



ASSOCIATION OF
CENTRAL OKLAHOMA
GOVERNMENTS

2024-2025 COMMUNITY ECONOMIC RESILIENCY INITIATIVE (CERI) PROGRAM

PLANNING
DEMONSTRATION SITE
APPLICATION

JUNE 11, 2024

Association of Central Oklahoma Governments

4205 N. Lincoln Blvd. | Oklahoma City, OK 73105 | 405.234.2264 | acogok.org

APPLICATION PREAMBLE

The Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG), a collaborative, regional organization of local governments, has designated a portion of the awarded 2023-2025 EDA Planning Grant to provide valuable planning services to the municipalities within our region. As a result, ACOG has reserved \$45,000 to fund two cities to take part in the 2024-2025 Community Economic Resiliency Initiative (CERI) Program.

The CERI Program offers municipal governments the opportunity to develop planning demonstration (demo) sites that will model strategic community and long-term economic investment with a focus on placemaking and cultural heritage tourism.

CERI aims to engage local governments to develop the tools they need to become economically resilient and sustainable. Depending upon the scope of their application project, successful applicants will receive valuable planning consultant services, community research and public engagement guidance, proposed project implementation strategies, and best practices training.

The ACOG 2021 Updated Community Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is to be a focal point of any planning demonstration site proposal throughout this application process. The CERI Program strives to encourage and demonstrate healthy, economic best practices proposed in the [ACOG Updated CEDS](#). Your CERI application must align with one or more of the following CEDS goals: Transit-Oriented Development; Placemaking; Business Adaptation; Opportunity Zones; Partnerships and Collaboration; and Government Policy Responsiveness¹.

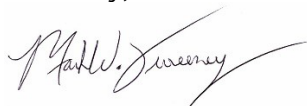
ACOG has partnered with the University of Oklahoma Institute of Quality Communities (IQC), a community engagement program that helps students build partnerships with local governing and civic organizations to design solutions to local problems that affect the health, the economy, and the quality of life of Oklahomans. IQC will be procured through an inter-local government agreement with ACOG to provide planning consultant services to each of the selected applicant cities for the planning demonstration sites.

Eligible entities include any city/town that is a current member of the ACOG Board of Directors, has a population of 25,000 residents or less based on the 2020 U.S. Census Data, and is located within Logan, Oklahoma, Canadian, or Cleveland Counties.

ACOG developed a budget of \$22,500 designated per city/town to provide practical planning assistance through IQC. Any municipality that wishes to take part in the CERI Program must contribute \$2,500 in funding for a total of \$25,000 in valuable planning consultant services. ARPA or any other federal funds are not eligible for the contribution.

ACOG looks forward to receiving your application no later than **5:00 p.m. on Monday, July 15th, 2024**. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sharon Astrin, Community and Economic Development Manager, at 405.234.2264.

Sincerely,



Mark W. Sweeney, AICP
Executive Director



¹ See the CERI Policy & Procedures CEDS Strategic Framework section for further information.

SECTION 1:
APPLICANT INFORMATION

Entity Name	Population (according to the 2020 U.S. Census)	
Mailing Address:		
City/Town	State	ZIP
Chief Executive Officer (City/Town Manager or Clerk)	Phone Number	
Email		
Chief Elected Official	Phone Number	
Email		

SECTION 2:
PLANNING DEMONSTRATION (DEMO) SITE INFORMATION

Project Name _____

LOCATION - Address and/or other geographic indicators:

PLANNING DEMONSTRATION SITE MAP

- Include site map in an ARCH C (18 x 24 inch) format and ensure that the site map includes a north arrow, road names, designated boundaries of the proposed project location, and legend, if needed.

SELECT THE CATEGORY/CATEGORIES THAT BEST DESCRIBE YOUR PROPOSED DEMO SITE

- Within a half mile radius of the main government building/city hall/courthouse (town center)
- Within an existing or proposed boundary of a regional park/recreation area
- An existing business corridor, or within a main street/commercial district
- Cultural/heritage tourism site (historic place or district)

SECTION 3: **PLANNING DEMONSTRATION SITE JUSTIFICATION**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In 1,000 words or less, describe the details of the planning demonstration site and include information about the potential site, the importance of the site to the community, any cultural/historic importance or significance, major and/or minor assets, and issues that may need to be addressed.

COMMUNITY OBJECTIVE STATEMENT

In 500 words or less, describe why this site was chosen and explain the desired outcome from this planning project.

ACOG UPDATED CEDS GOALS

Additionally, in 250 words or less, describe how your planning demonstration site addresses one or more goals of the [ACOG Updated CEDS](#).

SECTION 4

LOCAL COMMITMENT

- Describe if your community has actively engaged in any planning efforts, investments, or construction projects that may incorporate a portion or all of the proposed planning demonstration site.

