## $\begin{tabular}{ll} East Tennessee Development District \\ July 2016 \end{tabular}$

# **ETDD Newsletter**

Contact Us:

East Tennessee Development District

Areawide Development Corporation

216 Corporate Place P.O. Box 249 Alcoa, TN 37701-0249

ETDD (865) 273-6003 ADC (865) 273-6008 Fax (865) 273-6010

Toll Free (866) 683-6003

#### www.etdd.org

This Newsletter is available online! If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, be removed from mailing list or make changes to your information, please email <a href="mailto:cburt@etdd.org">cburt@etdd.org</a> with your changes or go to our website at www.etdd.org to sign-up!

#### In this issue:

- 1. The Manhattan Project National Historical Park
- 2. Economic
  Development / PINI /
  Grant Programs
- 3. Grant Programs / Historic Preservation
- 4. Historic Preservation / Housing / RPO
- 5. RPO / Planning Advisory Service
- 6. GIS / Areawide Development Corporation / People and Places
- 7. People and Places
- 8. Calendar of Events

#### The Manhattan Project National Historical Park-Our Newest National Park

Many local residents are completely unaware that a new national park is being developed as a component of the overall reuse plan for a large portion of the Department of Energy's former uranium enrichment facilities in Oak Ridge. The new national park would encompass sites in Oak Ridge, TN, Los Alamos, NM and Hanford, WA that were involved in the development and production of atomic weapons during the World War II era.

In our area, Oak Ridge was a secret city with an ominous purpose. Within the confines of "Site X," workers enriched uranium and created the isotope known as U-235, which would fuel the world's first atomic bomb, "Little Boy." Oak Ridge's operations included three different processes for enrichment: electromagnetic separation at the Y-12 plant, gaseous diffusion at the K-25 plant, and liquid thermal diffusion at the S-50 plant. Oak Ridge was also home to the X-10 graphite reactor, which converted the isotope U-238 into a new element, plutonium. At one point, the city consumed a seventh of all the electricity produced by the Tennessee Valley Authority, 20 percent more than the amount needed to power all of New York City.

Nowadays, everyone is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) owns and manages the Federal properties at the major Manhattan Project sites, which include Oak Ridge, Hanford and Los Alamos. DOE, in cooperation with the National Park Service, other Federal agencies, state and local governments, and other stakeholders, has been investigating the possibility of including its most significant Manhattan Project properties within a Manhattan Project national park. In July 2011, the Secretary of the Interior, with the Department of Energy's concurrence, in a letter to Congress recommended the establishment of a three-site Manhattan Project National Historical Park. The Secretary recommended that the park be managed as a partnership between the National Park Service and the Department of Energy. The proposed three-site park would be a partnership with the Department continuing to own and manage its properties and controlling access to them and the NPS providing overall coordination and interpretation and establishing visitor centers with a small number of rangers at each of the sites. After numerous studies and several draft bills, Congress passed the National Defense Authorization Act of 2015, which included provisions authorizing the Park to be located at three sites: Oak Ridge, Tennessee; Hanford, Washington; and Los Alamos, New Mexico. On November 10, 2015, Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz signed the Memorandum of Agreement between the two agencies defining the respective roles in creating and managing the park. The agreement included provisions for enhanced public access, management, interpretation, and historic preservation. President Obama signed the National Defense Authorization Act into law on December 19, 2015. With the signing, the Manhattan Project National Historical Park officially was established.

On February 1, 2016, the National Park Service named Tracy Atkins as the interim superintendent of the new national park. In early February of 2016, the NPS in coordination with DOE, held successive two-day Foundation Workshops at the Oak Ridge, Hanford, and Los Alamos sites. Workshop participants explored the purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values, and interpretive themes for the park, as well as assessing planning and data needs.

Later in February, NPS and DOE participants in the Foundation Workshops met in Denver, Colorado, to assess the workshop findings, develop interpretive themes for the park, and discuss next steps. As the development plans for the Oak Ridge site become a reality, the people in our region will have an unparalleled opportunity to experience and re-live what can only be described as the largest scientific undertaking in the history of the world.

