



NATIONAL AWARD FOR

Smart Growth

ACHIEVEMENT

2003



## ↻ A MESSAGE FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR ↻



Congratulations to the winners of EPA's National Award for Smart Growth Achievement! This is EPA's second year recognizing the nation's premier examples of smart growth, and we are excited by the response and quality of the applications submitted.

Smart growth is an important tool to help our communities grow in ways that keep the air and water clean, preserve open spaces and natural resources, and provide housing and transportation choices for our citizens. This year's award winners serve as models for other communities, and they are evidence of the innovation driving smart growth. They also show the potential for state and local actions that support environmental quality, foster economic opportunity, and improve quality of life.

Smart growth is rooted in partnerships. At EPA, we work closely with states and tribes, local and regional governments, and members of development, historic preservation, finance, and real estate organizations to address the opportunities for more environmentally responsible development. Through these partnerships, we can make our programs and policies more supportive of smart growth, while also providing tools, information, and technical support to assist communities directly.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's competition. The competition attracted an impressive array of applications. Through their combination of ingenuity and effectiveness, this year's winners exemplify what is best about smart growth. They demonstrate that smart growth can create a future that strengthens communities, supports economic growth, and protects the environment.



Marianne L. Horinko  
Acting EPA Administrator

**S**mart growth techniques can improve air and water quality, preserve wetlands, protect critical open space, and spur redevelopment of brownfield sites. While all development affects the environment, the following examples show that strategic consideration of how and where growth occurs can minimize impacts.

- ❖ A study in South Carolina found that a low-density development scenario consumed eight times more open space, and generated 43 percent more runoff, four times more sediment, almost four times as much nitrogen, and three times the phosphorous as compared to more compact, town-centered development.<sup>1</sup>
- ❖ In a 2001 study conducted by George Washington University, researchers found that for every acre of brownfield redeveloped, a minimum of 4.5 acres in a greenfield area is saved.<sup>2</sup>
- ❖ A study in Orlando, Florida discovered that in contrast with low-density growth patterns, more concentrated development would result in a loss of 20 percent fewer acres of wetlands and floodplains.<sup>3</sup>

- ❖ In a comparison between San Francisco residents and households in Danville-San Ramon where residents have fewer transportation choices, the average household burnt 339 fewer gallons of gasoline, and emitted 14 kg fewer hydrocarbons, 12 kg fewer nitrogen oxides, and 98 kg fewer carbon monoxide per year.<sup>4</sup> The higher densities and greater mix of commercial, residential, and employment uses in San Francisco fostered more trips by walking, cycling, and transit.

Smart growth practices like redeveloping brownfields; creating compact, walkable neighborhoods; providing transportation choices; preserving environmentally sensitive areas; mixing residential, office, and retail amenities; and taking advantage of existing infrastructure can lessen the environmental impacts of development. Well-conceived smart growth policies and programs that promote these practices can yield substantial environmental benefits and boost the quality of life in our communities.

For more information about the environmental benefits of smart growth, please see: [www.epa.gov/smartgrowth](http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth).

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<sup>1</sup> South Carolina Coastal Conservation League, EPA, NOAA, SC Department of Health and Environment; Town of Mount Pleasant. *The Belle Hall Study: Sprawl vs. Traditional Town: Environmental Implications*. Dover, Kohl, and Partners, South Miami, FL. 1995.

<sup>2</sup> George Washington University. "Public Policies and Private Decisions Affecting the Redevelopment of Brownfields: An Analysis of Critical Factors, Relative Weights and Areal Differentials." September 2001.

<sup>3</sup> Orlando, Florida. Urban Area Growth Management Plan. 1991.

<sup>4</sup> The savings result from the increased convenience of higher density mixed use areas. Holtzclaw, J. "Explaining Urban Density and Transit Impacts on Auto Use." January 1991.



