

## What can local communities (cities, counties, housing & economic development groups, etc.) do to get involved in Opportunity Zones?

1. Hold a forum to share information on this new tool with interested community partners, including local government, potential investors and developers. Spread the word to high net worth individuals and businesses that
2. Spread the word and identify a local pipeline of projects. Develop an inventory of potential Opportunity Zone projects and determine readiness to proceed in 2019, 2020, and beyond that date. Can we help expedite?
3. Broker relationships and look at ways to align the Opportunity Zones with other resources. Meet with business and economic development colleagues to identify high priority projects and ways to them. Look at opportunities to package these projects with other public and private investment tools and programs
4. Look for ways to align projects with planned infrastructure improvements and with other subsidies. Match/blend other resources. Explore partnerships with regional and statewide organizations with expertise to serve as partners/consultants. Examples include:
  - a. LISC- Twin Cities Metro and Greater Duluth programs
  - b. City & County Government
  - c. Regional Development Commissions
  - d. The NorthSpan Group (& other non-profit) economic development consulting groups
  - e. The McKnight Foundation and McKnight Regional Initiative Funds (e.g. the Northland Foundation and others)
5. Seek out like minded potential investors including:
  - a. Neighborhood business groups in Opportunity Zones
  - b. Wealth Advisors
  - c. Banks/Fund Managers
  - d. Social Investors, including Community Foundations

LISC is a resource to work with those in the Twin Cities Metro Area, Duluth and other areas of the state.

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