(Sources: Oak Ridge Convention and Visitors Bureau, DOE Energy.Gov)

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) have 2016 grant funds available under the Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Initiative to assist workforce development in regions negatively impacted by changes in the coal economy.

The grants typically range from \$500,000 to \$1.5 million. Communities interested in applying for a POWER grant should meet the criteria of a coal-impacted community, and successful projects should result in job creation and capital investment.

#### PINI (TACIR) SURVEY

ETDD staff recently completed the collection of data that details the infrastructure needs from all 16 counties, 56 cities, 25 school systems, and 94 utility districts. All new and existing TDOT and Bridge projects within the ETDD region have been updated as well. We thank all the participants for their help in supplying this information to ETDD staff. Infrastructure projects for the purpose of this survey included any needed public improvement need over \$50,000 in these categories: transportation, utilities, education (facilities), health, safety, welfare, culture, economic development, and various public facilities. The data has been entered and checked and TACIR will publish a lengthy summary that details infrastructure needs for all of Tennessee. The report is presented to the Governor and state legislators for use as a planning tool and a funding decision-making tool.

#### **GRANT INFORMATION**

### Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

ETDD staff is busy working with the following ETDD communities to implement their awarded CDBG projects:

- 1. Monroe County Waterline
- 2. Sweetwater Downtown Façade Improvements
- 3. New Tazewell Housing
- 4. Tazewell Housing
- 5. Dandridge Wastewater Rehabilitation
- 6. Rockwood Housing
- 7. Vonore Fire Equipment
- 8. Scott County Wastewater Rehabilitation

- 9. Campbell County Fire Equipment
- 10. Jefferson County Waterline Extension
- 11. Clinton Housing
- 12. Norris Wastewater Rehabilitation
- 13. Claiborne County Road Improvements
- 14. Cocke County Waterline Extension
- 15. Morgan County Waterline Extension
- 16. Anderson County Waterline Extension

#### **Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)**

ETDD staff submitted the following pre-application during the first quarter of the year.

- 1. City of Rocky Top Coal Town Museum
- 2. Madisonville Water Tank
- 3. Claiborne County Waterline Extension
- 4. Jellico Road Improvements to Hospital
- 5. Campbell County White Oak School Technology Grant

The following communities have been asked for full applications and ETDD staff assisted with the applications.

- 1. City of Rocky Top Coal Town Museum
- 2. ETDD and UT PIPES educational program for Campbell and Union counties

#### **SAFER Grant**

The Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants (SAFER) was created to provide funding directly to fire departments and volunteer firefighter organizations to help them increase or maintain the number of trained, "front line" firefighters available in their communities. The goal of SAFER is to enhance the local fire departments' abilities to comply with staffing, response and operational standards established by the NFPA (NFPA 1710 and/or NFPA 1720).

ETDD submitted the following SAFER grant applications:

- 1. Campbell County 3 firemen
- 2. Clinton -3 firemen
- 3. Rocky Top 3 firemen

#### **Local Parks and Recreation Fund**

ETDD staff assisted the following communities with a Local Parks and Recreation Grant applications: 1. Sweetwater; 2. Union County; 3. Hamblen County; 4. Norris; 5. Morristown; 6. Vonore; 7. Roane County; 8. Pittman Center; 9. White Pine. The applications were due in April, 2016.

A total amount of \$8,081,832.00 was requested with a 50% match from the communities.

#### **Solid Waste Grant Programs**

Recycling grants and Used Oil grants are again being offered this year by the TDEC Division of Solid Waste. The State is holding a workshops for upcoming grant applications. The workshop will be held at the Knoxville Environmental Field Office on July 19, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

#### **Recycling Equipment Grant**

The Recycling Equipment grant comes from revenues derived from a fee for Class I waste disposal that is accessed by the State. The grant does involve a match from the community that ranges from 10% to 50% depending on economic factors. The grant can be used on any recycling equipment that is deemed needed by the community and is shown in the annual progress report as a need. The total amount of the grant has been \$25,000.00 in the past.

