

Middle Tennessee Mayors Caucus | Cumberland Region Tomorrow | Partnership 2020
HUD Sustainable Communities: Middle Tennessee Application Framework
For Discussion **August 6, 2010**

Primary Goal

If grant funding is awarded to Middle Tennessee, regional partners will work together to adopt a **vision for future growth** and a **regional comprehensive plan for sustainable development** to be shared by local communities, resource management agencies, and the private-sector across our ten-county **Middle Tennessee** area for use in shaping their own plans, policies, programs, projects, and service delivery.

The effort is not intended to create an additional layer of planning or policy, but instead begins with the premise that the consolidation of information and plans related to the individual elements of community growth (e.g., transportation, housing, economic development, etc.) into a central place will benefit all of us interested in the long-term sustainability of Middle Tennessee.

Through a truly regional exercise involving partners from all walks of life and every corner of our area, we will establish a shared vision for growth, which will provide opportunities for individual agencies and organizations to improve their own plans and programs to support the overall vision for growth and sustainable development.

Major Tasks

The application for Middle Tennessee will include the following 6 major tasks, which build upon the collective work of key partner organizations over the last decade:

- 1. Coalition Building** - Though the consortium assembled to develop the application for funding will be as inclusive and broad-reaching as possible, the first task of this regional effort will be targeted at **ensuring sufficient representation from interested stakeholders** -- particularly those who will be responsible for implementing any of the recommendations that stem from the endeavor. Moreover, thoughtful outreach will be offered to ensure that the **traditionally underserved populations are at the table** from the onset to afford them the opportunity to shape solutions that will most directly affect their respective communities.
- 2. Regional Visioning** - Building upon the original CRT regional visioning project of 10 years ago and using the myriad of tools developed by resource agencies throughout the region since then, the first major product of the effort will be the development of a regionally adopted vision for future growth. This task will utilize the broad coalition established as part of task 1 and include work to **identify community values; establish guiding principles** for a sustainable future; **identify trends** and **forecast future demand** for land, jobs, services, and infrastructure; construct a **preferred growth scenario** that reflects the stated community values and guiding principles; and **establish a baseline** to evaluate our progress towards the implementation of the shared vision.
- 3. A Plan for Sustainable Development** - Following the adoption of a shared vision, the region will work together to identify a **cohesive set of specific actions** to be taken by state and local governments, regional organizations, resource agencies, the business community, non-profits, and individual citizens in order to implement that vision over a period of time.

First and foremost, the plan for sustainable development is intended to be a **consolidation of the great work already underway in the region**. One of the primary objectives of such a plan will be to help reduce the burden associated with inter-agency and multijurisdictional collaboration and information sharing. Careful

consideration should be made to determine how to accomplish this task without creating another layer of policy and planning which could further disconnect those most directly involved in the implementation of community plans and programs. Ultimately, however, the plan represents more than an assemblage of strategies and action items; it **represents a commitment by stakeholders to do their part in helping to create the shared vision.**

4. **Demonstration of Implementation Strategies** - In order to provide for the long-term sustainability of the plan, task 4 will develop a sampling of potential **training and technical resources** that could serve as a model for future implementation of the plan and accompanying strategies. Potential tools and resources to be created build upon previous Quality Growth work across the ten-county region, along with related Seminars provided by lead regional transportation agencies:
 - o Creation of Reinvestment Readiness strategies and tools that provide policy guidance, model codes and ordinances, design methodologies that support infill/redevelopment, rehabilitate/ re-use brownfield sites, adjoining arterials and inner-ring neighborhoods, and use of energy efficient building strategies that provide more energy efficient development.
 - o Creation of site-specific Transit Oriented Development, traditional neighborhood development, and compact cluster development design and implementation strategies and tools that incorporate affordable housing and connection to existing neighborhoods.
 - o Creation of new Data Tools that support strategic School-Siting decision making, along with new Health, Climate and Energy indicators that will support sustainable development planning and implementation.
 - o Development of tools to assess the health impacts of proposed development and/or infrastructure investments.
 - o Pilot project funding for local demonstration projects that support local comprehensive plan and aligned zoning and codes development and future regional sustainable development plans and strategies.
 - o OTHERS.....
5. **Development of Long-Term Accountability Measures** - To ensure compliance with the regional vision and plan for sustainable development, the project team will proliferate its effort by **developing a set of accountability measures** that allow the region to **track progress** towards its stated vision and to **make comparisons/ benchmark against competitor/ peer regions** across the nation. This task will involve the identification of trackable indicators, performance measure targets, a peer group, and the assignment of data collection and reporting to the appropriate entities to carry-out the tracking over time.
6. **Establishment of Sustainable Partnerships and Ongoing Education/ Communication** - Ultimately, for the effort to be successful, it must be sustained over the long-haul through the establishment and/or strengthening of regional partnerships and commitments. This task will devise specific strategies to sustain the effort beyond the initial scope of work. The task could include the **development of formal compacts** among agencies or jurisdictions to share resources and to commit fulfilling their respective roles in implementing the vision/ plan. Additionally, the task could include the **development of a regional "sustainable development academy"** that would be responsible for **reinforcing the importance of the vision/ plan** on current and future leaders and educating those individuals on the specific implementation strategies that could be used to ensure success.

