



Your Playbook for Action: Successful Pathways for Building More Connected Communities

Connected Communities Webinar Series

July 9, 2024



Welcome

- Updates from the Connected Communities Team
 - Community Information Hub
 - Connected Communities Guidebook
- Connected Communities Partnership Background, **Christian Bergland, Guidehouse**
- Successful Pathways Panel
 - **Erin Tidwell**, City Planner, Athens, AL
 - **Tracey Strassner**, CEO of Success Hub, Bedford, TN
 - **Greg Vick**, County Commissioner, Bedford, TN
 - **Mike Harris**, President and CEO of Memphis Metropolitan Land Bank Authority, Memphis, TN
 - **Gabe Franceschi**, Regional Director of Government and Community Relations, TVA
- Close Out

The Latest From Connected Communities

Connected Communities Initiative

We're helping communities embrace technology and data solutions to overcome their challenges and prepare to be part of the energy system of the future.

FOCUS AREAS		RESOURCES	
 Broadband and Digital Literacy	 Economic Empowerment	 Off-the-Shelf Guides and Tools	 Tailored Support and Success Coaching Through Partnerships
 Energy and Environmental Justice	 Enhanced Community Resiliency	 Pilot Project Funding	 Network to Share Information and Success Models



Upcoming Webinar

Fleet Electrification:
The Benefits, Processes and
Considerations of Electrifying
Your Community

Tuesday, August 13, 1:00 – 2:00 pm ET

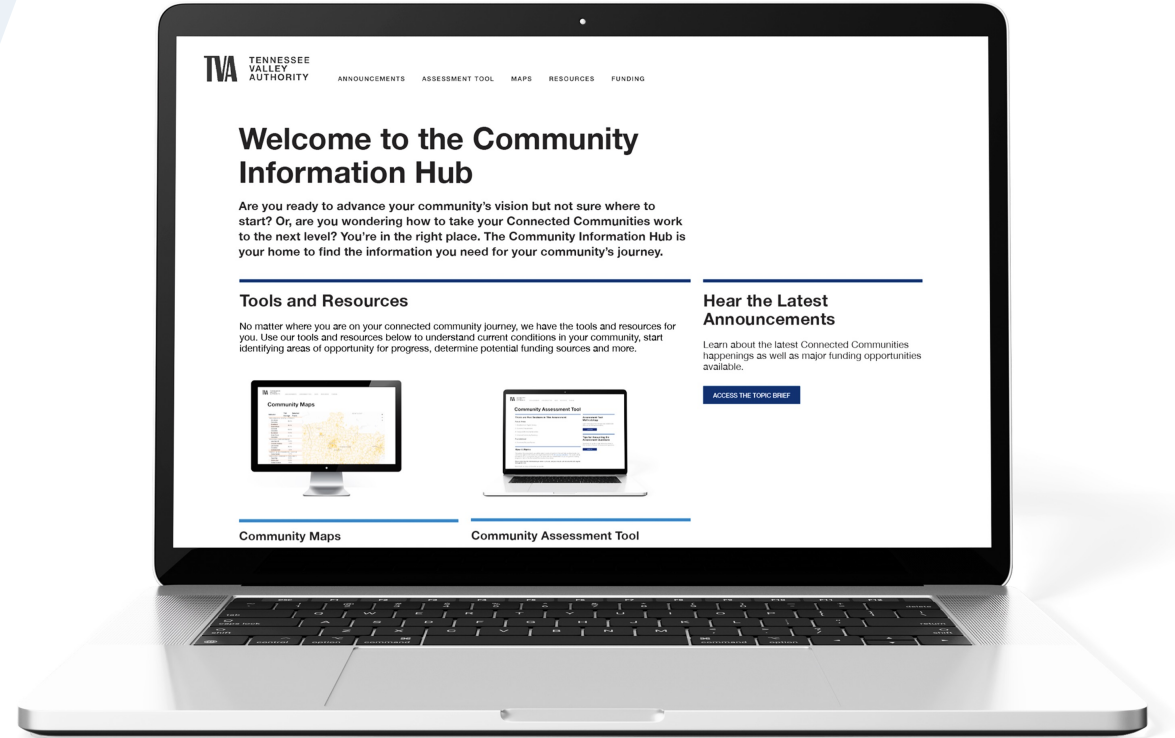


REGISTER NOW



Community Information Hub

A new, interactive tool is available to help **assess your community needs, prioritize solutions and identify funding opportunities.**





Connected Communities Guidebook

This go-to implementation resource allows communities to work through the **process of developing a Connected Communities strategy**. Explore steps to document your community's current conditions, set goals and identify potential project and funding opportunities that are a good fit.



