

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA: AUGUST 3, 2010

SUBJECT: SMART VALLEY PLACES – HUD-SCI GRANT

SOURCE: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

COMMENT: The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has circulated a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) that allows regional agencies to apply for grant funding for a Sustainable Communities Initiative (SCI.) The purpose of the Initiative is to improve regional planning efforts that integrate housing and transportation decisions, and increase capacity to incorporate livability, sustainability and social equity values into land use plans and zoning. A group of cities from the San Joaquin Valley region that comprise 15 of the 16 federally defined and recognized Urbanized Areas with populations of 50,000 or more in eight counties, are in the process of joining together to form a Compact to apply for grant funding. The communities include Stockton, Tracy, Manteca, Lodi, Modesto, Turlock, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Clovis, Hanford, Visalia, Tulare, Delano and Porterville. Council approval is required for Porterville to participate.

Known as the Smart Valley Places Compact (Compact), this organization is organized with a Grant Steering Committee comprising members from several cities and council of governments in the region. The Compact's shared planning principles are represented by the Smart Growth Principles adopted and established as the benchmark for achieving the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint, the six major initiatives of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley Strategic Action Proposal, and the HUD-EPA-DOT Livability Principles. These principles will be built upon, enhanced, and integrated with 'Livability Principles' for regional implementation represented by the aggregate of individual Compact cities smart growth and sustainability tools and programs that are consistent with a Regional Plan for Sustainable Development.

Membership in the Compact will potentially provide grant funds to the City in furthering the goals and policies of the City's General Plan 2030, which received a Blueprint award for implementing sustainability principles. Another aspect of the Compact is to share planning principles, Best Management Practices and resources with each other and incorporate them into their respective local policies and codes to facilitate and implement a comprehensive regional plan for sustainable development.

The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley and the CSU Fresno Foundation are designated to act as the initial regional lead and fiscal agents for grant applications from, and funding awards to, Compact cities under terms defined in a contractual agreement to be approved by the Compact Executive Committee. Each city in the Compact is in the process

DD DD Appropriated/Funded n/a CM J

Item No. 9

WHEREAS, the Smart Valley Places COMPACT provides for governance by an Executive Committee of City Managers appointed and empowered by their respective City Councils to provide policy guidance and administrative oversight for Smart Valley Places network related contracts, agreements, grant applications and awards, resource allocations, evaluation of projects and programs, a multi-city Planners Steering Committee, and any other network business, and

WHEREAS, the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley and the CSU Fresno Foundation are designated to act as the initial regional lead and fiscal agents for grant applications from and funding awards to the Smart Valley Places COMPACT cities under terms defined in a contractual agreement approved by the Smart Valley Places COMPACT Executive Committee, and

WHEREAS, the City of Porterville intends to locally incorporate the shared planning principles of the Valley region and to work collaboratively with other Valley cities to locally define and mutually implement a regional plan for sustainable development for the San Joaquin Valley as outlined in the Smart Valley Places COMPACT, and

WHEREAS, a public meeting was held on August 3, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. in the Porterville City Hall located at 291 N. Main Street, Porterville, California, at which time and place participation in the Smart Valley Places COMPACT was considered by the Porterville City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Porterville that it hereby agrees and affirms that participation in the Smart Valley Places COMPACT, in conjunction with the other Smart Valley Places COMPACT partner cities referenced herein, is both desirable and necessary to provide for continued economic growth and urban development, preservation of the rich agricultural land base and water resources, improved education and health, broader prosperity, and to enable implementation of the essential elements of long-term sustainability in both Porterville and the greater San Joaquin Valley.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager, or designee, is hereby authorized to participate as a voting member of the Smart Valley Places COMPACT Executive Committee and to execute all necessary grant documents, agreements, MOUs and other documentation needed to carry out the business of Smart Valley Places on behalf of the City of Porterville.

Ronald L. Irish, Mayor

ATTEST:

John Lollis, City Clerk

By _____
Patrice Hildreth, Chief Deputy City Clerk

SMART VALLEY PLACES

'A Region of Partner Cities' COMPACT for a Sustainable San Joaquin Valley

1. Shared Planning Principles for a Regional Plan for Sustainable Development

The San Joaquin Valley is recognized as a critical geography and resource area for the continued growth and sustainability of California and for the West Coast of the United States. But the Valley, and especially its cities which will be the focus for successfully accommodating future growth and implementing sustainability, face significant and daunting economic, revitalization, affordable housing, social, environmental, public health, natural and fiscal resource, and other challenges.

The parties to this Smart Valley Places COMPACT affirm that much collaborative work has been accomplished as a region to assess our shared challenges and to identify shared planning principles for continued economic growth and urban development, preservation of the rich agricultural land base and water resources, improved education and health, broader prosperity, and to enable implementation of the essential elements of long-term success, and that these parties commit to each other to share planning principles and incorporate them into their respective local policies and codes through a process that engages all stakeholders and residents in order to comprise and facilitate the implementation of a comprehensive regional plan for sustainable development.

