From: Bill Keener
To: Jared Blumenfeld
Cc: Kelly Zito; Enrique Manzanilla; Teddy Ryerson
Subject: Re: Fw: News Brief (HQ): EPA Recognizes Seven Communities for Smart Growth Achievement
Date: 11/28/2012 02:24 PM

HQ did notify us about this recently, but they asked us to wait until December 5 to do any regional amplification (and they reiterated this on the PAD call yesterday). We are preparing news releases on this and will bring them to you...

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▼ Teddy Ryerson---11/28/2012 09:36:06 AM-------- Forwarded by Teddy Ryerson/R9/USEPA/US on 11/28/2012 09:35 AM ----- From: jaredblumenfeld@comc

From: Teddy Ryerson/R9/USEPA/US
To: Bill Keener/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 11/28/2012 09:36 AM
Subject: Fw: News Brief (HQ): EPA Recognizes Seven Communities for Smart Growth Achievement

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----- Forwarded by Teddy Ryerson/R9/USEPA/US on 11/28/2012 09:35 AM -----

From: jaredblumenfeld@comcast.net
To: Kelly Zito/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Enrique Manzanilla/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: Teddy Ryerson/R9/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 11/28/2012 07:57 AM
Subject: Fw: News Brief (HQ): EPA Recognizes Seven Communities for Smart Growth Achievement

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Did we have a heads up on this?

Sent via BlackBerry by AT&T

From: "U.S. EPA" <usaepa@govdelivery.com>
Date: Wed, 28 Nov 2012 09:43:09 -0600
To: <jaredblumenfeld@comcast.net>
ReplyTo: "U.S. EPA" <usaepa@govdelivery.com>
Subject: News Brief (HQ): EPA Recognizes Seven Communities for Smart Growth Achievement

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 28, 2012

EPA Recognizes Seven Communities for Smart Growth Achievement

WASHINGTON – Today, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recognizes seven communities with its 2012 National Award for Smart Growth Achievement. The Smart Growth awards are given for creative, sustainable initiatives that better protect the health and the environment of our communities while also strengthening local economies.

The 2012 award winners are being recognized in four categories: Overall Excellence in Smart Growth, Equitable Development, Main Street or Corridor Revitalization, and Programs and Policies. Specific initiatives include improving transportation choices, developing green, energy-efficient buildings and communities, and providing community members

with access to job training, health and wellness education, and other services.

The 2012 National Award for Smart Growth Achievement winners are:

Overall Excellence - Winner
BLVD Transformation Project, Lancaster, Calif.
The redesign of Lancaster Boulevard helped transform downtown Lancaster into a thriving residential and commercial district through investments in new streetscape design, public facilities, affordable homes, and local businesses. Completed after eight months of construction, the project demonstrates how redesigning a corridor guided by a strategic vision can spark new life in a community. The project has generated almost $300 million in economic output and nearly 2,000 jobs.

Equitable Development - Winner
Mariposa District, Denver, Colo.
The redevelopment of Denver's historic and ethnically diverse La Alma/Lincoln Park neighborhood is turning an economically challenged area into a vibrant, transit-accessible, district. The community's master plan preserves affordable housing while adding energy-efficient middle-income and market-rate homes. Because of extensive community engagement, development will include actions to improve the health of residents, reduce pollution, and control stormwater runoff.

Main Street or Corridor Revitalization - Winner
The Cooperative Building, Brattleboro, Vt.
The Brattleboro Food Co-op, the town's only downtown food store, made a commitment to remain at its downtown location by constructing an innovative, four-story green building on Main Street with a grocery store, commercial space, offices, and affordable apartments. The Main Street location provides healthy food, new jobs, and housing within walkable distances of downtown businesses and public transit.

Programs and Policies - Winner
Destination Portsmouth, Portsmouth, Va.
The city of Portsmouth revised its comprehensive plan and undertook a broad review of its development and land use regulations. As a result, Destination Portsmouth prepared a package of new plans, zoning ordinances, and other development policies in collaboration with community stakeholders. The overhaul of the city's codes encourages development in targeted growth areas and helps businesses to locate in the city while also protecting the character of Portsmouth's historic neighborhoods.

Equitable Development - Honorable Mention
Northwest Gardens, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
Through safer streets, job training and education programs, and high-quality, affordable homes, the once struggling Northwest Gardens neighborhood is rapidly becoming a model for economic, environmental, and social sustainability. The redesigned neighborhood offers a range of energy-efficient, affordable housing choices and is one of the first communities in the nation to receive LEED for Neighborhood Development certification. A local housing authority program also provides disadvantaged youths with construction training as they complete their GEDs.

Main Street or Corridor Revitalization - Honorable Mention
Larkin District, Buffalo, N.Y.

Community organizations and a local developer partnered with the University at Buffalo School of Architecture and Planning to help revitalize the Larkin District, an old manufacturing district located one mile from downtown Buffalo. Architectural students worked with the developer and the city to create a master plan for an urban village that now features new office space, restaurants, apartments, parks, and plazas. New sidewalks, lighting, crosswalks, bicycle lanes, and bus shelters reduce pollution from vehicles by making walking, biking, and public transit more appealing.

Programs and Policies - Honorable Mention
Bay Area Transit-Oriented Affordable Housing Fund, San Francisco, Calif.
The Bay Area Transit-Oriented Affordable Housing Fund is providing loans for developers to build affordable homes near public transportation. At this point, the fund has provided loans for a 153-unit high-rise for low-income families located two blocks from a major transit station, and for a 64-unit building for seniors close to a light rail station that will provide free transit passes for all residents.

This year's winners and honorable mentions were selected from 47 applicants from 25 states. The winning entries were chosen based on their effectiveness in creating sustainable communities; fostering equitable development among public, private, and nonprofit stakeholders; and serving as national models for environmentally and economically sustainable development.

EPA created the National Award for Smart Growth Achievement in 2002 to recognize exceptional approaches to development that protect the environment, encourage economic vitality, and enhance quality of life. In the past 11 years, 54 winners from

26 states have shown a variety of approaches that states, regions, cities, suburbs, and rural communities can use to create economically strong, environmentally responsible development. EPA's Office of Sustainable Communities manages the awards program.

EPA will host a ceremony on December 5th to recognize these seven award winners. Please RSVP for the National Award for Smart Growth Achievement ceremony here.

More information on the winners: http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/awards.htm

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Note: If a link above doesn't work, please copy and paste the URL into a browser.

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