



The University of Texas at Austin

IC² Institute

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IRB USE ONLY

Study Number: 2019 009 0068

Approval Date: 12/16/2019

Expires: 12/11/2022

Informed Consent for Participants

Title: Texas Regional Recovery Program

Introduction

You have been asked to be in a research study. The purpose of this form is to provide you information that may affect your decision as to whether or not to participate in this research study.

Participation in the study is completely voluntary and you can skip any of the questions asked. Read the information below and please direct any questions you may have to a member of the research team. We will review directions at the end on how you may agree or refuse participation.

Purpose of the Study

We are conducting this study to understand some of the economic conditions in small cities and rural areas in Texas. This research will expand our shared knowledge on how to make these places more economically resilient and sustainable.

What am I going to be asked to do?

If you agree to be in this study, you will be asked to answer questions in an interview, focus group, or survey format. You will be asked questions pertaining to your living and working situation.

Your participation may be audio recorded. All data will be securely stored for a period of no longer than five years before being destroyed.

What are the risks involved in this study?

The risks associated with this study are minimal. You may skip any questions, or withdraw participation from the study, at any time. Your name will not be included in any publicly released study findings, and your answers will remain anonymous.

Coercive Recruitment Practices

At the end of this study, you may have the option of helping us recruit people to participate in the study. Your decision to recruit others into the study will not affect your relationship with the research team. You may not engage in any recruitment tactics that could hurt another person. You cannot force someone to participate in this study or pressure them in any way. If you have any concerns about the study and how to recruit people in a safe way, you may contact the research team through the contact information listed below. Participation and recruitment must be completely voluntary.

Do I have to participate?

No, your participation is completely voluntary. You should only be in the study if you want to participate. You can even decide you want to be in the study now, and change your mind later.

Will I get anything to participate?

You will not receive anything directly from participating in the study.

Whom to contact with questions about the study?

Prior, during, or after your participation, contact the principal investigator **Dr. Bruce Kellison** at bkellison@ic2.utexas.edu or (512) 475-7813 for any questions or concerns.