



KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

Project Partners/Community Involvement

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Form Grant and Task-Specific Partnerships Early!!!



Why are Partnerships Important?

- Gain resources and specialized knowledge
- Foster communication and collaboration
- Helps with community engagement
- Supports marketing efforts
- Can help overcome complex brownfield issues
- Foster creative end use
- Helps access funding



Partners

- Always keep the goals and tasks of your project in mind
- Know what you need – where are the gaps?
- Know the mission of potential partners
- Think outside the box



Funding Partners

From the FY 2024 guidelines:

IV.E.1.c Strategy for Leveraging Resources

IV.E.1.c.i Resources Needed for Site Reuse

Describe your access to funding from other resources (e.g., any other EPA Brownfields resources or public or private resources) and how the grant will stimulate the availability of additional funds to support the completion of the environmental site assessment or remediation, **and** subsequent reuse strategy at the priority site(s).



Other Project Partners

From the FY 2024 guidelines:

IV.E.2.b Community Engagement

IV.E.2.b.i Project Involvement

Identify the local organizations/entities/groups that will be involved in and will provide assistance/information to assist you with this project. This includes community-based organizations and/or community liaisons representing residents directly affected by the project work in the target area(s).

Project involvement may be provided by a broad and diverse group of entities including, but not limited to, community-based organizations (e.g., neighborhood groups, citizen groups, business organizations, etc.), as well as community liaisons, property owners, lenders, developers, cities/towns within a regional organization's target area(s), entities that are a part of a formal partnership agreement (e.g., through an MOA), and the general public.



Project Roles

From the FY 2024 guidelines:

IV.E.2.b Community Engagement

IV.E.2.b.ii Project Roles

Describe the role **each** identified local organization/entity/group will have in the project including how it will be **meaningfully involved** in making decisions with respect to **site selection, cleanup, and future reuse of the brownfield sites**, including the priority site(s).

Sample Format for List of Organizations/Entities/Groups & Roles

Name of entity, organization or group	Entity’s Mission	Point of contact (name, email, phone)	Specific involvement in the project or assistance provided
Add rows as needed			



Project Roles - Examples

- Participate on the advisory committee
- Community liaison
- Community engagement through neighborhood
 - surveys and meetings
- Host public meetings
- Provide Risk Communication
- Provide input on the identification of sites/reuse scenarios

For Assessment
& Multipurpose Grants:
Identify 1 community
liaison per target area (paid
liaison position).

Evaluation Criteria

2.b.i. Project Involvement (5 points)

The degree to which the applicant involves a diverse group of local organizations/entities/groups that are **relevant** to the proposed project, including community-based organizations and/or community liaisons representing residents directly affected by the project work in the target area(s). (Note, a plan that does not involve at least one relevant community-based organization or community liaison representing residents directly affected by the project work in the target area(s) will be evaluated less favorably.)

2.b.ii. Project Roles (5 points)

The degree to which **each** identified local organization/entity/group will have meaningful involvement in the project and the extent to which partners will be involved in making decisions with respect to site selection, cleanup, **and** future reuse of the brownfield sites, including the priority site(s).

AND for coalitions: The extent to which the plan also demonstrates that **each non-lead member** will be **effectively engaged and informed throughout the project.**

Typical Partners – An Assortment

- Federal, state, tribal and local agencies
- Local elected officials
- Local and regional community development districts/agencies
- Developers
- Community members
- Tribes

Also consider:

- ✓ Faith based organizations
- ✓ Arts and culture community
- ✓ Medical community
- ✓ Youth orgs (4-H, etc.)
- ✓ Schools
- ✓ Environmental groups

- Property owners
- Academia
- Potentially responsible parties (PRPs)
- Private business and industry
- Non-profit organizations

Volunteer Hours (currently at \$34.79/hr)

<https://independentsector.org/resource/value-of-volunteer-time/>

Partner List – Example from Successful Grantee

“All organizations listed below will participate in outreach activities under this grant, provide input for the conceptual plan for the community/teaching garden as an interim use and the new police department/city hall as the ultimate end use, and will disseminate outreach materials using their respective networks. All partners were provided opportunity to provide input on the cleanup and future reuse (see section IV.E.1.b.i).”

