

APPLICATION



COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE
TEXAS TARGET COMMUNITIES

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN APPLICATION

INTENT: To be selected as a collaborating partner in a participatory planning process of community engagement, planning, and development of a comprehensive plan.

OPEN DATE: December 1, 2014

CLOSE DATE: March 1, 2015

PARTNER SELECTED: May 1, 2015

Introduction

The Texas Target Communities (TTC) program in the College of Architecture at Texas A&M University is accepting applications from cities or other communities (herein referred to as partner) to form a year-long partnership addressing community needs by developing a comprehensive plan. While TTC was established more than a quarter century ago, we invite you to become among the select communities to pioneer our collaborative and interdisciplinary community engagement effort. A strong candidate will have:

- Strong leadership and top level support
- The involvement of stakeholders and residents and a network that is able to connect and bring people together
- Specific needs identified
- Financial support
- An ability to assist in implementing projects to build off assets that will make a real impact
- Willingness to work across jurisdictional lines
- Proximity (within 150 miles of College Station)

If you are interested, please provide the following:

Core Team

The core team is comprised of 3-5 people. The core team will likely have the most capacity (time, interest, ability, resources, and networks) to meaningfully contribute to the design and execution of a broader community engagement strategy. Please include:

- Name of community/city/county/region/district
- Lead administrator's name
- Primary contact person information (name, email, phone, mailing address, department, and staff role)
- Briefly list and describe all organizations/entities you are collaborating with
- Extension agent and their involvement. Describe their networks in the community and their ability to bring people together

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Task Force

The planning task force is a team of local stakeholders who will work with TTC staff to identify mutual interests and opportunities for collaboration. The task force should consist of about 8-12 members that can commit to attending workshops and meetings to provide ongoing feedback to the core team. A task force would ideally serve as 'hubs' and information brokers to community members. We encourage you to form a diverse group (e.g. in culture, competence, context, etc.) of residents and stakeholders. Provide the names and bios (200 words max.) of those that will serve on the community task force.

Statements of Support

Include letters of support from various groups and leaders within your community. This can include the city manager, elected officials, funding entities, or community groups. It is best to show support from a wide variety of community interest groups.

Needs List

Provide a summary listing of various needs and solutions under consideration throughout your community. We encourage potential partners to contact TTC staff prior to developing a project list.

Example summary:

Need: *Dilapidated and inadequate public housing*

Potential solution: *Plan and design the equitable reuse and redevelopment of existing public housing to address flooding concerns, the walkability and access to nearby services, and the economic sustainability of operating the facility, while incorporating*

Staff contact: *Jane Doe, Economic Development Department*

Current Status of Projects

Please describe any existing baseline information, vision, goals, and/or plans, if available. This might include maps, information about people involved in the project, potential funding sources, and/or how other organizations are involved. Please describe any ongoing efforts, challenges, concerns, and milestones met.

Commit Resources

Please describe the financial and/or other resources (physical, human, or fiscal) the partner can commit to the program. (Note: We will work with communities to create a budget for what they want to accomplish, but would like to see a partner's ability to commit resources. Please contact TTC staff for questions.)

Next Steps

TTC staff will visit potential sites, once the applications have been submitted, to get a better sense of the local context—its needs, dynamics, and commitment, etc. Details of site visits will be arranged in advance. Partners will be selected by May 1st. All applicants will remain on file for potential future opportunities.

Submit by email to:

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