



REALIZING THE POTENTIAL FOR SUSTAINABLE, EQUITABLE TOD

Reconnecting America white paper makes recommendations to new federal interagency partnership

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Reconnecting America is releasing a white paper to help inform the new federal interagency partnership on sustainable communities, which was created by the Obama Administration in June and involves the U.S. DOT, HUD and EPA. The paper provides a short history of previous federal efforts to promote livable communities and highlights the growing number of local, regional and state programs that have successfully integrated housing, land use, transportation and environmental programs with the goal of creating sustainable communities. An appendix provides a summary of TOD-supportive policies at the local, regional and state levels.

The paper offers four key recommendations to be implemented over the next year through the rule-making process or administrative action. The authors believe this “low-hanging fruit” would have an enormous impact on the ability of communities to maximize benefits of combined investments for livability, affordability and environmental excellence.

These recommendations are to:

- create a revamped, coordinated long-range planning process
- develop new project funding priorities based on livability principles
- implement the Center for Transit-Oriented Development’s Housing + Transportation Affordability Index
- provide enhanced comprehensive technical assistance programs.

The report is available on [here](#).

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Reconnecting America provides an impartial, fact-based perspective on development-oriented transit and transit-oriented development, and seeks to reinvent the planning and delivery system for building regions and communities around transit and walking rather than solely around the automobile. Reconnecting America manages the Center for Transit-Oriented Development, the only national nonprofit effort funded by Congress to promote best practices in transit-oriented development.