

Government Support for Environmental Justice and the BGreen 2020 Plan in Bridgeport, Connecticut

Oct. 22, 2012
11:00-12:00 Eastern

Mayor Bill Finch & the HUD-DOT-EPA
Partnership for Sustainable Communities



WHAT YOU WILL LEARN TODAY:

- What the city of Bridgeport, an environmental justice showcase community, is doing to achieve its goals for sustainable and healthy growth
- What kinds of support are available to environmental justice communities through the HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities and its member agencies



partnership for
Sustainable Communities
an interagency partnership HUD • DOT • EPA



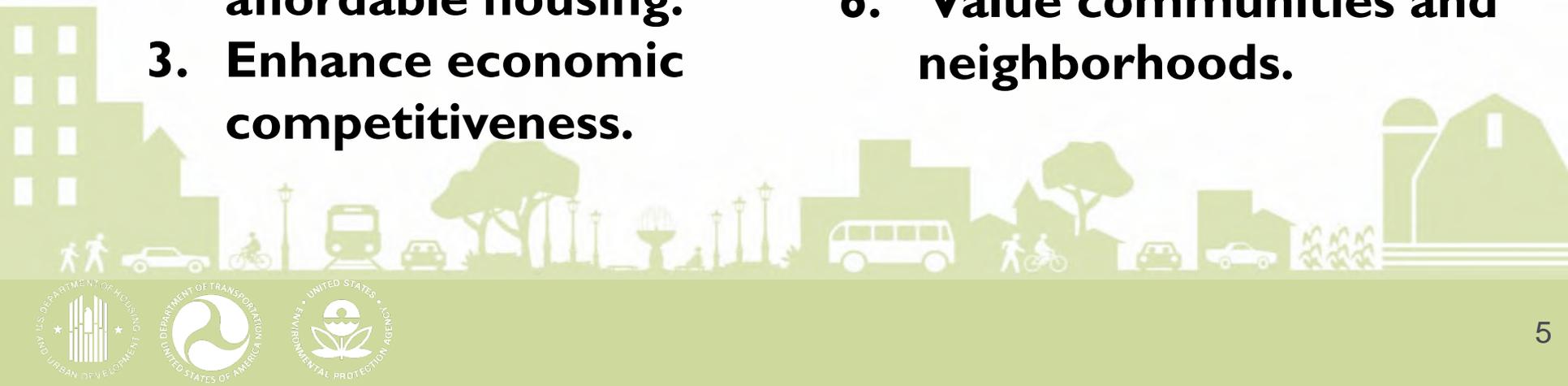
Partnering for Sustainable Communities and Environmental Justice





Partnership Livability Principles:

1. **Provide more transportation choices.**
2. **Promote equitable, affordable housing.**
3. **Enhance economic competitiveness.**
4. **Support existing communities.**
5. **Coordinate policies & leverage investment.**
6. **Value communities and neighborhoods.**





USDA Farmers Markets Grants

On Sept. 21, USDA announced over \$9 million in grants to organizations across 39 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico to initiatives that bolster the connection between agricultural producers and their consumers while improving access to healthy food and strengthening local economies.

By working together, [HUD, DOT, and EPA] can make sure that when it comes to development—housing, transportation, energy efficiency—these things



JUNE 2012

BRIDGEPORT, CT

"The Partnership for Sustainable Communities in Bridgeport is an example of collaborative problem-solving and unified government at its best. This collaboration has encouraged HUD, DOT, and EPA to work together to focus resources not just on transportation, housing, or the environment, but on how to coordinate all three."

—Bridgeport Mayor Bill Finch

as a catalyst for a new transit center, for example? Could nearby affordable housing make it easier for lower-income people to get to work, a health clinic, or a full-service grocery store? Could a section of a city designed to promote walkability reduce pollution and improve public health in

- Economic Development & Brownfields Redevelopment**
- Energy Efficiency**
- Equity & Environmental Justice**
- Housing Choices**
- Performance Measures/Data**

Partnership Regional Offices

The map below will help you find HUD, DOT, and EPA regional state below to get contact information for the Partnership agency

