



What are top issues you are working with in your community?

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Which building blocks are connected to your issue at the local and systems level?

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Where do you think there is significant energy within your issue area?

Where do you think energy is missing?



Local-Level Building Blocks

The Local-Level Building Blocks include conditions on the ground in rural places and regions that *individual rural communities or regions can act on by themselves*. Each Building Block (A-J) is necessary because it has an impact on being able to achieve more widespread and equitable rural prosperity.

Rural Voice and Power

Equitable Aims and Design

Resources for Productive Action



Welcome All to the Community

Advance Personal Well-Being

Strengthen Local Ownership and Influence

Build from Current Assets

Balance Development Goals

Design for Everyone to Thrive

Prepare Action-Able Leadership

Organize an Action Infrastructure

Act as a Region

Build Momentum

Each person in the community is *welcomed, feels connected, and is able to exercise and influence power* in decision-making.

Each person in the community has the *skills, resources, and social supports they need* to pursue and live a healthy, safe, and fulfilling life.

Businesses, institutions, organizations, and resources critical to the community and its future are *owned locally and/or directed and advised by the full range of community members* who have a stake in their durability and success.

Local economic development approaches concentrate *first* on identifying and *building on the area's existing people, place, business and organizational assets* to increase *both* well-being and equity outcomes.

Local action to create a more dynamic, durable economy also seeks to strengthen the natural environment and built infrastructure – *and vice versa* – connecting efforts to *steadily improve the resilience of the economy, the ecosystem, the people, and the planet.*

Local leaders *intentionally* design community and economic development efforts to *improve outcomes for people disadvantaged* due to historic or ongoing economic, racial, age, gender, or cultural discrimination.

Communities have and prepare leaders with the *will, skills, relationships, diversity, knowledge, and power* needed to fully engage the community and the region to establish, align, and achieve priorities that increase both well-being and equity outcomes.

Communities have the *local and regional institutions, policies, systems, data, information, media, and resources* needed to establish, align, and achieve priorities that increase both well-being and equity.

Communities persistently analyze, develop strategies, and *act together within and across sensible and workable regions* to address shared issues, challenges, and opportunities and achieve outcomes at a productive scale.

Communities and regions, no matter their starting points, produce and celebrate the *small wins and steady progress that fuel hope and persistence.*

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

I

J

Notes

-
-
-
-



Systems-Level Building Blocks

The Systems-Level Building Blocks include driving forces and conditions that are in larger systems *outside the direct control of individual rural communities or regions* — though rural places and people can (and must) act together to influence them. Each Building Block (1-10) is necessary because it has an impact on being able to achieve more widespread and equitable rural prosperity.

Rural Voice and Power



Rural Voice in Design and Action

Aligned Rural Fields and Actors

Accurate Rural Narrative

A robust, representative, diverse, and *powerful network of Native nation and rural leaders, practitioners, and doers consistently engage in advising and influencing* narrative, policy, and action agendas across sectors and across levels of government.

Rural community, economic, health, social, and professional development *field intermediaries, practitioners, and influentials all share the definition of equitable development success, and align their strategies* to achieve that outcome.

Public media and dialogue consistently relate an accurate understanding of the history, conditions, lived experience, and economic, demographic, cultural, and geographic diversity of rural communities and Native nations.

1

2

3

Equitable Aims and Design



Balanced Development Outcomes

Cohesive Rural Policy Lens

Valued Rural Stewardship

Rural Stakeholder Equity

Policymakers and investors in rural and Native people, places, and enterprises *define and measure development success as decreasing economic and racial inequality and reducing poverty while building wealth, resource sustainability, and resilience.*

Federal and state governments *cohesively tailor and align the design, implementation, regulations, and incentives in policy and laws to ensure rural access and provide a predictable stream* of public resources that can be used *flexibly, as locally determined*, for rural benefit.

Public and private purchasers, users, and beneficiaries *fairly compensate rural actors for the natural resource and ecosystem value* that rural people, businesses, and organizations produce to sustain natural resources and, thus, America's future prosperity.

Governments, businesses, and institutions operated by individuals and owners outside rural communities establish *balanced relationships that produce mutual and fair value* for the rural community, Native nation, business, and worker stakeholders.

4

5

6

7

Resources for Productive Action



Ready Rural Capital Access and Flow

Rural Data for Analysis and Change

Regional Analysis and Action

Public, private, and philanthropic *financial capital and durable funding streams are reliably available, easily accessible and affordable, and consistently and strategically invested in rural* people, places, organizations, and economies.

Federal and state governments *collect and provide a wide range of readily available critical data on rural place, economy, and population* conditions and outcomes at the sub-county level — down to census tracts.

Public and private *policy, investment, and incentives encourage and stimulate collaborative regional action and the capacity* for regional efforts to address shared cross-community challenges and opportunities.

8

9

10

Notes

-
-
-
-
