2013 NIRPC Creating Livable Communities (CLC) - Funding Program

The purpose of this program is to support community-based transportation/land use projects that bring vitality to downtown areas, neighborhoods, station areas, commercial cores, and transit corridors. It will fund development and redevelopment projects that achieve connected development patterns linking between transportation, housing, jobs and services, and maximize the development potential of existing infrastructure and regional facilities. The program is designed to account for rising energy prices, climate change, reduced infrastructure funds, and land use – with a goal of more efficiently using existing infrastructure, and reducing vehicle miles traveled, emissions, energy use, and personal transportation costs.

This program is guided by the principle of “place-making” to ensuring increased residential development, a mix of uses and connectivity in livable and neighborhood centers that can serve each community’s need.

2040 Plan - Livable Centers Goals & Objectives

**Vision Theme: Vibrant Region – Planned Growth**

**Goal:** Livable urban, suburban and rural centers

**Objectives:**
- Encourage the compact mixing of uses
- Encourage a diverse mix of housing types and affordability levels near job centers and transit routes
- Facilitate the remediation and redevelopment of abandoned and underutilized land, including brownfields and greyfields.
- Promote community green infrastructure and access to public open space
- Promote the preservation of historic and cultural resources

- Promote the integration of Context Sensitive Solutions into transportation planning projects

**Vision Theme: Revitalized Region – Renewed Urban Areas**

**Goal:** Revitalized urban core

**Objectives:**
- Foster the development of livable, mixed-use downtowns
- Promote adaptive reuse, infill development and the remediation and reuse of underutilized properties, particularly brownfields
- Facilitate the rehabilitation of neighborhoods and maintenance of high-quality and affordable housing
• Expand visual and physical access to Lake Michigan and other open space
• Partner to protect threatened natural remnants
• Enhance community design and aesthetics

Eligible Recipients:

The planning grants will be awarded on a competitive basis to:

1. Local governments, transportation agencies, and community-based nonprofit organizations may receive funding if they partner with a local government.
2. Non-governmental organizations must partner with a local governmental agency.
3. Grant recipients will be required to enter into a funding agreement with NIRPC / INDOT and attend a workshop on grant administration.

Eligibility:

All projects must meet the following requirements in order to be accepted and considered for funding.

1. Projects should be identified in two emphasis areas: Livable Centers Map or Transit Area Map within the urbanized area. Projects identified in the emphasis areas have to meet the minimum requirements of the Livable Centers goals.
2. Applicant must show that the proposed implementation project will be possible under existing codes/ordinances of the local government unless the applicant updating current zoning ordinance within the proposed study.

CLC Planning Fund:

CLC Planning funds planning projects (a Pre-development Plan) that revitalize existing centers, neighborhood, downtown, transit stop or transit corridors. It will assist cities with activities such as urban design, detailed redevelopment designs and economic feasibility analysis to prepare projects to compete for Surface Transportation Program (STP) transportation funding. It may also fund projects related to access management, transportation-related zoning ordinance, and streetscape improvements.

Application Guidelines/ Review Criteria: (100 points)

1. Project Impact: (15 points)
   a. The study goals, need, purpose, and timeline (5 points)
   b. Integration of land use policies/regulations and transportation investments with urban design tools. (5 points)
c. Demonstration of regional significance. (5 points)

2. Fulfill CLC program goals within the project area. The description of your project must address the 2040 Plan goals and objectives (page 1). (20 points)

3. Promote economic development by identifying: (15 points)
   a. Innovative approaches to economic retrieval
   b. Using existing infrastructure

4. Promote living places with easy access to jobs and services. (5 points)

5. Create quality mixed use and walkable places. (10 points)

6. Accessible by transit. (5 points)

7. Improve connectivity. (10 points)

8. Increase the desirability for redevelopment through transportation investments in areas served by existing infrastructure at transit stations, corridors, and centers. (5 points)

9. Create the groundwork for future implementation projects (7 points)
   a. Partnerships and/or potential investment by developers within the project area.

10. Improve environmental quality (8 points)

**CLC Study Deliverables**

The CLC study should result in a plan that delineates the following elements:

1. Description of the study purpose and methodology, data gathering techniques and findings, and general study outcomes.

2. Rehabilitation of neighborhoods and maintenance of high-quality transportation and land use elements.

3. Transportation demand reduction measures

4. Description of the public private partnership

5. Description of stakeholders participation/support

6. Maps and other graphic depictions to support the plan that includes existing and future land uses, existing and proposed transportation facilities, street design and pedestrian improvement cross-sections, and parking plans.

7. An analysis of the potential market feasibility of the proposed projects to ensure the proposed plan is realistic
8. Description of strengthen community identity in the project area through use of compatible, quality architectural and landscape design and

9. Preservation of significant historic structures and/or natural features.

10. A fiscal feasibility analysis of the plan’s recommendations and a proposed implementation plan

11. Provide a 5-year action plan to implement the project including cost estimate. Focus should be given to collaboration opportunities with other organizations and strategies to ensure continued support from local elected officials, citizens and businesses.