



U.S. Department of Transportation

Every Place Counts Design Challenge

Community Visioning Session

The U.S. Department of Transportation invites regional and national urban designers, architects, engineers, and planners to participate as technical experts in the Every Place Counts Design Challenge.

CHALLENGE INFORMATION

The Every Place Counts Design Challenge aims to raise awareness and identify innovative community design solutions that bridge the infrastructure divide and reconnect people to opportunity. USDOT will host four community visioning sessions in July.

- July 7-8 | Spokane, WA
- July 11-12 | Nashville, TN
- July 14-15 | Philadelphia, PA
- July 18-19 | Minneapolis, MN

The Challenge represents the department's latest effort to transform our transportation network into a system that reflects and incorporates the input of the people and communities they impact.

VOLUNTEER ROLE*

- National and regional practitioners are invited to offer their knowledge and expertise to help the selected communities create forward-thinking, cutting edge solutions to infrastructure problems caused by past decisions that limited access and isolated communities from opportunity.
- Volunteers will provide guidance to Every Place Counts Design Challenge session participants and technical expertise to derive best practices, identify innovative solutions and practical alternatives to addressing local infrastructure challenges.

TARGETED AREA OF EXPERTISE

- Architecture
- Design Build Services
- Public Health
- Civil Engineering
- Construction Estimating
- Public Participation
- Geospatial Design
- Landscape Architecture
- Environmental Management
- Sustainable Design
- Transportation Planning
- Community Development
- Asset Management
- Academic/Researcher
- Multi-modal Transportation Planning
- Community Planning
- Urban Design

Interested Volunteers can Register [Here](#) or Email ReconnectCommunities@dot.gov

**Volunteers will be responsible for their own travel and lodging expenses to participate in a community vision design session.*

<https://www.transportation.gov/opportunity/challenge/volunteer-registration>



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Community Session Background

The Design Sessions are scheduled and will address the identified infrastructure challenges as follows:

July 7-8 | Spokane, WA – The transcontinental I-90 was constructed through the heart of Spokane, dividing the working-class streetcar suburb of East Central Spokane. The City anticipates that the technical assistance will serve as an integrator to bring together those affected by the existing I-90 corridor with partners that are committed to creating solutions to further identify opportunities to maximize connectivity from the new projects currently underway while minimizing transportation infrastructure barriers.

July 11-12 | Nashville, TN – Nashville’s I-40 was built through several predominantly African American, middle class neighborhoods in the 1960s, displacing residents and dividing a thriving community. Nashville plans to utilize well-established community partnership networks, gather input from community residents and business owners, host design sessions, synthesize ideas, and pursue implementation funds through its two-day design session.

July 14-15 | Philadelphia, PA – Philadelphia’s Vine Street Expressway, or I-676, cuts through the Drexel School of Medicine, Callowhill District, and Chinatown communities. The expressway has long impeded economic investment and access to green space for these neighborhoods along its path. The city aims to produce an aspirational vision for the seven-block focus area from 7th Street and Broad Street, along with a roadmap for further public engagement and an implementation plan.

July 18-19 | Minneapolis, MN –The construction of I-94 divided the Rondo neighborhood, a historically African American community in the Minneapolis metropolitan area. As the city has grown more diverse, ethnic enclaves are still clustered on either side of the highway, now including Asian Americans and Native Americans. The community would like to develop exemplary models of community design and engagement to guide future corridor planning efforts.