

ETDD Newsletter

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In this issue:

1. Areawide Development Corporation
2. Economic Development / PINI / Grant Programs
3. Grant Programs
4. Solid Waste / Housing / Historic Preservation
5. Historic Preservation / RPO / Planning Advisory Service
6. Planning Advisory Service / GIS / ETRLA
7. People and Places / Rural Health
8. Calendar of Events

Areawide Development Corporation SBA 504 News



Pictured on the left, Shawn McKeehan, Deputy District Director SBA Tennessee District Office and pictured at right, Dr. Larry White, John H. Poteat Chair of Banking and Director of the Center for Banking East Tennessee State University addressing the membership of Areawide Development Corporation at its Annual Meeting.

Areawide Development Corporation held its annual membership and board of directors meeting on Monday, September 18, 2017 at Green Meadows Country Club, Alcoa, TN. Mr. Shawn McKeehan, U.S. Small Business Administration Deputy District Director from Nashville and Dr. Larry White, John Poteat Chair of Banking and Director of the Center for Banking at East Tennessee State University, were guest speakers.

Deputy Director McKeehan shared that there are five CDC's in the state of Tennessee and for fiscal year 2017 there have been a total of twelve SBA 504 loans approved statewide, generating \$7 million in debentures, resulting in \$9.1 million third party loans, the loans are in eleven counties, seven congressional districts, seven loans are in rural communities, four were made to startup businesses, two franchises, twelve industries, and the loans resulted in 108 jobs created within our state.

Dr. White shared with the membership that the ETSU Center for Banking is educating young people as a workforce for the regions banking industry. There is a strong emphasis on credit within the banking program which fosters underwriting skills. He emphasized the intern program and that students interns are available for the financial industry in East Tennessee and he encouraged the membership to consider partnering with the intern program. Dr. White also shared that the Center for Banking is available to present seminars and conferences to the financial industry in East Tennessee.

In his report to the membership, Don Woods, ADC Director, noted that ADC has had six loans approved for fiscal year 2017 totaling \$3,306,000. The loans include two franchise restaurants, one franchise campground, an off road vehicle dealer, a regional battery distribution company, and a self-storage facility. Year to date, ADC is the Top Lender by dollar amount in the State of Tennessee!

During the Annual Meeting the following officers were re-elected for the upcoming year:

President	David Verble
Vice President	Teri Brahams
Treasurer	Jim McBrearty
Secretary	Tish Campbell

As of September 12, 2017, 443 twenty-year debentures totaling \$333,569,000 and 22 ten-year debentures totaling \$11,457,000 were funded nationwide by SBA. The 20 year debenture full term funding rate was 4.835% and the 10 year full term funding rate was 4.704%.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ETDD staff has worked this last quarter with companies that have committed to creating 775 jobs over the next five year period and investing over \$269.9 million of private capital.

ETDD staff is currently assisting the following businesses and communities 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 a 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 with grant administration for equipment.
- Eastbridge Business Park – Grant administration on site development.

The State Department of Economic and Community Development has announced the second round of applicants for the Asset Based Planning Grant, which will be Grainger County and Monroe County. ETDD staff is already preparing to assist both counties in the upcoming year. In addition, ETDD staff is currently working with Campbell County, Scott County, Claiborne County, Cocke County and Union County on the administration of their asset based planning grants awarded this past year.

Tennessee Downtowns

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.

PINI (TACIR) SURVEY

The Public Infrastructure Needs Inventory (PINI) is currently underway. ETDD staff mailed out the public infrastructure surveys pertaining to K-12 public schools to school officials in early September and will set up meetings with appropriate department heads in a timely manner. Please 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 Program (CDBG)

Congratulations to all the communities in the ETDD district that were recently awarded a 2017 CDBG. The following communities were assisted by ETDD staff: Campbell County, Fire Service Improvements; Jefferson County, Waterline Extension; Monroe County, Waterline Extension; Morgan County, Waterline Extension; Roane County, Fire Protection Services; Scott County, EMS Service Improvements; and Sweetwater, Housing Rehabilitation. These ETDD assisted communities were approved for \$2,942,871 in grant funds with total project costs of \$3,308,593.

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

1. Anderson County- Waterline Extension
2. Claiborne County- Waterline Extension
3. Clinton- Housing
4. Cumberland Gap- Water System Rehab
5. Hamblen County- Fire Service Improvements
6. New Tazewell – Housing
7. Norris- Wastewater Rehab
8. Rockwood – Housing
9. Tazewell- Housing
10. White Pine- Waterline Extension

It is never too late to start thinking about the upcoming CDBG applications and what your community wants to apply for. Reminder that you are allowed only one open grant under this program, so if you have an existing open grant that could be closed out by February 2018, stay on top of your administrator and engineer to get the project closed out.

