14:** St. Louis, MO on utilizing QECBs for Residential Retrofits
- July 21:** Enabling Feed-in Tariffs in Your Community
- July 28:** Fort Worth, TX on Utilizing Performance Contracting to Reduce Energy Consumption and Save Money



## Asking questions



At any point during the presentation, you can type your question into the question text box and click send. All questions will be read aloud and answered at the end of the presentations, as long as time permits.



## Background

### Partnership for Sustainable Communities

- HUD-DOT-EPA partnership launched in 2009 to help communities integrate housing, transportation, development, environmental sustainability strategies
- Guided by six Livability Principles
  - 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
- HUD's primary involvement is through Sustainable Communities Initiative – Regional Planning and Community Challenge Grants





## Background

### FY 2010 HUD Regional Planning Competition

- \$98 million available
- 244 applications received
- 45 grants awarded
- 29 other regions received Preferred Sustainability Status (2 bonus points on future application)



### FY 2011 HUD Regional Planning Competition

- Advance Notice released on June 21
- \$67 million available
- \$17.5 million reserved for regions with populations under 500,000
- Regions awarded grants in FY 2010 are not eligible for FY 2011



## Program Goals

### Overarching Goals

- Support metropolitan and multijurisdictional planning efforts that integrate housing, land use, economic and workforce development, transportation and infrastructure investments.
- Enhance regional economic competitiveness, social equity, energy efficiency, public health and environmental sustainability.
- Create partnerships, including nontraditional partnerships (e.g. arts and culture, recreation, public health, food systems, regional planning agencies and public education agencies)





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## Program Applicants

### Consortium

- Applicants must form a consortium that must, at a minimum, have the following members:
  - If in Metropolitan or Micropolitan Statistical Area, the principal city of region (or largest city);
  - Sufficient local government partners to account for more than 50% of population within region;
  - MPO or equivalent (RPO, COG, etc.); and
  - At least one nonprofit, foundation or educational institution that has the ability to engage public and coordinate between partners.
- Must be organized through a MOU or other commitment



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## Cost Share

- 20 percent cost share requirement
  - Cash
  - Verified in-kind contributions
    - Staff time
    - Donated materials
    - Services
- Federal funding is generally not allowed as a match



## Categories

### Category One – Regional Plans for Sustainable Development

- For regions interested in sustainable planning, but without integrated plans already created.
- Funding to prepare regional plans that integrate various strategies, including stakeholder meetings, visioning sessions and development of final plan.

### Category Two – Detailed Execution Plans and Programs

- For regions that already have sophisticated regional plans and need to move on to implementation.
- Funding to develop detailed execution plans for plan's activities, including specific plans for a catalytic project.
- Note: Still planning funding, cannot be used for actual implementation (infrastructure, construction, etc.)



## Population Constraints

Type of Applicant	Population Range	Grant Amount
Large Metropolitan Regions	500,000 or more within the proposed geographic area.	Minimum grant of \$1,000,000 Maximum grant of \$5,000,000
Medium-Sized Regions	Between 200,000 and 499,999 within the proposed geographic area.	Minimum grant of \$600,000 Maximum grant of 3,000,000
Small-Sized Regions, Rural Communities, and Small Town Areas	Less than 200,000 within the proposed geographic area.	Minimum grant of \$400,000 Maximum grant of \$1,500,000



## Eligible Activities

1. Establish coordinated intergovernmental planning and secure agreements
2. Develop a comprehensive Regional Plan for Sustainable Development
3. Identify immediate and long-term policies
4. Align infrastructure investment to ensure equitable land use planning
5. Ensure public decision-making and meaningful resident participation
6. Identify measures to track the progress toward creating sustainable communities
7. Strengthen management and decision-making capacities
8. Engage in site-specific planning and design of capital projects and programs (Category 2 only)
9. Preparation of administrative and regulatory measures
10. Technical planning studies



## Rating Factors

1. Capacity of the Applicant and Relevant Organizational Experience (15 points)
2. Needs/Extent of the Problem (10 points)
3. Soundness of Approach (50 points)
  - a. Work plan with specific measurable and time-phased objectives for each activity
4. Match, Leveraging Resources and Program Integration (7 points)
5. Achieving Results and Program Evaluation (18 points)

