

East Tennessee Development District

December 2017

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*Happy Holidays
May the Joys of the Season
Lead the Way
To a Bright and Prosperous
New Year!*

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ETDD along with the University of Tennessee is working with both Grainger and Monroe County to compile an asset inventory of their County and come up with both short and long term goals for future economic development opportunities.

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

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

- England – Claiborne County with a grant application for corporate and plant expansion.
- Eagle Bend – Anderson County with a grant application for wastewater improvements.
- Duraline – Anderson County with a close out of their grant for rail spur.
- BMT – Campbell County with grant administration on plant expansion.
- Cirrus – Blount County with grant administration on new building construction.
- Protomet – Loudon County with grant application for plant upgrades.
- Delconca – Loudon County with Grant administration for infrastructure improvements.
- Hope Industries – Monroe County with grant Administration for plant improvements.
- Hubble – Loudon County with grant Administration for safety upgrades.
- RGE – Cocke County: Project closed out this last quarter.
- Eastbridge Business Park – Grant administration on site development.

PINI (TACIR)

The Public Infrastructure Needs Inventory (PINI) is currently underway. ETDD is close to completing the infrastructure surveys pertaining to K-12 public schools. The general database surveys are also underway and staff will be emailing you soon. Contact ETDD if you're a local public official and you want to include information about a needed public infrastructure improvement in the PINI inventory. After all the surveys are collected, the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR) publishes a lengthy summary that details infrastructure needs for all of Tennessee. Each

county now has their own summary sheet that details their estimated costs by type of infrastructure. The report is then presented to the state legislature as a planning tool and a funding decision making tool. You can view the past reports at www.tn.gov/tacir/rsection/tacir-infrastructure. Contact Mollie Childress at mechildress@etdd.org if you want to be surveyed.

GRANT INFORMATION

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

The State of Tennessee held a statewide workshop on December 7, 2017 to provide training for the newly awarded CDBG applications and to provide information on the upcoming grant applications for 2018. All communities need to understand that you are allowed only one open application and must have your present application closed by the end of January 2018. ETDD staff is currently working with the following communities in order to submit a 2018 application: Caryville, Dandridge, Harrogate, Jefferson City, Loudon City, Madisonville, New Market, Parrottsville, Rocky Top, Tazewell, Anderson County, Claiborne County, Cocke County, Hamblen, Loudon County, and Union County.

The level of funding is determined annually through congressional appropriations. Each state receives a projected allocation of CDBG funds, based on a federal formula and does not compete with other states for funding allocations. Tennessee typically receives about \$24M per year. 80-85% of the funds are used for water and sewer projects, approximately 10% is used for community livability projects, and about 5% for housing rehabilitation. Economic development projects are funded as eligible applications are received.

There are five categories that you can make an application in and they are:

1. Water line extensions
2. Water plant improvements and water collection system improvements.
3. Wastewater plant improvements and wastewater collection system improvements.
4. Community livability that includes fire trucks, ambulances, drainage, etc.
5. Housing

There is a match for all of these categories except housing and ETDD staff can let you know what your match will be.

Grants (Continued) / Solid Waste

ETDD staff is currently working with the following ETDD communities on the administration of their funded projects:

1. Monroe County - Waterline
2. Cumberland Gap - Water System Rehab
3. Claiborne County - Waterline Extension
4. New Tazewell – Housing
5. Rockwood - Housing
6. Campbell County - Fire Equipment
7. Jefferson County - Waterline Extension
8. Norris - Wastewater Rehab
9. Morgan County - Waterline Extension
10. Roane County - Fire Equipment
11. White Pine - Waterline Extension
12. Scott County - Ambulances
13. Hamblen County - Fire Equipment
14. Rocky Top - Water System Rehab
15. Campbell County - Drive for 55 Dual Enrollment Program
16. Mossey Creek Foundation - Façade Improvements

Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)

ETDD staff attended an ARC application workshop that went over the application process for the 2018 funding year. The ARC deadline for pre-applications was December 8, 2018. At the time of this writing ETDD staff was helping the following communities and agencies to submit a pre-application: City of Loudon, Rockwood Utility, Union County, Arthur-Shawnee Utility District, Plateau Utility District, Oneida TCAT, Scott County IDB, Hiwassee College, Dandridge, Carpetbag Theatre, and Claiborne County IDB.

