

# Guidebook for Local Governments

## What is it?

### PURPOSE

- *To highlight elements of Our Great Region 2040 that local governments interested in developing more sustainable processes and practices can replicate as appropriate in their jurisdictions*
- *Provides examples of sustainable practices in terms of policies and initiatives used by other local governments across the nation*
  - *Includes a matrix identifying specific resources that local governments can utilize, including their ease of use and pros and cons of each*
- *Describes four actions that local governments can take to demonstrate commitment to advancing sustainability in their jurisdiction:*
  - *Plan – provides information on how local governments can set goals to create their own local sustainability plan*
  - *Implement – provides information on how local governments can implement their sustainability goals, including organizational structure, integrating programs, departments and services, starting a pilot program, and funding mechanisms*
  - *Evaluate – provides information on how local governments can ascertain the effectiveness of its strategies through monitoring and evaluating progress*
  - *Educate – provides information on how local governments can foster informed and involved stakeholders in the implementation process*

## How will it be used?

- *The guidebook is intended to be a resource for local governments that are interested in pursuing or beginning a sustainability effort.*
- *By providing examples of how local governments can begin the process the guidebook may be a useful launching point*

## How does it relate to *Our Great Region 2040*?

- *While Our Great Region 2040 contains strategies that local governments may be interested in pursuing in the realms of housing, transportation, healthy communities, economic development, resiliency, and the environment, the guidebook for local governments focuses on incorporating sustainability principles into the processes of local government such as procurement and purchasing policies, energy and water savings for municipal buildings, providing commuting options for local government employees, and budgeting processes such as the capital improvement plan*
- *The guidebook is intended to complement the broader plan by providing more in-depth information as a resource for local governments.*

# Guidebook for Local Governments

## How was the Guidebook for Local Governments developed?

- *The guidebook was developed by conducting a review of other local government's sustainability practices across the nation. The four actions (plan, implement, evaluate, educate) are common elements identified in the review.*
- *All sources are noted in the document and websites provided.*