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

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

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

Tennessee Main Street and Tennessee Downtowns Community Development Block Grant Façade Improvement Grant (FIG)

Tennessee Main Street communities and communities that have participated in the Tennessee Downtowns program in Rounds 1-4 and have an active Design Committee are eligible for a grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (TNECD) for commercial façade improvements. Approximately five grants of up to \$100,000 will be awarded to organizations that can illustrate the need for a façade program and the ability to execute a solid design plan for the façade improvements. Applications were due on August 11, 2017. ETDD assisted the City of Sevierville in applying for a \$100,000 grant for improvements in

the Bruce Street and Court Street area of their downtown.

Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)

Communities that submitted ARC pre-applications in December of 2016 and were chosen to submit full applications in August are now starting to find out if their applications have been approved for funding. Congratulations to ETDD assisted applicants Claiborne County (Waterline Extension), and Newport Utilities (Broadband) and Highland Communications (Broadband) on being approved for funding! These three projects were awarded a total of \$1,340,973 in grant funds with total project costs of \$3,450,513.

ETDD staff is currently assisting the following communities and organizations with ARC administration: Madisonville, Morristown, TASS and Scott County.

Pre-Applications for the 2018 ARC cycle will likely be due at the beginning of December. If you have a project you would like to see funded please contact our ETDD staff for assistance in helping with your pre-application.

Recreation

The next benchmarking deadline is November 30, 2017. Benchmarking provides points on the recreation grant application that makes your project more competitive. The benchmarking application will also provide your recreation department with recognition across the State for being benchmarked. If you would like more information or would like help to benchmark your community, call ETDD staff for assistance.

The traditional local parks and recreation grant is scheduled for a grant application deadline in late Spring 2018. ETDD staff will send out an email later this year to notify all communities about the grant when it becomes available. These grants require a lot of preparation and community outreach. If your community is thinking of applying in 2018 it would be beneficial to your application to begin the preparation this fall. ETDD staff will be happy to assist your community with preparation and submission of your application.

Energy Grant

Congratulations to the ETDD assisted communities of LaFollette (new HVAC units), Cocke County (LED Lighting) and Union County (new HVAC units) for receiving their Clean Tennessee Energy Grants. A total

amount of \$146,216.50 was awarded with a 50% match for a grand total of \$292,433.00 in project costs.

SOLID WASTE

Annual Progress Reports (APRs)

Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation staff sent out approval letters for FY16 APRs during the week of September 11. All sixteen solid waste regions within the ETDD achieved the 25% waste reduction and diversion goal established by the Solid Waste Management Act of 1991. Using the real-time comparison methodology, seven of the District's solid waste regions achieved reductions of over 50%. Especially worthy of mention is Sevier County with a 90% reduction for FY16. Congratulations to all the solid waste regions on achieving the 25% goal of waste reduction and diversion!

Tennessee Recycling Coalition Conference

ETDD staff attended the 28th annual Tennessee Recycling Coalition Conference held August 13-15 in Franklin. With the theme of "Recycling Comes Full Circle," the conference proceedings were focused through the lens of a circular economy and included the launches of the Tennessee Materials Marketplace and a new initiative with the slogan "Get Food Smart TN" aimed at reducing food waste.

Tennessee Materials Marketplace

The US Business Council for Sustainable Development and the TN Department of Environment and Conservation partnered to create the Tennessee Materials Marketplace, an online platform with the goal of finding reuse for waste materials. The website for the Tennessee Materials Marketplace, which has won awards from the World Economic Forum and International Economic Development Council, describes itself as having the aim "to create a closed-loop, collaborative network of businesses, organizations and entrepreneurs where one organization's hard-to-recycle waste and by-products becomes another organization's raw material. In addition to diverting waste from landfills, these recovery activities generate significant cost savings and energy, and create new jobs and business opportunities." Participation in the Materials Marketplace is open to all companies and organizations in or near the state that are seeking to reuse waste materials or reduce the usage of virgin feedstocks. Find out how the Tennessee Materials Marketplace can help meet your goals by visiting <http://tennessee.materialsmarketplace.org>.

HOUSING

ETDD received another allocation from the Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) or the Emergency Repair Program (ERP) in early July 2017. 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. 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 low-income homeowners with housing repairs. ETDD still currently has funding to award through our regional service providers. 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. The application period for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for housing rehabilitation is fast approaching; please contact ETDD staff to discuss an application. 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) administers annual grants for historic preservation programs. 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. In early September, THC announced several awards in the East Tennessee region; the Glenmore Mansion in Jefferson City received \$36,000 for repairs to the tower, dormers, and an ADA access project, and Monroe County was awarded approximately \$18,400 for masonry repointing on the historic courthouse. The City of Harriman also received a grant for a structural engineering report on the Temperance Building.