❖ NATIONAL AWARD FOR SMART GROWTH ACHIEVEMENT WINNERS ❖

❖ OVERALL EXCELLENCE IN SMART GROWTH ❖

Metropolitan Council  
Minneapolis-St.Paul Metropolitan Area, Minnesota  
**Livable Communities Program**

Department of the Navy–Southwest Division  
Naval Facilities Engineering Command  
San Diego, California  
**The Village at NTC**

Cuyahoga County Treasurer’s Office  
Cuyahoga County, Ohio  
**Housing Enhancement Loan Program**

Georgia Department of Community Affairs–  
Office of Quality Growth  
State of Georgia  
**Georgia Quality Growth Program**

❖ PUBLIC SCHOOLS ❖

Wake County Public School System/City of Raleigh  
Raleigh, North Carolina  
**Moore Square Museums Magnet Middle School**





## ↻ ABOUT THE AWARD ↻

The National Award for Smart Growth Achievement was created by EPA in 2002 and is sponsored by EPA's Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation. The 2003 call for entries resulted in 112 applications from 31 states and the District of Columbia.

Each award recipient has incorporated the principles of smart growth to create places that respect community culture and the environment, foster economic development, and enhance quality of life. The winning entries were selected based on their replicability and effectiveness in advancing smart growth and also reflect community participation and partnerships.

This year, a new, rotating fifth category was created to highlight smart growth innovations in a specific area. The Public Schools category demonstrates how K – 12 schools can adopt

smart growth approaches and meet the educational needs of students. In particular, these schools are integrated into existing neighborhoods, create centers of community, and provide transportation options for schoolchildren. Future years will focus on other topics to capture the breadth of outstanding smart growth activity.

The award recipients were chosen through a multi-step process. Advice on the entries was provided by a panel of external experts representing a broad range of constituencies with interest and expertise in the built environment and smart growth. An internal EPA review panel then provided additional comments on the entries. EPA's Associate Administrator for Policy, Economics and Innovation made the final award determinations.

### The principles of smart growth include:

1. Mix land uses.
2. Take advantage of compact building design.
3. Create housing opportunities and choices for a range of household types, family sizes and incomes.
4. Create walkable neighborhoods.
5. Foster distinctive, attractive communities with a strong sense of place.
6. Preserve open space, farmland, natural beauty, and critical environmental areas.
7. Reinvest in and strengthen existing communities and achieve more balanced regional development.
8. Provide a variety of transportation choices.
9. Make development decisions predictable, fair and cost-effective.
10. Encourage citizen and stakeholder participation in development decisions.



## CELLENCE IN SMART GROWTH

### Livable Communities Program

#### Metropolitan Council

Minneapolis-St. Paul  
Metropolitan Area, Minnesota

Funds provided by the Livable Communities Act (LCA) are used by communities in the Minneapolis-St. Paul region to put the principles of smart growth into practice. The LCA provides financial and technical support to public entities and their private sector partners to redevelop urban brownfield sites, produce lifecycle and affordable housing, and create or revitalize town centers and neighborhoods.

Consistently ranked among the top locations in the country to raise a family or establish a business, the Minneapolis-St. Paul region is experiencing rapid population growth. The metropolitan area is showing signs of growth-related stress: increasing traffic congestion, rising housing prices, and dwindling open space. Instead of trying to limit growth, the Minnesota State Legislature provided the Metropolitan Council with a voluntary, incentive-based approach to help communities grow in a way that addresses a variety of the region's issues. In 1995, the legislature passed the Livable Communities Act (LCA) to get innovative projects off the ground.

**The LCA underwrites three distinct grant programs:** Tax Base Revitalization (brownfield cleanup), Local Housing Incentives (lifecycle and affordable housing), and the Livable Communities Demonstration Account (mixed use projects). Supported by a metro area property tax authorized by the legislature, the LCA uses a straightforward grant application, with well-established selection criteria guiding the evaluation process. To be eligible for funding from any of the three grant programs, municipalities must first choose to develop a housing action plan that addresses affordable housing needs and provides a variety of housing types.