#### **Used Oil Grant**

Used oil grants are authorized under the Used Oil Collection Act of 1993 and are funded by the Used Oil Collection Fund, which receives its revenues from a two cent (\$0.02) fee collected against every quart of oil sold. The grant is a 100% grant and can be used for used oil burners, tanks, pads, canopies or any other items that are needed to operate the used oil collection system.

ETDD staff recently completed extensive training in Nashville that will assist communities with their recycling programs in the future. The training was conducted by the Solid Waste Association of North America and provides certification in various aspects of solid waste. Congratulations to Mitch Loomis, who is now a Certified Technical Associate of Recycling Systems.

#### **TDOT Grants**

The State has just announced that the transportation alternatives grant program has opened on July 1st and will close on October 3rd. The areas of interest that applications can be made under are the following:

Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities Safe Routs for Non-Drivers Conversion of Abandoned Railway Corridors to Trails Scenic Turnouts and Overlooks Outdoor Advertising Management Historic Preservation & Rehab of Historic Transportation Facilities

Vegetation Management Archaeological Activities Stormwater Mitigation Wildfire Management.

The grant is an 80/20 grant for construction only with all preliminary cost being paid by the community including any engineering fees.

Congratulations to the City of Gatlinburg! They were recently awarded a Multi-Modal Access Grant for improvements for their pedestrian crosswalks.

#### **Police Grants**

ETDD staff helped the following communities to make a grant application request for bullet proof vests. 1. Norris; 2. Bean Station; 3. Lenoir City; 4. Dandridge; 5. Grainger County; 6. Jacksboro and 7. Rockwood. A total of 77 vests were requested at a cost of \$55,580.

Please note that you can go online at www.grants.gov to find out about different grants available. The site has a list of 26 federal grant making agencies. Also, please get in the habit to frequent our website at www.etdd.org to receive updates on grants and other important information and deadlines.

#### **HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

The National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) is a program through the National Park Service (NPS) that recognizes historically significant places and resources. NRHP listing provides several benefits, including access to preservation grants and tax incentives. Grant applications are due to the Tennessee Historical Commission each January. These are 60/40 matching grants that can be used for building restoration, historic or architectural surveys, and educational activities with a preservation component. ETDD can assist in the identification of competitive preservation projects that may be eligible for these types of grants and can also provide grant writing services to communities in our region. ETDD preservation staff has submitted two nominations to the Tennessee Historical Commission for the September meeting of the State Review Board: the LaFollette Coke Ovens site in Campbell County, Tennessee, and the Shults Grove Methodist Church in Sevier County, Tennessee. Please contact ETDD preservation staff for assistance with grant applications and National Register nominations.

Mark your calendars for the Preservation Power Summit on November 4, 2016. This event is hosted by the East Tennessee Preservation Alliance and will be held in Morristown. The summit will emphasize finding effective solutions for securing the future of our historic places, while capitalizing on our cultural heritage.

ETDD works with a variety of local and regional preservation groups and advocates that can assist with NRHP nominations, preservation grant applications, and tax incentives. ETDD's preservation staff also has experience surveying and identifying mid-twentieth-century architectural resources. Please contact Lindsay Crockett with ETDD for preservation-related assistance and technical guidance.

#### **HOUSING**

In March, ETDD submitted six HOME grant applications to the Tennessee Housing Development Agency on behalf of cities and counties. HOME grants were recently awarded to the City of Friendsville, the City of Huntsville, the City of New Market, and Scott County. These projects could assist 45-50 households total in the communities. The HOME program is a significant source of funding for housing rehabilitation projects in our region and continues to be a popular resource for this type of assistance.