PARTNER	POINT OF CONTACT	SPECIFIC ROLE IN THE PROJECT
Keep Gatesville Beautiful	Joseph Campbell, President joe@v2rmasonry.com (254)404-2270	Local not-for profit organization; provide technical and managerial expertise to establish and maintain the community/teaching garden.
Boys and Girls Club	Julie Hudson, Branch Director jhudson@bgctx.org (254) 223-2995	Establish and maintain community garden, incorporate garden into current club gardening program; host community meetings at their facilities.
Gatesville Independent School District	Scott Harper, Exec. Director of Operations and Student Services sharper@gatesvilleisd.org 254-865-7251	Student design competition for community garden, involving 4 classes (horticulture, graphic design, welding, construction science); implement and maintain garden; provide meeting space.
Coryell Health	David Byrom, CEO dbyrom@cmhos.org (254)248-6301	Participating in outreach activities to provide health education, addressing potential citizen concerns about ACMs and associated health risks.
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension and Coryell County 4-H	Robert Ferguson, County Ext. Agent robert.ferguson@ag.tamu.edu (254) 865-2414	Assist with establishment of teaching gardens, provide technical assistance; lend gardening equipment; educational classes with 4-H, GISD, community at large.

DO...

- ...identify suitable partners early
- ...seek input and feedback from your partners
- ...make sure partners are aware of the entire project and not only their role in it



Community Involvement

Threshold – Assessment Grant

- ❖ Provide information that demonstrates how you intend to inform and involve the community and other stakeholders in the planning, implementation, and other brownfield assessment activities described in your application.

Threshold – Cleanup

- ❖ Community Notification; public meeting

Project Involvement

- ❖ Identify the local organizations/entities/groups that will be involved in, and will provide assistance/information to you to assist in, the performance of the project. This includes community-based organizations and/or community liaisons representing residents directly affected by the project work in the target areas.
- ❖ Project involvement may be provided by a broad and diverse group of entities including, but not limited to, community-based organizations (e.g., neighborhood groups, citizen groups, business organizations, etc.), as well as community liaisons, property owners, lenders, developers, cities/towns within a regional organization's target area, entities that are a part of a formal partnership agreement (e.g., through an MOA), and the general public.

Incorporating Community Input

- ❖ Discuss your plan to communicate project progress to the local community, the local organizations/entities/groups that will be involved in the project, and residents/groups in (or in closest proximity to) the target areas, including the frequency and by what method(s) you will use (including methods that offer an alternative to in-person community engagement in the event of social distancing or other restrictions as a result of COVID-19) and how input will be solicited, considered, and responded to.



Community Involvement

- Who is the Community?
- Why do it?
- Successful Involvement Techniques



Who is the Community?

- Elected Officials
- Citizens
- Adjacent property owners
- Nearby residents
- Business Representatives
- Neighborhood Organizations
- Local churches, youth organizations, garden clubs, etc.

