

Supporting Innovation through Community Partnerships

The Connected Communities team established one-year partnerships with six communities across our service region.

TVA is providing hands-on-support and consulting services to:

- » Help communities **build capacity** and **realize tangible improvements** across the Connected Communities initiative's four focus areas: Broadband and Digital Literacy, Economic Empowerment, Energy and Environmental Justice and Enhanced Community Resiliency.
- » **Test real-world applications** of Connected Communities research, strategic guidance and associated tools.

Each partnership engages a range of local stakeholders based on community circumstances and priority topics for partnership support.

Six Community Partnerships

Fayetteville Public Utilities

Fayetteville-Lincoln County, TN

Bedford County

Bedford County, TN

Juice Orange Mound

Memphis, TN

Rockwood Electric Utility /
Harriman Utility Board

Rockwood / Harriman, TN

Western Kentucky Rural
Electric Membership Cooperative /
Mayfield Electric & Water Systems

Mayfield, KY

City of Athens

Athens, AL

Community Partnership Activities

- 1 Assess Conditions
- 2 Set Vision and Goals
- 3 Develop Scope of Work
- 4 Initiate Analysis
- 5 Review Progress
- 6 Complete Analysis
- 7 Hand Off With Guidance for Progress

Key Learnings

Through numerous engagements with participants, the team documented some key priorities and trends seen across the communities.



Foundational Problem Solving

Addressing critical challenges, like housing affordability and infrastructure, before they can focus on advancing technologically.



Planning for Growth

Strategically planning and coordinating to manage unprecedented regional growth and development pressures.



Affordable Living

Ensuring quality, energy-efficient housing options for a range of income levels to support growth and appeal to new employers.



Workforce Development

Optimizing the local workforce to leverage technology and job-related opportunities aligned with regional growth.



Enhanced Resiliency

Effectively planning for emergencies and ensuring adequate numbers of trained staff required to maintain public safety.



Dark Fiber

Leveraging distribution system investments and TVA dark fiber assets to support grid hardening and resilient communications.



Collaborative Visioning

Looking ahead at how they can shape their future through guided collaboration to capture Connected Communities focus area opportunities.



Focus Area Connectedness

Identifying integrated, holistic approaches to arrive at common solutions to various stakeholder challenges.



Current Community Partnerships

Community Partnerships are located across the TVA service region. These partnerships vary in composition but include lead organizations and partners consisting of local power companies, government entities and community-focused nonprofits, with more than 40 stakeholder organizations engaged to date across the six partnerships. Partnerships are one year in duration, with communities receiving support in visioning, goals prioritization and pursuit of good-fit funding opportunities.

Fayetteville Public Utilities

Fayetteville-Lincoln County, TN

FOCUS

- Prepare for expected population growth through effective planning around critical county services
- Attract and retain skilled workers to staff local businesses and encourage business investment
- Improve housing availability to support commercial development

Bedford County

Bedford County, TN

FOCUS

- Capture growth in the EV industry
- Evaluate potential implementation of electric transit options
- Improve public engagement, awareness, coordination and resources related to priorities

Juice Orange Mound

Memphis, TN

FOCUS

- Identify existing community assets with potential to serve as resource hubs
- Facilitate community resource workshop to inform development of community resource hubs
- Catalog service offerings and programs available to local residents
- Assess possible resource hub offerings

Rockwood Electric Utility / Harriman Utility Board

Rockwood / Harriman, TN

FOCUS

- Improve cleantech workforce training in partnership with Roane State/TCAT
- Educate residents about energy use
- Enhance resiliency of local grid infrastructure
- Ensure residents from a wide range of income categories have access to energy-efficient homes

Western Kentucky Rural Electric Membership Cooperative / Mayfield Electric & Water Systems

Mayfield, KY

FOCUS

- Support development of a Strategic Vision Plan to guide community rebuilding efforts
- Enhance downtown by developing a cultural district centered around the farmers' market and civic enhancements
- Enhance communication efficacy and improve public engagement, awareness, coordination and resources
- Identify resiliency enhancements

City of Athens

Athens, AL

FOCUS

- Provide residents of all income levels with access to quality, affordable and energy-efficient housing
- Improve Athens' appeal and external perceptions of the community
- Strengthen resiliency of local infrastructure with specific attention to the grid



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Join our [mailing list](#) to access resources, connect with similar organizations, learn about how to engage with the TVA Connected Communities Initiative and more.

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 tva.com/connectedcommunities

 connectedcommunities@tva.gov