

Call for Applications: Director of Mobility Innovation

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Contact:

Peter Truog

Director of Civic Innovation and Insight, Fund for Our Economic Future

ptruog@thefundneo.org | 216-456-9802

www.thefundneo.org

The challenge:

The decline in rates of Job Access in Northeast Ohio is among the steepest in the country. The growing geographic divide between workers and jobs limits the region's economic growth potential: Companies struggle to access workers and job seekers struggle to access jobs. Residents of our region's most economically distressed neighborhoods, often people of color, are those most impacted by the growing disconnect between people and jobs. This spatial mismatch is inefficient, ineffective, and amounts to distance discrimination that undermines our region's long-term economic competitiveness.

At the same time, new transportation models that change how people connect to work are emerging across Northeast Ohio and the nation. Whether through peer-to-peer services, ride sharing or micro transit, urban, suburban, and rural mobility is on the cusp of radical change.

The Fund for Our Economic Future (Fund), in collaboration with partner organizations across the region, seeks a Director of Mobility Innovation (Director) who can seize the opportunity offered by transportation innovation and address a major economic need. In a two-year period, the Director's primary objectives will be to: catalyze innovative transportation pilots that efficiently match the needs of businesses and workers with the services of innovative transportation providers, develop a business case based on the results of the pilots to inform future strategy, and address systemic barriers to unlock more robust and racially inclusive economic growth across Northeast Ohio.

The role:

The ideal candidate for Northeast Ohio's first Director of Mobility Innovation will be:



- **An enthusiastic innovator with an entrepreneurial spirit**, who is excited by the potential of improving the connections between people and jobs through optimization and alignment of resources;
- **A confident, collaborative relationship developer** with the ability to form strong working relationships with individuals from diverse racial and socioeconomic backgrounds and professional disciplines;
- **A strong problem solver** capable of handling creative, analytical and interpretive thought processes, and comfortable using Excel, GIS and other analytical tools;
- **An empathetic communicator** who can understand, guide and influence others;
- **An individual passionate about racial equity** and motivated to systemically advance racial inclusion and equitable access to economic opportunity in Northeast Ohio; and
- **An efficient project manager** who is comfortable working independently in ambiguous environments and capable of providing structure to projects by devising workplans, evaluation criteria, milestones, and meeting agendas.

While experience and expertise in transit and/or transportation is beneficial, it is not required. More important is the Director's ability to get up-to-speed on the issues and opportunities quickly and rapidly begin to participate in solution ideation and delivery. The ideal candidate will have 3+ years of experience executing and delivering projects end-to-end and/or have launched an organization or enterprise. The majority of the Director's work is expected to be executed in Northeast Ohio.

The work:

The Director of Mobility Innovation will be responsible for launching up to 10 pilots between the businesses, workforce agencies and transportation providers in Northeast Ohio over the next two years. S/he will also work with the initiative sponsors to develop the business plan for scaling and sustaining the work—either within, in partnership with, or independent of existing stakeholders. This will require the Director to work with:

- **Regional business leadership** to create awareness of the services, source opportunities, develop trusted and collaborative relationships with regional business leaders, define a business case for potential mobility solutions, and deliver innovative solutions to market;
- **Regional workforce agencies and community-based organizations (e.g., community colleges, staffing agencies, etc.)** to understand the qualifications,

geographic location, and number of available workers in communities across the region, and connect those assets with businesses across the region; and

- **Transportation and mobility providers** to understand the economic model and product offerings of each provider, and conduct preliminary “triage” analyses to identify which provider best meets the needs of each partner business.

Solutions will be piloted across Northeast Ohio, with at least 50 percent of people benefitting from expanded service options will reside in economically distressed areas. These solutions will be critically important for proving the business case behind systemic innovations that advance racially inclusive economic growth.

Oversight and Support:

The Director of Mobility Innovation is an up to two-year contract position with the Fund for Our Economic Future. The Director will report to the President of the Fund and receive guidance from a to-be-named Steering Committee. The Director will partner with staff of the Fund, the Greater Cleveland Partnership, the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, and other organizations throughout Northeast Ohio.

Period of Performance:

While current funding commitments will support the expected scope of work for up to two years, there is significant long-term potential for this work, to be informed by the success of the first phase.

INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT A RESUME AND STATEMENT OF INTEREST ON OR BEFORE **JULY 6, 2018 TO:**

Peter Truog
ptruog@thefundneo.org
Director, Civic Innovation and Insight
The Fund for Our Economic Future
www.thefundneo.org