

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Council Communication</b> Office of the City Manager</p>	<b>Date:</b> October 24, 2011
	<b>Agenda Item No.</b> 36 <b>Roll Call No.</b> <u>11-1796</u> <b>Communication No.</b> <u>11-657</u> <b>Submitted by:</b> Phillip Delafield, Community Development Director

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Resolution authorizing submittal of an application for free technical assistance from Smart Growth America regarding a sustainable land use code audit.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Staff recommends approval the resolution authorizing staff to submit the application for free technical assistance.

**FISCAL IMPACT: NONE**

Amount: N/A.

Funding Source: N/A.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Smart Growth America is a national coalition of state and local organizations working for smart growth across the country. Coalition members include but are not limited to the American Planning Association, ICMA and Urban Land Institute. Smart Growth America has received grant funding from the United States Environmental Protection Agency to provide free technical assistance to Cities on a number of smart growth issues including sustainable land use code audits.

Ideally, technical assistance from Smart Growth America for a Sustainable Land Use Code Audit could be incorporated as part of the proposed Des Moines Sustainability Plan grant application that is currently being reviewed by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. However, if the City is unsuccessful in obtaining Community Challenge Grant funding from HUD, the technical assistance from Smart Growth America could provide a “top-ten” list of zoning and subdivision code amendments that would reduce barriers to sustainability in the City of Des Moines.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE**

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE**

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