

Sustainable Cities Initiative



"One of higher education's most successful and comprehensive service learning programs."

- The Chronicle of Higher Education

What is SCYP?

The Sustainable City Year Program is SCI's flagship model for catalytic learning partnerships that redefine higher education for the public good.

SCYP is a radically simple model for bridging the gap between universities and communities.

- The projects are **community identified** and driven
- SCYP mixes disciplines and faculty at an unprecedented level
- The **scale** of SCYP magnifies engagement as well as the educational and community-level impacts

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Learning that Inspires Action

SCYP matches a multidisciplinary set of courses to a community-identified set of projects over an academic year. Each year SCYP solicits projects from a different community and matches those project ideas with up to 35 university courses, 15–20 faculty, and 500 students across more than 10 disciplines.

SCYP relies on **existing** classes, **existing** instructors, and **existing** curricula and an opt-in, bottom-up university model. The scale of engagement is unprecedented and impact significant for all included.

A National Model for Replication

The model is **adaptable** to many different types of institutions because it relies on existing resources, but harnessed in a new way.

The SCYP Model Gives...

- Students what they are desperately seeking (an opportunity to make a difference today)
- Cities what they badly need (new ideas, energy, and political space for new direction)
- Taxpayers and legislatures what they want (universities to be relevant)
- Society what we require (universities to be part of the solutions to our most pressing issues)