Regional Visioning & Planning Model



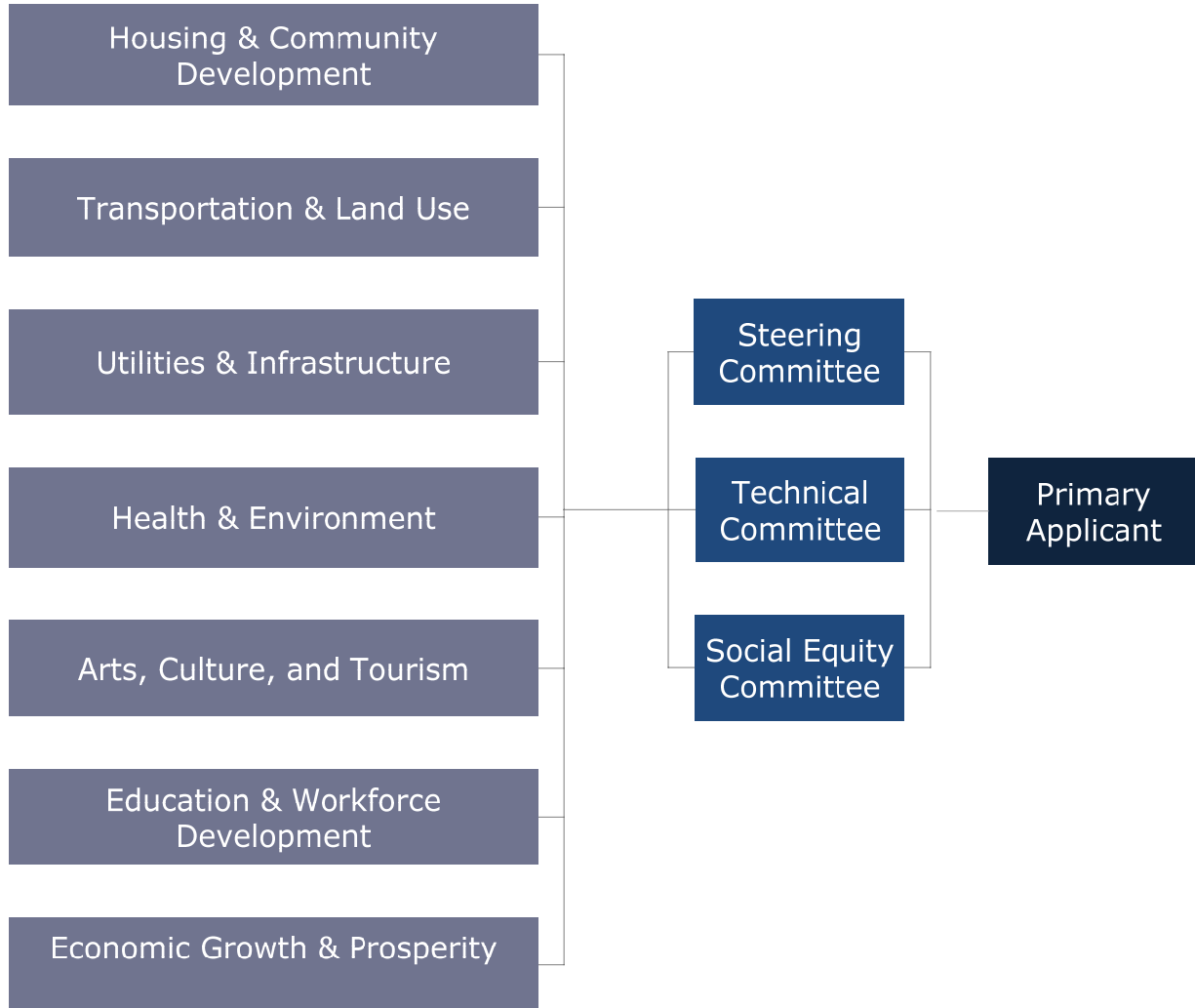
Application Team Organization

The application will represent various groups and interest from across Middle Tennessee and be developed using the following organizational structure:

