

## Sustainable Communities Program Measuring Sustainability—Sample Indicators



**Agriculture** - Percent of farmers implementing sustainable agriculture management practices; Total annual sales at local farmers' markets

**Economy** - Median household income; Percent of population living in poverty

**Education** - High school graduation rates; Literacy rates in community

**Environment** - Number of days local beaches closed to swimming for water quality / human health concerns; Number of days smog/ozone levels exceed safe range

**Governance** - Public satisfaction with government responsiveness and services offered

**Health** - Deaths due to cancer, heart disease, lung disease per thousand; Percent of population with access to services

**Housing** - Median single family home price; Availability of affordable/workforce housing as a fraction of total need

**Open Space & Land Use** - Acres of open space protected

**Planning, Zoning, Building & Development** - Percent of new building meeting green building standards; Percent of municipal code consistent with Smart Growth principles

**Population** - Distribution of population demographics; Total population change year to year

**Public Safety & Emergency Management** - Violent crime rate; Emergency services response time in minutes

**Recreation** - Number of community parks and recreation centers; miles of recreational paths and trails constructed and maintained

**Resource Use** - Per capita residential water consumption; Per capita residential energy consumption; Recycling rate; Tons of waste sent to landfill per year

**Society** - Average number of hours volunteered per month per resident; Number of local civic organizations

**Transportation** - Average commute time; Average ridership on public transportation; Miles of designated alternative transportation routes (pedestrian, bicycle)