

COMMUNITY BUILDERS **LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE**

January 15th, 16th, and 17th, 2014



**For communities working
towards economic
prosperity and livability.**

LOCATION:
Hotel Denver, 402 7th Street
3rd Floor Conference Room
Glenwood Springs, Colorado

COMMUNITY BUILDERS

THE BUSINESS OF BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

In today's economy, communities are looking for effective ways to create and maintain jobs, spur quality development and do more with fewer resources. The need to connect community planning and economic development is stronger than ever. The Community Builders Leadership Institute (CBLI) is a training to help local leaders respond to the changing economic landscape, and build stronger, more successful communities.

Over two and a half days, up to seven community teams of six to eight participants will participate in a hands-on workshop to build leadership and practical understanding of ways to align community planning and economic development in today's economy.

Working with experts in local finance, housing, land use, transportation and economic development, teams will gain practical knowledge on the nuts-and-bolts of building stronger communities. Participants will leave the CBLI with a better understanding of ways to align community planning and economic development, lessons learned from successful projects, and a clear plan of action for next steps in their community.

This training will help participating community leaders understand:

- The role of sound community planning and design in reaching economic goals
- Key trends and issues affecting Western Colorado's communities and economy
- Specific action steps communities can take for long-term success
- Cost savings by improving land-use planning, transportation and building practices
- Effective public and private partnerships to leverage community goals

ABOUT US

The Community Builders Leadership Institute is a training offered through Community Builders. Community Builders was created to provide information, research, tools, insight and analysis for developers, lenders, realtors, public officials, planners, engineers, and engaged citizens who are actively building stronger economies in the towns and cities of the American West. Community Builders is a project of the Sonoran Institute, a nonpartisan nonprofit organization that inspires and enables community decisions that respect the land and people of western North America.

**The COMMUNITY BUILDERS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE,
communitybuilders.net/leadershipinstitute
is a project of the Sonoran Institute, sonoraninstitute.org**





Glenwood Springs, Colorado street scene.
Photo courtesy: Lewis Marketing

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AGENDA AT A GLANCE

The Community Builders Leadership Institute combines topical training sessions and informative success stories with group discussion and team-based action planning.

Day 1 will focus on socioeconomic, demographic and market trends that are affecting communities in western Colorado. Teams will also discuss what outcomes they hope to achieve in their communities with the information they learn, and how they can create an action plan that helps pave the way towards meeting those goals. The day will conclude with a welcome reception and keynote address.

Day 2 will dive into specific topics at the nexus of community planning and economic development, including local finance, housing and transportation choices, jobs and economic development, and community revitalization. In addition, Day 2 will feature a variety of case study examples illustrating what it took to get successful projects off the ground.

Day 3 is all about how teams can make use of what they gain in the course. Teams will work together and with the training team to finalize local action plans, which will outline specific near-term goals and next steps to undertake when the team gets home.

During the course of the CBLI, community leaders will:

- Learn about successful projects and programs from peer communities.
- Connect to a network of local leaders and peer communities throughout the region.
- Develop strategies for public engagement and effective community partnerships.
- Work with a team of expert coaches to address specific planning and development challenges within their community.
- Create a community action plan to advance specific issues and goals identified in the CBLI.

WHO CAN APPLY?

The Community Builders Leadership Institute is open to towns, cities and counties from throughout Western Colorado. Up to seven teams will be selected to participate, with each team ranging from six to eight members. Teams must demonstrate a commitment to connecting local planning and economic development goals.

We believe a broad spectrum of community leaders is necessary for successful decision-making. Creating a leadership team is the first step in developing partnerships in your community. Our experience has found that a diverse, broad-based team is most effective in engaging fellow community members.



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SELECTION CRITERIA

Teams will be evaluated based on:

- Strong team composition;
- Ability to demonstrate how the CBLI can support development and/or implementation of an upcoming or current community planning and/or economic development effort;
- Local commitment to advancing livability and economic development goals through sound community planning, development and investment.