1. **Primary Applicant** – The **Nashville Area MPO** will serve as the primary applicant, holding ultimate responsibility for final editing and submission of an qualified application to HUD by the announced due date (August 23). The primary applicant will be supported by a small **application team** comprised of the individuals drafting the application.
2. **Lead Organizations** – The application will be developed under the leadership of three existing regional partnerships in the area including the **Middle Tennessee Mayors Caucus**, **Cumberland Region Tomorrow**, and **Partnership 2020** representing the public sector, non-profit quality growth advocacy, and the regional economic development initiative of the Nashville Area Chamber, respectively.
3. **Regional Consortium** – The application will be molded through a collaboration of individuals and organizations from across Middle Tennessee that play a role in shaping plans, policies, programs, or projects related to housing, transportation, economic development, health, education, equity issues, water and other utility infrastructure, the environment, urban design, and rural preservation. The consortium will be formally bonded through a memorandum of agreement to be exercised prior to the submission of the application.
4. **Application Committees** – Three committees will collectively provide guidance during the application process.
 - a. **Steering Committee** – Comprised of the application team members, plus the chairs of each of the functional teams listed in #5. Responsible for ensuring a holistic approach to describing the application goals, scope of work, products, and regional qualifications.
 - b. **Technical Committee** – Comprised of the application team members, plus a representative from each of the functional teams listed in #5. Responsible for data collection for necessary regional indicators to support narrative of application.
 - c. **Social Equity Committee** – Comprised of the application team members, plus a representative from each of the functional teams listed in #5. Responsible for ensuring that the application appropriately addresses 1) how the products of the scope for work will benefit the traditionally underserved and 2) ensuring adequate representation of the traditional underserved in the development of the application.
5. **Functional Teams** – Seven functional teams will serve to provide expertise on a variety of issues/ industries to be addressed in the regional vision and plan for sustainable development. Each team will be comprised of a set of interested stakeholders from across the region who have volunteered their services, or who have been specifically recruited for their proven leadership and/or expertise in the subject matter.
 - a. **Housing & Community Development**
 - b. **Transportation & Land Use**
 - c. **Health & Environment**

- d. Arts, Culture, and Tourism
- e. Education & Workforce Development
- f. Economic Growth & Prosperity
- g. Utilities & Infrastructure

Application Team Organization Chart



General Schedule of Meetings/ Points of Collaboration

Thursday, June 24th, HUD releases notice of funds available (NOFA)

Tuesday, June 29th

- Application team meeting

Week, July 5th

- Thursday, July 8 - Briefing for the Middle Tennessee Mayors Caucus Executive Committee
- **Thursday, July 8 - Initial Regional Gathering of Interested Stakeholders**
- Friday, July 9 – Application team debrief

Week, July 12th

- Tuesday, July 13 – Application team meeting
- Thursday, July 15 – Application team meeting

Week, July 19th

- **Thursday, July 22 – Second Regional Gathering of Interested Stakeholders/ First Round Team Meetings**
- Friday, July 23 – Application team debrief

Week, July 26th

- Thursday, July 29 – Application team debrief

Week, August 2nd

- **Tuesday, August 3 – Initial Meeting of the Equity Committee (conference call)**
- **Friday, August 6 – Third Regional Gathering of Interested Stakeholders/ Second Round Team Meetings**
- Friday, August 6 – Application team debrief

Week, August 9th

- **TBD –Committee Meetings/ Conference Calls (Steering, Technical, Equity)**
- Thursday, August 12 – Application team debrief

Week, August 16th

- **TBD –Committee Meetings/ Conference Calls (Steering, Technical, Equity)**
- Tuesday, August 17 – Application team meeting – Final Comments on Draft Application
- **Thursday, August 19 – Application team meeting – Final Review of Application**

Week, August 23rd

- **Monday, August 23 – Application submitted to HUD**

For More Information

Michael Skipper, AICP, Nashville Area MPO, Mayors Caucus – skipper@nashvillempo.org | 615-862-7186

Bridget Jones, PhD, Cumberland Region Tomorrow – bridget@cumberlandregiontomorrow.org | 615-986-2699