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STARS Steering Committee  
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability  
213 ½ North Limestone  
Lexington, KY 40507


To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to affirm that the partnership between Agnes Scott College and the City of Decatur, Georgia meets the requirements necessary to receive an innovation credit in the AASHE STARS assessment. The relationship between these two institutions moves beyond a typical internship or singular collaboration effort to produce a special event. The City of Decatur allocates \$5,000 annually towards the stipend for the post graduate Sustainability Fellow. The Sustainability Fellow works with the city's Resource Conservation Coordinator to implement environmental programs throughout the city, to share best practices and to further the work of sustainability at both organizations. The Fellow also attends monthly meetings with the Environmental Sustainability Board. In addition to the Fellow's collaboration with Decatur, the institutions have partnered in the following ways:

- The city adopted ASC's drought tolerant landscaping guidelines.
- The city facilitated a \$25,000 grant for energy efficiency retrofits to facilities at ASC.
- We jointly hosted Steve Mouzon, author of *The Original Green*, to speak on how to build places and buildings in a sustainable manner.
- The city and ASC jointly shared the cost of mid block crossing, a pedestrian safety improvement, for two the major streets bordering the campus.
- I serve on the ASC sustainability advisory board.

The city and ASC are also members of the Decatur Agricultural Initiative which coordinates the efforts of five Decatur organizations to obtain grants, manage greenspaces and gardens as well as host agricultural related events. Most recently, DAI hosted the Georgia Organics conference.

Susan Kidd and I were asked to speak at the at the Appalachian Regional Commission conference in 2011 about this unique partnership. We strive to share resources and knowledge to amplify the work of each organization in this field. Thank you for your consideration and I am happy to answer any questions about this program.

Sincerely,  
  
Amanda Thompson  
Planning Director