Connected Communities Partnership Background

Partner Communities

- Round 1 Community Partnership
- Round 2 Community Partnership

Mayfield, KY

Hopkinsville Electric System, KY

Harriman Utility Board / Rockwood Electric Utility

TENNESSEE

Juice Orange Mound (Memphis)
Metropolitan Memphis Land Bank Authority

Bedford County
Fayetteville Public Utilities

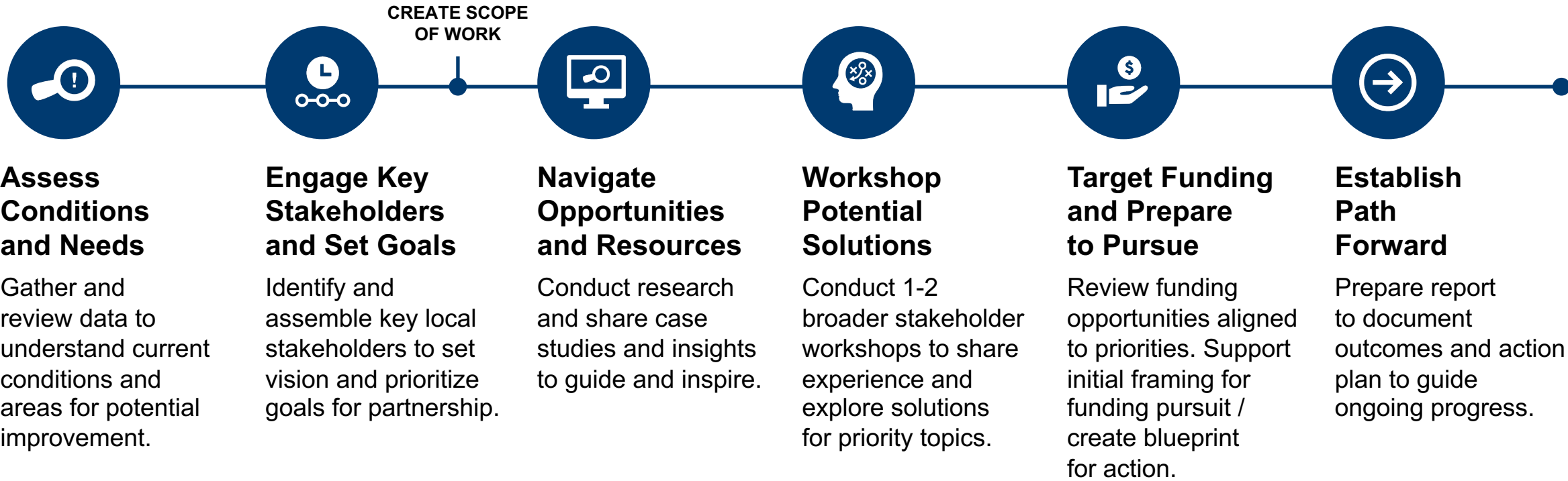
City of Athens, AL

Kemper County Economic Development Authority, MS

Responsive Support for Community Priorities

With an approach grounded in the Connected Communities Guidebook, the team provides flexible support tailored to communities' needs through a yearlong partnership, identifying support priorities across the initiative's four focus areas.

PARTNERSHIP IN ACTION



Key Community Priorities and Support Areas



Foundational Problem Solving

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



Planning for Growth

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



Support for Funding Pursuits

Helping communities learn how to effectively tell their community's story and effectively navigate unfamiliar federal funding processes.



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.



Affordable Living

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



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.

Athens, AL

Timeline: August 2023 – July 2024

Key Community Priorities

- 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

Deliverables

- Facilitate Energy Services & Programs workshop to develop energy efficiency strategy for community
- Assess opportunities to enhance housing availability and affordability
- Help inform zoning updates
- Assemble information on funding opportunities relevant to priorities



Partner Organization(s)

- City of Athens

Other Engaged Stakeholders

- Two local economic development organizations
- Two local community development organizations
- Local hospital system
- Athens State University
- Athens City Schools

Bedford County, TN

Timeline: June 2023 – August 2024

Key Community Priorities

- Enhance local jobs base through capturing growth in EV industry
- Evaluate potential implementation of electric transit options
- Upgrade energy efficiency in local public housing authority properties
- Explore grant opportunities that overlap community priorities

Deliverables

- Evaluate opportunities for capturing growth in the EV industry
- Assess needs and funding opportunities for potential implementation of electric transit options
- Survey and support of funding opportunities related to priorities



Partner Organization(s)

- Bedford County

Other Engaged Stakeholders

- Duck River Electric Membership Corporation
- Shelbyville Power Water & Sewerage Systems
- Shelbyville-Bedford Partnership
- United Communications
- Silicon Ranch
- Vanderbilt Hospital
- Shelbyville Housing Authority
- University of Tennessee - Chattanooga
- Three post-secondary educational institutions

Metropolitan Memphis Land Bank Authority, Memphis, TN

Timeline: June 2024 – May 2025

Key Community Priorities

- Develop compelling application for EPA Community Change Grant opportunity
- Identify pathways to align organizational priorities with opportunities in the energy and sustainability space
- Evaluate opportunities for MMLBA to develop a “green bank” offering

Deliverables

- Support for Community Change Grant pursuit
- Guidance in aligning MMLBA’s sustainability-oriented goals and objectives with TVA and MLGW policies and programs



Partner Organization(s)

- Metropolitan Memphis Land Bank Authority (MMLBA)

Other Engaged Stakeholders

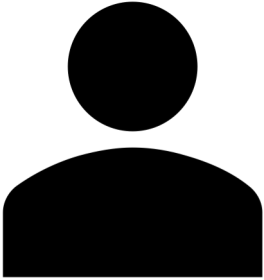
- MLGW
- Other stakeholders TBD

Successful Pathways Panel

Meet Today's Panel



Erin Tidwell
City Planner,
Athens, AL



Tracey Strassner
CEO of Success Hub,
Bedford, TN



Greg Vick
County Commissioner,
Bedford TN



Mike Harris
President and CEO of
Memphis Metropolitan
Land Bank Authority,
Memphis, TN



Gabe Franceschi
Regional Director
of Government and
Community Relations,
TVA

Let's Stay Connected



Continue the Conversation

Contact Georgia Caruthers to learn more:

gmcaruthers@tva.gov

Or

ConnectedCommunities@tva.gov



Join Our Connected Communities Network

Visit the Connected Communities website and sign up to be part of the Connected Communities Network:

tva.com/connectedcommunities



Access Our Resources

Access the Community Information Hub and relevant guides:

- [Community Information Hub](#)
- [Connected Communities Guidebook](#)

TVA

**TENNESSEE
VALLEY
AUTHORITY**