

# University <-> City Partnership Programs Overview

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Sustainable  
Communities  
Partnership



LIVABLE  
CITY YEAR

# The Premise...

Cities are at the crux of the effort to transition to a more sustainable future

City issues  Higher education courses

Students & faculty want to (and can!) make a difference

# A Year of Partnership

- **Match** city's needs to service-learning courses
- **Engage** faculty/students on city's issues
  - On site, in field, and in classroom/studio/lab
  - Thousands of person-hours
  - Cutting edge, “outside the box”
- **Produce** deliverables (reports, videos, software, GIS datasets)
- **Advance** city's sustainability & livability goals

# “Sustainability” Broadly Defined...

- Urban livability
  - Walkable, transit-friendly, vibrant, inclusive
- Socially robust
  - Access to housing, food, health care, recreation
- Thriving local economy
  - Jobs, tax base, resource lands
- Low environmental impact
  - LID design, energy efficiency, CAO/SMP

# What This Model Can Do...

- Urban Planning / Environmental Science
- Spatial Analysis – GIS/GPS
- Marketing / Financial Analysis
- Communications / Journalism / Design
- Computer Science
- Public & Community Health / Recreation
- Sociology / Anthropology
- Policy / Governance

# Cost to Partner City

- Fee
  - Program manager
  - Faculty director support
  - Course support, including travel and materials
  - Report generation, including editor and graphic designer
  - Events, travel, communications/press
- City staff time
  - Champion
  - Overall coordinator
  - Per-project liaison

# Finding the Funds

- Multiple funds (general, enterprise, hotel/motel)
- Co-applicant organizations?
  - Chamber
  - NGOs
  - Special purpose districts
- Existing grant funding? (FEMA, EPA)
- Flexibility of when payment is made

# The Process

- Jan - March, discussions & match-making
- Feb - March, application due date
- March - April, partner announcement
- By end of June, master contract & Scopes of Work for each project
- By mid-September, liaison & data provision
- Sep → June, work!
- June 2018 event in town



# UW Projects

- Cultural / Neighborhood Mapping
- Homelessness Assessment
- Assessment of City of Auburn Mayor's Taskforce on Homelessness Recommendations
- Study of Resident Awareness & Preparedness for Emergencies
- Marketing & Awareness of City Values
- Tools that Monitor the Health, Condition, Type, and Spatial Distribution of Housing
- Connectivity Element to the City's Comprehensive Plan
- Community Placemaking
- Buy Local Program
- Storm Utility T Basin – Pet Waste
- Sewer Utility Wastewater Discharge Behaviors
- Storm Utility LID Maintenance Costs
- City of Auburn Livability Synthesis
- Auburn School District Food Waste Prevention Outreach & Education
- Incentives for Establishing More Healthy Food Alternatives to More Sections of the City
- Auburn Alley Project

# Western Projects

- ***Ecological Restoration*** (ESCI 470, fall 2016)
- ***Campus Sustainability Planning Studio*** (ENVS 471, fall 2016)
- ***Public Relations Research and Campaigns*** (JOUR 440, fall 2016)
- ***Computer Science Capstone*** (CSCI 491, fall 2016)
- ***Science and Management of Contaminated Sites*** (ESCI 453 & 454, winter & spring 2017)
- ***Recreation Programming*** (RECR 373, winter 2017)
- ***Disaster Reduction and Emergency Planning*** (ENVS 476, spring 2017)
- ***Advanced Spatial Analytics*** (ENVS 422, spring 2017)
- ***Greening Business Applications*** (MGMT 466, spring 2017)
- ***Participatory Action Research*** (ANTH 454, spring 2017)

# UW Lessons Learned

- Manage expectations early and often
  - faculty, city, student
- Develop a communications plan
  - programmatic & per-project
- Check the scope
  - how much of the project can get done?
  - course dimensions and alignment with project
  - projects per 10-week quarter

# Western Lessons Learned

- Need clear program scope up front
- Knowledge of city processes
- Flexibility is key
  - Courses or staff to pick up the slack
  - Types of projects
  - Payment scheduling
  - Overhead costs
- Permeable campus and community

# Contact

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