- Required local commitment and engagement documentation:
 - Establish a **Community Steering Committee** of specific local stakeholders (realtors, bankers, small or large business owners, large landowners, minority, and faith-based community representatives, etc.) that are dedicated to being involved throughout the entire planning process. **A minimum of six (6) individuals must be identified as part of the application submittal.**
 - Provide **letters of support** from local organizations, civic clubs, businesses, and from other community stakeholders.
 - Provide an **adopted and signed resolution** from the governing body of your municipality acknowledging long-term commitment to this endeavor (refer to CERI Program Resolution on page 8.)

- If selected, a CERI participant can expect the following services from IQC. Please initial to acknowledge that your primary staff contact, and Community Steering Committee will proactively coordinate with IQC on each phase of the planning process:

Establish the Project (September 2024)

IQC team and the Community Steering Committee will hold preliminary meetings to refine the goals and scope of the project. The local project lead will assist IQC in compiling background documents and data.

Conduct Research and Ongoing Engagement (October 2024-February 2025)

IQC and the Community Steering Committee will establish a meeting schedule so that the Community Steering Committee can support research and engagement, and so the Committee can review progress. The Committee will assist IQC in shaping an engagement strategy that invites residents to participate in determining outcomes through workshops, charrettes, surveys, interviews, walk-and-talk meetings, or other activities. Engagement will continue throughout the project. The Committee will review progress as IQC prepares research on topics like history, demographics, asset-mapping, urban form analysis, field work, precedent studies, related trends and best practices, or other areas of relevance.

Develop Recommendations (March – April 2025)

IQC will develop and present design and/or planning strategies for review and refinement by the Community Steering Committee. IQC will refine these into a series of short-term and long-range action items with steps toward implementation, and related funding opportunities.

Deliver Final Reports and Presentations (May 2025)

IQC will deliver a final narrative and graphic report, and a presentation slide deck. The Community Steering Committee will assist in scheduling a final presentation where IQC will present results to local officials, stakeholders, and the public.

SECTION 5:

LOCAL RESOURCES

Please list the primary point of contact and other support staff dedicated to the project.

_____	_____
Primary Staff Contact	Title/Position
_____	_____
Email	Phone Number

Address, if different from above	
_____	_____
Other Support Staff	Title/Position
_____	_____
Email	Phone Number

Address, if different from above	

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

- Applicant Information
- Planning Demonstration Site Information with Map
- Planning Demonstration Site Justification
- Local Commitment with Community Steering Committee List, Letters of Support, and adopted CERI Program Resolution
- Local Resources (primary point of contact)
- Appendix: Any additional documents that may enhance your application

All planning demonstration site documents are to be attached to this application as a PDF. Please provide completed application via email by **Monday, July 15th, 2024, 5:00 P.M. CDT**, to Sharon Astrin, Community and Economic Development Manager, at ceri@acogok.org.

CERI PROGRAM RESOLUTION



COMMUNITY ECONOMIC RESILIENCY INITIATIVE (CERI)



Association of Central Oklahoma Governments

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CERI PROGRAM RESOLUTION

A resolution of the council/board of the city/town of _____, Oklahoma, requesting that the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) consider the selection of the (project) _____, As a project candidate for the CERI Planning Demonstration Site Program.

Be it remembered that on the (day) _____ of (month) _____, 2024, at a regular meeting of the city/town council/board of the city/town of _____, the following resolution was presented, read, and adopted:

WHEREAS, ACOG has made available EDA Planning Grant Funds to provide planning services for municipalities that are current members of the ACOG Board of Directors in partnership with the University of Oklahoma Institute for Quality Communities (IQC); and

WHEREAS, The City/Town of _____ has selected a project planning proposal; and

WHEREAS, the City/Town agrees to provide extensive community engagement to make the planning demonstration site process a success and provide ongoing local support to ensure future project implementation and maintenance funding; and

WHEREAS, the City/Town assures that no qualified person with a disability shall, solely by reasons of their disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity administered by the City/Town; and

WHEREAS, the City/Town further understands that acceptance of this resolution by the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) is not a commitment of being selected as a CERI Program Planning Demonstration Site, but only registers the City's/Town's interest and commitment in participating in the program application process.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That ACOG is hereby requested to consider the selection of this project as a candidate for CERI Planning Demonstration Site Program, and to submit the completed project application to the CERI Review Committee for assessment and to the ACOG Board of Directors for final consideration.

The City/Town of _____, if selected for the CERI Planning Demonstration Site Program, will pay a sum of \$2,500 upon the execution of the contract between the city and ACOG for participation in the CERI Program.

ADOPTED by the City/Town council/board of _____ and **SIGNED** by the Mayor this the (day) _____ of (month) _____, 2024.

ATTEST: City/Town Clerk _____ Mayor _____
City/Town Attorney _____