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| **Civic Lab Year 2 – Program and Strong Team FAQ** |
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| **Having a dedicated team lead**. We found that teams with someone to shepherd the process, coordinate with team members, and drive deliverables are much more successful at planning for and launching a pilot project. |
| **Having multiple partners**. There is a lot of collaboration as part of Civic Lab, so having team members that will help identify issues and brainstorm innovative solutions is key to a successful Civic Lab project. |
| **Regular attendance**. Civic Lab is a series of workshops that build into delivering a pilot project. Missing workshop sessions will put your project behind and at jeopardy of not delivering a final product. This could result in not receiving funding to implement your project. Team members can expect to attend an 8 hour session each month for the course of the project (between 6-9 sessions). |
| **Having an open mind**. Civic Lab is about testing not only the pilot project, but the process to get to a pilot. Not having preconceived notions on how the process should go or what the outcomes will be allow for discovery of new ideas.**Having a corridor that needs help.** All teams will have a commercial corridor or area that needs something to make it more economically vital and to create a more livable environment. Corridors may be in the initial stages of planning to already planned and constructed streetscape improvements but need better participation from business and property owners. What matters is that there is a sense of purpose and commitment from the individual participants on the team towards making the corridor a better place, even if they do not have the specific ideas how. We are looking for rural, suburban, and urban areas.**Identifying a goal and possible outcome.** Teams should have an overall vision for the corridor, but the focus of the proposal should be more about the barriers that exist in seeing the vision. The solution will come to the teams based on early work on issues and challenges. **Complete assignments.** Between each workshops there is homework to be completed. Most of this will be done during the workshop, but there is likely a meeting needed between each workshop to finalize previous work and prepare for the next workshop. Team members can expect to spend between 2 and 4 hours each month between workshops.**Keeping the long term in mind.** At the end of the program, participating teams will have learned about a number of strategies and activities from experts and communities that have successfully implemented actions. Teams will also share learning lessons from other communities working on similar challenges. The program may be able to provide funding and/or technical resources (e.g, consultant expertise) to help bring the next steps to reaching the overall objective. In addition, jurisdictions will be better equipped to apply to grant opportunities from SACOG and state and federal funding programs. |