FEMA Fire Fighters Grant Program

The Assistance to Firefighter Grant has not yet announced a deadline for this fiscal year. They will be setting up workshops when they do announce a deadline. The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire-related hazards by providing direct financial assistance to eligible fire departments, nonaffiliated Emergency Medical Services (EMS) organizations, and State Fire Training Academies (SFTA) for critically needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel to recognized standards, enhance operations efficiencies, foster interoperability, and support community resilience.

Recreation

TDEC Recreation Services recently conducted a workshop for the upcoming Local Parks and Recreation Fund and Recreation Trail Program. Details have not been finalized but the applications will be due sometime in April 2018. Check our website www.etdd.org for further updates as we receive them.

The next benchmarking deadline is Spring 2018. Benchmarking provides points on the recreation grant application that makes your project more competitive. The benchmarking application will also provide your recreation department some notoriety 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 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. The next round launches January 2018. 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.

SOLID WASTE

Loudon County Paint Center

Used paint dropped off at Loudon County convenience centers is now hauled to the Loudon convenience center where a recently established paint center gives new life to a material that would otherwise be landfilled. Residents of Loudon County may visit the Loudon convenience center during regular operating hours to browse the current paint inventory and take whatever they need, free of charge. Congratulations to Loudon County on this new effort at reuse and waste reduction!

Scott County Schools Water Bottle Program

Scott County installed water bottle refilling stations in their schools during the summer of 2016. These stations keep a running tally of how many plastic bottles have been saved by using the refilling stations instead of opening new bottles, giving students a real-time quantification of their environmental impact. During the fall term of 2016, Scott County provided water bottles for each of the approximately 5,000 students within the county. These reusable bottles will prevent a considerable amount of waste from being generated. Congratulations to Scott County on this new effort at waste reduction!

New Staff Certification

During the week of November 6th, ETDD's Solid Waste Planner, Tim Hendrick, attended the Zero Waste Principles and Practices training and certification course conducted by the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) and the California Resource Recovery Association (CRRA) becoming the first person in the state to hold this professional certification. This course focused on a variety of topics, including:

- Waste Stream Analysis
- Upstream, Midstream and Downstream: understanding Zero Waste strategies as they affect each stage of product lifestyles
- Collections Options
- Processing Technology Options
- Managing Organics
- Public Venues and Challenging Materials
- Changing Behavior through Education and Outreach
- Financing and Funding
- Contracting and Partnerships

With a planner on staff certified in zero waste, ETDD can help our communities maximize their waste reduction efforts and even plan for the goal of achieving zero waste. If you have questions about any of the topics listed above or would like to discuss how your community can benefit from a zero waste plan or waste reduction in general, please contact Tim Hendrick at 865-273-6003.

HOUSING

ETDD received an allocation from the Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) for the Emergency Repair Program in July 2017, and continues to work with THDA and local service providers to implement this program. This allocation can 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. ETDD works with local non-profits and organizations who coordinate construction activities and qualify the homeowners. THDA expects a 50% match for the grant funds used for emergency 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.

THDA also administers the federally-funded HOME program to promote the rehabilitation of single-family housing in Tennessee. No local match is required from applicants, and the program aims to help 10-12 low-income homeowners within the county or municipality awarded the grant. Grant applications are expected to become available in January, and will be due in **early March 2018**. ETDD's housing staff is available to provide more information and assist with the application process.

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

Federal Preservation Grant applications are now being accepted by the Tennessee Historical Commission. Applications are due **January 31, 2018**, with contracts typically executed the following October. Funds are available due to provisions made in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 which grants the Secretary of the Interior the authority to provide grants which promote a wide range of preservation initiatives. Grants are 60% of the project cost and require a 40% local match; they are administered on a reimbursable basis.

The federal grants can be used for a variety of preservation activities, and projects typically fall into one of two categories: Survey and Planning or Acquisition and Development. Survey projects which aim to document local historic resources is a priority for the State. These projects should identify and record historic districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant to Tennessee's history and built before 1965, with the intent to nominate resources to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) where possible.

