

OUTCOME NOTES

Feedback Session 2: Sustainable Growth: What types of technical and policy support would encourage States to include land-use planning, smart growth and other sustainable practices in their air quality plans?

Please focus the discussion to provide a short list of “headlines” (primary issues, major problems, demonstrated successes to emulate, etc.) and recommendations for EPA action (program or tool development, facilitation of State action, etc.).

SESSION “HEADLINES”:

- Local government officials become empowered when they have the information to enable good decisions.
- Air quality planning is one piece of the pie towards a community becoming sustainable—we need to approach quality of life holistically.
- Early Action Compacts are a successful structure in getting communities to work together towards clean air and becoming more sustainable.
- Being non-attainment is an impetus to stimulate areas to take action—why can’t we take action to keep areas from being non-attainment?

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION (Declarative Statements):

- EPA should identify models for collaborative successes in (a) air quality planning (e.g., EAC’s); and (b) sustainable growth initiatives.
- EPA should reach out to national professional planners and organizations and make the air quality case—including the health and economic benefits of integrating energy, land use, transportation, congestion mitigation, GHG, etc.)
- EPA should compile and make available model codes and ordinances aimed at sustainability (e.g., green building, energy efficiency, land use, etc.) to make it easier for cities and counties to begin such a process.
- EPA should find a better way to accommodate sustainability measures in the SIP and/or provide other incentives.
- EPA should target funding (e.g., 105 set asides) for sustainability initiatives.