

THRIVING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM - 2024 UPDATE



**THRIVING
COMMUNITIES**
PROGRAM

Saint Paul Site Visit

October 30, 2024



What is Thriving Communities Program?

The Thriving Communities Program provides two years of no-cost intensive technical assistance to under-resourced and historically disadvantaged communities to help identify, develop, and deliver transportation and infrastructure projects that strengthen communities.

<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/thriving-communities>

<https://www.transportation.gov/grants/thriving-communities/tcp-fy-2022-selected-recipients>

WHAT IS THRIVING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM?

- Part of the larger Federal Thriving Communities Initiative
- Funding part of Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)
- Covered under Justice40 Initiative
- Provides tools for under-resourced communities to access Federal infrastructure funding



THRIVING COMMUNITIES PROGRAM

\$21 Million

awarded to

4 Capacity Builders

to support

**64 communities
across the US**

What is Thriving Communities Network?

The Thriving Communities Network includes:

- Department of Agriculture (DOA)
- Department of Energy (DOE)
- Department of Commerce (DOC)
- Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
- Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Department of Transportation (DOT)
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- General Services Administration (GSA)



COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE



NETWORKED COMMUNITIES COHORT

SAINT PAUL!





US DOT + RAIB TCP PROGRAM PARTNERS

PROGRESS SO FAR – CITY SAINT PAUL, AK

- Work plans – Priority areas:
 - RAIB aims to assist with researching and identifying financing, funding, grants, and partnering opportunities focused on increasing resiliency through diversifying the Saint Paul economy
 - RAIB remains committed to assessing the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and providing guidance on infrastructure, economic development, and workforce development. This assistance will aid in identifying and prioritizing actionable initiatives to ensure the stability of St. Paul in the short term, particularly in areas such as fisheries, transportation, tourism, and port implementation.
- Site visit
 - In-person meeting and work session opportunity
 - Focus on ASOS and air travel navigational challenges, along with the deliverables from the subaward with Woolpert
- Grants:
 - RAISE Grant submitted; Received high merit – will be resubmitted
 - Safe Streets for All – Planning submitted; and supplementary planning grant
 - EPA Drinking Water Resilience – Awarded

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

- Helping Saint Paul resolve the various air travel challenges, like ASOS outages
 - Identifying funding opportunities to support system upgrades identified from subaward research
 - Engaging with federal partners to receive aid and support for system improvements
 - Subaward deliverable of system needs and associated costs, along with localized economic impact from system outages.
- Successful submission for additional competitive grant opportunities
- Identifying funding streams to support grant match requirements, beyond reliance on current taxes
- Increasing staff capacity and expertise through trainings and resources