

STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

USDA and University of Kentucky Invite Rural Leaders to Participate in National Virtual Placemaking Conference on May 23-24

WASHINGTON, April 19, 2022 – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Under Secretary for Rural Development Xochitl Torres Small today announced that USDA and the University of Kentucky are inviting rural leaders across the country to attend the [Placemaking for Small and Rural Communities Online Conference](#) on May 23-24. Rural communities, placemaking technical assistance providers and philanthropic entities interested in supporting rural placemaking efforts are encouraged to register for this two-day conference.

As part of the conference, USDA and University of Kentucky will showcase effective placemaking strategies rural communities can use and connect rural leaders to placemaking experts and potential funders.

USDA and the University of Kentucky also will unveil placemaking resources, including an interactive digital toolkit. The toolkit will connect rural leaders with technical assistance providers, funders and guides on how to implement placemaking in their own communities.

To register, visit https://whova.com/portal/registration/creat_202202.

Placemaking is a collaborative planning and technical assistance process. It helps rural community leaders develop plans to create quality places where people will want to live, work, visit, learn and explore. The plans can enhance a rural community's capacity to provide people access to economic development opportunities as well as community infrastructure such as affordable housing, safe and reliable transportation, high-speed internet in their homes, and more.

For additional information about the virtual workshop and toolkit, visit <https://www.rd.usda.gov/placemaking> or [sign up to receive updates from USDA](#).

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