Stellar Communities Designation Program Webinar
Today’s Agenda

- Program Overview and State Agency Involvement
- INDOT and Transportation’s Role
- Stellar Successes
- Questions
A first of its kind collaboration between state agencies
Through annual designation the Stellar Communities Designation Program will provide resources for transformative quality of place community improvements by:

- Utilizing previous planning efforts
- Leveraging existing assets
- Fostering regional investments
- Stimulating continued growth for long-term relevance
Building **strong partnerships** and coordinate program implementation among various organizations.

Designed to be a *flexible* program to assist prepared communities to implement their vision to make significant social and capital investments to enhance **quality of life** and spur private economic development.
Stellar Communities Designation Program

Stellar Designees

Since the program’s launch in 2011, ten communities have been designated as Stellar Communities. This map depicts the ten Stellar Designees by year:

- **2011:**
  - City of Greencastle
  - City of North Vernon

- **2012:**
  - City of Delphi
  - City of Princeton

- **2013:**
  - City of Bedford
  - City of Richmond

- **2014:**
  - City of Huntingburg
  - City of Wabash

- **2015:**
  - City of Crawfordsville
  - Town of North Liberty
Designated communities will have access to technical assistance and may be eligible for non-competitive funds.

Restrictions may be placed on designated communities to apply for regular competitive programs during the three-year designation period.
Division I: Communities above 6,000 in population

Division II: Communities 6,000 and below in population

Three finalists and one designee from each division will be selected as long as eligible and qualified letters of interest and strategic investment plans are received.
Open to incorporated Indiana communities of any size that are not entitled to direct CDBG funding through U.S. HUD

MPO requirement
General Requirements for Participation

Requirements Continued

Must have a recent comprehensive plan (7-yrs)

Must have documented and demonstrated capacity to complete proposed activities—including the ability to submit a response to a request for proposal

Must be in good standing with partner agencies
Stellar Communities Designation Program

Process Overview

Program Kick-off Webinar
Letters of Interest – submission and evaluations
Announcement of finalist communities
Finalist Workshop
Strategic Investment Plans (SIPs)
Site Visits
Announcement
Stellarbrations
Kick-off and Quarterly Meetings
The mission of the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority is to provide housing opportunities, promote self-sufficiency, and strengthen Indiana communities.
Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority

**Resources**

1. **Technical assistance** on project development and funding requirements
2. **Capital funding** for affordable housing and **community development projects**. Funding may be in the form of tax credits, loans, or grants depending on activity and funding program.
   - HOME $500,000
   - CDBG $250,000
   - RHTC $1,200,000
   - Indiana Affordable Housing and Community Development Fund $500,000 (loan only)
The Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs works with local, state and national partners to provide resources and technical assistance to aid communities in shaping and achieving their vision for economic development.
1. **Technical assistance** on project development and funding requirements

2. Maximum of $2MM per designeeee in funding available through the CDBG subject to federal eligibility and project application submission

3. Maximum of $100K per designee in funding available through the [Historic Renovation Grant Program](#)
The Indiana Department of Transportation will plan, build, maintain and operate a superior transportation system enhancing safety, mobility and economic growth.
1. **Technical assistance** on project development and funding requirements

2. Maximum of $2.5MM dollars per designee in funding available for construction in fiscal year 2020 though the Rural Federal Aid Program for communities that fall outside of any MPO Urbanized Area. This funding is subject to federal eligibility.
A local unit of government that resides in a MPO, must meet the eligibility requirements below:

1. If the community falls within an MPO’s Planning Area, they must have a letter of recommendation from the MPO for the proposed projects.
2. If the community falls within an MPO urbanized area, they must have approval from the MPO for the proposed projects. If selected, any funding for the proposed projects must be financed by the MPO.
Stellar Success Stories

Greencastle

Anchor project – community room, bookstore and coffee shop
Stellar Success Stories

Greencastle

Four streetscape projects
Stellar Success Stories

Delphi

Façade improvements
Stellar Success Stories

Delphi

Opera House Renovation
Stellar Success Stories

Bedford

Milwaukee Depot
Stellar Success Stories

Bedford

Stonecutters Place Senior Apartments
Stellar Success Stories

Huntingburg

Market Street Park
Stellar Success Stories

Huntingburg

Heritage Trail
Stellar Success Stories

Crawfordsville

Fusion 54
Stellar Success Stories

Crawfordsville

Big Four Trail & Downtown Trail
Questions and Answers
Questions can be submitted to: Stellarcommunities@ocra.in.gov

You can find the FAQ, along with all other Stellar Community information, here:

http://www.in.gov/ocra/stellar.htm
Thank You