California Center for Sustainable Communities at UCLA



POLICY FACT SHEET: California Sustainability Research Project *Part I: Research Hub & Gaps Analysis Report*

Authors: Dr. Stephanie Pincetl, Dr. Deepak Sivaramen, and Céline Kuklowsky

Introduction

The California Center for Sustainable Communities at UCLA created the California Sustainability Research Project to increase access to California's funded sustainable communities research and identify future areas of research needed to meet the State's environmental goals.

The CCSC at UCLA collected and analyzed over 800 reports funded by the **California Energy Commission** (CEC), the **California Air Resources Board (CARB)**, and the **California Department of Transportation** (Caltrans).

The **California Sustainability Research Project** has four components:

- An interactive CA Sustainability Research Hub website
- A report on Gaps in research on sustainability related issues
- A Synthesis Report of existing sustainable communities research findings, and
- Two additional research reports contributing knowledge to the State's environmental goals and policies



Project Overview

This project compiles sustainable communities research from CARB, Caltrans, and the CEC from 2000-2013 into a website database that is searchable by keywords. It also identifies the sustainability research in terms of overarching themes and gaps in existing knowledge.

Project Intended Audience

Local, regional, and state stakeholders, policy-makers, researchers, funding agencies

Key Project Components

- CA Sustainability Research Hub – A website that allows users to search a database of over 800 State-funded sustainable community research reports
- Gaps Analysis Report A report identifying existing sustainable communities research and the gaps in existing knowledge
- **Synthesis report** existing sustainable communities research findings. Report anticipated in Late Spring 2014
- Additional reports Two reports contributing knowledge to the State's environmental goals and policies. Reports anticipated in Winter 2013

California Center for Sustainable Communities at UCLA, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability

La Kretz Hall, Suite 300, 619 Charles E. Young Drive E., Los Angeles, CA 90095-1496, info@californiasustainablecommunities.com

California Center for Sustainable Communities at UCLA

CA Sustainability Research Hub

The **CA Sustainability Research Hub** website (hub.sustainablecommunities.environment.ucla.edu) allows navigation through State-funded sustainable communities research that has been conducted since 2000. Over 800 reports on the CA Sustainability Research Hub can be accessed by report title, key word, author, year, funding agency, the sustainability research topic, or any combination of these categories.

In addition to the search function, CCSC at UCLA has also created a brief summary of each report that is displayed in the results section. This enables users to further decide the relevance of a report to their search.



Gaps Analysis Report Findings

The **Gaps Analysis Report** provides a detailed description of further research that is needed for state agencies and policy-makers to better advance sustainability goals set out by California.

The report identifies three specific fields of research that need more careful research (gaps in existing research): housing (including zero net energy homes), transportation and energy systems management, and institutional structure. The report will be available on the CA Sustainability Research Hub website.

Project Specifics

Contractor: UCLA's Institute of the Environment & Sustainability **Application:** Statewide **Contract Number:** 500-11-012



This research is funded by the California Energy Commission's Public Interest Energy Research (PIER) program.

CA Sustainability Research Project Team

- Stephanie Pincetl, PhD Director, CCSC at UCLA Professor-in-Residence UCLA's Institute of the Environment and Sustainability E-mail: spincetl@ioes.ucla.edu
- Zoe Elizabeth Associate Director E-mail: <u>zelizabeth@ioes.ucla.edu</u>
- Kristen Holdsworth
 Project Manager
 Email: <u>kholdsworth@ioes.ucla.edu</u>
- Deepak Sivaraman, PhD Postdoctoral Researcher
- Celine Kuklowsky Senior Staff Researcher

CCSC at UCLA Website

Californiasustainablecommunities.com

Sustainability Research Hub Website

hub.sustainablecommunities.environment .ucla.edu

California Center for Sustainable Communities at UCLA, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability La Kretz Hall, Suite 300, 619 Charles E. Young Drive E., Los Angeles, CA 90095-1496, info@californiasustainablecommunities.com

