

ETDD Newsletter

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ETDD BOARD HOLDS 52ND ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

The East Tennessee Development District held its 52nd Annual Awards Banquet on Thursday, July 12th, 2018 at The Venue at Lenoir City. The banquet was attended by ETDD staff and more than 120 local officials and guests.



Chairman E.L. Morton, Campbell County Mayor, provided comments at the Annual Awards Banquet



Chairman E.L. Morton, presented City of Luttrell Mayor Johnny Merritt with a plaque of appreciation for his service.

Each year ETDD recognizes local governments, other agencies and individuals for special contributions to regional development. At the 2018 banquet, fifteen awards were presented to recognize significant projects in the region. Each honoree received a plaque that commemorates their particular achievement. Projects recognized at the Awards Banquet were:

1. Bethel Church National Register Listing
2. Grainger County Solid Waste Program
3. New Friendsville City Hall
4. Dandridge Dock
5. New LCUB Headquarters Facility
6. New Madisonville Wastewater Treatment Plant
7. Rockwood 150 Year Anniversary
8. New Wartburg City Hall
9. Telos Infrastructure Improvements
10. Scott County Asset Based Planning Project
11. Clinton Downtown Certification
12. Claiborne County Asset Based Planning Project
13. Coker County Energy Efficiency Improvements
14. Thunder in the Park Festival (Union County)
15. Sevierville Public Facility Improvements

ETDD extends a special congratulation to all of these communities for their outstanding achievements.



Pat Conway, Dr. Alpha Alexander, and Rev. Edwin Cunningham Jr. accept the award for the Bethel Church National Register listing



Fred Cagle, Linda Hensley, Augusta Davis, Mayor Glenn Moser, and Susan Saunders accept the award for the Madisonville Wastewater Treatment Plant

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ETDD staff is currently assisting the following agencies with economic opportunities:

- Eagle Bend - Anderson County with a grant administration for wastewater improvements.
- BMT - Jacksboro - Application for plant expansion.
- BMT - Jellico - Application for new plant.
- Del Conca - Loudon County with grant administration for Loudon Utility infrastructure improvements.
- Hope Industries - Monroe County with grant administration for plant improvements.
- Hubble - Loudon County with grant administration for safety upgrades.
- Eastbridge Business Park - Grant administration on site development.
- SG Sales - Grant application for training funds.
- TELOS - Helping with journeyman certification.
- Protect the Force - Grant application for plant expansion.
- Protomet - Grant administration.
- Petoskey Plastics - Morristown with grant administration.

The State of Tennessee, Appalachian Regional Commission and EDA have funds available to help growth in your communities that involve industries, industrial parks and infrastructure. Please contact Mitch Loomis with ETDD if you have a need in that area and we can discuss the best route to take.

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 and utilities (\$24.8 billion), education (\$10.4 billion), health, safety, welfare (\$6.9 billion) recreation and culture (\$1.8 billion), economic development (\$417 million), and general government (\$767 million). The data has been entered and checked. 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. The current report can be viewed online at:

<http://www.tn.gov/tacir/article/tacir-infra-2015-2020>

GRANT INFORMATION

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

CDBGs are currently being reviewed by State ECD staff with announcements expected in September 2018.

ETDD staff is currently assisting the following communities with the administration of their CDBG projects:

1. Monroe County - Waterline
2. New Tazewell - Housing
3. Rockwood - Housing
4. Campbell County - Fire Equipment
5. Jefferson County - Waterline Extension
6. Norris - Wastewater Rehab
7. Morgan County - Waterline Extension
8. Roane County - Fire Equipment
9. White Pine - Waterline Extension
10. Scott County - Ambulances
11. Hamblen County - Fire Equipment
12. Campbell County - Drive for 55 Dual Enrollment Program
13. Mossy Creek Foundation - Façade Improvements

Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)

The ARC application process will become active in the Fall of 2018. If you have a potential project please contact Mitch Loomis or Nichole Britt for assistance. ETDD staff was notified that the following communities have been asked for full applications that were due May 29, 2018: 1. City of Loudon – dredging inlet study; 2. Rockwood Utility – wastewater line extension to allow for marina development; 3. Oneida TCAT – equipment for diesel mechanic classes; 4. Scott County Industrial Development Board – reservoir water level study; 5. Dandridge – water tank at Interstate; 6. Union County – Sharps Chapel School wastewater system; 7. Plateau Utility District – water system improvements in the Sunbright area. A total of \$1,673,000.00 of ARC funds were requested.

