

Preferred Sustainability Status Certification Request – Northeast Ohio (NOACA/NEOSCC)

Background:

In federal FY2012, HUD will award up to two bonus points to applicants to certain grant programs that submit a “Certification of Consistency with Sustainable Communities Planning and Implementation” (HUD 2995) form that are working with communities that have received Preferred Sustainability Status under the HUD FY2010 and FY2011 Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program and/or the FY2010 and FY2011 HUD funded Challenge Grant Program. Northeast Ohio is a recipient of a FY2010 Regional Planning Grant covering a 12-county area (Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Summit, Stark, Trumbull and Wayne). A new non-profit called the Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium (NEOSCC) was created to lead the work on this plan. The Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) is the fiscal agent for the Regional Planning Grant and is the entity that, in collaboration with NEOSCC, certifies requests for Preferred Sustainability Status (PSS). Visit www.neoscc.org for more on NEOSCC or www.noaca.org for more on NOACA.

Instructions:

- You must make the request for Preferred Sustainability Status (PSS) certification to NOACA’s Point of Contact at least two weeks in advance of your application to allow time for review.
- To be eligible, the proposed project must:
 - be in the Regional Planning Grant study area;
 - align with the Livability Principles (see below);
 - align with or further the planning efforts of the NEOSCC; and
 - the applicant must commit to maintaining an on-going relationship with NEOSCC.
- Complete the following short form
- **Attach an abstract** for the application, or at minimum a summary of the proposed project and its location, along with any relevant information about transportation choices to the location and/or nearby housing choices.

Point of contact:

Cheryl Kurkowski
NOACA
1299 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114-3204
Phone: 216-241-2414, ext. 210
Fax: 216-621-3024
ckurkowski@mpo.noaca.org

Send a carbon copy to:

Sara Byrnes Maier
NOACA
1299 Superior Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44114-3204
Phone: 216-241-2414, ext. 308
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smaier@mpo.noaca.org

NOACA/NEOSCC will review the short form and proposal and will return a completed HUD 2995 certification form to you if it meets the following minimum eligibility criteria. It is your responsibility to include the completed certification form in your application; NOACA/NEOSCC will not send the form to HUD.

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(NOACA/NEOSCC)**

Applicant Name:

Name of Federal Program to which the applicant is applying:

Amount Requested:

Applicant Contact Name:

Applicant Contact Title:

Applicant Telephone:

Applicant Email:

Please state succinctly how the project addresses the six Livability Principles of the Sustainable Communities. For any principle it does not address, please write “n/a.”

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. Support existing communities.

Target federal 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.

5. Coordinate and leverage federal policies and investment.

Align federal 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.

6. Value communities and neighborhoods.

Enhance the unique characteristics of all communities by investing in healthy, safe, and walkable neighborhoods—rural, urban, or suburban.