

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT THE
DEPUTY SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-0050
www.hud.gov espanol.hud.gov**

**Frequently Asked Questions about HUD's Sustainable Communities
Regional Planning Grants
UPDATED JULY 21, 2010**

“3. Can pre-existing planning funds be counted towards leveraged match? Yes, as long as the funds are used solely for the purpose of the Sustainable Communities Regional Planning grant program. Leveraged resources are additional cash and in-kind contributions that can be combined with funds awarded by HUD under this NOFA to increase the effectiveness of the proposed program activities. Leveraged resources may be in the form of cash and/or the cash equivalent of verified in-kind contributions. Leveraged resources may be secured from one source or a combination of sources, including governmental entities, public and private entities, and the community. The applicant must provide evidence of a firm commitment for each source of the leveraged resources. The leveraged resources committed to the program will need to be spent for the purpose of the program and during the period of performance stated in the grant agreement.

Cash contributions may come from any combination of local, state and/or federal funds, and/or private and philanthropic contributions dedicated to the express purposes of this proposal. As noted in the NOFA, applicants securing leveraged resources from other HUD programs, Sustainability Partnership agencies, and other federal agencies will receive a greater rating.

In-kind contributions can include physical items such as office supplies, computer equipment and supplies, materials for projects, and flyers and other marketing materials. They can also be in the form of office and meeting space, including allowed use of computers, phones, fax and copy machine, or the use of a vehicle, construction equipment and other project related items. In-kind contributions can also be contributions of professional time. When an individual donates his/her time in a professional capacity to supervise members, train or engage in member development, provide technical assistance on a project, evaluate a project, oversee project quality, or provide pro bono work as a member of the non-profit organization on a permanent or temporary basis, the time involved is an in-kind contribution. The dollar equivalent of all assistance provided to meet this requirement must be based upon accepted salary or regional dollar values.”

Leveraged Resources: At the signing of the Cooperative Agreement, a minimum of 20% cash and/or in-kind contributions must be documented in writing. Applicants will not receive full points under this rating factor if they do not submit evidence of a firm commitment and the appropriate use of leveraged resources under the grant program.

Documented Leveraged Resources and Other Contributions of the Requested HUD Amount	Points Awarded	Points Awarded (with federal leverage)*
20 percent	0 Points	0 Points
>20 - ≤ 35 percent	1 Point	3 Points
>35 - ≤ 50 percent	2 Points	4 Points
> 50 percent	3 Points	5 Points

***Other HUD Programs and/or Sustainability Partnership agencies, and other Federal agencies (dollars) will receive a greater rating (up to 2 points. p 55)**

Note: \$5 million request at 20% (threshold) is \$1 million cash and/or in-kind, and at 50%, is \$2.5 million cash and/or in-kind leveraged resources.