

SUSTAINABILITY AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Delta's many partners include both the City of Chicago and the Merchandise Mart.

delta institute



Delta Institute prides itself on being responsive to the needs of its partners and responding to what they define as being the most important goal, activity, project, or taking a new approach to improving their local environmental and economic outcomes. We have decades of experience moving sustainable priorities forward in creative and innovative ways.

Our Sustainability and Support Services are designed to respond to invitations in community-led planning efforts and provide direct technical assistance to public and private sector partners, which include a wide array of sectors in which Delta has sizable experience. We forecast that by 2025 Delta will work with more than 250 partner communities while securing \$40M in external investment and creating 100 practical tools, resources, strategies, and public plans.

Our region faces substantial challenges

Delta Institute (Delta) recognizes and respects that our partners face a broad spectrum of—both new and legacy—environmental, economic, and social challenges:

- **Redeveloping Vacant and Polluted Properties:** Offering in-depth technical assistance to strengthen and implement brownfield redevelopment efforts;
- **Sustainability Planning:** Supporting public planning initiatives at both the private sector

and within the municipal, county, and state levels for climate action, resiliency, and sustainability; and,

- **Adding Staff Capacity:** Augmenting Municipalities and Community Partners' ability to plan, implement, fund, and engage residents around necessary projects; and,
- **Waste Reduction and Deconstruction:** Managing waste more effectively through planning, deconstruction, and composting.

Delta supports our partners and their self-defined sustainability goals through our

Sustainability and Support Services, designed to align the needs of our partners with the skills and expertise of our staff to contribute where most helpful.

A history of community collaboration.

Since our earliest years, the team at Delta has focused on supporting communities' sustainability needs. Delta was founded to assist in remediating brownfields into spaces that increase economic vitality, neighborhood development, and access to green space. As part of our current strategic plan refinement, we reaffirm this commitment to partnering with local communities who seek our collaboration.

Our Work

Our Sustainability and Support Services portfolio of work advances a variety of projects including:

Coordinating implementation of the [Chicago Waste Strategy 2021](#) with the City of Chicago, advancing 63 recommendations to address waste and materials management;

[Catalyzing private sector investment through sustainable development on Chicago's Southeast Side](#), ultimately creating community-led sustainable development guidelines for the revitalization of vacant brownfields, and a workforce engagement strategy;

Assisting municipalities, counties, and public agencies in developing climate action and resiliency planning, such as in [South Bend's Carbon Neutral 2050 Climate Action Plan](#) or the



100 TOOLS AND STRATEGIES



250 PARTNER COMMUNITIES

Village of Skokie's [2021 Greenhouse Gas Inventory](#) or the sustainability plan for the Forest Preserve District of DuPage (IL) County;

Partnering with community groups like the Little Village Environmental Justice Organization (LVEJO) to propose a plan to [create a localized circular economy](#);

Helping local leaders [redevelop their vacant, polluted brownfields](#) into community centers, sustainable businesses, and more, such as through our participation in the US EPA-funded Kansas State University Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) program; and,

Working with companies to reach their sustainability goals, such as through LEED certifications or through establishing Science-Based Targets, such as through our past partnerships with Chicago's [Merchandise Mart](#) or [Field Museum of Natural History](#).

We work every day to create a more resilient region for all our Midwestern family, friends, and neighbors.

Please join our efforts and help us today.



Delta Institute collaborates with communities to solve complex environmental challenges throughout the Midwest.

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Delta Institute



Delta Institute is a 501c3 nonprofit with a 2023 Platinum Seal of Transparency from GuideStar and a Four-Star Rating from Charity Navigator for our strong financial health and accountability.