



Cross-Sector Partnerships for Regional Impact

Launched in January 2011, the Corridors of Opportunity (COO) initiative brought together top leadership from state, regional and local government, philanthropy, non-profit organizations, and business interests, focused on accelerating the build out of the region's transit system while promoting adjacent development that advances economic vitality and benefits people of all incomes and backgrounds.

Funded with a \$5 million HUD Sustainable Communities grant and \$2.7 million in grants and \$13 million in loans from the Living Cities Integration Initiative, the national funding programs will come to end in early 2014.

COO has funded projects ranging from corridor-wide planning and development strategies and new methods of community engagement to direct financing of development projects and small business loans. Partners bring their unique subject matter expertise to the table, their financial resources, and the "powers" that their positions hold (e.g. philanthropy can convene multiple high-level players; government can change funding criteria and implement policy decisions; and non-profits can deliver direct service as well as play an important intermediary role between community and government) to advance the goals of the initiative.

Co-chaired by Metropolitan Council Chair Sue Haigh and Lee Sheehy, Program Director of Region & Communities at the McKnight Foundation, the COO Policy Board unanimously agreed to continue its efforts into 2014 in order to focus on opportunities to implement new practices and embed system change within organizations.

From COO to PRO

Chair Haigh and Lee Sheehy are continuing to co-chair this work together under a new name and region-wide vision - "Partnership for Regional Opportunity" (PRO) with a vision to grow a prosperous, equitable and sustainable region.

Following COO's model, The Partnership for Regional Opportunity will bring together many of the same leaders along with several new partners, to enhance the region's competitiveness by:

- Improving the economic prospects of low-income people and low-wealth communities
- Promoting high quality development near existing assets (e.g. employment centers, transitways, and commercial and industrial corridors)
- Advancing a 21st century transportation system.

PRO members are committed to implementing the vision by:

- Aligning resources, programs, and policies for implementation
- Creating integrated solutions with cross-sector participation
- Using partnership meetings to advance accountability for goals and transparency

2014 PRO Work Areas

PRO has four work areas, co-chaired by regional leaders:

Work Area	Co-Leads	Objectives
Regional Equity and Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repa Mekha, President & CEO, Nexus Community Partners Jim McDonough, Commissioner, Ramsey County 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve regional equity in the outcomes and the decision and implementation processes of regional policies and investments Identify regional policies and investments to address historic disparities Improve engagement strategies with underrepresented communities to ensure equitable opportunities for meaningful participation
Shared Prosperity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mike Langley, CEO, Greater MSP Lee Sheehy, Director, McKnight Foundation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen regional competitiveness and increase investment and job growth for residents of all incomes and backgrounds in the urban core and along transit accessible corridors.
Transit-Oriented Development (TOD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brian Lamb, General Manager, Metro Transit Jonathan Sage-Martinson, Director, Central Corridor Funders Collaborative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advance TOD components of Corridors of Opportunity, embedding the work within implementing organizations Position the region to best compete for federal funds and to attract private capital to TOD. Inform the direction of the new Metropolitan Council TOD Office.
Transportation Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ann Mulholland, Vice President, Minnesota Philanthropy Partners Charlie Zelle, Commissioner MnDOT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2014 PRO meetings will feature updates and calls to action from the MoveMN campaign.

For more information

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2014 PRO MEETING SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Location
Rescheduled: Monday, March 17	10:30-12:30	Wilder Foundation, 451 Lexington Pkwy N, St. Paul
April 30	12:30 – 2:30	McKnight Foundation, 710 S 2nd St, Ste 400, Minneapolis
May 28	12:30 – 2:30	Metropolitan Council
July 23	12:30 – 2:30	McKnight Foundation
September 3	12:30 – 2:30	McKnight Foundation
November 19	12:30 – 2:30	Metropolitan Council
December 17	3:00 – 5:00	McKnight Foundation

PARTNERSHIP FOR REGIONAL OPPORTUNITY ROSTER

Co-Chairs

- Susan Haigh, Chair, [Metropolitan Council](#)
- Lee Sheehy, Director, Region & Communities Program, [the McKnight Foundation](#)

Partners

- Andriana Abariotes, Executive Director, [Twin Cities LISC](#)
- Colleen Carey, President, [The Cornerstone Group](#)
- Katie Clark Sieben, Commissioner, [Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development \(DEED\)](#)
- Jay Cowles, Member, [The Itasca Project](#)
- Caren Dewar, Executive Director, [Urban Land Institute of Minnesota](#)
- Chris Ferguson, Chair, [Central Corridor Business Resources Collaborative \(BRC\)](#)
- Debbie Goettel, Mayor, [Richfield](#); Representative, [Regional Council of Mayors](#)
- Mary Hamann-Roland, Mayor, [Apple Valley](#); Representative, Livable Communities Advisory Committee
- Yvonne Cheung Ho, [Metropolitan Economic Development Association \(MEDA\)](#)
- Betsy Hodges, Mayor, [City of Minneapolis](#)
- Louis King, President and CEO, [Summit Academy OIC](#)
- Brian Lamb, General Manager, [Metro Transit](#)
- Michael Langley, CEO, [Greater MSP](#)
- Jim McDonough, Commissioner, [Ramsey County](#)
- Laurie McGinnis, Director, Center for Transportation Studies, University of Minnesota; Ex Officio, Data and Evaluation Team
- Peter McLaughlin, Commissioner, [Hennepin County](#); Chair, [Counties Transit Improvement Board](#)
- Repa Mekha, Executive Director, [Nexus Community Partners](#); Representative, [Community Engagement Team](#)
- Ann Mulholland, Vice President, Grants and Programs, [the Saint Paul Foundation](#)
- Sandra Oakes, President and CEO, [Twin Cities Community Land Bank](#)
- Jim Roth, Executive Director, [Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers](#)
- Elizabeth Ryan, Vice President, [Family Housing Fund](#)
- Jonathan Sage-Martinson, Director, [Central Corridor Funders Collaborative](#)
- Mihailo “Mike” Temali, President and CEO, [Neighborhood Development Center](#)
- Mary Tingerthal, Commissioner, [Minnesota Housing](#)
- Dai Thao, City Council Member, Ward 1, [City of St. Paul](#)
- Charlie Zelle, Commissioner, [Minnesota Department of Transportation \(MnDOT\)](#)
- Representative of the [Counties Transit Improvement Board](#)*

* to be confirmed