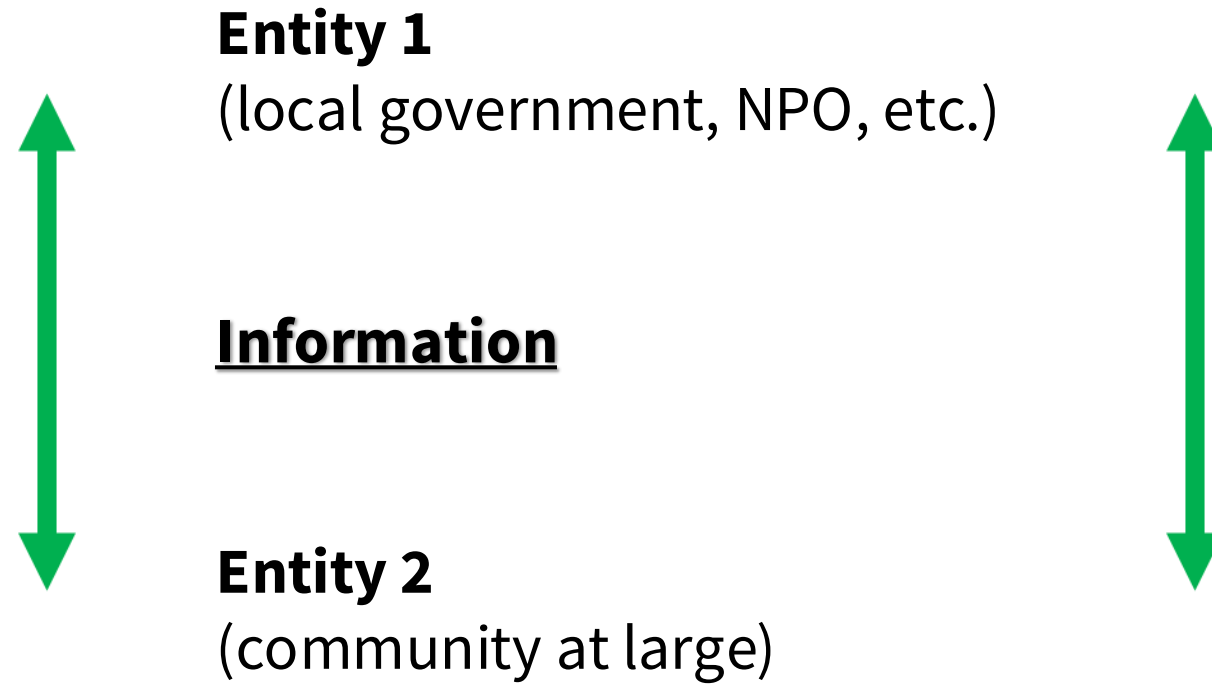


Identify Stakeholders

- Local non-profits, community groups, church groups
- Community Development Corporations
- Local leadership – mayor, town manager, county commissioner
- Local planners
- Regional Planning Commission
- Economic Development interests
- Financial Institutions
- All interested residents



Communication



Incorporate Community Input

- Form an Advisory Committee with project partners
- Communicate project progress
- Disseminate material via social media, newsletters and other events
- Solicit public input in a meaningful way

For Assessment Activities:

- Develop vision for specific site/target area reuse
- Engage neighborhood in planning (visioning, design charrettes)
- Communicate assessment results and public health risks to public

For Cleanup Activities:

- Refine vision for specific site reuse (add details if they don't exist)
- Engage neighborhood in specific decisions (e.g. parking, lighting, aesthetics, noise mitigation)

Community Involvement

Virtual

- Social Media
- QR Codes
- Email updates
- Blogs/webpage
- Zoom meetings

Non-Virtual

- Local TV, radio
- Newspaper
- Flyers/Doorhangers
- Phone calls/conference calls
- In-person meetings



<https://groundworkusa.org/remote-engagement-in-the-age-of-covid-19/>

Community Involvement

- Community Day/Fair
- Bus Tours
- Walking Tours
- Open House
- Public Meetings
- Workshops/Seminars
- Reuse Planning



Equitable Community Involvement

Include all members of the community, regardless of:

- Ability (ADA accessibility, hearing impaired, etc.)
- Age (not everyone is on social media!)
- Culture
- Income
- Language



Sensitive Populations

- Children
- Elderly
- Minorities
- Women of child bearing age



Community Involvement

- Early and often
- Elaborate on tried-and-true methods of connecting with your community members; what have you done, what will you do, how will you do it
- Partnerships



If You Feed Them, They Will Come



Contact Info

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**SCAN
ME!**



**LET'S
CONNECT!**

Scan the QR code to
get in touch with a TAB
team member or to
join our mailing list.