

Overview of Community Connections

Bringing Communities Together to
Connect People to Services and Opportunities



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Today's Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Guiding Principles
3. Toolbox Overview
4. Types of Projects
5. Funding Opportunities
6. What's Next?
7. Questions



11th Street Bridge in Washington, DC

1. Introduction



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Encouraging Community Investments

FHWA is encouraging transportation agencies to invest in urban, suburban, and rural communities when there is:

- A transportation facility physically dividing a community
- A lack of reliable transportation options
- Overreliance on the automobile as the primary travel option
- Aging and worn infrastructure
- Limited system connectivity
- An opportunity to repurpose transportation right-of-way



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Achieving Community Benefits

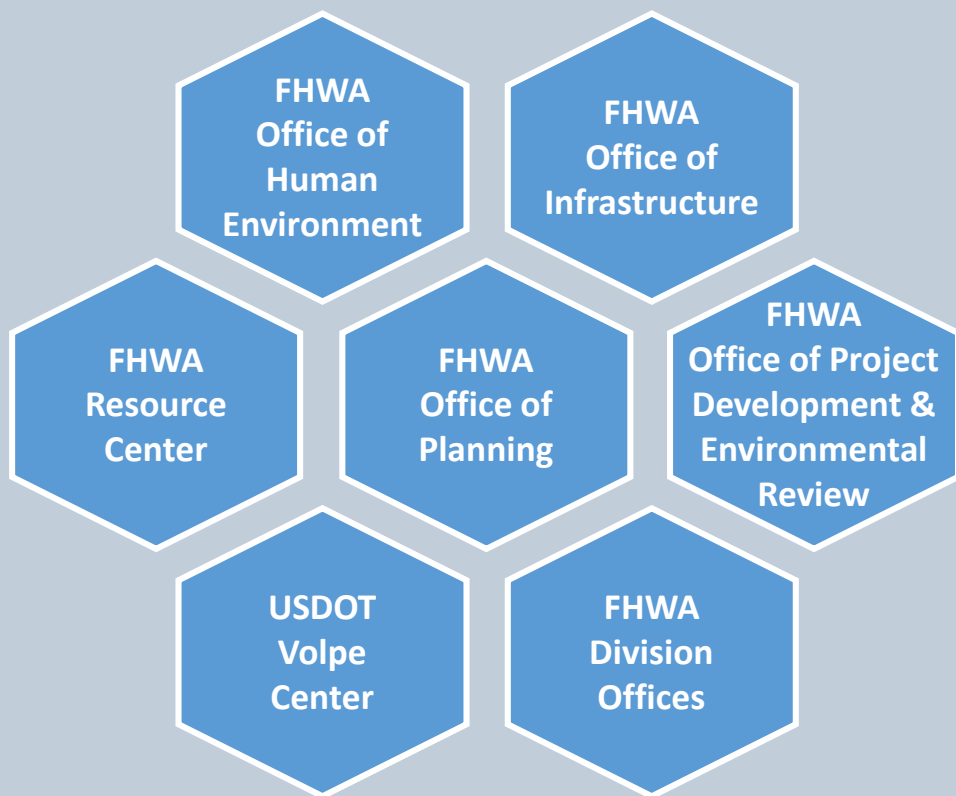
Investments in Community Connections can:

- Inform decision-making
- Improve project effectiveness and efficiency
- Advance high-performing multimodal transportation systems
- Enhance access to services and opportunities
- Improve walkability and bikeability
- Increase sense of place for communities
- Reduce project delivery delays



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Building Internal and External Partnerships