ETDD staff is currently working with the following communities with assisting on their ARC administration: 1. Morristown - wastewater plant improvements; 2. Claiborne County - waterline extension; 3. Newport Utilities - broadband; 4. City of Madisonville - water tank.

Recreation

ETDD staff assisted the following communities in the submittal of Local Park and Recreation Funding through the State:

1. Jefferson County – Development of New Park – Total = \$470,000.00
2. City of Loudon – Construction of new Community Center – Total = \$1,000,000.00
3. City of Clinton – Development of new all-inclusive playground – Total = \$235,000.00

Total amount submitted with ETDD assistance was \$1,705,000.00.

ETDD staff is currently working with the following communities when needed on administration: Hamblen County and City of Oak Ridge.

The next benchmarking deadline is November 2018. Benchmarking provides points on the recreation grant application that makes your project more competitive. The benchmarking application will also provide your recreation department with a positive reputation across the State by being benchmarked. If you would like more information or would want help to benchmark your community, call ETDD staff for assistance.

Tennessee Energy Efficiency Loan Program

OEP oversees the State's involvement with the Pathway Lending Energy Efficiency Loan Program (EELP). EELP launched in the fall of 2010 with the purpose of establishing a low-interest revolving loan fund to assist commercial and industrial businesses in implementing energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements, which, in turn, reduce operating costs, improve productivity, and make Tennessee businesses more competitive. Pathway Lending operates and manages this revolving loan fund, to which the State and TVA each committed \$15 million and Pathway Lending committed \$5 million. Eligible projects under the EELP include: efficient equipment upgrades, lighting, HVAC/mechanical upgrades, building retrofits such as cool roofs, renewable energy projects, and co-generation.

Beginning January 4, 2016, the Energy Efficiency Loan Program began accepting applications from local governmental entities. This expansion offers up to six years of financing at 2% interest for qualified energy efficiency and renewable energy projects to Tennessee local governmental entities including municipalities, counties, school districts and other similar public agencies.

For more information or to apply, visit Pathway Lending's Energy Efficiency and Renewables Resources Page or contact Brandon England at (615) 425-7171 or Brandon.England@PathwayLending.org.

Police Grants

ETDD staff assisted the following communities with their bulletproof vest program grant applications that were due May 29, 2018: Oliver Springs, Sweetwater, Grainger County, Tellico Plains, Norris, Jacksboro, Clinton and Rocky Top. A total of 82 vests were requested.

ETDD staff assisted Campbell County with preparing an application under the Correctional Pathway Grant that is provided through East Tennessee State University. The grant was for training of incarcerated employees by a private company that will provide on-site training. The grant was for \$50,000 with no match.

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.

Asset Based Planning

ETDD staff assisted the following communities with Asset Based grant applications: 1. Grainger County for Broadband Needs Assessment; \$50,000 State/\$2,632 Local. 2. Monroe County for Hotel in Tellico Plains; \$50,000 State/ \$2,632 Local.

ETDD is assisting the following communities with the administration of their Asset Based Planning Grants: Scott County and Union County.

Tennessee Downtown

Tennessee Downtowns is an affiliated program of Tennessee Main Street designed to help communities embark on a comprehensive revitalization effort for their downtown. Using the proven National Main Street Center's Four-Point Approach® to downtown revitalization, this 24-month program coaches selected downtowns and their steering committees through the steps of launching an effective revitalization effort. Space in this program is limited and highly competitive. Program activities include training, site visits, regional workshops, webinars, technical assistance and an innovation project grant. Applications for Tennessee Downtowns are accepted every two years. If you would like assistance in getting your community recognized as an official Tennessee Downtown please contact either

Mitch Loomis or Nichole Britt at ETDD for more information.

YOU MUST REGISTER WITH SAMS.GOV or YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO FILE GRANT APPLICATIONS THROUGH GRANTS.GOV

SOLID WASTE

Environmental Show of the South

ETDD staff attended the Environmental Show of the South held May 16-18 in Chattanooga. The largest environmental conference in the region, this annual event provides training opportunities and valuable updates on important trends and developments in the solid waste industry.

District-Wide Solid Waste Meeting

On June 22nd, ETDD hosted a meeting with solid waste directors and recycling coordinators from eleven counties. After a presentation from CTAS on a newly developed cost/benefit analysis tool, those present held open discussion on issues facing individual counties and shared possible solutions. Issues of problem wastes including tires and glass are common across all counties, and opportunities for solutions through regional cooperation noted at the meeting will be thoroughly examined by ETDD staff.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

In July 2018, TDEC will begin accepting applications for Education and Outreach Grants, Convenience Center Grants, Recycling Equipment Grants, and Used Oil Grants. With limits of \$50K to \$100K depending on grant type, funds can be used to purchase a variety of equipment, including containers, compactors, balers, crushers, sorters, densifiers, and grinders. Additionally, funds can be used to purchase trucks with a gross weight rating of 10,000 pounds or more and to construct, expand, or improve convenience centers. Please note that the Education and Outreach Grants, Convenience Center Grants, and Recycling Equipment Grants require a 10% - 50% Grant Match. ETDD staff can assist you with applying for these grants or answer any questions you may have about the application process. If you need assistance with grants or have any other solid waste needs, please call Tim Hendrick at 865-273-6003.