From 1996 to May 2003, **the Council awarded LCA 292 grants totaling nearly \$100 million.** The grants are expected to leverage more than \$3.3 billion in private and other public investments. LCA funding has helped create an anticipated **7,260 new or rehabilitated housing units, 1,911 new or rehabilitated rental units, 11,400 new or retained jobs, and 940 acres of reclaimed polluted land.**

**The voluntary program has engaged 106 communities in the seven-county metropolitan area.** Annual requests for grants consistently exceed the funds available. The range of funded projects reflects the diverse urban, suburban, and rural communities in the region. In Hastings, a mid-sized town south of St. Paul, the Guardian Angels project used LCA funds to construct affordable apartments and to redevelop a church and school into a community center. An award to St. Louis Park, a first-ring suburb of Minneapolis, created a walkable town center with ten new buildings and 660 housing units along an aging commercial corridor.



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## ↻ OVERALL EXCELLENCE IN SMART GROWTH • Livable Communities Program ↻



LCA funding helped to transform segments of Excelsior Boulevard (before, left) into a vibrant, mixed use corridor in St. Louis Park, a first ring suburb of Minneapolis. The Excelsior and Grand project (after, below) adds almost 350 residential units and 160,000 square feet of retail to the area.



*The projects funded by LCA showcase urban, suburban, and rural implementation of the smart growth principles.*

The Guardian Angels development, located in the traditional downtown of Hastings, used LCA funding to construct affordable townhomes and apartments, a domestic abuse shelter, and redevelop a church, rectory, and school into a community center.

“In these few years, I have seen a tremendous surge of innovation and creativity in the planning and construction of redevelopment projects and housing developments across the region. The Livable Communities programs have leveraged ‘hard cost,’ in-the-ground investments in our cities amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars.”

Karen J. Anderson  
Mayor, City of Minnetonka and  
past president National League of Cities





## T PROJECTS

### The Village at NTC

Department of the Navy–  
Southwest Division Naval  
Facilities Engineering Command  
San Diego, California

The Village at the Naval Training Center (NTC) brings attractive, affordable housing to military families through an innovative public-private partnership. The traditional neighborhood design creates a place where families can live and play and have easy access to employment and shopping.



#### For More Information

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**R**e-using former military bases and addressing the lack of decent and affordable military housing are concerns that many cities and the Armed Forces face. At the San Diego Naval Training Center, the Department of the Navy addressed these issues in a development that serves as a welcome addition to the nearby Point Loma community. **In partnership with private developers, financiers, and property management teams, the Navy built a new neighborhood of high quality, affordable military housing on the former base.**

The Village at NTC redevelops a 50-acre parcel of the historic naval training facility and is part of a much larger city-led Base Reuse Plan. Designed using principles of New Urbanism and extensive public involvement, the Village contains 500 affordable housing units, a seven-acre site for a future elementary school, a community center, recreational space, and embraces the Navy Exchange as an existing corner grocery store. **With well-designed public spaces, pedestrian-friendly streetscapes, and regional architectural styles, the Village integrates smoothly with the existing residential and commercial context of the historic city.**

Implementation of smart growth principles can be seen throughout the Village. Not only is it located within three miles of downtown on an underutilized urban site, but it is connected seamlessly into the existing urban fabric, and provides access to alternative transportation options and a public school site. Following traditional neighborhood design, automobile access to the housing is from rear alleys, leaving the building fronts available for features such as porches and landscaping.

Through the public/private partnership, the Village at NTC has provided quality, affordable housing units for military families based in San Diego. The Village has been highlighted in Navy publications as a high quality, pedestrian friendly, traditional neighborhood design for military family housing. Two additional sister neighborhoods based on the design of the Village are planned for other redevelopment sites in San Diego. **The Village at NTC acts as a model of design and process for the redevelopment of military family housing**—making these attractive military neighborhoods a welcome addition to existing communities.



↻ BUILT PROJECTS • The Village at NTC ↻

“My wife is going to reenlist if we can stay here.”

Kyle Williams, Resident  
The Village at NTC



*The Village at NTC has been used as a model for redevelopment of military housing throughout the country.*



The Village at NTC offers a range of housing types, while seamlessly connecting to the adjacent neighborhood.