ETDD will receive an allocation from the Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) for the Emergency Repair Program for the Elderly on July 1, 2016. This allocation will be used to address repairs for houses across the 16-county region. The program provides grants for home repairs in households where the applicant is at least 60 years of age and who meets ownership and income requirements. One new detail of the 2016 program is that the age requirement will be waived for disabled residents so that additional clients in need of repairs can be assisted. ETDD works with local non-profits and organizations who coordinate construction activities and qualify homeowners. THDA expects a 50% match for the grant funds used for emergency repairs. The program has provided a great deal of assistance in our area, but there is an ongoing need to locate funding that will assist lowincome homeowners with housing repairs. ETDD maintains a list of local housing partners and assistance programs that can be accessed through the Housing page of our website, or by contacting us directly with specific needs.

In May, ETDD was awarded a \$25,000 grant from the First Tennessee Bank Community Development Fund. This is a new fund created to support affordable housing, economic development, revitalization of communities, and community services for low- to moderate-income individuals. ETDD will utilize this grant to supplement the 50% match required for recipients of emergency repairs, allowing the Emergency Repair Program to be utilized in more counties and by more homeowners. ETDD will also implement the grant to allow more service providers to participate in the program.

ETDD housing staff is available to discuss housing needs and community housing grant applications. We can also provide information on local and regional housing service providers, agencies and alternate programs that can assist individuals in need of housing repair. For more information on these programs, contact Lindsay Crockett at (865) 273-6003.

#### **RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RPO)**

Construction has started on widening the section of Alcoa Highway from Woodson Drive to Maloney Road in Knox County. The project is 1.4 miles in length. The roadway will be widened to six lanes (three lanes in each direction). A new interchange will be constructed at Maloney Road. For additional information on this project and future sections of Alcoa Highway to be constructed, visit the TDOT Alcoa Highway web page at: http://www.tn.gov/tdot/topic/sr115-us-129-alcoahighway.

The Tennessee Department of Transportation E-TRIMS program is available to local governments. TRIMS is an abbreviation for Tennessee Roadway Information Management System. The system contains data on all interstates and state routes and many local roads. Information available includes: road name, functional classification, right of way width, number of lanes, roadway width, shoulders, drainage, average daily traffic, truck traffic, crashes (restricted access), speed limit, school speed illuminations, access control, maintenance information, photo log images, bridge inspection data, horizontal and vertical alignments, land use, terrain, county's state aid system and more. Please contact Don Brown at ETDD if you are interested in learning more about E-TRIMS. Don will be happy to assist in getting your office connected to E-TRIMS and will provide training on the use of the system.

The TDOT prepares a weekly East Tennessee Construction Report which provides a list of anticipated lane closures due to construction or maintenance operations on state highways. This report is updated weekly. The report can be found at: http://www.tn.gov/tdot/news/category/press-releases.

The East Tennessee Development District staff serves as Coordinator for the East Tennessee South Rural Planning Organization, RPO, and the East Tennessee North Rural Planning Organization. We work closely with the Tennessee Department of Transportation on transportation planning issues. One of the roles of the RPO Coordinator is to communicate with and coordinate with organizations in the region involved in transportation planning. We are available to consult with local agencies on transportation planning issues and to participate in local government meetings when major transportation issues are on the agenda.

The East Tennessee Development District website contains the most up-to-date information on the two RPO's. The web site includes the most up to date TDOT Project Status Reports that provide a description and status of all TDOT projects in each county within the RPO. The link to this website is <a href="http://www.etdd.org/services/community-development/transportation/">http://www.etdd.org/services/community-development/transportation/</a>.

#### PLANNING ADVISORY SERVICE

#### New Economic Development Trends

Economic development is the lifeblood of communities. Without economic development, many cities see falling populations, job losses, and a reduction in tax revenues. If the trend continues, many cities are forced to raise taxes and/or cut services. Many smaller and more rural communities do not have the financial resources to offer incentive packages, subsidies, and tax breaks that larger corporations have historically looked for when choosing where to locate. According to Smart Growth America, companies are now looking for more than just the best deal when choosing where to locate. In their recent publication, Amazing Place (June 2016), Smart Growth America offers a new "recipe" for economic development that may make smaller cities attractive to larger corporations. They say that companies are looking for places that will offer their employees a "great quality of life." The most desirable characteristics are "vibrant neighborhoods with affordable housing options, restaurants, nightlife and other amenities in walking distance, and a range of transportation choices for their employees."