### Bonus:

- Preferred Sustainability Status (2 points)
- RC/EZ/EC-II (2 points)



## Potential Models

### Houston Gulf Coast, TX Region

- **Awarded:** \$3.75 million for Category 1 Grant
- **Project Team:** (24 organizations) City of Houston, City of Galveston, City of Huntsville, Port of Houston Authority, Montgomery County, Harris County, Fort Bend County, Brazoria County, Chambers County, Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, Blueprint Houston and Center for Houston's Future, Bay City Community Development Corporation, Bolivar Blueprint/Peninsula Development Coalition, Inc., Greater Houston Builders Association, Gulf Coast Economic Development District, Houston Advanced Research Center, Houston-Galveston Area Council, Houston Tomorrow, Houston Wilderness, Local Initiatives Support Corporation, Neighborhood Centers, Inc., Texas Southern University, United Way of Greater Houston, Waller County Economic Development
- **Project:** Convene stakeholder advisory groups, conduct significant public engagement including a public visioning exercise. Recommendations will be provided to a council of elected officials, who will work to translate them into regional governmental policy.



## Potential Models

### Sacramento, CA Region

- **Awarded:** \$1.5 million for Category 2 Grant
- **Project Team:** Sacramento Council of Governments (lead), Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency, Regional Water Authority, UC-Davis Center for Regional Change, Urban Land Institute, Valley Vision (regional nonprofit), McKinley Group
- **Background:** Had already established MTP2035 regional transportation plan and a Sustainable Communities Strategy.
- **Project:**
  - Identify Transit Priority Areas (TPAs) and develop specific plans to increase opportunity for new housing and employment in TPAs
  - Improve integration of housing and transportation components in regional plans
  - Integrate natural resources planning with Sustainable Community Strategy



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## How to Begin Preparing

### Principal City

- Begin reaching out to key partners and forming a consortium around project elements (housing, transportation, development).

### Other Units of Local Government

- Check HUD list of last year's applicants to determine if your region submitted an application. List available here: <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=OSHCY10RegAppllist.pdf>
- If your region has applied, contact the primary organization to discuss how your locality can participate in this year's application.
- If your region has not applied, contact area MPO, principal city planning office and/or other regional organizations to determine their interest in applying.



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## Next Steps?

- Begin assembling consortia, including developing firm agreements among partners.
- Prepare to submit pre-application (deadline unknown, but will be due 30-45 days before final application)
  - Map of project geography
  - Narrative summary of project including total funding that will be requested
  - Declaration of population size
  - List of core consortium partners (do not need firm commitment or MOU for pre-application)
  - If applying for Category 2, including a copy of the existing regional plan that will be the basis of the proposed work.
- Watch for final NOFA to be released (can sign up for alerts at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov))

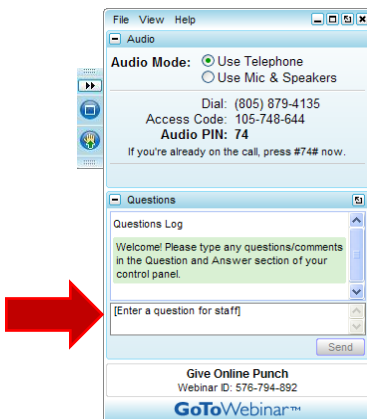


## Tips

- Partnerships
  - Approach non-traditional partners – universities, arts and culture organizations, public health agencies, recreational associations, etc.
  - Determine if you have an RC/EZ/EC within your region for bonus points
  - Invite your state to participate
  - Include Public Housing Authorities as partners
- Grant-writing
  - Absorb the six Livability Principles
  - Articulate long-term vision, with clear short-term goals
  - Consider the reviewing audience – HUD, DOT & EPA
  - Organize proposal on HUD's rating criteria
  - Be expansive in areas with high points, and concise in areas with low points
- Political support
  - Get Congressional offices, governor and local government officials engaged



## Asking questions



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# Questions?

**Advance Notice Available:**

[http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=AdvNotOSHC\\_RegPlnGrant.pdf](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=AdvNotOSHC_RegPlnGrant.pdf)