**Partners for Places Grant Program | Round 19 Invitation to Apply**

**Equitable Collaborative Team Roles and Value Propositions**

**Documents Purpose:** To describe examples of possible roles and value propositions for each member of a collaborative partnership.[[1]](#footnote-1) Table 1 contains information on ways that local government, frontline community group,[[2]](#footnote-2) and place-based funders can bring value to a collaborative partnership.

Equitable collaborations establish new roles for local government - especially in how they facilitate the serving of community needs and priorities. Even when decision-making power is shifted to the community, local government engagement in these collaborations is needed. Their presence helps attract resources and remove barriers from policies and programs. As power is shifted to frontline community groups and alliances, local governments must remain directly involved in the work, or risk missing the opportunity for institutional change that will further empower their communities to take equitable climate and/or stormwater actions.

**Table 1. Roles and Value Propositions for an Equitable Collaborative.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Local Government** | **Frontline Community Group** | **Place-Based Funder** |
| **Possible Role** | * Be transparent about goals and constraints
* Acknowledge past harms
* Explain to partners how to navigate government processes
* Protect the goals and funding of the work within government
* Help to eliminate any barriers caused by government processes
* Build support for the collaboration among colleagues and across government
* Commit to undertaking root cause analysis, working to shift power to frontline community groups, and decreasing disproportionate harm to frontline communities
* Work with a cross-departmental team to facilitate internal shifts in policy and practices that remove systemic barriers
* Partner with community-based organizations to ensure the work is aligned with the priorities of impacted communities
 | * Identify community priorities and goals
* Be willing to collaborate with government and funders
* Commit to working with other frontline community groups and community members
* Help community groups to attract adequate resources to organize and participate in decision-making
* Build a base that cares about local climate and water changes, and can participate in decision-making
* Ensure sustainability efforts support frontline communities
 | * Be transparent about the funding agenda
* Acknowledge past harm
* Partner with frontline community groups to balance power dynamics
* Take on crucial roles for the collaboration that are not good fits for public or other nonprofit partners, like funding community organizing strategies to broaden community leadership
* Consider aligning other local grant making with the collaborative work
* Support frontline community groups to actively participate in the discussions and responsibilities of the collaborative
* Work with other funders to broaden support for the work
 |
| **Value**  | Build a broader base for climate and water action, improve solutions by including more perspectives on the problems, and provide direct benefits to frontline communities who are in harms way | Expand access, influence, and the opportunity to build wealth, jobs, and community benefits  | Attract other funding sources, find potential partners, and deepen the general understanding of issues and stakeholder impacts |

*Note: Some of these roles and values are described by the* [*Movement Strategy Center*](https://movementstrategy.org/) *and have been adapted for this Table.*

1. Collaborative Partnerships are mutually agreed upon partnership between local government, frontline community groups, and place-based funders to define problems and develop solutions. (*Adapted from:* [*Movement Strategy Center*](https://movementstrategy.org/) *materials*) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. These group have a primary mission to represent and serve frontline communities, improving living situations by addressing the root causes of oppression and injustice, economic disadvantage, and environmental harm. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)