The cities that put their resources into creating places where people and companies want to be are faring much better that the cities that are relying on incentives to drive economic development. The incentive model frequently resulted in companies moving from one jurisdiction to another taking the jobs with them rather than creating new jobs. The benefit to the receiving community was minimal because the employees made the move with the company or commuted to the new location. Investing in infrastructure and other assets is a better long-term value for the community because the residents still benefit even if the company leaves.

The study looked at six cities that are being successful in creating places where people want to live which results in companies locating there. The specific actions each city took are available in the report (see the web address at the end) but common themes are attracting talented workers, developing mixed use and mixed income neighborhoods, and focusing on the city's existing assets. To read the entire article, go to http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/amazing-place.

#### **Training**

There have been several training sessions offered by several venues over the past several months. On April 28, 2016 there was an all-day conference sponsored by East Tennessee Plain Talk at the Airport Hilton. A variety of topics were presented such as building communities through transportation, complete streets and safety initiatives, affordable broadband. A total of 6.5 hours of training credit was given. The Municipal Planning Advisory Service (MTAS) offered planning commission training in May for four hours of credit. Dan Hawk was the presenter. The East Tennessee Development District sponsored a two hour training session with the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) in March at Farragut Town Hall and the new Jefferson City library. There were several guest speakers from TDOT presenting facts about environmental issues, access roads and safe streets. MTAS is offering another training session in Knoxville on the National Flood Insurance Program in August which will be four hours. Anyone can sign up by going to the MTAS website and it is free. The Tennessee Chapter of the American Planning Association (TAPA) will offer a three day training session entitled "Taking It ToThe Streets" on September 21 through September 23 in Knoxville. Planning commissioners may attend all or some of the presentations for credit. Closer to the time of the event, commissioners may sign up on the TAPA website. ETDD is also working on one more regional workshop to be held later this year.

#### **GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

GIS staff worked to finish 37 maps and illustrations for LPRF grants this quarter for nine ETDD communities. Thirteen maps and aerial photo illustrations were created for solid waste needs assessments in Blount and Anderson Counties. GIS staff also supported HOME grants with topographic maps, location maps, and project area maps for Cumberland Gap and several locations in Hamblen County. For an Anderson County project, GIS staff created population density maps at three-mile and five-mile zones using Esri ArcGIS Online census block data.

Several GIS projects have been completed or are in the works for the Planning Advisory Service. An updated zoning map was finalized for Clinton. For Baneberry, a Major Thoroughfare Plan map and waterline/fire hydrant map were completed. The water map required digitizing existing and proposed fire hydrants as well as existing waterlines and proposed upgrades. While these are not engineering maps, they can be used for planning purposes. Work also continues toward updating the Huntsville Zoning Map and corporate limits data. For the Huntsville project, staff compared older ETDD data with official ordinances and data from the State of Tennessee to confirm new boundaries and zones. The map is now in review by town staff.

Mapping work continues in support of the Rocky Top zoning and land use study. Maps and aerial photo illustrations have been completed for focus areas one through three. In addition to the previously mentioned projects, GIS staff also prepared proposed rezoning maps for several communities in the districts.

### AREAWIDE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION SBA 504 NEWS

For fiscal year 2016 beginning October 1, 2015 through May 31, 2016 there have been \$138,918,000 SBA 504 loans approved nationally representing an increase of 9% as compared to the same period in 2015. Although, nationally the quantity of 504 loans approved is down, the average loan amount has increased approximately \$170,000. For fiscal year 2016, Areawide Development Corporation has four loans approved by SBA totaling \$5,955,000. The SBA 504 rates continue to be very competitive in the market place for commercial second mortgages! The funding rate for the June 2016 twenty year debenture was 4.693% as compared to the twenty year rate for June 2015 of 5.521%. The ten

year debenture funds every two months and last funded in May at a rate of 4.880%.

