

Ohio Balanced Growth Program

BEST LOCAL LAND USE PRACTICES

UPDATE Fall 2012



The Best Local Land Use Practices team of the Ohio Balanced Growth Program has been busy working on new opportunities for local governments in Ohio. You will find a host of new resources on the Balanced Growth web site – and we hope you can join us for the Ohio Land Use Conference in January!

Guidance, Example Regulations, and Projects

The update to the Best Local Land Use Practices document, titled “[Linking Land Use and Ohio’s Waters](#)”, is now posted on the web for public review. Much more than an update of the existing document, the sixteen chapters include expanded guidance information, photographs, example projects, and useful sidebar information.

There is a whole new set of example regulations, and we have included matrices, available to download separately in spreadsheet format, comparing the high points of the example regulations.

The documents will be available for public review through December 12, 2012, and are proposed for endorsement by the Ohio Lake Erie Commission at their December meeting, and by the Ohio Water Resources Council at

their meeting in February.

Facts at Your Fingertips

Newly posted on the web is a [Bibliography](#) cataloguing more than 150 research papers that document the economic benefit of the practices. Key messages gleaned from each paper are listed, and a link is provided to each paper. We hope this information is useful to local governments working to improve their fiscal strength through innovative land use practices.

Technical Assistance Available

We continue to offer 24 hours of professional planning assistance available to Ohio local governments, free-of-charge, to help with implementation of the recommended practices. In the past we have helped with public and elected official education, organizing citizen planning groups, preparing Requests for Pro-

LINKING LAND USE AND THE ECONOMY: Our Land, Our Water, Our Future Statewide Land Use Conference - JANUARY 11, 2013

Ohio Farm Bureau and 4-H Center, Ohio State University Campus, Columbus, Ohio
8:30 am-4:30 pm

The Ohio Balanced Growth Program and OSU Extension will bring together experts in economic development and planning to talk about the new Ohio development market and the opportunities to link land use decision making to economic prosperity. Led by keynote speaker Scott Bernstein of the Center for Neighborhood Technology, the day will address housing and development trends, fiscal impact analysis, managing oil and gas boom and bust, agricultural economic development, stormwater programs, state incentives, and more. We hope you can join us for a stimulating day of discussion and new information!

<http://balancedgrowth.ohio.gov/BestLocalLandUsePractices/2013Conference.aspx>

posals for consulting on comprehensive planning, reviewing codes to recommend needed updates, and drafting code language. All that is needed is a 2-page summary letter of request that includes project specifics as outlined in the application guidance provided on the [Technical Assistance page of the Balanced Growth web site](#). We are actively assisting several local communities, so new approved applicants can expect to receive assistance in a three to six month time frame.

Next Steps

Projects continuing this fall include an update of the Balanced Growth video aimed at elected officials and developers, a database of case studies of completed projects using each of the practices, checklists to assist communities with code reviews, new research on the economic benefits of compact development and tree protection, and workshops in March-April 2013 in eight regions throughout the state. Stay tuned!

If you are not able to access the hyperlinks in the text, more information about the topics above and other program resources are available online at:

<http://balancedgrowth.ohio.gov/BestLocalLandUsePractices/>

The Best Local Land Use Practices (BLLUP) part of the Ohio Balanced Growth Program encourages implementation of a set of Best Practices, on a voluntary basis, to improve environmental quality and economic development opportunities in local governments across the state.

Top Priority Best Practices Include:

- * Comprehensive Planning
- * Compact Development
- * Conservation Development
- * Stream, Floodplain, and Wetland Protection
- * Storm Water Management/Erosion and Sediment Control
- * Natural Areas Establishment and Management
- * Source Water Protection

Additional Best Practices Include:

- * Woodland Protection
- * Steep Slope Protection
- * Brownfield Redevelopment
- * Agricultural Protection
- * Transfer of Development Rights
- * Historic Protection
- * Scenic Protection
- * Access Management

Photo: City Architecture

For more information, contact the members of the BLLUP Project Team:

Gail Hesse, Executive Director
tel. 419-621-2040
e-mail: gail.hesse@lakeerie.ohio.gov

Sandra Kosek-Sills, Environmental Specialist
e-mail: sandra.kosek-sills@lakeerie.ohio.gov
tel. 419-357-2775

Brian Hall, Administrator
Ohio Water Resources Council
email: brian.hall@epa.state.oh.us

Kirby Date, AICP, BLLUP Program Manager
Cleveland State University
tel. 216-687-5477
e-mail: k.date@csuohio.edu