HOUSING

ETDD received another allocation from the Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) for the Emergency Repair Program in July 2018, and welcomes new projects from our service provider partners. 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 or disabled, and who meets ownership and income requirements. ETDD works with local non-profits and organizations who coordinate construction activities and qualify the homeowners. These service providers are an integral part of the Emergency Repair Program's activities in our 16-county region, and ETDD is seeking more partners to complete projects in several counties, including Claiborne, Monroe, and Union counties. Several requirements are new for the 2018 year. THDA now expects a 25% match for the grant funds used for emergency repairs. Homeowners must be under either the 60% income limits for their county, or for the state. THDA hopes these changes will make the program more accessible to more homeowners. The program has provided a great deal of assistance in our area, but there is an ongoing need to locate funding that will assist low-income 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.

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.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The Tennessee Historical Commission (THC) recently recognized the New Salem Baptist Church in Sevierville with a major grant for rehabilitation. This building is an enormously significant landmark in Sevier County and East Tennessee. Built in 1886 by African-American artisans including brick mason Isaac Dockery and craftsman Lewis Buckner, New Salem is Sevierville's oldest surviving building and the county's only historic African-American church. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2003. The property is in need of substantial repair, and received a grant from THC for historically appropriate rehabilitation of all four exterior masonry walls. Grant applications are due to the Tennessee Historical Commission each January. These are 60/40 matching grants that can be used for building restoration, 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 works with a variety of local and regional preservation groups and advocates that can assist with National Register of Historic Places nominations, preservation grant applications, and tax incentives. Please contact Lindsay Crockett with ETDD for preservation-related assistance and technical guidance.

RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RPO)

The Tennessee Department of Transportation, TDOT is preparing Rural Regional Transportation Plans for both the East Tennessee South Rural Planning Organization and the East Tennessee North Rural Planning Organization. The initial kickoff meeting for these plans were held in September 2017. County level meetings have been conducted in many of the counties. On June 26 and June 27, 2018, workshops were held to gain additional input from local officials regarding transportation needs in their communities. The Rural Regional Transportation Plan will identify current and future transportation needs in each of the RPOs.

The Tennessee Department of Transportation has started a new process for requests for a new project / new start projects. This process will apply to projects not listed in the IMPROVE Act list of projects. The process is known as the Community Transportation Planning Request (CTPR). ETDD staff has completed three CTPR for projects in Union, Roane, Morgan and Claiborne counties. A CTPR is currently being prepared for a project in Monroe County.

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 <http://www.ETDD.org/services/community-development/transportation/>.

PLANNING ADVISORY SERVICE

Building Codes and Enforcement in Tennessee

The following is designed to provide an overview of building codes and their application in the State of Tennessee. It is advised that the Tennessee State Fire

Marshal's Office (TTSFMO) website be consulted for any building project.

The TTSFMO has adopted nine International Codes and the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code. These codes are applicable in all municipalities and counties in Tennessee that are considered non-exempt. Non-exempt jurisdictions are those that do not have a certified building official with the TTSFMO being responsible for administration and enforcement of state-adopted codes. Exempt jurisdictions are those that have adopted International or other approved codes and have a certified building official who is in charge of administration and enforcement of the codes.

Regardless of a jurisdiction's exempt or non-exempt status, certain occupancies (buildings) must have their plans reviewed and construction inspected by the TTSFMO prior to being occupied. These occupancies include: schools, day cares, and state-owned or leased buildings.

In non-exempt jurisdictions, all construction is required to meet the state-adopted building codes. The TTSFMO reviews plans and conducts inspections for the following: assembly of 300 or more, business occupancies of three or more stories, multi-family occupancies, correction facilities, enclosed malls, and high hazard industrial. Furthermore, single and two-family residential occupancies are required to have their plans reviewed and buildings inspected by the TTSFMO prior to occupancy. Although other occupancies, such as small businesses, are required to meet the state-adopted codes, the TTSFMO does not review plans nor conduct inspections. It is the responsibility of the contractors and owners to ensure compliance.

