

REAP Consortium for Sustainable Communities Consortium Agreement

The Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP) Consortium for Sustainable Communities (the “Consortium”) is a broadly-based coalition committed to implementing a Regional Plan for Sustainable Communities (RPSC) for South Central Kansas. The RPSC will provide an overall vision and commitment for sustainable growth and will provide goals, strategies, and action steps to support that vision. To implement the RPSC, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded REAP a three-year, \$1.5 million Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant (the “Grant”).

1. Goals for the Consortium

The Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP), working with its partners through the Consortium Leadership Team, and five working teams will develop a toolbox of strategies and techniques to support existing communities, provide more transportation choices, promote equitable, affordable housing, coordinate infrastructure investments, and strengthen the regional economy.

Local jurisdictions in South-central Kansas must work cooperatively to be economically competitive in a world marketplace. The RPSC will include a coordinated plan to foster long-term job creation with adequate infrastructure to affordably access employment and services. The RPSC will develop nine activities as part of a framework to ensure our region’s economic competitiveness.

1. **Governance:** Create a structure that is inclusive, responsible and accountable for carrying out the grant activities and monitoring program accomplishments.
2. **Community Engagement Plan:** Build capacity for under-represented populations and provide education and outreach on sustainable infrastructure investments for the region.
3. **Needs Assessment:** Research regional and local plans, statistics, and policies that will serve as a baseline of information for planning activities.
4. **Vision for Healthy Community Design:** Use the information from the needs assessment to facilitate engagement opportunities and develop a healthy community design framework to serve as a guideline for developing the South-central plan for sustainable communities.
5. **Regional Water Plan:** Provide an understanding of the capability of meeting future water quantity and quality demands affordably through a framework for cooperation that integrates efficient delivery of potable water throughout the region.

6. **Regional Transportation Plan:** Develop multi-modal transportation options/programs for the region and connects housing options to emerging employment clusters.
7. **Regional Housing Plan** Support robust housing options that address affordability, freedom from discrimination, access to economic opportunities, and integration with transportation options, healthy community design, and energy efficiency.
8. **Regional Identity for Workforce and Business Development:** Create a regional brand that will support existing communities, businesses, and workforce development opportunities as well as identify and support emerging business and industry clusters.
9. **Integration:** Measure the success of the Regional Plan for Sustainable Communities by developing indicators or measurements that show the region is progressing toward a sustainable future.

2. Roles and Responsibilities of Consortium Members

Consortium members are listed in Appendix A, which is incorporated herein by reference. REAP is the managing entity of the Consortium and has final decision making authority. Project management staff of the Consortium will be employed by Wichita State University in contract with REAP. Sedgwick County is the fiscal agent of the Consortium and all budgetary, accounting, procurement, reporting and auditing matters of the Consortium will follow the established protocol of Sedgwick County. Consortium members will designate a primary point of contact that has final decision making authority on behalf of the member regarding Consortium business. Consortium members agree to abide by the governance structure and decision making protocols of the Consortium. Consortium members will provide representatives to the Consortium Leadership Team (CLT) and work teams, as necessary. Consortium members will provide timely responses to requests for information from REAP, the CLT, and work teams. Consortium members will participate in the community engagement process by helping to publicize community engagement activities in their community and providing access to facilities under their control, to the extent practical. Consortium members will provide the leveraged resources outlined in Appendix A.

3. Accountability Mechanisms

Consortium members are responsible for ensuring that their representatives on the CLT and work teams attend meetings on a regular basis and actively participate in the process of implementing the RPSD. If representatives are not regularly attending meetings or actively participating, Consortium members will first have a dialogue with the representative to encourage participation and then nominate a replacement representative in instances where non-participation continues. Consortium members are responsible for documenting the

leveraged resources outlined in Appendix A and providing information necessary to comply with Grant reporting and auditing requirements consistent with established protocol of Sedgwick County and in the manner as may be established from time to time by REAP.

4. Governance Structure and Decision Making Protocols

The governance structure and decision making protocols of the Consortium are outlined in detail in Appendix B, which is incorporated herein by reference, and are summarized in this paragraph. The REAP governing body is the managing entity of the Consortium and has final decision making authority. REAP will appoint the membership of the Consortium Leadership Team (CLT) to oversee the implementation of the RSPC. The CLT will report on its activities and the activities of its work teams to the REAP governing body and REAP Committees. The CLT may make recommendations to the REAP governing body regarding final decisions on key Consortium business.

Members of the CLT may serve as leaders of five different work teams that will focus on business development, built environment, work force development, transportation, and natural resources. Membership of the work teams will be ratified by the CLT. The work teams will operate under the guidance and direction of the CLT and will report on their activities to the CLT.

5. Membership Benefits

Consortium members will have the benefit of “Preferred Sustainability Status” as it applies to applications for federal grants. Consortium members will have access to all tools, models, and best practices developed by the Consortium through the implementation of the RPSD. Consortium members will have access to all learning and networking opportunities involved with the implementation of the RPSD.

6. Expansion of Consortium Membership

Any entity may petition to join the Consortium. REAP, Consortium members, the CLT, or work teams may nominate any entity for Consortium membership. Consortium membership requires approval of the REAP governing body and execution of the Consortium Agreement by the new member.

7. Duration of Consortium Agreement

This Consortium Agreement will remain in force for the duration of the Grant, which is expected to conclude on February 15, 2015.

EXECUTED as of _____, 2012.

Signature

Tim R. Norton, Chairman, Second District

Board of County Commissioners of Sedgwick County, Kansas

Primary Point of Contact:

[To be determined later]

Name

Title

Phone

E-mail


Street Address

City, State, ZIP Code

Attest:

Approved as to Form:

Kelly B. Arnold, County Clerk



Robert W. Parnacott,
Assistant County Counselor

Signature

Joseph Yager, Chief Executive Officer, Regional Economic Area Partnership

Appendix A

Consortium Member	Leveraged Resources Amount	Type	Source
Hugo Wall School (CUS, REAP, EFC)	\$125,723	In-kind	State government
City of Wichita	\$156,624	In-kind	Local government
City of Wichita (HCSD)	\$9,786	In-kind	Other HUD Funds
Sedgwick County	\$120,707	In-kind	Local government
Kansas Health Foundation	\$50,000	Cash	Non-Profit
Visioneering Wichita	\$45,000	In-kind	Private sector
City of Newton	\$44,055	In-kind	Local government
Ponder: Connect Marketing	\$30,240	In-kind	Private Sector
United Way	\$30,000	In-kind	Non-profit
City of Hutchinson	\$25,244	In-kind	Local government
Harvey County	\$20,060	In-kind	Local government
Wichita State University (CCSR)	\$18,720	In-kind	State government
Reno County	\$16,105	In-kind	Local government
Independent Living Resource Center	\$14,400	In-kind	Non-profit
Butler County	\$13,138	In-kind	Local government
Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas	\$10,125	In-kind	Non-profit
Wichita Downtown Development Corp.	\$9,072	In-kind	Non-profit
Sumner County	\$6,974	In-kind	Local government
Kansas Small Business Development Center	\$6,300	In-kind	State government
City of El Dorado	\$4,700	In-kind	Local government
University of Kansas School of Medicine-Wichita	\$4,500	In-kind	State government
City of Wellington	\$2,770	In-kind	Local government
Wichita Independent Neighborhoods, Inc.	<u>\$2,100</u>	In-kind	Non-profit
 Total Leveraged Resources	 <u>\$823,405</u>		

Appendix B

Regional Plan for Sustainable Communities

Governance Structure and Decision Making Protocols

