



**For Immediate Release
October 14, 2010**

Contact: Julie Fishman
office: (202) 225-6401 / cell: (202) 731-5114

*****MEDIA ADVISORY FOR FRIDAY AT 1:15pm*****

Congressman Shuler, Land of Sky Regional Council, and HUD to Announce Grant Award of \$1.6 Million

Asheville, NC-Tomorrow, (Friday, October 15), Congressman Heath Shuler (D-Waynesville), Land Of Sky Officials and representatives from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will a \$1.6 million grant award for Sustainable Housing and Community Planning in Western North Carolina.

The "WNC Sustainable Communities Initiative," coordinated by Land of Sky, will synchronize local community planning efforts to integrate housing, land use, economic and workforce development, transportation, and infrastructure investments.

The funding, won by Land of Sky through a competitive grant process, is part of \$150 million allocated to HUD by Congress to establish a Sustainable Communities Initiative to improve regional planning efforts that integrate housing and transportation decisions. The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are partners with HUD in the initiative.

What: Announcement of Land of Sky's \$1.6 Million Grant Award for Sustainable Housing and Community Planning

Who: U.S. Rep. Heath Shuler, Land Of Sky Officials and representatives from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

When: 1:15pm on Friday, October 15th

Where: Biltmore Doubletree Hotel, Garden Terrace
115 Hendersonville Road
Asheville, NC 28803