Most non-exempt jurisdictions have adopted zoning regulations. Since the TTSFMO does not administer or enforce zoning regulations, it is up to local jurisdictions to have a zoning official to administer the zoning ordinance. Therefore, before a new occupancy occurs, it would need to meet the requirements of the building codes and the zoning ordinance. Most non-exempt jurisdictions should adopt a "certificate of zoning compliance" or similar certification that can be issued when the zoning requirements are achieved.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

The big focus for GIS this quarter was the 2020 Census, Local Update of Census Addresses Operation (LUCA). Acting as a reviewer for the State participant, ETDD focused on entities that did not register to do LUCA themselves. In the ETDD region, that included nine rural

counties and unregistered municipalities within those counties (meaning over 65,000 questionable addresses to review). The state LUCA liaison for unregistered entities was Dennis Pedersen, Director of GIS Services under the Tennessee Department of Finance & Administration. LUCA is one important step in conducting an accurate population count that is critical for our local communities for several reasons, including distribution of federal dollars and securing legislative representation.

After months of research, meetings with the State and Census Bureau, attending training workshops, ensuring confidentiality compliance, and setting up GIS software, the review process began at ETDD on May 14 with a July 13 deadline. ETDD enlisted the help of GIS interns from the UTK Geography Department in an effort to accurately review as many of the addresses as possible in the short time allotted. With data and guidance from the state and using several data sources for the reviews, our goal was to increase accuracy of the Census Bureau's addresses by comparing their list against state and local TIPS (Tennessee Information for Public Safety Project) addresses and adding/correcting as necessary.



Simultaneously with LUCA, GIS staff carried out normal ETDD mapping work for grants and the Planning Advisory Service. Twenty-one project boundary maps, site maps, and topological maps were created for LPRF grants in several

ETDD communities. Maps and illustrations were also created for ARC grants, waste reductions grants, and the Oak Grove National Register nomination. Work continues on the White Pine fire district/hydrant map.

AREAWIDE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION **SBA 504 NEWS**

June 2018 marked the inaugural funding of the 25 year debenture. There were 23 loans that funded at 5.758% totaling \$27,536,000. The 20 year debenture rate was 5.715% and included 353 loans totaling \$296,122,000. The 10 year debenture rate was 5.848% and included 25 loans totaling \$9,642,000. Year to date, Areawide Development Corporation has had two 504 loans approved totaling \$3,701,000 approved and has a third loan is currently in underwriting at the Sacramento Loan Processing Center. ADC had five loans approved totaling \$2,558,000 last year during this same time period. Nationally, from October 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 there have been 4,231 loans totaling \$3,420,303,000 504 loans approved representing a 12% decrease in loan volume as compared to the same period in 2017. So, while nationally 504 loan volume has decreased ADC is experiencing an increase in loan volume.

Mr. Harvey Mitchell, after serving on the ADC Board of Directors for over ten years announced his resignation in May 2018. Harvey had a long banking career in northeast Tennessee and most recently served as the Tri Cities Market President of HomeTrust Bank in Johnson City, TN until his retirement in 2016. Harvey was a dedicated Board member and was always supportive of ADC and the 504 loan program. The Board and staff would like to take this opportunity to say thank you Harvey for your service and we wish you and your family the very best!

2018 BANQUET AWARDS

Bethel Church National Register Listing

Bethel United Methodist Church was founded in Morristown in the early 1880s. The present-day building was constructed in 1907 just south of the old Morristown College. With assistance from the East Tennessee Preservation Alliance and ETDD, Bethel United Methodist Church was officially listed on the National Register of Historic Places in March 2018.

Grainger County Solid Waste Program

Grainger County engaged in an extensive eight-month overhaul of its recycling program. The process improving access to the convenience center, improving the recycling

center and improving the road access. Recycling revenues for 2018 are expected to increase by 9 times over the 2017 annual amount.

New Friendsville City Hall

Friendsville recently purchased a bank building in the heart of downtown and renovated the space to serve as its new city hall. The previous city hall is currently being renovated to serve as a community center.

Dandridge Dock

The Town of Dandridge has constructed a new multi-purpose public dock. Recognized as one of the first fully handicapped accessible docks in the State, the dock will provide a center for future bass tournaments as well as a recreation spot for fishermen, boaters and picnickers.

New LCUB Headquarters Facility

The Lenoir City Utilities Board opened its brand new operations facility in Lenoir City. The new facility is now the corporate headquarters for the utility and incorporates all of its major functions under one roof. The facility features a warehouse with a bar-coding inventory control system and 62 truck bays that will allow all electric, gas, water and wastewater service trucks to be preloaded before each shift begins.