These successful projects are examples of the wide array of grants that can be awarded to properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places. 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 1967, with the intent to nominate resources to the National Register of Historic Places 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. Acquisition and Development projects typically address historic restoration activities. 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.

THC grants will become available in November 2017, with a due date in the end of January 2018. ETDD staff can assist communities in planning for and preparing these grant applications. Please contact Lindsay Crockett at lcrockett@etdd.org for more information.

Mark your calendars for the East Tennessee Preservation Conference on October 27, 2017. This event is hosted by the East Tennessee Preservation Alliance and will be held at the former Alex Haley Farm in Clinton. This is a rare opportunity to visit the Alex Haley Farm, which is normally closed to the public. The conference will emphasize finding effective solutions for securing the future of our historic places, while capitalizing on our cultural heritage. Please visit knoxheritage.org/etpa to register.

RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RPO)

The Tennessee Department of Transportation, TDOT, in partnership with Rural Planning Organizations and Local Governments will be preparing Rural Regional Transportation Plans for both the East Tennessee South

Rural Planning Organization and the East Tennessee North Rural Planning Organization.

The Rural Regional Transportation Plan will identify current and future transportation needs in each of the RPOs. The RRP will identify roadway segments with traffic congestion issues, safety issues and other deficiencies. The plan will identify roadways in need of improvements in future years.

The plan will be beneficial to local governments by identifying needed transportation improvements in the community and providing a basis for future discussions regarding project prioritization and project implementation (engineering, right-of-way acquisition and construction).

The initial kickoff meetings for the Rural Regional Transportation Plans were held on September 21, 2017 at the two RPO meetings. Additional meetings will be held during subsequent phases of plan development.

Local officials and others interested in transportation in the region are invited and encouraged to participate in the development of these important Rural Regional Transportation Plans.

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 Tennessee General Assembly recently passed *Public Chapter 294*, referred to as the "Tennessee Freedom of Speech Act"¹. This act allows local jurisdictions limited regulatory authority for political and campaign signs. Generally, the act prohibits local governments from regulating the shape and number of political and campaign signs located on private property, at least one hundred feet (100) from polling locations, with the consent of the property owner. However, the act also allows local governments to impose a maximum size for these signs at thirty-two (32) square feet for commercial properties and sixteen (16) square feet for residential. For any revisions to sign regulations by local governments, it is advisable that a professional planner be consulted.

¹ Amends TCA 2-7-143

The Planning Commission Advisory Service, in conjunction with the Tennessee Department of Transportation and Dan Hawk, provided two training seminars for planning commissioners. The first training session was conducted in July at the Jefferson City library conference room on the 27th and then in the Town of Farragut council room on the 31st. Benjamin Price and Cameron Parker with the Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) explained TDOT's role in road construction and maintenance in the East Tennessee Region. Approximately 54 planning commissioners attended those presentations. In August, Dan Hawk gave two seminars on Private Property Rights at the same two locations. There were ninety commissioners present at these sessions. Appreciation is extended to the individuals that gave of their time and expertise to provide training. The Planning Advisory Service also thanks both the Town of Farragut and the City of Jefferson City for allowing their public facilities to be used as training venues.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

As of this update, GIS staff has prepared over 30 draft maps and illustrations for Solid Waste grants (convenience center grants, recycling, used oil, recycling equipment, measurement, and education and outreach grants). Depending on the type of grant, the maps/aerials show service areas, location of existing facilities, proposed site upgrades, and proposed project areas. More maps and illustrations are still to be created and all will be finalized before the October 3 deadline for the grants. GIS staff also prepared topographic and parcel maps for a National Register Nomination for Bethel Methodist Church, as well as a map for a Sevierville façade grant.

For our community planners, several planning projects that GIS staff worked on include multiple proposed rezoning illustrations, a traffic count map for an Anderson County study, and map correction and zoning changes for Rockwood. Several large maps were created for the ETDD RPO planner's studies, including state aid road maps for several counties.

GIS staff attended the Tennessee State Data User's Conference in August where updates on preparation for the 2020 census were given. Staff also attended LiDAR training hosted by TNGIC (Tennessee Geographic Information Council), which included an overview of LiDAR data and some basic instruction for using LiDAR data within ArcGIS to work with DEMs (e.g., slope, hillshade) and for contour generation, among other functions.

