

## STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

### Trump Administration Seeks Applications for Capacity Building and Planning Grants in Rural Communities

**WASHINGTON, Aug. 10, 2020** – The Trump Administration today announced that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is accepting applications to help rural communities enhance capacity for broadband access; preserve cultural and historic structures; and support the development of transportation, housing, and recreational spaces.

USDA is making \$1 million in grants available under the Rural Placemaking Innovation Challenge (RPIC). Eligible recipients may use the grants to develop multi-jurisdictional plans to benefit cities or towns with 50,000 residents or less. Organizations may use funds to develop actionable plans, convene partners, identify community needs and implement priorities to build rural prosperity.

Public or private groups, organizations, or institutions that demonstrate experience in providing placemaking technical assistance to rural communities are eligible to apply.

USDA encourages applicants to develop projects and plans that provide measurable results to help create livable communities; encourage partnerships; contribute to long-term community investment; and support community resiliency, social stability and collective identity.

USDA seeks to partner with one organization each located in the northeast, southern, midwestern and western regions of the United States. The maximum grant award is \$250,000. Applicants must provide a 15 percent match in funding. Eligible placemaking plans will provide assistance to rural communities for two years.

Electronic applications must be submitted via [grants.gov](https://grants.gov) and a copy of the submission must be emailed to [RD.Innovation@usda.gov](mailto:RD.Innovation@usda.gov) by midnight Eastern Standard Time on Sept. 10, 2020. For more information, contact [Angela.Callie@usda.gov](mailto:Angela.Callie@usda.gov) or call (202) 568-9738.

USDA encourages applications that will support recommendations made in the [Report to the President of the United States from the Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity](#) (PDF, 5.4 MB).

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