Development of design guidelines is also an eligible expense when planning for a local historic district. Planning projects can also encompass activities ranging from public education and outreach to local preservation studies. Pre-development planning, such as an architectural or engineering study as part of a planned historic building restoration, can also qualify for grants under this program. There are several instances where a phased, multi-year approach can allow grant funds to assist with the completion of a large project.

Acquisition and Development projects typically address historic restoration activities. Repairs and restoration activities must follow *the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*, a document published by the National Park Service that offers guidance on technical preservation issues. The Tennessee Historical Commission must review and approve all proposed work under this category, and property owners are required to execute a preservation agreement or covenant that helps to ensure maintenance and limited public access. The term of the covenant is proportional to the grant amount. While all NRHP-listed buildings are eligible to receive these grants, projects sponsored by local government, public interest groups or non-profit organizations and/or for properties of public use are generally considered more competitive than projects proposed for private residential or commercial property.

Certified Local Governments (CLGs) have access to federal preservation grant money set aside for projects in communities who are part of this program. CLGs can use grants to address several individual action items as part of a more comprehensive approach in their community, including projects like: design guideline development/updates, survey of historic properties, "bricks and mortar" activities, preservation education projects (i.e. brochures), or training for Historic Zoning Commissioners. The CLG program is a federal and state partnership that allows local communities to take decisive steps towards protecting their unique historic resources. Local governments can apply to be "certified" upon the passing of a local historic preservation ordinance and enacting design review in historic districts with the appointment of a historic zoning commission. ETDD and THC staff partner to assist these communities in our region and provide ongoing technical assistance and training opportunities.

The Tennessee Historical Commission maintains a website with extensive information about state and federal historic preservation programs, along with the State's comprehensive historic preservation plan, *A Future for the Past: a Comprehensive Plan for Historic*

Preservation in Tennessee (2013-2018). This document can be very useful with preservation planning, accessing grant funds, or participating in state and federal preservation initiatives. Grant applicants are encouraged to consult with this document. The federal preservation grant page of the THC website also contains a FAQs document, which provides further details about how the priority for each grant application is determined. ETDD's preservation planner can assist with writing grant applications and preservation planning for historic and cultural heritage resources in our region. Please contact Lindsay Crockett at (865) 273-6003 for more details.

RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RPO)

The Tennessee Department of Transportation, TDOT, in partnership with Rural Planning Organizations and Local Governments 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 meetings for the Rural Regional Transportation Plans were held on September 21, 2017 at the two RPO meetings. County level meetings have been conducted in many of the counties. Those attending these county level meetings include county mayors, road superintendents, municipal mayors, local planners, Chamber of Commerce staff and others. Additional meetings will be held during subsequent phases of plan development. The Rural Regional Transportation Plan will identify current and future transportation needs in each of the RPOs.

The Technical Committees of the ET South Rural Planning Organization and the ET North Rural Planning Organization will meet on December 8, 2017. The Executive Boards will meet on December 15, 2017. These are important meetings as each RPO will be prioritizing a new list of roadway projects ready to proceed to the right-of-way or construction phases. We will also prioritize a list of roadway projects ready to proceed to the preliminary engineering phase. The RPO's priorities will be sent to TDOT for input into the Department's project selection process.

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

The Planning Advisory Services (PAS) program at the East Tennessee Development District continues a long standing tradition of planning services to cities and counties in the region on a contractual basis. Since initiating planning services in 2011, the program has assisted numerous cities and counties with growth and development issues at the local and regional levels by providing technical advisory planning services to area governments. In addition to the daily services offered, ETDD also offers planning commissioner training on a steady basis; either coordinating training with other agencies or providing staff to conduct the training sessions. Coordination for potential training sessions for the upcoming calendar year in 2018 is being initiated, which will likely address specialized topics related to planning.

