Capacity Building Intermediary: Team Implementation

Team Members

- **Reconnecting America**: www.reconnectingamerica.org
- **Strategic Economics**: http://strategiceconomics.com/
- **The Center for Neighborhood Technology**: http://www.cnt.org/
- **Enterprise Community Partners**: http://www.enterprisecommunity.com/
- **The Center for Creative Land Recycling**: http://www.cclr.org/
- **Kim Burnett Consulting**

Contact Information

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Tools and Activities

**Issue Briefs and Webinar Series**

Issue briefs will be made available on the grantee website via the Learning Network. Please save these dates for webinars, scheduled from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. (EST), on the third Wednesday of each month.

- **March 21st** – Creating Regional TOD Plans and Strategies
- **April 18th** – Using the Housing + Transportation Index
- **May 16th** – Developing Land Acquisition and TOD Funds
- **June 20th** – Redeveloping Environmentally Contaminated Land
- **July 18th** – Financing Infill and TOD Supportive Infrastructure
- **August 15th** – Supporting Economic Development Strategies in Weak Markets
- **September 19th** – Developing Corridor Plans for Implementation
- **October 17th** – Applying Data, Indicators and Benchmarks to Regional Planning

**Action Teams (A-Teams) and Peer Exchanges**

Three Action Teams comprised of grantees working on similar issues to provide a platform for learning and sharing will be convened. Team Implementation will provide expertise to support the grantees as well as case studies and the most current best practices. There will be one in-person convening and peer exchange for each A-Team. The expectation is that there will be a commitment from someone in your consortium to participate in regular calls and webinars as well as attend one in-person convening, budget permitting. The three A-Teams are below and more details will be forthcoming. If you would like to participate in one of the A-Teams, please contact Catherine Cox Blair at ccoxblair@reconnectingamerica.org.

1. **Supporting Economic Development Strategies in Weak Market & Slow Economy Regions**

Sustainable Communities grantees are working to leverage investments in housing, land use, and transportation to support a regional economy while connecting low-income communities to economic opportunities and enhancing quality of life. Achieving this goal in weak markets or slow economies creates a greater challenge as these communities face slow or declining economies, high concentrations of poverty, fragmented governments, and limited capacity and resources. Helping these weak and slow economy regions rebuild in a way that addresses these challenges is fundamental to put them on a path to long-term economic and social sustainability. This A-Team will bring together experts and peers to increase the capacity of grantees to address these issues and provide them with technical and peer to peer support to aid them as they implement their efforts.
Through participation in this A-Team, grantees of medium to larger regions and stages of planning and/or implementation will learn about a range of possible solutions to the challenges they face in undertaking their projects in a slow-growth urban area. Grantees will be able to get answers to specific questions they have about implementing those solutions, both from peers and outside resources, which will expedite and improve the outcomes of their projects. One convening and peer exchange is tentatively planned for October in Pittsburgh.

2. Developing Land Acquisition and TOD Funds
Funding and financing of transit oriented development or infill redevelopment, affordable housing and healthy communities were three of nine areas that grantees noted as high or very high needs for technical assistance in OSHC’s recently administered grantee survey. Many OSHC grantees included goals related to these areas in their grant applications, but most lack the internal expertise on sustainable, affordable housing finance, development and preservation that is necessary for execution. Acquisition and TOD Funds are most likely the first tool regions and cities are looking toward to begin to address their sustainable, affordable housing near transportation goals. Therefore, the work of this issue A-Team will focus specifically on these activities, potentially proposing additional issue cohorts on related affordable housing development if or when needed.

This issue A-Team will bring together all the grantees that are considering the implementation of regional acquisition funds to ensure that affordable housing near transit is created and preserved. Grantees will learn from each other as well as communities who have completed implementation processes already. By sharing challenges and successes, grantees will glean activities, processes and models that will allow them to move forward with implementation in their markets during the term of their OSHC grants. One convening and peer exchange is tentatively planned for July in the San Francisco Bay Area.

3. Financing TOD and Infill Supportive Infrastructure
Transit areas often require significant up-front investments in infrastructure to better connect people to stations and encourage private development. While these types of public infrastructure are typically provided by the public sector, many local governments lack the funding sources, and expected local revenues from new development projects are insufficient to finance the improvements. Federal funding sources are also inadequate to meet the need in many communities. It is clear that new and creative solutions are essential in order to repair and build the public infrastructure that can support TOD and complete neighborhoods.

This A-Team will bring together those communities seeking innovative ways to finance TOD infrastructure, including streets, bicycle and pedestrian linkages, parks sewer, water, storm drain, and parking garages. By participating in this A-Team, communities will learn about various funding sources for TOD and lessons learned from real-world examples of TOD financing. The leaders of this A-Team will also assist communities with developing strategies to help make the case for targeting investments near transit to the overall community and elected officials. One convening and peer exchange is tentative planned for Miami in July.

One-on-One Assistance
A-Team members will be available through scheduled office hours to assist grantees on an implementation topic. Support will be available for grantees requiring deeper, more tailored support on an issue or challenge. Please contact Catherine Cox Blair at ccoxblair@reconnectingamerica.org if you'd like to inquire about one-on-one support.