The shared principles acknowledged here include:

The Smart Growth Principles adopted and established as the benchmark for achieving a San Joaquin Valley Blueprint:

- Create a range of housing opportunities and choices
- Create walkable neighborhoods
- Encourage community and stakeholder collaboration
- Foster distinctive, attractive communities with a strong sense of place
- Make development decisions predictable, fair, and cost-effective
- Mix land uses
- Preserve open space, farmland, natural beauty, and critical environmental areas
- Provide a variety of transportation choices
- Strengthen and direct development towards existing communities
- Take advantage of compact building design
- Enhance the economic vitality of the region
- Support actions that encourage environmental resource management

The six major initiatives of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley Strategic Action Proposal developed by the ten regional work groups for economic development, higher education and workforce development, K-12 education, transportation, land use, agriculture and housing, air quality, water, energy, health and human services, and advanced communications services and information technology – to build on the existing strengths and address the current challenges to achieve a Prosperous Economy, Quality Environment, and Social Equity—the “3Es” of sustainable growth for the San Joaquin Valley:

- Grow a Diversified, Globally-Competitive Economy Supported by a Highly-Skilled Workforce
- Create a Model K-12 Public Education System
- Implement an Integrated Framework for Sustainable Growth
- Build a 21st Century Transportation Mobility System
- Attain Clean Air Standards
- Develop High-Quality Health and Human Services

The HUD-EPA-DOT Livability Principles:

- **Provide more transportation choices.** Develop safe, reliable, and economical transportation choices to decrease household transportation costs, reduce our nation’s dependence on foreign oil, improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and promote public health.
- **Promote equitable, affordable housing.** Expand location- and energy-efficient housing choices for people of all ages, incomes, races, and ethnicities to increase mobility and lower the combined cost of housing and transportation.
- **Enhance economic competitiveness.** Improve economic competitiveness through reliable and timely access to employment centers, educational opportunities, services and other basic needs by workers, as well as expanded business access to markets.
- **Support existing communities.** Target funding toward existing communities—through strategies like transit oriented, mixed-use development, and land recycling—to increase community revitalization and the efficiency of public works investments and safeguard rural landscapes.
- **Coordinate and leverage policies and investment.** Align policies and funding to remove barriers to collaboration, leverage funding, and increase the accountability and effectiveness of all levels of government to plan for future growth, including making smart energy choices such as locally generated renewable energy.
- **Value communities and neighborhoods.** Enhance the unique characteristics of all communities by investing in healthy, safe, and walkable neighborhoods—rural, urban, or suburban.

2. Smart Valley Places Network and Purpose

Smart Valley Places is a formal network of partner cities, other jurisdictional partners, public agencies and institutions, private, nongovernmental and community-based organizations with the united purpose to locally define and mutually implement a regional plan for sustainable development for the San Joaquin Valley.

Smart Valley Places asserts that a direct partnership among Valley cities is the best and most effective way to create and coordinate a pool of resources, templates, models, technical expertise, and utilize the local land use and zoning authority required that will lead to the practical and measurable implementation of long-term San Joaquin Valley sustainability.

Smart Valley Places builds upon the regional analyses and recommendations of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, the eight county Blueprint planning efforts, smart planning in individual member cities and counties, and the technical expertise of and partnership with councils of governments, research universities, institutes, and more advanced cities and regional associations in California and the U.S.

Smart Valley Places partner cities are committed to jointly developing, locally applying, mutually evaluating, broadly sharing, and individually mentoring other Valley cities and rural community partners in the implementation of an array of proven and best practice smart land use planning tools, model plans and development codes, climate action strategies, sustainability policies and programs, and related public education, engagement, and leadership development initiatives – that connect and combine the Smart Growth Principles adopted and established as the benchmark for achieving a San Joaquin Valley Blueprint, the six major initiatives of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley Strategic Action Proposal, and the HUD-EPA-DOT Livability Principles.

3. Smart Valley Places Cities COMPACT

A. Initial Partner City Membership

The initial eligible partner cities for voting membership in the Smart Valley Places network are the 16 federally defined and recognized Urbanized Areas (50,000 population and over) in the eight counties of San Joaquin Valley region, represented as follows:

- Cities of Stockton, Tracy, Manteca, and Lodi in San Joaquin County
- Cities of Modesto and Turlock in Stanislaus County
- City of Merced in Merced County
- City of Madera in Madera County

City of Porterville
Smart Valley Places
List of Potential Qualifying Projects
July 28, 2010

1.	Circulation Element Fee Structure	\$150,000
2.	New standards and specifications for hillside development, landscape and irrigation and update existing Standards and Specifications.	\$140,000
3.	Storm Drain - Master Plan Update	\$195,000
4.	Sewer - Master Plan Update	\$197,000
5.	Water – Master Plan Update	\$153,000
6.	Economic Development Strategic Plan	\$100,000.
7.	Irrigation Systems Conservation Renovations	\$50,000
8.	Local zoning program to provide land area for high density and/or low income housing.	\$35,000.
Total		\$1,020,000