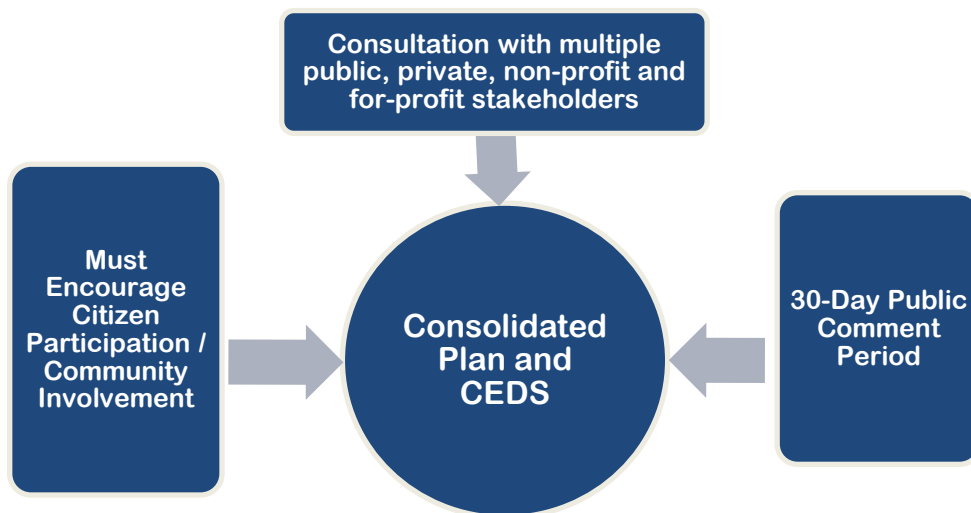


# Increased Local and Regional Collaboration

Local, regional and state jurisdictions across the country regularly engage in strategic planning to identify priorities and challenges, and to guide subsequent investment decisions. This may include the development of plans for various federal agencies as a prerequisite to accessing program funds. The administrative burden associated with meeting the similar strategic planning requirements for various federal programs results in a cumulative increase in costs borne by grantees and local jurisdictions. While these include investments of time and money, they also represent opportunity costs that are incurred when these resources are invested in many separate planning processes when they could be used to leverage opportunities for dynamic collaboration among local and regional stakeholders and partners.

This overview summarizes the benefits that EDA and HUD Community Planning & Development grantees and their partners can achieve by leveraging aligned citizen participation public consultation and procedures associated with each agency's respective community and economic development plans.

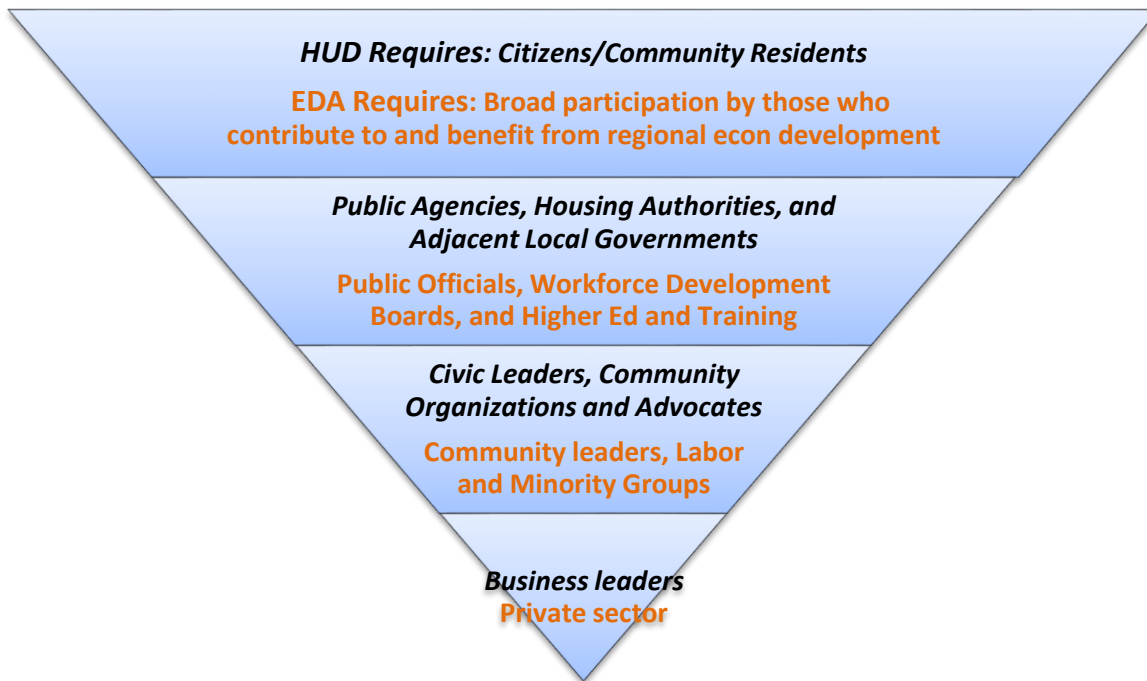
**Figure 1: Similar Public Participation Processes for CEDS/Consolidated Planning**



# Common Public Participation Elements

Both the [HUD Consolidated Plan](#) and the [EDA Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy \(CEDS\)](#) require grantees to establish and implement procedures to solicit and incorporate public input in the strategic planning process. The public participation requirements for the development of a Consolidated Plan are different from a CEDS. However, there are many similarities that grantees can leverage to design and implement a shared public participation process. Figure 2 illustrates key areas of overlap across the CEDS and Consolidated Plan requirements for citizen participation and public consultation, with groups whose participation is required by HUD shown in bold, above similar interest groups required to participate in an EDA-funded CEDS. These entities represent only the baseline for the wide variety of organizations, interests and individuals whose input can result in a robust, comprehensive and broadly supported strategic plan to foster healthy, innovative and prosperous communities and regional economies.

**Figure 2: Overlapping Participants and Interests Engaged in CEDS / Consolidated Planning**



## Robust Participation, Enhanced Outcomes

Both the Consolidated Plan and CEDS content development procedures require grantees to implement public consultation and citizen participation processes. The complimentary nature of the EDA and HUD public consultation processes can be leveraged to establish aligned procedures, resulting in decreased administrative burden and enhanced projects and outcomes. By implementing combined public

participation processes, EDA and HUD grantees and their community partners have the opportunity to ensure that their strategic plans reflect a broad scope of related local priorities. This approach also positions the community or region to capitalize on new opportunities for project alignment and investment. By facilitating the participation of a wider variety of partners, aligned citizen participation and public consultation processes increase the potential for additional financial and other technical contributions that can enhance the scope and beneficial outcomes of various development projects.

Aligning these citizen participation and public consultation processes can enable grantees to efficiently satisfy the requirements of two plans, while facilitating meaningful and robust public contributions to the overall strategic planning process.

*Requests for additional information about the EDA and HUD partnership to facilitate streamlined community and economic development strategic planning can be sent to EDA's [Economic Development Integration Team](#) at [edi@eda.gov](mailto:edi@eda.gov).*