

# The Town of Spring Lake

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TO: Mayor, Board of Aldermen  
FROM: Michael Uskiewicz, Town Manager  
DATE: March 11, 2010  
CC: Carl Manning, Don Belk

**RE: February 25, 2010 Smart Growth Meeting Synopsis**

On February 25, 2010, I met with Carl Manning and Don Belk in regards to EPA Smart Growth 2010 Request for letters of Interest (RFLI.)

This program is for technical assistance and not a grant. If awarded, this would give us great assistance given we currently do not have such staff currently employed by the Town. The EPA's Development, Community and Environment Division (DCED) known as Smart Growth Program, is currently seeking letters of interest from states, regions and communities that want to develop in ways that reflect the principles of smart growth and meet environmental and other goals. The selected applicants will receive assistance in the form of a multi-day visit by a team of experts organized by EPA and other national partners to work with local leaders. Staff from EPA, HUD and DOT will participate with these site visits. EPA will provide this assistance through an Agency contract vehicle, not a grant. Upon completion, the applicant will receive a final report developed by EPA and its consultant team featuring a compilation of the resources developed throughout the visit, including options for follow-up action.

If awarded, this would be a big deal for the Town. This is a national process. We discussed how we needed to format the application as the application is very specific in the specifications. It only allows for a specific number of paragraphs and no supporting documents; at the maximum, all our information must be condensed into two (2) pages. This initiative, to be successful does need the support of the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen.

With all the work the Town has been doing on Smart Growth, FAMPO, work with BRAC, work with Economic development, HUD, workforce development and other organizations, we feel confident that we are well positioned to submit a well thought out, robust, concise and attractive RFLI that will clearly indicate Spring Lake as a visionary Town who would strongly benefit from such a study and who could share with it's regional partners.

Don Belk is doing the initial leg work based on his knowledge of the program and the information we put together. We will review the initial draft and once it is formalized, we will get it to you. We are excited about this opportunity and know that if awarded, Spring Lake will reap the benefits. It will only strengthen the Economic Development efforts we are pursuing.