

PARTNERS IN ACTION

Sustainable Cities Initiative, University of Oregon

Innovatively focusing university activities and resources on real-world problems



Students and faculty from the University of Oregon take a tour of Salem with City staff and local professionals.

SCI provides the following programs:

- **Sustainable City Year (SCY):** A partnership with one city per year that focuses university resources on solving that city's prioritized sustainability problems.
- **Experts in Residence:** SCI invites experts on sustainability to visit Oregon every year, to interact with students and faculty at UO, as well as our SCY partner city, PSU, and OTREC.
- **Interdisciplinary Research:** SCI coordinates interdisciplinary research around sustainability and livability issues.
- **Solution Summits:** SCI is initiating an innovative approach to practical problem solving through focused symposiums on sustainability problems.
- **Policy Support:** We provide analysis and guidance for policy development at local state and national levels on topics such as transit livability.

Cities are faced with the urgent need to meet the new demands of livability and sustainability, while suffering from insufficient capacity to do so effectively. As a cross-disciplinary organization at the University of Oregon, Sustainable Cities Initiative (SCI) promotes education, service, public outreach, and research on the design and development of sustainable cities. SCI is motivated by the idea that universities can be the linchpin in helping regions, states, cities, and citizens create more sustainable communities through better design and policy decisions.

MISSION To improve the sustainability and livability of cities by focusing university activities and resources on real-world problems in partnership with public and private entities.

The New York Times
Expect the World®

The Sustainable Cities Initiative is perhaps the most comprehensive effort by a U.S. university to infuse sustainability into its curricula and community outreach."
- *The New York Times*, August 23, 2010

LIVABILITYLANE

building smarter communities together

Congressman Earl Blumenauer reviews an SCY design proposal.



Partners

SCI works with a variety of partners on projects and programs including:

- Schools and Departments on Campus, and particularly the School of Architecture and Allied Arts, the Law School, and the Provost's Office
- OTREC (Oregon Transportation Research and Education Consortium)
- Portland State University – Engineering faculty are involved in our SCY program
- The Cities of Gresham and Salem (past and current SCY Cities)

Accomplishments

SCI's programs offer a number of opportunities and benefits to our community:

Students: SCI provide real world experiences for students hungry to make a difference.

Faculty: SCI work with faculty in 10 disciplines to provide a cross-disciplinary approach to problem solving, including architecture, planning, law, business, engineering (at PSU) and journalism.

University of Oregon: SCI is one of the UO's five "Big Ideas", bold initiatives with ambitious goals that are meant to shape the future of the University and benefit the community, state, and society at large.

Cities: SCI partners with one city in Oregon each year to focus the course work of the university on that city's particular sustainability needs.

Government agencies, NGOs, and the private sector: Faculty research addresses sustainability issues critical to all of these sectors, and provides us with the tools to influence policy toward greater sustainability.

Goals for the Lane Livability Consortium

- Match University and faculty expertise with the needs of the consortium in order to fulfill the requirements of the grant.
- Support the consortium work to develop a more robust civic engagement strategy with the Latino Community.
- Support the consortium to operationalize triple bottom line sustainability tools.

Contact Information

Amy Hause, Program Manager
6206 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97405-6206
(541) 346.3582
amyhause@uoregon.edu
sci.uoregon.edu



SCI publications, including newsletters, reports, and other materials, can be accessed on the website at sci.uoregon.edu

