

Community engagement for **SUSTAINABLE CITIES**



What is The Sage Project?

The Sage Project is a partnership between San Diego State University (SDSU) and a local community in the San Diego region. We address the community's **high-priority projects** by connecting them with SDSU faculty and students who develop creative designs and solutions, generating momentum and tangible service to the community.

The Sage Project connects the partner community with **dozens of faculty experts with extensive knowledge of cutting-edge research** and its practical application, who in turn mentor **hundreds of engaged students who commit thousands of hours of effort** and bring innovative and multidisciplinary perspectives.

Meeting a Need: Commitment to Community

The Sage Project embodies the University's **commitment to serving students, engaging alumni, and contributing to the public good** by partnering with a community in the San Diego region. The program ensures that the many ideas developed by students through their course work are shared with a wider audience, thereby ensuring a positive impact on the community and strengthening civic ties. **The true benefit of the program is the positive attention, collaborative learning, and new momentum the partnership provides for students, faculty, city staff, and residents.**

Professionally Prepared Reports

In addition to any other deliverables—including council presentations, compiled data, designs, and mock-ups—every completed project is consolidated into a **professionally prepared report** that the community can use to support its **decision-making and funding applications**. Students also present their designs, analyses, solutions, and recommendations to the community in a public format, drawing additional attention to the community's innovative projects and efforts.



Benefits to the Community

- We help attract positive publicity, energy, and enthusiasm for the partner community by collaborating with SDSU.
- Sage Project staff coordinate with the press to generate media attention and interest within the community, across the university, throughout the county, and both nationally and internationally.
- Students can assist with community engagement, enhancing the community partner's communication and outreach efforts.

We help the community partner to revitalize stagnant projects, implement cost-savings, and improve efficiency via a dedicated group of young minds and faculty experts focused on the community's individual projects. The work done by students is creative and reflects new and innovative perspectives for the community partner that may otherwise be unavailable due to limited time and resources.

SDSU students can advocate and work for the community. The partnership will involve education of highly engaged students with in-depth knowledge of the partner community. Participating students serve as knowledgeable voices in the community who educate other students, residents, business owners, and future employers about their experiences and their contributions to the partnership. Many students have accepted community intern and staff positions as a direct result of successful collaboration through the Sage Project.

How do I get involved?

1. Let us know you are interested!
Please contact either:

Jessica Barlow
the Sage Project Director

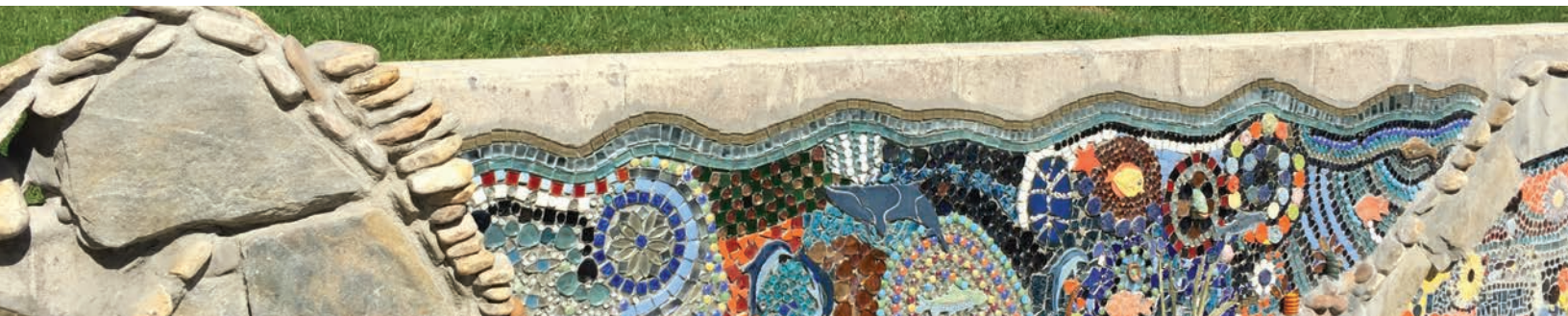
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OR

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Program Administrator

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2. Coordinate with Sage Project staff to present the partnership model to council members and community members.



Check out  sage.sdsu.edu for all our previous and current projects, completed reports, and ways to get involved.