## Housing Enhancement Loan Program

Cuyahoga County  
Treasurer's Office  
Cuyahoga County, Ohio

The Cuyahoga County Treasurer's Office—working with private banks and local municipalities—has helped finance more than 4,700 home improvement loans worth over \$57 million, stemming out-migration, helping residents stay in their homes, and strengthening compact, diverse and livable neighborhoods, for less than \$1 million per year.

### For More Information

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The Cuyahoga County Treasurer's Office, under the leadership of County Treasurer Jim Rokakis, created the Housing Enhancement Loan Program (HELP), an innovative program to improve quality of life and keep thousands of families in older Cleveland neighborhoods and its inner-ring suburbs.

HELP encourages property owners in 33 targeted communities to make improvements to their homes, making these communities more competitive with newer, outlying areas. **Under HELP, six participating banks make home improvement loans directly to property owners at three percentage points below market rate.** The Treasurer's Office then purchases certificates of deposit at those banks for a matching amount, accepting a return three percentage points below market rate. Loans can be applied to maintenance, remodeling, landscaping, or room additions. All homes valued at up to \$250,000 are eligible, as are all multi-family rental properties over three units. There are no income restrictions.

Since beginning in 1999, **HELP has generated over 4,700 loans totaling more than \$57 million, with an average five-year loan of \$12,000.** In a survey of borrowers, over 60 percent of respondents said they would not have made the investment in their property without HELP. These improvements have attracted new residents, boosted property values, and stabilized the tax base and local school districts. Cities have even noted a "halo effect"—neighbors of HELP loan recipients have made home improvements without county assistance.

The program has had a great impact at a lower cost than anticipated. The County was willing to invest \$1.2 million in foregone interest annually on HELP, but the annual interest foregone has never exceeded \$900,000. The leveraging is powerful—**a \$10,000 loan only "costs" the County \$300 in foregone interest the first year, and even less in subsequent years.** HELP has persuaded both Franklin County (Columbus) and Hamilton County (Cincinnati) to enact similar programs, and the State Treasurer changed Ohio law to make matching funds available to counties with eligible programs.



## ❖ POLICIES AND REGULATIONS • Housing Enhancement Loan Program ❖



“The loan came at a very good time for us. Our family’s funds were low. I was very satisfied with the HELP loan, and we will be staying in this house longer as a result of the loan.”

Edward Caraszi  
Homeowner  
Berea

*Even in the absence of an overall smart growth policy, state and local governments with an investment portfolio and willing lending partners could replicate the Housing Enhancement Loan Program.*



The owners of these four houses on Maywood Road in South Euclid have used HELP loans to renovate their homes. The overall effect is to stabilize the neighborhoods and increase property values.



## Georgia Quality Growth Program

Georgia Department of  
Community Affairs—  
Office of Quality Growth  
State of Georgia

The Georgia Office of Quality Growth provides a full menu of resources to communities looking for better ways to grow. Rather than regulating, the state fosters exchanges of local success stories, provides model ordinances, and sends resource teams to communities that request assistance.

### For More Information

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**M**ore informed communities make more informed decisions about how and where they want to grow. Since 2000, the Office of Quality Growth (OQG) in the Department of Community Affairs has helped communities implement smart growth principles. Their approach? 1) **Focusing assistance efforts on the communities that are ready for implementation of smart growth;** and 2) **Educating communities about smart growth success stories in Georgia** to foster peer-to-peer interaction and support among local officials.

**OQG offers impressive services to Georgia communities**, including a Web-based toolkit of ways to put smart growth principles into practice at the local level (e.g., improving strip commercial corridors, creating infill development, preserving open space), model ordinances, a clearinghouse of Georgia examples of quality growth projects, on-site visits by Resource Teams, and direct technical assistance. OQG partners with over 40 organizations through the Georgia Quality Growth Partnership to provide many of these services.

**Several new programs are being piloted by OQG:** 1) Advisory Clinics, which are expert panels made available at major in-state conferences for one-on-one consultation and advice about local smart growth projects; 2) Special Issue Retreats with key local officials for hands-on work with a recognized expert in a particular approach; 3) Quality Growth Assessments that provide a comprehensive review of a local government's regulations, plans, policies, and development patterns to identify barriers to implementation of smart growth; and 4) Consultants' Bureau, in which professional facilitators lead local planning and visioning meetings while bringing smart growth principles into the discussion.