The Temporary SBA 504 Debt Refinance Program expired September 27, 2012. This program allowed borrowers to refinance existing qualified fixed asset debt. Prior to this program, existing debt could only be refinanced in conjunction with the expansion of the business. December 18, 2015, Congress reauthorized the 504 Debt Refinance Program making it a permanent part of the SBA 504 loan program. SBA began accepting 504 refinance loan applications on June 24, 2016! In summary, the program requires that the borrower must have owned and operated the business at least two years prior to the date of application, the debt to be refinanced was incurred not less than 2 years prior to the application and is secured by eligible fixed assets, the existing debt is not subject to a guarantee by a Federal agency, the borrower must have been current (not more than 30 days past due) on all payments on the existing debt for the last 12 months, and the maximum loan to value of the project is 90%. ADC successfully assisted several small business owners with the temporary debt refinance program. We look forward to assisting small business owners in the future with their refinance needs now that the refinance program is permanent. Please contact an ADC staff member for more details on the SBA 504 Refinance Program.

#### PEOPLE AND PLACES

#### **Harvey Mitchell Retires**

Mr. Harvey Mitchell, long-time Board of Directors member for the Areawide Development Corporation (ADC) has retired from HomeTrust Bank in Johnson City. Mr. Mitchell provided over 40 years of service to HomeTrust Bank and has an admirable reputation for promoting and accelerating business growth within the NE Tennessee region. Mr. Mitchell will continue his service to the ADC for the foreseeable future. Congratulations Harvey!

#### In Remembrance of David Jones

Mr. David Clark Jones, former Mayor of Dandridge, passed away on April 7, 2016 at the age of 64. Mr. Jones was a two-term Mayor of Dandridge and also served on the Dandridge City Council. Mr. Jones was a renowned educator and worked for the local school system for over 38 years in various capacities including Principal at the White Pine School. Mr. Jones earned his education degree at Carson Newman College and also did graduate work at the

People and Places Page 7 of 8

University of Tennessee. Mr. Jones was a tireless public servant and will be missed by all that knew him. Our condolences go out to his family and friends.

#### **Sherry Spicer-Dudley Wins Coveted Award**

Ms. Sherry Spicer-Dudley, City Manager of Pittman Center, has been named as the City Manager of the Year by the Tennessee City Management Association. Sherry is a long time resident of Pittman Center and has served as the City Manager for the past eleven years. Mayor Glenn Cardwell of Pittman Center was predictably delighted with the recognition of Sherry and said "I love her energy ..... She is involved in so many things. Her great enthusiasm adds a lot" Congratulation to Sherry for a job well done and an award well earned!

#### **ETDD Cities Earn Notable Awards at TML Conference**

Several ETDD cities were recognized for outstanding public service during the recent Tennessee Municipal League (TML) Conference held in Gatlinburg in early June. TML is an association of municipalities within the state of Tennessee and provides advocacy, group insurance and bonding services to its membership. The following ETDD cities were recognized during the conference:

Alcoa was recognized for Excellence in Economic Development. Alcoa has long been associated with its major industrial partner, the Alcoa Aluminum Company, and while that corporation has successfully weathered the recession and is now thriving, Alcoa has invested in a broad diversification of its economy and no longer relies on one industry segment for economic sustainability. Alcoa is now recognized as the best city in the state to start a new business and has also invested significant public resources in Pellissippi Place, a mixed use development that has already attracted a major corporate client. ETDD is located in Alcoa so we can attest that this is a great place to have a business!

