EPA’s Office of Transportation and Air Quality (OTAQ) is pleased to announce the availability of "Improving Air Quality Through Land Use Activities." This national guidance serves as an additional incentive for state and local communities who wish to develop "smart growth" strategies and account for the air quality benefits associated with these various land use activities.

This guidance supports and recognizes innovation and creativity in such land use activities as infill development, brownfield redevelopment, mixed use development and development oriented toward public transit projects. The guidance proposes options that areas experiencing air quality problems can use to account for the air quality benefits of their local land use activities.

"Improving Air Quality Through Land Use Activities" demonstrates EPA’s commitment to provide communities with the support they need to better understand the link between air quality, transportation, and land use activities, and how certain land use activities have the potential to help local areas meet their air quality goals.

This guidance replaces the draft version, "Recognizing the Air Quality of Local and State Land Use Policies and Projects in the Air Quality Planning Process" (EPA420-P-00-002 June 2000).

The final guidance can be downloaded from EPA’s website at:
www.epa.gov/otaq/traq/transp/traqsusd.htm