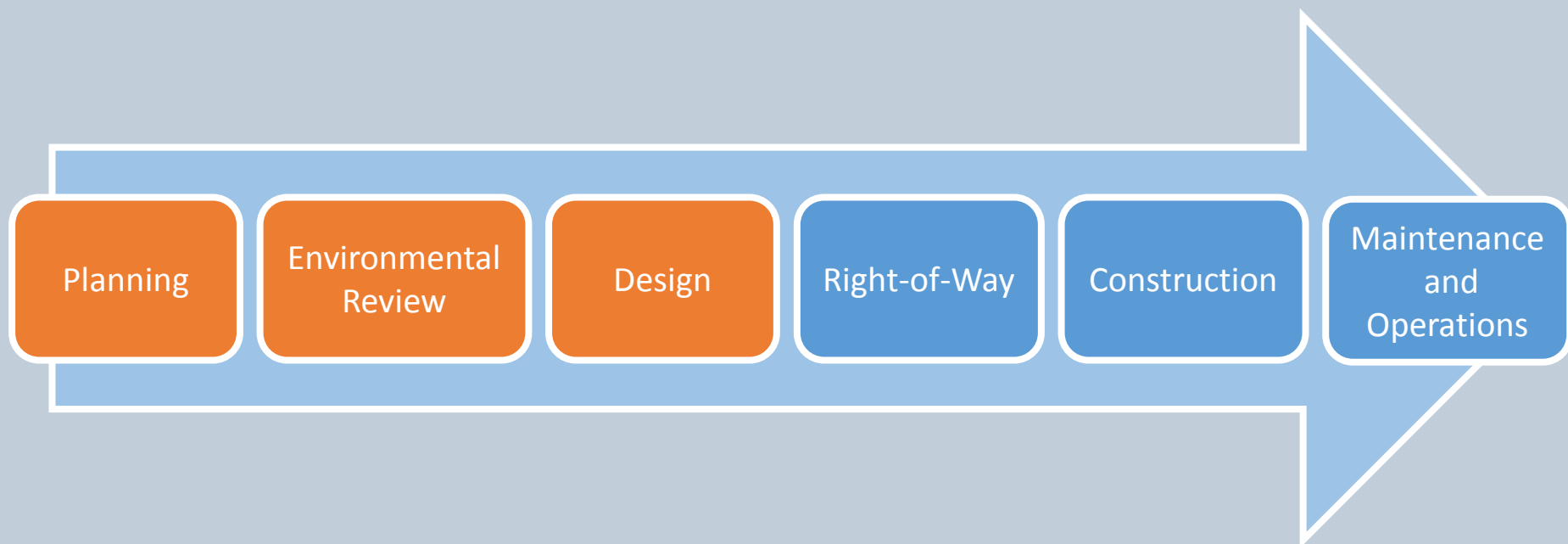


FHWA is partnering with:

- State Departments of Transportation (DOTs)
- Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)
- Local and tribal governments
- Other transportation practitioners

Promoting Transportation Innovations

FHWA is promoting transportation innovations and technologies that practitioners can use to advance their programs and processes for planning, environmental review, and design



Providing Technical Assistance

Through EDC-4, FHWA is offering:

- Guiding Principles
- Toolbox of innovations
- Instructional handbook
- Case studies
- Peer exchanges
- Workshops
- Webinars



Every Day Counts (EDC) is a partnership between FHWA and State DOTs to promote innovative tools and practices that:

- Shorten the project delivery process,
- Improve environmental sustainability,
- Enhance roadway safety, and
- Reduce congestion.

2. Guiding Principles



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Guiding Principles

To implement Community Connections, agencies should:

1. Envision and plan with the community, to understand their transportation needs
2. Approach projects holistically to consider all opportunities, small or large
3. Consider the needs, security, and safety of all transportation system users
4. Build collaborative partnerships with traditional and nontraditional partners
5. Embrace innovation, technology, flexibility, creativity, and multimodal approaches



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3. Toolbox Overview



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Community Connections Toolbox



Analytical Tools and Planning Frameworks

Approaches that identify and assess the impacts of transportation infrastructure on communities and help agencies develop project visions, parameters, or strategies



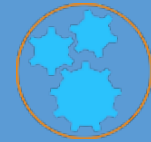
Public Involvement Strategies

Best practices in planning that enable agencies to communicate with stakeholders about issues, receive input on design plans, and implement a community's vision and goals



Project Development and Design Techniques

Project-level approaches that encourage flexibility to develop projects that meet community desires and users' needs



Operational Improvements and Programs

Strategies to enhance accessibility, mobility, and safety and better connect communities

Community Connections Toolbox

Analytical Tools and Planning Frameworks	Public Involvement Strategies	Project Development and Design Techniques	Operational Improvements and Programs
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bicycle and Pedestrian Assessments • Community Impact Assessments • EconWorks • Environmental Justice / Equity Analyses • Geographic Information Systems Innovations • Health in Transportation • Planning and Environmental Linkages • PlanWorks • Road Safety Audits • Scenario Planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design Charrettes • Experiential Public Engagement • Stakeholder Engagement • Virtual Public Engagement • Visualization Techniques 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Benefits Agreements • Complete Streets • Context Sensitive Solutions • Performance-Based Practical Design • Road Diets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanded Access to Transit • Freight First-Mile, Last-Mile Connections • Improved Transit Service • Pilot Projects • Shared Mobility Services • Transit User Accommodations

