



Office of the Indiana
Treasurer of State

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Flipping Finance Challenge 2021 Connects Local Governments With Hoosier Innovators in 18-Hour Design Sprint

INDIANAPOLIS (March 11, 2021) — On February 26th-27th, the Indiana Bond Bank hosted its 3rd annual *Flipping Finance Challenge*, an innovation summit and design sprint that connects local units of government with top innovators throughout the state of Indiana to work on the most pressing challenges faced by these local units of government.

This year's *Challenge* featured the City of Jasper, the City of Sullivan and the Town of Knightstown, each of whom presented innovators with challenge topics covering public finance, engineering, economic development, quality housing, parks/recreation, marketing, and public infrastructure. The event was hosted virtually for the first time as innovators throughout the state presented 21 unique solutions to the featured units of government over an 18-hour period. Each community selected first and second prize winners within their community's challenge bank.

"In challenging times, great leaders invest in innovation and new approaches," said Mark Wuellner, Executive Director of the Indiana Bond Bank. You saw that from Mayor Lamb in Sullivan, Mayor Vonderheide in Jasper and Clerk-Treasurer Huffman in Knightstown. We're excited to see these ideas take root for a brighter Indiana."

"The Flipping Finance Challenge is a signature event of our office, and represents everything we Hoosiers expect from each other: collaboration, positivity, creativity and an enduring sense of the possible," said Treasurer of State Kelly Mitchell. "I'm so proud of Mark and the Bond Bank team for facilitating this event, and cannot wait to see where the communities take these ideas."

After the event, Mayor Dean Vonderheide of Jasper commented that "The City of Jasper went into this event with the intention of receiving a few good ideas which could be incorporated into our projects. What we experienced was beyond our expectations as the problem-solvers and innovators provided multiple perspectives and realistic recommendations. The virtual format used was very effective. I am so appreciative of Kelly Mitchell, the Indiana Bond Bank, the sponsors of the event, Mark Wuellner, Brian Carman and the many participants who engaged in our challenges. We have better defined challenges and new perspectives and are excited to move forward."

1st Place Winners

City of Sullivan: Quan Luong, Khoa Dang, Haemin Ryu, Trang Dao, An Nguyen, and Semir Kostic (Team High Hoops - Purdue Fort Wayne University)

City of Jasper: Christopher Cardoza (Team Mercury – Indiana University)

Town of Knightstown: Michelle Guricza, Andrew Gustin (Team Lancelot)

2nd Place Winners

City of Sullivan: Elizabeth Solchik, Jared Karban, Jonathon Cook, Darlesia Lee (Team #FlippingAwesome)

City of Jasper: Jennifer Roam, Kelsey Helstrom (Team Fishers)

Town of Knightstown: Quan Luong, Khoa Dang, Haemin Ryu, Trang Dao, An Nguyen, and Semir Kostic (Team High Hoops - Purdue Fort Wayne University)

Popular Vote

Awarded to the team whose solution received the most votes as voted on all by all event attendees:

Purdue Fort Wayne Team 1 - Sydney Boyd, Caitlyn Flory, Michael Perkins, Thaine Boehme, Niko Albertson, and Lucas Blevins

Superlative Awards

In addition to 1st and 2nd place prizes, individuals and teams who submitted solutions also had the opportunity win superlative awards in Best Student Team, Student Team Runner Up, Most Creative Pitch, Biggest Moonshot, Best Use of IBB Resources, and more.

The entire virtual platform with all solution presentations, live event recordings, sponsors, etc. can be accessed at <https://ffc2021.inbondbank.com/>

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For more information, visit www.in.gov/tos