

Partners for Places Project Lessons Report

Project Name: *Launching the City of Los Angeles' Transit Corridors Strategy*

- **Year Complete:** 2015
- **Local Government:** City of Los Angeles, CA
- **Local Foundation:** The California Community Foundation, The California Endowment

Project Purpose

To support equitable transit-oriented planning in Los Angeles by creating a new Transit Corridor Cabinet Coordinator position in the Mayor's office.

Key Lessons Learned

Lessons learned about tools and tactics through the project that other sustainability directors could use to advance their work.

When working within a unique governmental structure, as in this case where city and county function separately and don't necessarily support one another, it is important to find areas of crossover to make a project successful. The Great Streets Initiative became one such crossover.

Lessons for developing a collaborative process between a local government sustainability director and local place-based foundation(s).

Cities should continue to partner with universities and foundations to all agree on standardized metrics and data that should be captured and measured so that everyone is speaking the same language in reference to improvements or impact.

Government institutions can be somewhat lacking with their approach to community outreach. Non-profit and foundation partners have developed tools and strategies for community engagement that is genuine and far-reaching. Providing this education to government entities to have them update and improve their community outreach processes will help change the dynamic around any public process, specifically in low-income or under-invested communities.

Additional Information and Resources

This grant award created the Great Streets Studio in the Mayor's Office of City Services. This team has been the central coordinating entity for infrastructure planning and development. The program continues to expand as it works to implement the city's Mobility Plan 2035. Read more about this work [here](#).