



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 5, 2013

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**GOING GREEN, SAVING MONEY—PROJECTS FROM ACROSS AMERICA
RECEIVE RECORD NUMBER OF GRANTS FROM LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY
MATCHING FUND**

Coral Gables, Fla. — From electric cars in the Land of the Midnight Sun to combating urban heat in the city famous for the Run for the Roses, the latest round of grants from the [Local Sustainability Matching Fund](#) show that when philanthropy and local governments come together, sustainability can be woven into good governance no matter where you call home.

Nine communities were awarded a total of \$446,500 by the [Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities](#) and its partner, the [Urban Sustainability Directors Network](#). The third round of awards designed to connect innovative city sustainability projects with local philanthropies is nearly double the number funded since the Local Sustainability Matching Fund, a project of the Funders' Network, debuted in May 2012.

The Local Sustainability Matching Fund also welcomes three new funders: [Bloomberg Philanthropies](#), [The JPB Foundation](#), and the [John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation](#). These three funders have joined with founding funders the Kendeda Fund, [New York Community Trust](#), [Summit Foundation](#), and [Surdna Foundation](#).

“Bloomberg Philanthropies’ environment and government innovation programs work to create catalytic change where cities foster solutions that benefit their community and can be scaled to ultimately improve cities everywhere,” says Rohit Aggarwala, Director of Environment programs at Bloomberg Philanthropies. “The Local Sustainability Matching Fund encourages strong, effective collaboration between cities and philanthropic partners while achieving meaningful results in the community.”

Darryl Young, Director of the [Summit Foundation’s Sustainable Cities Program](#), says “The cities receiving Local Sustainability Matching Fund Awards have the foresight and courage to develop new relationships with community institutions. It’s these very relationships that will make not only the city, but the community as a whole, sustainable.”

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Local Sustainability Matching Fund Awards

- **Ann Arbor, Mich., \$55,000** to build a Community Climate Partnership that brings together a cross-section of the community to implement the city's Climate Action Plan and fosters broader community involvement and civic action around climate change.
- **Baltimore, Md., \$50,000** to expand Groundswell's Community Power Program, which helps community institutions and low-income families access sustainable power, build connections, and save money on electricity bills.
- **Bridgeport, Conn., \$50,000** for *Reservoir Community Farm: Urban Agriculture in Action*, a low-cost, privately-funded initiative designed to achieve important municipal sustainability outcomes, including supplying fresh, healthful local food to Bridgeport Public Schools.
- **Dubuque, Iowa, \$55,000** to build new connections between the city's Sustainable Dubuque initiative and low-income families living in at-risk neighborhoods through a partnership with Dubuque's new Green & Healthy Homes Initiative.
- **Juneau, Alaska, \$25,000** to increase electric vehicle use through infrastructure development and education, to increase sustainability and local hydroelectricity use, and to decrease emissions and high vehicle use cost.
- **Los Angeles, Calif., \$50,000** to fund a position in the Los Angeles Mayor's office to lead and coordinate an inter-agency Transit Corridors Cabinet to facilitate transit-oriented planning and implement the recently adopted Transit Corridors Strategy and Workplan.
- **Louisville, Ky., \$60,000** to develop an urban heat mitigation plan that will allow the city to build a robust community engagement program with elements targeted specifically to stakeholders in areas feeling the greatest urban heat impact and to undertake strategic project implementation in order to maximize resources.
- **Oakland, Calif., \$40,000** to advance effective implementation of the City of Oakland's Energy and Climate Action Plan through a multi-stakeholder partnership between the City of Oakland, the Oakland Climate Action Coalition, and The San Francisco Foundation.
- **Sarasota, Fla., \$61,500** for the *Growing, Distributing and Learning about Fresh Produce: Community-Based Solutions for Nutrition and Sustainable Urban Food Systems* project, which will enhance access to, awareness about, and sustainable production of fresh produce through integrated community garden improvements, mobile produce delivery, and nutrition education.

According to Ben Starrett, Funders' Network Executive Director, "Our funders saw a challenge and came up with a creative solution, and we're beginning to see the results of the first grants. A number of other grantmaking initiatives are being modeled on the Local Sustainability Matching Fund, and it's exciting to see our funders' vision come to fruition."

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The Local Sustainability Matching Fund will open a fourth round of funding with a Request for Proposals available in November. To attract additional interest in urban sustainability projects beyond those funded, it also houses an [Idea Bank](#) on the Funders' Network website, which provides summaries of project applications.

The Local Sustainability Matching Fund is a collaborative effort of the Funders' Network and the Urban Sustainability Directors Network. The Local Sustainability Matching Fund is designed to catalyze partnerships between local governments and local, place-based foundations and to advance community-based sustainability initiatives.

For more information on the Local Sustainability Matching Fund, please visit the Funders' Network website at <http://www.fundersnetwork.org/participate/green-building/local-sustainability-matching-fund>. Funders interested in becoming a part of the Local Sustainability Matching Fund should contact [Ann Wallace](#) at the Funders' Network.

[About the Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities](#) *The Funders' Network exists to inspire, strengthen and expand funding and philanthropic leadership that yield environmentally sustainable, socially equitable, and economically prosperous regions and communities. The vision of the Funders' Network is to be the leading resource in philanthropy for interdisciplinary and transformative thinking and action that gives all people the opportunity to live in more environmentally sustainable, socially equitable and economically prosperous regions and communities.*

[About The Urban Sustainability Directors Network](#) *The Urban Sustainability Directors Network is a North American peer-to-peer network of 100 plus municipal sustainability directors who support each other in advancing the practice of urban sustainability.*

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