



**CONNECT Executive Committee:
Transit Improvement Seminar Series Project Proposal**
Thursday | June 23rd, 2022

For Municipalities:

What You've Been Saying: *Our members are passionate about transit issues. In 2020, CONNECT members supported the creation of TOD toolkits for ten of our communities, and have resolved to continue working on them with partners. In our E&E Working Group, and Transit & Access Subcommittee Meetings, members and partners have identified various barriers that have slowed the implementation process of the TOD Toolkits. CONNECT municipalities indicated that they want more individualized assistance and education to jumpstart the process.*

Why This Is Helpful To You: *This series will assist municipalities in making their communities more transit-friendly, through transit-oriented development(TOD). If you have a Transit-Oriented Development Toolkit for your community, this series will help get you started on implementing it. By partnering with Mobilify Southwestern Pennsylvania on this series, CONNECT can provide a ton of resources from experts to support our municipalities - without needing to hire an intern or project manager to provide a similar level of support for transit issues. We will discuss further at the Executive Committee Meeting, read their draft scope of work below and attached:*

i *"The Transit Improvement Seminar Series (TISS) provides municipal leaders and representatives with tools to facilitate the implementation of TOD through educational and applied learning exercises."*

"In partnership with Mobilify Southwestern Pennsylvania, the partnership will sponsor a series of seminars to educate municipalities and to offer applied learning exercises that will increase their understanding of the process while equipping them to apply their learnings to their respective communities. With the support of CONNECT and PAAC, Mobilify will oversee the execution of the project."

TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT SEMINAR SERIES PROJECT SCOPE

June 9, 2022

OVERVIEW

1. Project Background and Description

i *Municipalities often highlight prominent transit-related issues they face but lack the expertise to execute the changes they would like to observe within their communities. The Transit Improvement Seminar Series (TISS) provides municipal leaders and representatives with tools to facilitate the implementation of TOD through educational and applied learning exercises.*

The Congress of Neighboring Communities (CONNECT) and Port Authority of Allegheny County (PAAC) created Transit Oriented Development (TOD) toolkits for ten (10) municipalities surrounding the city of Pittsburgh to provide best practices and recommendations that enhance mobility in each respective municipality. Although the toolkits were tailored to the respective needs of the communities, municipalities confronted challenges within the implementation process that were unaccounted for in their toolkits. In partnership with Mobilify Southwestern Pennsylvania, the partnership will sponsor a series of seminars to educate municipalities and to offer applied learning exercises that will increase their understanding of the process while equipping them to apply their learnings to their respective communities. With the support of CONNECT and PAAC, Mobilify will oversee the execution of the project

2. Seminar Scope

i *The purpose of TISS is to further educate municipal representatives about the intricacies of TOD and to offer an applied learning experience that enables them to put the information they learn to practice. The seminar is comprised of four main sections: education, applied learning, recommendations, and a listening session. Details of each section can be found below*

Education: *The first portion of the seminar consists of a presentation detailing the benefits of incorporating transit-oriented development within their municipality and a "TOD further explained" session to be conducted by a guest speaker.*

Applied Learning: *The applied learning portion will enable attendants to apply tools from the educational portion into practice. Attendants will be divided into teams (number will be dependent on the number of attendants) and will be given a municipal profile to brainstorm ideas for TOD.*

Recommendations: *After having brainstormed solutions for TOD implementation in their given municipal profiles, teams will present their recommendations to an audience. Mobilify, CONNECT, PAAC, and the guest speaker may provide feedback and suggestions.*

Listening Session: *The listening sessions serves as a safe space for municipal members and representatives to share comments and concerns about the application process, and for the partnership to gauge their interest in the working group.*

3. High-Level Requirements

i While the Seminar series is anticipated to expand to the greater Southwestern Pennsylvania region, preliminary efforts will focus on municipalities surrounding the city of Pittsburgh. Every TODEC Seminar participant must meet the following requirement –

- Be an active Congress of Neighboring Communities member
- Have received a Transit Oriented Development toolkit
- Be flexible and willing to modify zoning codes
- Have reliant municipal leadership
- Bring a cross section of municipal leadership (ex: municipal manager, councilperson/supervisor, planning commission chair)

4. Deliverables

i To ensure the efficiency, effectiveness, and success of the seminar, Mobilify will prepare the following items –

- A list of funding opportunities for municipalities to utilize
- An education PowerPoint presentation explaining the benefits of TOD
- Mock-municipalities for applied learning experiences

****Note: This is not an exhaustive list of all items to be prepared****

5. Implementation Plan

i The partnership has allocated responsibilities for each organization to lead different aspects of the implementation plan. Responsibilities are delegated as follows –

Recruitment: CONNECT is primarily tasked with encouraged its municipal members to participate in TISS.

Preparation: Mobilify is primarily tasked with organizing TISS, which includes the preparing items to be used and recruiting speaker.

Execution: The execution of TISS is Mobilify's task solely.

****Note: With the exclusion of the execution, the partnership may collaborate on all other processes****