A reminder to planning commissioners that their Statement of Financial Disclosure forms are required to be submitted to the Tennessee Ethics Commission before January 31, 2018. Forms may be filled out on the Tennessee Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance website or completed forms may be mailed to the Tennessee Ethics Commission, 404 James Robertson Parkway, Suite 104, Nashville, TN 37243. Many local city and county governments also have the forms available.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS **(GIS)**

This quarter GIS staff completed maps and illustrations for Solid Waste grants, bringing the total to 81 illustrations for convenience center grants, recycling and used oil, recycling equipment, measurement, and education and outreach grants for multiple communities/counties in the ETDD region. Another large project in support of the grant program this quarter was creation of 46 maps and illustrations for CDBG environmental reviews. These included generation of FEMA FIRMettes (and highlighting the project location) for each project area, creation of topographic/project area maps, airport radius maps, and explosives radius maps. GIS staff also prepared preliminary maps/measurements for Health grants and a Riverwalk project. Fourteen maps/illustrations were created for the Sevier County solid waste needs assessment.

For the planning program, GIS staff created several proposed rezoning illustrations, a proposed annexation illustration, and a base map of Bean Station for the staff

planner. Staff also edited and then finalized a new zoning map for Rockwood for future adoption.

AREAWIDE DEVELOPMENT **CORPORATION** **SBA 504 News**

On August 15, 2017, SBA announced that for fiscal year 2018 that the upfront guaranty fee that SBA is authorized to charge 504 borrowers would continue to be zero (0.00%) this also includes 504 Debt Refinance loans. This means the borrower will recognize a savings of 0.50% on the gross debenture amount. Furthermore, SBA has once again reduced the ongoing SBA Guarantee fee assessed on the outstanding loan balance per annum from 0.697% to 0.642% for fiscal year 2018. The ongoing SBA Guarantee fee will be 0.682% on SBA 504 Debt Refinance loans for fiscal year 2018. These changes are applicable only to loans approved on or after October 1, 2017.

On October 13, 2017, SBA announced the issuance of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) 50 10 5(J), Lender and Development Company Loan Programs. The new SOP is effective January 1, 2018, and was revised to incorporate regulation changes and to provide better guidance. The new SOP also includes revisions to the Franchise Review Process. SBA has established the SBA Franchise Review Directory that will be maintained on SBA's website at www.sba.gov/for-lenders. The Directory will include whether the brand meets the FTC definition of a franchise, a SBA Franchise Identifier Code (if applicable), whether an addendum is needed to the franchise agreement, and any additional issues that must be considered with respect to the brand. A copy of SOP 50 10 5(J) is available at www.sba.gov.

Areawide Development Corporation Welcomes New Board Member



On September 18, 2017, at the ADC Annual Meeting and Board Meeting, Mr. Tony Thompson was elected to the ADC Board of Directors and Loan Review Committee.

Tony is a senior vice president and area manager of client services for Blount County with Pinnacle Bank. He joined Pinnacle in 2015 after spending 35 years with First Tennessee Bank. Tony's roles with First Tennessee include commercial banking manager, market president for First Tennessee's Middle and East Tennessee markets and community president in Maryville. He began his banking career with the commercial and retail training program at Knoxville's Valley Fidelity Bank, which was acquired by First Tennessee in 1991. Please join ADC in welcoming Tony to the ADC board and loan committee.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

ETDD Remembers Mr. Buster Sexton

Charles "Buster" Sexton, age 85, passed away on November 22, 2017. Mr. Sexton was a former Alderman and Mayor of Huntsville and served the public in a variety of other capacities during his life. Mr. Sexton was an Army veteran and also a volunteer fireman with the Huntsville Fire Department. Mr. Sexton will be remembered for his pioneering role in the construction of Huntsville's first wastewater treatment plant. He was also admired for his exceptionally large family which features 75 great-grandchildren and 17 great-great-grandchildren. Our condolences go out to his family and friends.

Congratulations to Iliff McMahan

Mr. Iliff McMahan, former Board Chair of ETDD and ETHRA, was recently honored for his military service by Governor Haslam. Mr. McMahan was recognized for his service as a U.S. Army Specialist and was one of six state employees selected for recognition on Veteran's Day. Mr. McMahan was elected for two terms as the Mayor of Cocke County and currently serves as the Regional Director in the Upper East Tennessee office of the Department of Economic and Community Development. Congratulations Iliff and thank you for your service!

