



FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

National Transit-Oriented Development Technical Assistance Ladders of Opportunity Initiative

Webinar

December 10, 2015



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration

Introduction

FTA has engaged Smart Growth America (SGA) to lead a team of experts to provide technical assistance that includes a variety of TOD planning and analysis tools.

- SGA's team includes LOCUS, the National Complete Streets Coalition, Smart Growth Leadership Institute, and T4 Consulting. SGA is also supported by other partners.

Introduction

Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)

TOD can leverage existing and planned transit infrastructure to promote economic development, revitalization, smart growth, and expand housing options in response to market demands and lifestyle preferences.

Introduction

SGA's team will provide expert advice on preserving affordable housing, securing advantageous commercial development, planning for and managing economic development, and other tailored assistance.

Technical Assistance Overview



Overview of Technical Assistance

- Components include:
 - National Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Technical Assistance Project Website:
www.todresources.org
 - Direct hands-on technical assistance
 - Peer-to-Peer Network
 - TOD Database



Technical Assistance

- Focus on economically distressed communities across the country
- Goals:
 - Build new economic opportunities and pathways to employment
 - Maintain affordability
 - Improve access to public transportation
 - Help elected leaders, developers, and community members collaborate and build more TOD projects across the country



Types of Technical Assistance

- Targeted assistance
 - Workshop format on a specific TOD issue or challenge or an introduction/overview
- In-depth assistance
 - Ongoing, on-call, year-long relationship between community and a team of experts
 - Team will provide informational resources and strategic consulting, help draft local policy, identify expertise needed locally and develop messaging materials
 - Intended to train participants and build local capacity, support planning efforts, examine development challenges, and assist in policy change



Our Partners

- Enterprise Community Partners
- Natural Resources Defense Council
- The Overhead Wire
- MZ Strategies
- SK Solutions
- Urban Land Institute
- Justice and Sustainability Associates
- Van Meter Williams Pollack
- Strategic Economics



Application Process and Timeline



Eligibility Criteria

- Any unit or subdivision of local or regional government with an:
 - Active federally funded transit project through New Starts, Small Starts
 - TIGER capital funding for new transit
 - Other federal funding for fully-funded new transit.
- **Must** include the relevant transit agency.
- **Must** include the land use authority, if separate from applying jurisdiction.



Selection Criteria

Primary selection criteria:

- Statement of need (20%)
- Commitment to equity (20%)
- Strong leadership (20%)
- Partnership and engagement (20%)
- Leverage and match (20%)

Other factors:

- Geographic diversity
- Community diversity



www.todresources.org



Economic opportunity through transit-oriented development

FTA is providing technical assistance and resources to help communities grow their economies, advance equity, and improve quality of life for everyone.



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Making Neighborhoods Great Together

Submitting Your Application

FOR FTA GRANTEES

Request for on-site technical assistance workshops

Requests for technical assistance workshops are now open. Community leaders who have received FTA-funded transit projects grants and are considering TOD, or need ideas and assistance with TOD, are invited to apply.

[Submit a request for TA](#)



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FOR FTA GRANTEES

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Requests for technical assistance workshops are now open.

Community leaders who have received FTA-funded transit projects grants and are considering TOD, or need ideas and assistance with TOD, are invited to request assistance.

Requests are due by 5:00 p.m. EST Tuesday, January 19, 2016. [Click here to download the request details and a pdf version of the form.](#)

Learn more about this assistance and the application process during an informational webinar on Thursday, December 10, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. EST. This online event is free but registration is required. [Click here to register for the webinar.](#)



Application

REQUEST FORM

Name of applicant agency: *

Agency CEO or other
individual authorized to enter
into agreements: *

Contact person name: *

Contact person email: *

Contact person phone
number: *

Organization address: *

Organization website: *

Form of government (local,
regional, tribal): *



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Application

Name of transit agency partner: *

Does applicant have land use authority? (i.e., zoning and other entitlements) *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Is the applicant able to dedicate the meeting space and senior staff time that may be necessary for this technical assistance? *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No



Application

1. Statement of Need: Why are you applying for the Ladders of Opportunity TOD technical Assistance? What is the problem you would like to address, and what work on TOD has been done to date? (Limit 500 words) *

0/500

2. Statement of Need: Describe the transit project at the heart of the assistance request. Describe the area and community in which the technical assistance would focus. (Limit 500 words) *

0/500

3. Statement of Need: Explain which agencies will construct the transit project, operate the transit, has land use authority and how they are involved in this application. Attach letters of commitment to the application and technical assistance from the head of each agency. (Limit 500 words) *

0/500



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Application

4. Partnership and Engagement: Describe the involvement of the business community, civic organizations, philanthropy, advocacy groups, other stakeholders and the public in the technical assistance. (Limit 500 words) *

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0/500

5. Commitment to Equity: How does this project involve issues of equity, economic opportunity, and/or affordable housing? (Limit 500 words) *

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0/500



Application

6. Leverage and Match: What federal funding or assistance programs have been used or are being used to support this project? (Limit 500 words) *

0/500

Strong Leadership Letter of Commitment: To help assess community support, the application must be accompanied by a letter of commitment signed by the head of government (mayor, county commission chair, or comparable elected leader), as well as from the head of the transit agency. If the applying government is not the land use authority for the jurisdiction, a letter from the relevant authority should also be included. The letter should state the commitment of local leaders to participate in the technical assistance and to implement any local initiatives that result from the TOD technical assistance offered. These letters must be submitted with the application. *

No file chosen



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Letter of Commitment

- SGA also requires all applicants to upload a letter of commitment as part of the application
 - Must be signed by the mayor, county commission chair, or comparable elected leader
 - Must state the commitment of local elected leaders to implement any local initiatives that result from the smart growth technical assistance offered



Deadlines

Applications are due by

Tuesday January 19, 2016 at 5:00 PM EST

- Applications received after this deadline will not be reviewed
- Incomplete applications will not be reviewed
- Applications not meeting requirements will be rejected
- Applications must be submitted through the online portal or emailed to assistance@smartgrowthamerica.org



Notification of Selection for Technical Assistance

Successful proposers will be notified by
February 9, 2016.

- 6 communities will be selected for targeted TA
- 3 will be selected for in-depth TA



Pre-Application Assistance

- Any communication regarding this program or the application process should be in writing to assistance@smartgrowthamerica.org
- The SGA project team will contact you promptly
- Applicants should not contact team members and staff directly regarding a question or pending application



Questions?

- Contact assistance@smartgrowthamerica.org
- Webinar materials will be posted at www.smartgrowthamerica.org by the end of the week
- Remember to apply by January 19, 2016 at 5:00 PM (EST) at www.todresources.org