Many communities follow up by applying for grants to implement the ideas put forward by OQG experts. **To date, OQG has provided \$350,000 in grants to 27 communities.** Grants have included new projects, such as a detailed master plan for a South Rome neighborhood and infill design guidelines and development regulations for Dalton, both of which resulted from Resource Team recommendations. Other projects have included corridor studies, demonstration projects, ordinance development, and review of regulatory barriers to smart growth.



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EDUCATION • Georgia Quality Growth Program



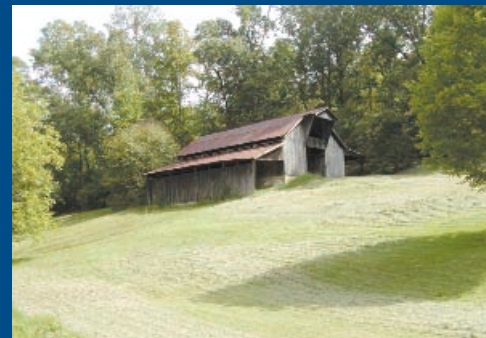
Dublin Resource Team members Caleb Racicot and Dr. Richard Laub work on a downtown revitalization plan and historic preservation recommendations in July 2001. The team made several recommendations on revitalization of downtown and intown neighborhoods.



*The Office of Quality Growth's success stems from the recognition that each state—and each community within the state—has unique conditions and issues, which can be best addressed by local solutions that use the principles of smart growth.*

“Without the help we got from the Office of Quality Growth, we might still be struggling with how to develop housing close to the workplace that our workers can afford to purchase. But now, we are working on an infill program in Dalton, and Whitfield County is looking at Traditional Neighborhood Developments and Planned Unit Developments, which were recommended by the Resource Team.”

Butch Sanders, Dalton City Administrator



OQG worked with Whitfield County and Murray County in North Georgia to retain the historic character along the Cohutta-Chattahoochee Scenic Byway.

## Moore Square Museums Magnet Middle School

Wake County Public School  
System/City of Raleigh  
Raleigh, North Carolina

The Moore Square Museums Magnet Middle School is situated in the heart of Raleigh's cultural and arts district, providing students with a unique educational opportunity that draws on downtown cultural institutions. The new school is a source of pride and an important resource for the community. Within walking distance to diverse neighborhoods, it has helped strengthen and revitalize the surrounding area.



### For More Information

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For some time, there has been a national trend toward constructing big schools and requiring large sites. Increasingly, however, communities are realizing that large, new campuses may have adverse consequences for a neighborhood's quality of life. In response, citizens, parents, and school administrators are calling for schools that fit the needs of individual communities. These individuals recognize that schools do more than house children for the day. They affect home-buying decisions and traffic patterns. They present opportunities to create neighborhood centers for education and civic life. The Moore Square Museums Magnet Middle School exemplifies this approach to school siting.

**The Moore Square Museums Magnet Middle School is a new facility on a four-acre city block** on the east side of downtown Raleigh. The school is located in the larger Downtown East Residential Redevelopment Area—an area targeted for housing and community development. The site was assembled by removing several blighted and vacant structures. Despite the relatively small lot size, students have access to a full sized gymnasium and two playing fields that are used for daily physical education classes as well as intramural sports.

