



PLANNEXT

COMMUNITY ♦ PLANNING ♦ STRATEGIES

May 2, 2013

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
1536 Wynkoop St., Suite 100
Denver CO 80202

RE: Oregon State University STARS Assessment – Collaboration Corvallis

To Whom It May Concern:

Collaboration Corvallis is a community-based planning partnership between Oregon State University (OSU) and the City of Corvallis to develop strategies for supporting sustainable growth of the university. This three-year initiative is based on an intergovernmental agreement between the two organizations that requires equal financial contribution toward project costs. The project's Scope of Work, which was crafted jointly by OSU and the City of Corvallis, sets out objectives under three broad topic categories of Neighborhood Planning, Parking and Traffic, and Neighborhood Livability. Separate work groups composed of volunteer representatives from OSU, the City of Corvallis, and community organizations were formed to directly review issues of concern related to each topic and devise appropriate strategies for resolving them.

Over the previous 15 months, more than 50 strategy recommendations have been formulated by the work groups and subsequently accepted by a steering committee that oversees the project. These recommendations include strategies for improving coordination between community transit systems serving the OSU campus and the larger Corvallis community; reducing traffic and parking impacts on neighborhoods surrounding the OSU campus through implementation of various transportation demand management measures; and promoting the renovation of historic dwellings for convenient, off-campus student housing. These measures demonstrate OSU's commitment to supporting the economic, environmental, and cultural health of the Corvallis community, which has been OSU's home for almost 150 years. While many other university communities across the country have recently engaged in similar efforts to address "town/gown" issues, the Collaboration Corvallis project is unique in the breadth of topics it has effectively addressed through an inclusive public process involving all effected stakeholders. From that perspective, it qualifies as an innovative program that directly contributes toward OSU's other sustainability efforts.

Sincerely,

Eric M. Adams
Project Manager
Collaboration Corvallis