ETDD Remembers Ken Veach

Mr. Kenneth Veach, Sr. passed away at Oak Ridge Methodist Medical Center on November 17, 2017. He was 80 years old. Mr. Veach served as a Board member for ETDD for many years and was a great supporter of ETDD and ETHRA programs. Mr. Veach served an astonishing three tours of duty in Vietnam and also served as the Commander of the local DAV for 17 years. He was the Oliver Springs City Manager for 15 years. Mr. Veach received his Bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee in 1982 and was a life-long servant to the

public. We admire a life well lived – rest in peace Mr. Veach.

John Abe Teague Retires

Mr. John Abe Teague has retired from his service as the District Director for Congressman Phil Roe. Mr. Teague joined Congressman Roe's team in 2009 and served as both a Field Representative and District Director. Mr. Teague was instrumental in acquiring funding for a water line extension to the Grassy Fork Elementary School in Cocke County, one of the last remaining public schools in Tennessee not served by a public water line. Mr. Bill Darden has been promoted to District Director and Mr. Daryl Brady joins the staff as Field Representative. Good luck to John Abe and congratulations to Bill and Daryl!

Community Leaders Graduate from Regional Leadership Program

The East Tennessee Regional Leadership Association (ETRLA) Board of Directors hosted the graduation of the Class of 2017 on Tuesday, November 14. The evening celebration was held at the beautiful, premier event center in Knoxville, the Hunter Valley Farm Pavilion. Graduates, ETRLA alumni, and guests enjoyed the gathering catered by Aubrey's Restaurant, and music was provided by DJ Preston Husk. The Keynote Speaker was Joan Cronan, the inaugural recipient of the NCAA President's Pat Summitt Award. She challenged the class to reach out to other community leaders, current and upcoming who they meet in their lives after their experience in completing the ETRLA Program.

The 2017 class was the largest in the history of the Organization that hales almost 500 alumni from the 16 county East Tennessee Region. ETDD Deputy Director Rick Yakubic was a member of the 2017 class.

The mission of East Tennessee Regional Leadership Association is to unite existing and emerging leaders from diverse backgrounds and perspectives to increase their understanding of community issues, broaden their vision, and enhance their individual and collective ability to lead, while at all times championing its values of service, diversity, inclusion, and openness to change. Clayton Pangle is the Executive Director of ETRLA and Monty Ross is the Program Director.



“Or current resident”

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. Materials from the ETDD Newsletter may be freely reprinted with proper crediting of the source.

Calendar of Events

December 2017

- 1 ETHRA and ETDD Legislative Breakfast, ETHRA Offices
- 7 Areawide Development Corporation Board Meeting, Kodak
- 7 CROET Board Meeting, Oak Ridge
- 8 North and South RPO Technical Committee Meetings, TDOT Knoxville
- 13-14 TACIR Quarterly Meeting, Nashville
- 15 North and South RPO Executive Board Meetings, TDOT Knoxville
- 15 Registration Deadline for LUCA (Local Update of Census Addresses)
- 25-26 Christmas Holiday, ETDD offices closed

January 2018

- 1 New Year's Day Holiday, ETDD Offices closed
- 9 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meeting, ETHRA Offices
- 15 Martin Luther King Day Holiday, ETDD offices closed
- 24-25 ATVG Winter Meeting, Murfreesboro Embassy Suites
- 25 Tennessee Development District Association Meeting, Nashville

February 2018

- 6 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, ETHRA Offices
- 15 President's Day Holiday, ETDD offices closed
- 22 Tennessee Development District Association Meeting, Nashville
- 23 Application deadline for CDBG grant program

March 2018

- 6 ETDD & ETHRA Annual Business Meetings, Rothchild's, Knoxville
- 12-13 TCOSA Day on the Hill, Doubletree Hotel, Nashville
- 13-14 TDAA Annual Conference, Doubletree Hotel, Nashville
- 18-21 DDAA/NADO Washington Policy Conference, Arlington, VA
- 22 Tennessee Development District Association Meeting, Nashville
- 30 Good Friday, ETDD offices closed