



FY 2023 Thriving Communities Program (TCP)

Selected National Capacity Builder Profiles



National Capacity Builders

Lead	Partners	Community of Practice	Amount Awarded
Rural Community Assistance Partnership Incorporated	Community Engineering Corps, Communities Unlimited, Great Lakes Community Action Partnership, Midwest Assistance Program, National Association of Development Organizations, RCAP Solutions, Rural Community Assistance Corporation	Main Streets (16 communities)	\$4,250,000
Abt Associates Inc.	EPR, P.C., Equitable Cities, Morgan State University, Nelson\Nygaard, Safe Routes Partnership, and Smart Growth America	Complete Neighborhoods (20 communities)	\$4,957,180
Conference of Minority Transportation Officials	Accelerator for America, AECOM, Intelligent Transportation Society of America, MWDBE Training Academy, Inc., ReConnect Rondo, and Two Degrees	Networked Communities (16 communities)	\$4,250,000

Each of the selected Capacity Builders is leveraging outside resources and is allocating at least 20 percent of its budget to subgrant funding to selected communities and their local partners.

National Capacity Builder Profiles

Rural Community Assistance Partnership Incorporated

DOT awarded \$4,250,000 to Rural Community Assistance Partnership Incorporated (RCAP) to support 16 rural and Tribal communities in the Main Streets Community of Practice. RCAP and its partners – Community Engineering Corps, Communities Unlimited, Great Lakes Community Action Partnership, Midwest Assistance Program, National Association of Development Organizations, RCAP Solutions, and Rural Community Assistance Corporation – have a national footprint and deep experience across a range of technical assistance needs in disadvantaged and under-resourced rural and Tribal communities. This includes transportation infrastructure, water/wastewater/solid waste solutions, community wealth-building, affordable housing, access to capital, disaster recovery, and climate resilience. RCAP and its partners will deliver technical assistance, planning, and capacity building to elevate locally-driven solutions and innovative practices, build regional collaboration and local leadership capacity, and advance a pipeline of transformative community-driven infrastructure projects and workforce development opportunities to promote connectivity, sustainability, economic opportunity, and access to improved services in underserved rural and Tribal communities over the three-year program and beyond. RCAP will provide direct support to communities in the planning and design of transformational

projects and will assist communities in developing successful strategies to fund and implement projects with broad public support and inclusive community buy-in. Beyond the provision of skilled on-site technical services, RCAP will manage and convene the Main Streets Community of Practice, serve as a navigator to connect communities with other resources, and work with communities in the third year of the program to transition them toward long-term sustainability. RCAP and National Association of Development Organizations are currently serving as FY 2022 Thriving Communities Program Main Streets Capacity Builders (as partner organizations); expanding their role through the FY 2023 program will provide an opportunity to build on best practices and resources and to expand the Main Streets network.

[Abt Associates Inc.](#)

DOT awarded \$4,957,180 to Abt Associates Inc. to support 20 communities in the Complete Neighborhoods Community of Practice. Abt Associates and its partners – EPR, P.C., Equitable Cities, Morgan State University, Nelson\Nygaard, Safe Routes Partnership, and Smart Growth America – will help urban and suburban communities coordinate transportation, land use, housing, and economic development planning across a range of neighborhoods. The team will provide technical assistance to help selected communities access and successfully use federal funds, and build the capacity needed to successfully identify, design, and implement projects in the long term. The team’s capacity building support offers customized skills development, consultation, and resources to ensure sustained results. While augmenting local capacity, the Abt team will also establish efficient local processes and systems for design, planning, and operations; document policies, procedures, and decision frameworks for future staff to rely on; and offer timely training and shadowing. The Abt team has expertise in a range of areas including transportation, housing, community development, equity, and environmental justice, and has experience engaging communities across the country as technical assistance partners. Abt Associates is a technical assistance provider for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)’s Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Program, which creates significant opportunities for continued collaboration between DOT and HUD on place-based technical assistance initiatives. Equitable Cities and Nelson/Nygaard are currently serving as FY 2022 Thriving Communities Program Complete Neighborhoods Capacity Builders (as partner organizations); expanding their role through the FY 2023 program will provide an opportunity to build on best practices and resources and to expand the Complete Neighborhoods network and scale up support to more communities across the country. Abt’s team includes a Historically Black College or University (Morgan State University), a minority- and veteran-owned small business and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (Equitable Cities), and a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and woman-owned small business (EPR, P.C.).

[Conference of Minority Transportation Officials](#)

DOT awarded \$4,250,000 to Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) to support 16 communities in the Networked Communities Community of Practice. COMTO and its partners – Accelerator for America, AECOM, Intelligent Transportation Society of America, MWDBE Training Academy, Inc., ReConnect Rondo, and Two Degrees – represent a combined 130 years of experience providing technical assistance, building capacity, and managing transportation and infrastructure projects in various stages of delivery across diverse American communities. The team brings a diversity

of skills, including deep technical transportation knowledge and team members that bring familiarity with working directly with and representing local government. The team presents a strong equity commitment and has notable technical expertise and capacity building focused on supporting small businesses. The COMTO team will utilize its strong experience to support communities in grant management; stakeholder engagement; actualizing equity, diversity and inclusion goals; strategy, design, engineering, and construction services; deployment of intelligent transportation technologies; workforce development, access to capital, and long-term wealth-building; identifying funding opportunities, conducting planning activities and applying restorative community development frameworks; and storytelling. MWDBE Training Academy, Inc. is a minority-owned Disadvantaged Business Enterprise. Accelerator for America is currently serving as FY 2022 Thriving Communities Program Complete Transit-Oriented Neighborhoods Capacity Builder (as a partner organization); expanding its role through the FY 2023 program will provide an opportunity to build on best practices and resources and scale up support to more communities across the country.