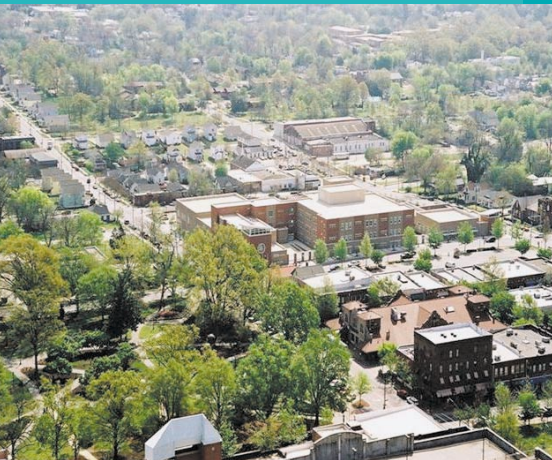
**The school is drawing new residents and other redevelopment to the area, helping to stabilize the community.** The school accommodates 492 students in grades six through eight, many of whom applied specifically to attend the school. Its downtown location provides a setting that allows students to explore the cultural venues of the city. The school's partnerships with several museums and arts facilities enrich the curriculum with unique learning opportunities. Traditional downtown uses, including business, residential, and religious, also add to the stimulating learning environment. Situated only one block away from the school, Capital Area Transit system's bus center extends access to the school beyond adjacent neighborhoods, creating a socially and economically diverse student body. **The school's location also allows students to get plenty of exercise as they walk to local museums as part of their daily routines.**

The Moore Square Museums Magnet Middle School has generated substantial community support for increasing downtown investment, expanding residential opportunities within the city, and concentrating sensitive development within areas of existing infrastructure and service provision.



## ❖ PUBLIC SCHOOLS • Moore Square Museums Magnet Middle School ❖

“Because our campus is located in the heart of downtown Raleigh, we are ideally situated to realize our goal—joining with museums and cultural organizations to enhance learning. Students, teachers, and parent volunteers can walk to many museums, and museum staff can readily visit our campus to lead student projects. The convenience of the museum resources is an essential component of our identity.”



This aerial view shows the four-acre Moore Square campus surrounded by neighborhood streets and single-family homes, and adjacent to a park.

Cathy D. Bradley, Principal  
Moore Square Museums  
Magnet Middle School



The entrance of Moore Square Middle School is located at an intersection, providing convenient access by foot for students and teachers.

## OVERALL EXCELLENCE IN SMART GROWTH

Arlington County, Virginia

### Rosslyn-Ballston Metro Corridor

For Arlington County, one challenge in implementing a successful smart growth program has been creating and retaining affordable housing. In 2003, they worked with EPA to commission case studies of affordable housing policies in comparable jurisdictions. The report included an overview of Arlington County's program, as well as case studies from Berkeley, CA; Montgomery County, MD; Cambridge, MA; Seattle, WA; and Vancouver, BC. The County will use the report to learn about affordable housing policies of other communities and consider incorporating aspects of effective programs into its own program design.

## POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County, California

### Transit-Oriented Development Incentive Program

In the past year, construction began on another project that will receive funding through the San Mateo TOD Incentive Program: the Colma BART Apartments. This project will receive \$300,000 and will result in 144 units built at a density of 72 units per acre. The Franklin Street project is now 90 percent completed. Given the success of the TOD incentives, C/CAG is currently considering a similar program to encourage creating jobs near transit. Eligible projects would have to provide commuter benefits such as transit passes and parking cash out programs. EPA has helped C/CAG develop a Web site to provide information about its programs.

## BUILT PROJECTS

Town of Breckenridge Planning Department

Colorado

### Wellington Neighborhood

Breckenridge continues to refine its urban design and planning policies to reflect the town's values and vision. Among other progressive efforts, the town is considering creating criteria for public investments to ensure that new infrastructure and facilities maintain and improve the quality of life. The town is also planning a multi-modal, mixed-use transportation hub that will help visitors get around without cars and reach the ski slopes from downtown using a gondola. EPA will assist Breckenridge in a study of other towns that have adopted codes or incentive programs that encourage smart growth and sustainable development.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

### Community Preservation Initiative

EPA helped Massachusetts convene a June 2003 workshop which formally introduced Governor Mitt Romney's Sustainable Development Principles—an important step in the process of creating a sustainable development agenda for the commonwealth. Governor Romney and Commonwealth Development Secretary Douglas Foy outlined growth trends and the need to change development patterns. Managers from the Commonwealth Development agencies—Environment, Energy, Housing, and Transportation—discussed sustainable development and proposed ways to implement the Sustainable Development Principles. Based on information gathered at the workshop, teams in each agency are now working to create Action Plans that will form the basis of a Sustainable Development Blueprint for the Commonwealth.