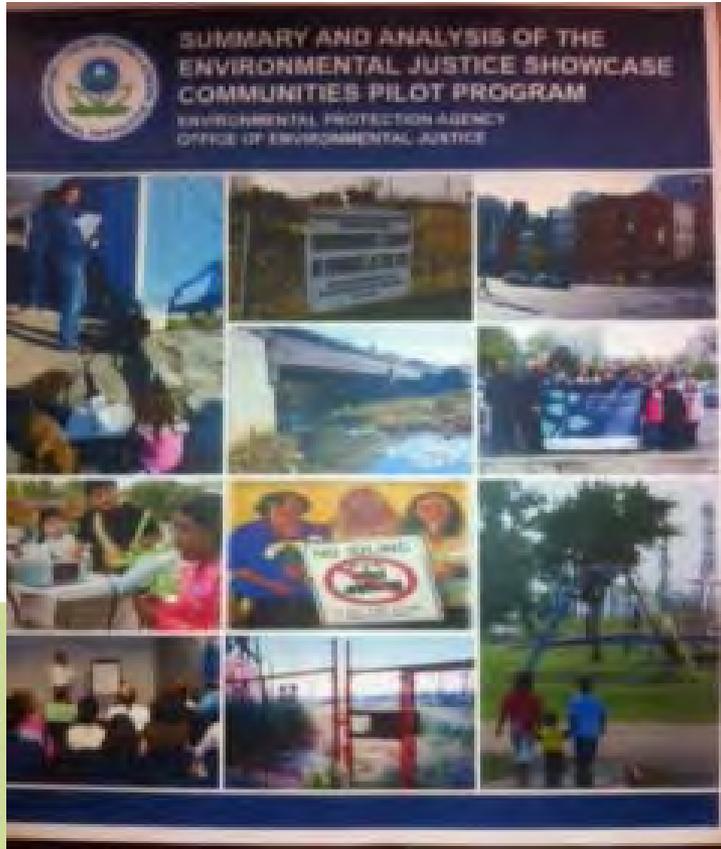


EPA in Bridgeport

- Selected as an **EPA Environmental Justice Showcase Community** in 2009



From Bridgeport to Your Community



EPA Office of Environmental Justice

- Goal: Foster public health and sustainability in overburdened communities
- Approaches:
 - Engage and empower communities
 - Facilitate stakeholder communication
 - Reduce community exposures
 - Improve access to amenities (e.g., health care, recreation, healthy foods)

Current EPA Opportunities (2)

Office of Environmental Justice

- EJ Small Grants

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/ej/grants/ej-smgrants.html>

Due: January 7, 2013

Office of Sustainable Communities

- Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities

<http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/buildingblocks.htm#afepa>

Due: Various deadlines between Oct. 25, 2012 and February 2013



Working with EPA

- Contact: Suzi Ruhl, ruhl.suzi@epa.gov



DOT in Bridgeport

- Awarded \$11 million for the *Steel Point roadway improvements project* to reconstruct and modernize 4.6 lane-miles of urban minor arterial roadways and 0.75 miles of pedestrian/bicycle pathways in the city.
- Modeled on the “complete streets” concept, improvements will include roadway reconstruction, bikeways and enhanced landscaping, and better pedestrian connections to the surrounding neighborhoods, Bridgeport’s downtown intermodal transportation center, and the public waterfront. This will improve travel time on Interstate 95.





Dan Burden



Working with DOT

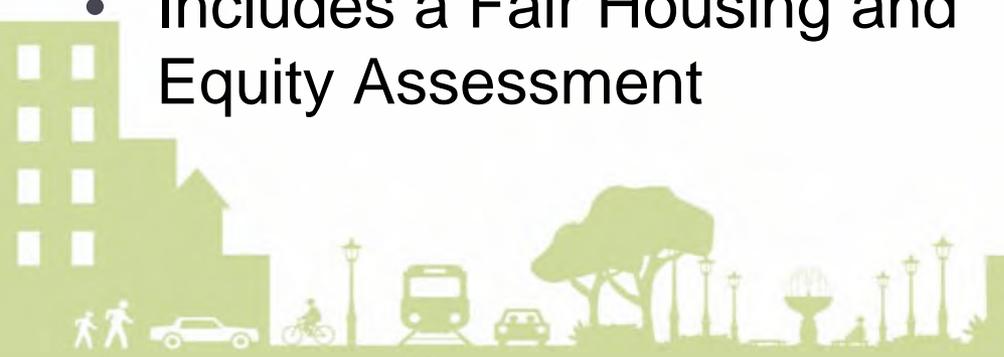
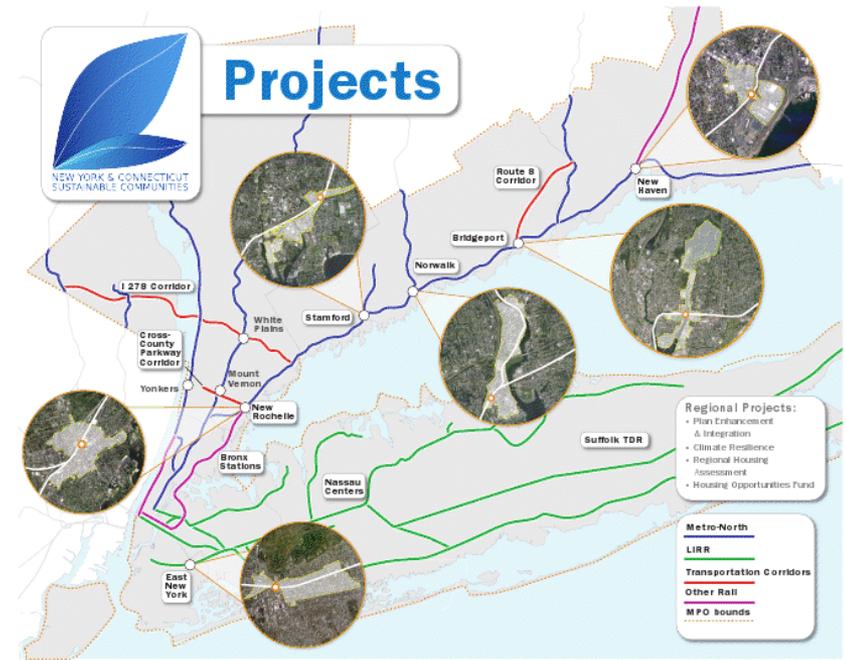
- Integrating EJ and Sustainability
 - Planning process
 - Outreach efforts
- Additional Opportunities
 - MAP-21 <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/>
 - Future TIGER? Other funding sources?
- Contact: Katie Grasty, katie.grasty@dot.gov



HUD in Bridgeport

Investing in collaborative solutions

- \$3.5 million *Sustainable Communities Regional Planning grant* for the NY-CT region
- Includes a Fair Housing and Equity Assessment



Working with HUD

- **Join our mailing list** to learn about Sustainable Communities funding opportunities:
www.hud.gov/sustainability
- **Learn more** at the Sustainable Communities Resource Center: www.huduser.org/portal/sustainability/about.html
- **Contact:** sunaree.k.marshall@hud.gov

