Small Places, Big Ideas Project Team

Emily Edmonds
emily@elgl.org
Membership & Programs Director, ELGL

Jeremy Devray-Benichou
jeremy@urbanleap.io
VP, Customer Success, UrbanLeap

Rich Lechner
rich@urbanleap.io
VP, Business Development, UrbanLeap

Kirsten Wyatt
kirsten@elgl.org
Co-Founder & Executive Director, ELGL
ELGL is a membership organization focused on engaging and educating local government leaders around the world. We have members working in local government in 50 states and six countries, and provide timely, relevant content, education, and networking opportunities to our members.
UrbanLeap is a cloud-based innovation management platform that allows governments to coordinate all their smart urban initiatives in one place.

How we add value

- Enhance discovery of relevant solutions
- Streamline the submission and evaluation process
- Automate workflows to improve project success rates
- Increase transparency and stakeholder engagement.
- Optimize resources within projects and across portfolio
- Share learnings and results with like-minded organizations

Why it matters

UrbanLeap can help you deliver outcomes that matter to your community - faster and with higher success rates.
Small Places, Big Ideas:
Think of it as your own I-team, but spread across the country rather than in the building downstairs.
How the Cohort Works

The program runs for one-year and is limited to 25 organizations from U.S. cities, counties, and towns. An application is required, and applicants must engage at least one FTE or its equivalent as primary stakeholders in the project. Final selection will favor participants from towns with populations under 30,000 (although other applicants are encouraged to apply).

The Cohort members will collaborate to identify and test innovative solutions to common challenges

**Explore**
- Select and scope priority issues
- Define outcomes & success criteria
- Identify potential solutions
- Solicit and evaluate proposals

**Experiment**
- Develop evaluation strategy/plan
- Distribute test elements to members
- Define KPIs and milestones
- Execute and track pilots

**Share & Iterate**
- Share results, assess solutions
- Capture best practices & learnings
- Plan full deployment for successes
- Discuss new approaches for failures

**Application Highlights:** Describe your current capacity, innovation initiatives, and challenges - including a brief narrative describing one to two problems faced in your jurisdiction and how you think the Innovation Cohort opportunity can help your organization overcome these challenges.
What our applicants are interested in working on:

- **65%** Managing data across departments & for community members
  - Transparency
  - Effectiveness
  - Cohesion
  - Community engagement

- **43%** Planning for growth, development, and transportation challenges
  - Congestion & traffic
  - Sprawl
  - Expected growth & related concerns

- **39%** Aligning departments to meet human services & community needs
  - Provision of services
  - Shared information across departments
  - Prioritizing use of resources
Project Timeline

Program Dates: June 2019-June 2020

June 2019
- Finalists announced; first meetings held

July 2019
- Projects selected and participants commence work; training sessions begin

Sept 2019
- Regional Road Trip Meetings

May 2020
- Final Presentations #ELGL20

Applications Due: May 21, 2019
- Finalists Announced: May 31, 2019
- First Billing: June 15, 2019 | Net 30
- First Meeting: June 17, 2019
- Second Billing: July 15, 2019 | Net 30
UrbanLeap: Explore the Innovation Cohort Platform
With regional innovation projects impacting multiple stakeholders underway, the County needed a solution to simplify the entire process of collecting proposals, planning pilots and reporting outcomes. The traditional use of managing by spreadsheets and emails just didn't cut it. UrbanLeap’s platform gave us the flexibility to evaluate and track projects efficiently and effectively.
Q: I can't afford an all-in membership, but we really want to apply.
A: We've made a new Small Communities All-In Membership just for folks under 10K population, with five employee spots for $150 annually. You can register for that here. We want you to be a part of this and don't want cost to be a barrier, so if you have further questions, reach out to emily@elgl.org.

Q: I'm a council or conference of governments. Can I apply on behalf of my member communities?
A: You can! We'd love to see COGs support smaller communities this way. Please reach out to emily@elgl.org to set up a time to discuss the expectations and logistics for this type of application.

Q: Yikes! June 1 is awfully close to the end of the fiscal year. When are payments due?
A: Recognizing that the end of the fiscal year is close for most communities, we'll send the first invoice, for half of the amount due, on June 15, payable by July 30. We'll send the second invoice 30 days later on July 15, payable by August 30. If you need additional assistance with payments, please reach out to emily@elgl.org and we'll see how we can help.
We’ll spend the rest of the webinar answering your questions about the program.

Please use the chat box function to submit questions!