Clinton was recognized for Excellence in Fire Services. Clinton has always been recognized as a leader in the provision of public services, but in the area of fire protection, Clinton is truly at the head of the pack. Clinton employs 21 full time fire-fighters, an assistant chief and a chief. The City recently constructed a headquarters fire station in 2014 and will soon open another fire station to serve the burgeoning industrial and business area near the Interstate 75 interchange. As a direct benefit of its efforts to improve fire service, a leading research group has estimated that Clinton resident save a collective \$92,941 on insurance premiums within the residential sector. Congratulations to Clinton and its Fire Department for a job well done!

Rocky Top earns the Progressive Leadership Award. Rocky Top (formerly Lake City) in Anderson County has always been known for its can-do attitude. Recently, Rocky Top decided that a change in its form of government would enhance service delivery and promote increased growth within the business sector. After careful deliberations, Rocky Top decided to adopt the council-manager form of government and set about to immediately revise its charter. Governor Haslam officially signed off on the change and Rocky Top is now has an official council-manager government structure. Congratulations on your recognition!

Maryville was recognized for Excellence in Police Services. Maryville has been engaged in a comprehensive process to embrace and utilize new technologies, create and sustain meaningful relationships with the community and provide advanced training for its officers. These three core objectives are fundamental to the level of success that the Maryville Police Department has earned. Maryville has approximately 50 full time officers and has recognized that technology and training are integral components of being able to provide excellent public services throughout their jurisdiction. Congratulations to Maryville and its outstanding police force!

**Pigeon Forge** was recognized for Excellence in Public Works. Meeting the demands of millions of tourists as they vacation in the gateway to Dollywood and the Smoky Mountains, Pigeon Forge is faced with very special challenges on a daily basis. Can you imagine an interruption in water service that might impact 60,000 hotel guests during prime vacation season? Whew, big pressure but Pigeon Forge has always stayed ahead of the curve and is able to keep everyone safe and healthy. Pigeon Forge recently constructed a state-of-the-art water treatment facility that features a sustainable reuse system that is the first in Tennessee. Great job Pigeon Forge!

Gatlinburg was recognized for Excellence in Green Leadership. As the primary gateway to the Great Smoky Mountains Nation Park, Gatlinburg understands the importance of protecting its environmental assets. The city's green initiatives, integral parts of its service delivery processes, are multi-faceted and sophisticated. Gatlinburg first realized the impact of green initiatives when it replaced all conventional light bulbs for its Winterfest with LED light bulbs and immediately benefitted from significant saving on electrical costs. Newer initiatives include fleet management improvements to reduce emission, energy saving retrofits at community facilities and more LED lights everywhere. Congratulations to Gatlinburg for outstanding work!

#### East Tennessee Development District P.O. Box 249 Alcoa, TN 37701-0249

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 100 KNOXVILLE, TN

"Or current resident"

The preparation of this newsletter was funded in part through grants from the State of Tennessee, the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Economic Development Administration, and other federal, state, and local sources. Material from the ETDD Newsletter may be freely reprinted with proper accreditation of the source.

#### **July 2016**

- 4 July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday, ETDD offices closed
- 14 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, Museum of Appalachia
- ETDD 50<sup>th</sup> Awards Banquet, Museum of Appalachia, Clinton, TN
- 19 East Tennessee Regional Council of Fire Chiefs Meeting, City of Loudon FD
- 20-21 ATVG Summer Meeting, Decatur AL
- 22-25 NaCo Annual Conference, Long Beach, CA

#### August 2016

- ETDD/ETHRA Executive Committee meetings CANCELLED
- 17-19 Association of County Mayors Meeting, Murfreesboro, TN
- 26 CEDS Committee Meeting, ETDD Offices

#### September 2016

- 5 Labor Day Holiday, ETDD offices closed
- 13 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, ETHRA Offices

#### October 2016

- 10 Columbus Day Holiday, ETDD offices closed
- 11 ETDD Executive Committee & EHTRA Policy Council Meetings, EHTRA Offices
- 16-19 NADO Annual Training Conference, San Antonio, TX
- 27-28 Governor's Conference on Economic Development, Nashville Renaissance Hotel