New Madisonville Wastewater Treatment Plant

After two decades of planning and eventual construction, the Madisonville wastewater treatment plant is now serving the needs of the citizens of Madisonville. The 1.75 mgd treatment facility also includes an on-site testing laboratory and administration facilities.

Rockwood 150 Year Anniversary

Happy 150th anniversary to Rockwood! Formed on March 11, 1868, Rockwood is one of the oldest municipalities in the State of Tennessee. Rockwood's history is connected to the iron and steel production industries. Today Rockwood is a progressive small city with a diversified economy and a growing population of over 5600 people.

New Wartburg City Hall

The City of Wartburg purchased the old Regions Bank in September 2017 and then used inmate labor to help renovate the building. Overall, the process took five months to complete and has enabled the City to consolidate the City's staff and the Wartburg Police Department into one building.

Telos Infrastructure Improvements

Campbell County and LaFollette Utilities provided funds needed to upgrade the electrical power grid in the Southern Section of Campbell County in order to serve Telos, a vibrant new industry that recently located in an existing

190,000 sq. ft. building. The project involved a private investment of over \$32 million and the creation of 60+ high-end wage producing jobs.

Scott County Asset Based Planning Project

Scott County received a \$50,000 asset based planning grant from the State that was used to provide broadband service to students of families who could not afford the service at their homes. To date the project has served over 35 students.

Clinton Downtown Certification

The City of Clinton has just recently been approved as a Tennessee Downtown Community. Mixed residential/commercial use is the next step that Clinton is looking into to provide future growth in their historic downtown district.

Claiborne County Asset Based Planning Project

Claiborne County received an Asset Based Planning Grant of \$50,000 to help develop the tourism potential of the Powell River. The project was completed with strong cooperation between the the Powell River Tourism Committee, Walters State Community College, and the Claiborne County Chamber of Commerce.

Coke County Energy Efficiency Improvements

Coke County Government was awarded a Clean TN Energy Grant to install new LED lighting in the Coke County Courthouse building. The grant paid for 50% of the project cost with the remaining 50% being provided by Coke County. Coke County expects to save an average of \$1,200 a month on its electric bill and the project is expected to pay for itself within three years.

Thunder in the Park Festival (Union County)

The first show took place on September 3, 2016 and the County Mayor's office partnered with the Chamber of Commerce to put on a successful fireworks display along with 35 vendors, a live band and a car show. The free event now draws over 6,000 people and has turned in to a "must see" event for residents in not only Union County but the surrounding area as well.

Sevierville Public Facility Improvements

The City of Sevierville has undertaken some major upgrades and additions to its public facilities over the last year. Sevierville's PETSafe Unleashed Dog Park officially opened in 2017 and is the only dog park located in the county. Last year also saw the improvements to the recently opened Mt. Ton of Fun Inclusive Playground at City Park. The park is now a place where children of all ages and abilities are able to use the playground in a safe and fun manner.

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July 2018

- 4 Fourth of July holiday, ETDD offices closed
- 12 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meeting, The Venue
- 12 ETDD Annual Awards Banquet, The Venue, Lenoir City
- 13-16 NACO Annual Conference, Opryland Hotel, Nashville
- 17 East TN Regional Fire Chiefs Council Meeting, Maryville FD
- 18-19 ATVG Summer Meeting, Tuscumbia, AL
- 25 CROET Board of Directors meeting, Oak Ridge
- 25-27 TN Floodplain Management Conference, Chattanooga

August 2018

- 2 Election Day for county offices, many municipal offices
- 14 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, Cancelled
- 20-23 TCSA County Officials Orientation Program, Embassy Suites, Murfreesboro

September 2018

- 3 Labor Day Holiday, ETDD offices closed
- 11 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, ETHRA Offices
- 17 Areawide Development Corporation Annual Board of Directors meeting, Kodak, TN
- 18 NRPO Technical Committee and Board meeting, Region 1 TDOT office
- 20 SRPO Technical Committee and Board meeting, Region 1 TDOT office
- 26 CROET Board of Directors meeting, Oak Ridge
- 26-28 TAPA Fall Conference, Kingsport

October 2018

- 8 Columbus Day Holiday, ETDD offices closed
- 9 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, ETHRA Offices
- 9 East Tennessee Regional Council of Fire Chiefs Summer Meeting, Alcoa FD
- 14-17 NADO Annual Training Conference, Charlotte, NC
- 17-18 ATVG Fall Meeting, Gatlinburg, TN
- 24-26 TCSA Fall Conference and Trade Show, Marriott, Chattanooga