Creating a leadership team is critical to a successful application, and the composition of the team is key. Teams should include a broad range of perspectives and expertise from the public and private sectors. The list below includes several types of representation to consider in building a well-rounded team.

- Local government (elected and appointed officials, city/county managers, planners, public works)
- Business and economic development (Chambers, Economic Development Organizations, Downtown Development Authority, Main Street Programs, etc)
- Community development organizations (housing, youth/education, civic organizations)
- Real estate, development and investment professionals (developers, realtors, local lenders)

COSTS

All training material, lodging and meal costs will be covered for participants by the Sonoran Institute through scholarship. Absent of this scholarship, the cost per individual to attend this two-and-a-half day training is \$400. Participating teams are expected to pay for individual travel to and from the CBLI.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The Community Builders Leadership Institute will begin at noon on Wednesday, January 15th and end at 3:00pm on Friday, January 17th. Applications are due by close of business on Friday, November 27th.

The Sonoran Institute will evaluate applications for thoroughness and demonstrated commitment to community planning and economic development. For any questions about the application process, please contact Jillian Sutherland, Project Manager, at 970-384-4364 extension 4002 or at jsutherland@sonoraninstitute.org.



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APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Submit only **one** complete application per community team.

A complete application consists of the following items:

- Community Challenge Statements**
- Team Participants Form**
- Supporting Materials** (*Optional*)

If there are articles, reports, information, resumes, awards, etc. that you feel are relevant and support your application, you are welcome to include it.

Detach and complete the two application forms in the brochure. Use additional sheets if necessary.

Email or mail applications by November 27th, 2013 by 5 p.m. to:

Community Builders, c/o The Sonoran Institute
Jillian Sutherland, Project Manager
817 Colorado Avenue, Suite 200
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601
Phone 970.384.4364 x4002
Email jsutherland@sonoraninstitute.org

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the Sonoran Institute:
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Colorado Office Staff:

Clark Anderson, Program Director
Jillian Sutherland, Project Manager
Jennifer Hill, Project Manager

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COMMUNITY CHALLENGE STATEMENTS

Community Name:

Directions

Each team should discuss and complete the following questions. It is most effective when teams discuss the questions and fill out the answers as a group. The team leader can also compile input from other team members to complete the questions.

1. Community Challenges and Opportunities

- a. Briefly describe a specific challenge (or challenges) your community is facing that the team could make progress on during the CBLI training.

- b. Is there a specific opportunity, such as an ongoing or upcoming planning or development effort (e.g. an economic development strategy, code revision, community planning effort) that might benefit from participation in the CBLI? If so, please briefly describe the effort and how you think the CBLI could support a successful outcome.

2. Please describe the composition of your team.



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COMMUNITY CHALLENGE STATEMENTS (continued)

Community Name:

3. Please rank the following topics based on your community's needs and interests (1 to 5).

1 = low 5 = high

Economic Development	
Capital Planning and Investment	
Market and Economic Trends	
Expanding Housing Choices	
Implementation Tools (financing, policy, etc)	
Community Planning and Design	
Infill Housing	
Redevelopment and Revitalization Strategies	
Transportation and Mobility	

a. Other (please describe any other topics you would like to address).

4. What outcome(s) do you think would be most valuable for your community to achieve through the CBLI?

5. Is your community working with the Sonoran Institute on any community planning efforts?

YES NO If yes, describe briefly.

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TEAM PARTICIPANTS

It is recommended that interested communities contact Jillian Sutherland to discuss team composition.

Team Leader and Primary Contact:

Name:	Organization/Title:
Address:	
City/State:	Zip Code:
Email:	Phone:

Team Participants:

Name:	Organization/Title:
Address:	
City/State:	Zip Code:
Email:	Phone:

Name:	Organization/Title:
Address:	
City/State:	Zip Code:
Email:	Phone:

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