Community Connections Handbook



Instructional Handbook coming in October 2018 with:

- Implementation guidance for State DOTs, MPOs, local and tribal governments, and other practitioners
- Information on how and when to use the Toolbox innovations
- 16 case studies on projects in urban, suburban, and rural areas

4. Types of Projects



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Types of Projects

Safety Improvements



Flagstaff, AZ

Shared Mobility Services



Chattanooga, TN

Transit Improvements and Accommodations



Richmond, VA

Transportation Systems Management and Operations



Chicago, IL

Types of Projects

Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements



Indianapolis, IN

Complete Streets



Montgomery County, MD

Road Diets



New York, NY

Context Sensitive Solutions



Columbus, OH

Types of Projects

Tunnels and Underpass Improvements



Boston, MA

New Highway and Bridge Construction



Washington, DC

Highway Caps and Land Bridges



Seattle, WA

Highway Removal and Conversion



San Francisco, CA

5. Funding Opportunities



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Federal-aid Highway Program

Congress authorized over \$40 billion in Fiscal Year 2018 for:

- **NHPP** – National Highway Performance Program
- **STBG** – Surface Transportation Block Grant Program
- **HSIP** – Highway Safety Improvement Program
- **RHCP** – Railway-Highway Crossings Program
- **NHFP** – National Highway Freight Program
- **CMAQ** – Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program
- **PL** – Metropolitan Planning
- **SPR** – State Planning and Research



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USDOT and FHWA Discretionary Programs

USDOT and FHWA offer many discretionary programs, including:

- **BUILD** – Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development
- **INFRA** – Infrastructure For Rebuilding America
- **ATCMTD** – Advanced Transportation and Congestion Management Technologies Deployment
- **AID** – Accelerated Innovation Deployment
- **STIC** – State Transportation Innovation Council Incentive Program



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6. What's Next?

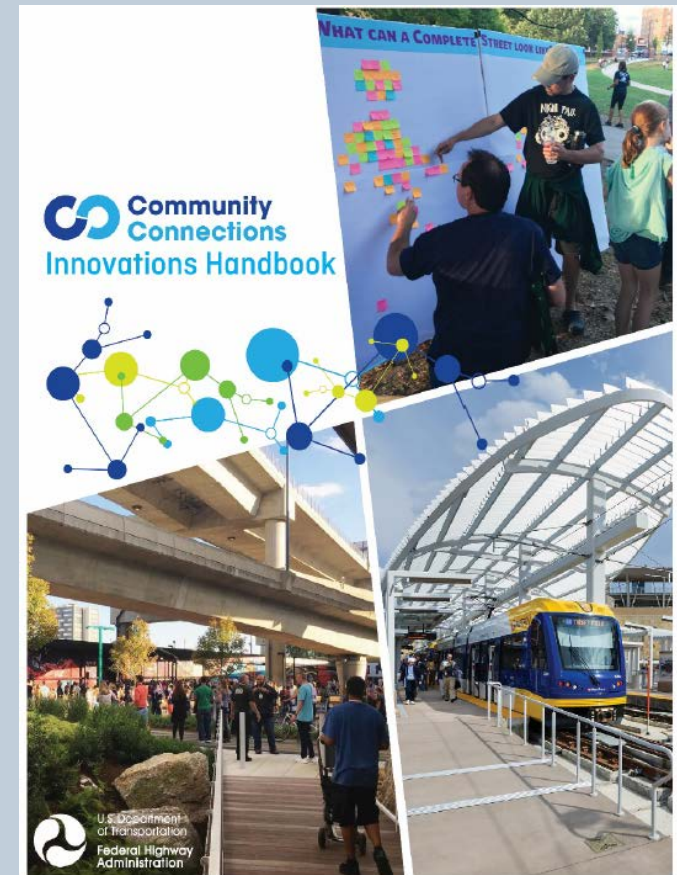


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What's Next?

In October 2018, FHWA anticipates:

- Publishing the “Community Connections Innovations Handbook” and case studies
- Hosting a second Community Connections webinar on the handbook and case studies



What's Next?

Contact the FHWA Team:

- Corbin Davis, Corbin.Davis@dot.gov
- Kenneth Petty, Kenneth.Petty@dot.gov
- Brandon Buckner, Brandon.Buckner@dot.gov
- Robert Mooney, Robert.Mooney@dot.gov
- Shari Schaftlein, Shari.Schaftlein@dot.gov

Visit FHWA's Community Connections website for more information
https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/community_connections



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7. Questions?



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