## ❖ 2002 WINNER UPDATES ❖



Development in Arlington County's Rosslyn-Ballston corridor.

“We really appreciated receiving the EPA’s Smart Growth Award. Not only because of the attention it focused on Arlington, but because EPA has helped us to explore ways of maintaining housing affordability in our transit corridors.”

Chris Zimmerman  
Arlington County Board Member

“The EPA Smart Growth Achievement Award helped focus attention on the important growth issues Massachusetts faces. EPA’s assistance in convening a meeting of key state managers from environmental, transportation, housing and energy agencies has enhanced our team approach to addressing land use issues in the Commonwealth.”

Douglas I. Foy  
Secretary, Office for Commonwealth Development

Managers from the Massachusetts Office on Commonwealth Development attend a working session on sustainable development on June 27, 2003.





## Smart Growth Trends...

- ❖ Between 2001 and 2002, the number of smart growth developments increased 26%.
- ❖ More than 6,000 main street and downtown revitalization projects are underway throughout the country.
- ❖ 75% of all parks and open space ballot measures on local and state ballots in 2002 were passed by voters—an increase from 70% in 2001.



## ...and Opportunities

- ❖ On average, 15% of a city's area is comprised of usable, vacant land that is available for development.
- ❖ Up to one-third of the demand for new housing over the next couple of decades is likely to be for townhomes, apartments and other forms of dense housing.
- ❖ Approximately one out of every 14 shopping malls in the U.S. has been classified as a "greyfield mall." Redeveloping these sites would generate \$11 billion in construction activity.

## Review Panel

Debbie Bassert, *National Association of Home Builders*

Joe Brooks, *PolicyLink*

Andrew Dannenberg, *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*

DeLania Hardy, *Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations*

Peter Katz, *The Citistates Group*

Bruce Knight, *American Planning Association*

Ed McMahon, *The Conservation Fund*

Nadejda Mishkovsky, *International City/County Management Association*

Joe Molinaro, *National Association of REALTORS®*

Julie Seward, *Local Initiatives Support Corporation*

Megan Susman, *The American Institute of Architects*



## National Building Museum

The 2003 National Award for Smart Growth Achievement were presented at a ceremony at the **National Building Museum** in Washington, DC on November 19. The National Building Museum, created by an act of Congress in 1980, is America's premier cultural institution dedicated to exploring and celebrating architecture, design, engineering, construction and urban planning. Since opening its doors in 1985, the Museum has become a vital forum for exchanging ideas and information about such topical issues as managing suburban growth, preserving landmarks and communities, and revitalizing urban centers. Its engaging exhibitions and education programs, including innovative curricula for school children and stimulating programs for adults, annually attract nearly 400,000 people, making the Museum the most-visited institution of its kind in the world.

## Photos

Front Cover: *H.D. Cooke Elementary School, Washington, DC. Photo used with permission of Jeffrey Wilkes WashDC.*

Environmental Protection and Smart Growth: *Harbor in Maine. Photodisc, U.S. Landmarks and Travel/Photolink.*

Winners page: *Ventura, CA. Photo courtesy of Local Government Commission.*

About the Award: *Rosslyn-Ballston Corridor, Arlington, VA. Photo courtesy of Arlington County.*

*Case study photos courtesy of award winners.*

2002 Winners update, top: *Photo courtesy of U.S. EPA, Development, Community, and Environment Division.*

2002 Winners update, bottom: *Photo courtesy of ICF Consulting.*

Opposite, top: *Streetcar in Portland, OR. Photo courtesy of Liisa Ecola.*

Opposite, bottom: *Newbury Street, Boston, MA. Photo courtesy of Liisa Ecola.*

This page: *Pioneer Plaza, Portland, OR. Photo courtesy of Local Government Commission.*

Back Cover: *State Street, Santa Barbara, CA. Photo courtesy of Dan Burden, Walkable Communities, Inc.*





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For more information about the National Award for Smart Growth Achievement and EPA's other smart growth activities, see: [www.epa.gov/smartgrowth](http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth)



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