East Tennessee Regional Leadership Association Conference: Regional Cooperation and Local Action – Facing East Tennessee's Changing Housing Needs

Wednesday, November 8, 2017
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. EST (Lunch Included)
Hilton Downtown Knoxville, 501 W Church Avenue,
Knoxville, TN

East Tennessee Regional Leadership Association (ETRLA), in conjunction with East Tennessee Development District (ETDD), East Tennessee Quality Growth, East Tennessee Community Design Center, the University of Tennessee-Office of Service-Learning & Smart Communities Initiative and the Hilton Downtown Knoxville are presenting a full day conference, Regional Cooperation and Local Action-Facing East Tennessee's Changing Housing Needs conference focusing on important changing housing issues the sixteen county ETDD region is facing.

The conference features two keynote speakers, Ralph Perrey, Executive Director of the Tennessee Housing Development Agency and Joe Woody, USDA-Rural Development Area Director and an alumni of ETRLA. There will also be other key speakers and panelists throughout the day that will bring in different perspectives on these issues.

Attendees will hear about:

- Changing Regional Population and Workforce Demographics
- Successful Strategies for Financing and Economic Development
- Housing Impact on Regional Infrastructure Systems
- Housing Partnerships: Local Governments, Developers, Neighborhoods, & Industries
- Housing Design for Great Places and Livable Communities

This full day event will bring together urban and rural regional decision makers to learn from federal, state, regional and local leaders about the changing housing needs in East Tennessee and explore regional solutions with local action.

To register or find out more information please go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/ETHousingConference>

PEOPLE AND PLACES

ETDD Remembers Colonel Tommy Stiner

Tommy C. Stiner, age 79, passed away on August 16, 2017. Mr. Stiner was a former Board Chair of ETDD and ETHRA and held many other leadership positions in local government and charitable organizations. Mr. Stiner spent 29 years in the US Army and achieved the rank of Colonel. Colonel Stiner served two tours of duty in Vietnam and was responsible for saving many lives while constantly putting his own life in danger. He retired in 1992 as the most highly decorated veteran in the State of Tennessee having earned the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Purple Heart to name just a few of his domestic and foreign awards. Mr. Stiner earned a Bachelor's degree from ETSU and Master's Degree from UT Knoxville and was a member of the Phi Kappa Alpha fraternity. Mr. Stiner was an outstanding public servant and his contributions to his native Campbell County, the ETDD region and the nation as a whole will have a positive and lasting impact on a great many people. Our condolences go out to his family and friends.

Congratulations to Tom Leonard

Mr. Tom Leonard, Director of Sevier Solid Waste, has received the Edith Heller Lifetime Achievement Award from the Keep America Beautiful organization. The award was presented to Mr. Leonard during a luncheon on September 19, 2017. Mr. Leonard is an original founder of the Sevier County chapter of Keep America Beautiful and has served as its Board of Directors Chairman as well as Chair of the Litter Prevention and Recycling Committees. Mr. Leonard is also being recognized for his leadership of Sevier Solid Waste and the achievement of the highest recycling rate in the State of Tennessee. Congratulations Tom!

Senator Overbey nominated for US Attorney

Senator Doug Overbey has been nominated by President Trump to serve as the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Tennessee. Mr. Overbey has served as a House member of the 102nd through the 105th General Assemblies and as a Senate member for the 106th through the 110th General Assemblies. Mr. Overbey has also served in a variety of local government positions including Blount County Commissioner and the attorney for the City of Alcoa. We look forward to Senator Overbey's new role as the U.S. Attorney and wish him and his family the best of luck.

Healthy Development Coordinator

Lesly-Marie Buer, MA, MPH, is the new healthy development coordinator (HDC) for the Tennessee Department of Health East Region. Ms. Buer is a native of Karns. She is an alumna of the College of Charleston, the University of Colorado, and will shortly earn her PhD from the University of Kentucky. Ms. Buer has worked with in academia, as well with AmeriCorps and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Her work has focused on rural health, opioid use, homelessness, and disease prevention.

With her current role, Ms. Buer is shifting from examining health concerns to assisting communities in building healthy and sustainable places, which is ultimately the strongest prevention for most health problems. The HDC role is focused on the 10% of our health that is attributed to physical or built environment (such as parks, farmers markets, housing, work places, et cetera) and the 40% of our health that is attributed to social and economic factors (such as access to education, good jobs, safe communities, positive social networks, et cetera). In the next year, Ms. Buer is meeting with county health department directors, health councils, and additional local and regional partners in order to better understand the specific health promoting activities and problems in each county. She is in the process of creating basic county health assessments focused on built environment. Ms. Buer's goal is to support all those involved in working towards healthier communities and to help connect community groups with state agencies. She will serve as a source of knowledge on built environment and will assist communities in learning about and applying for built environment project grants. Ms. Buer does not want to duplicate services, but is here to support communities in whatever they need to make East Tennessee a leader in having healthy places.

Please contact Ms. Buer if you want more information about the position, you would like her to connect to local groups, you are interested in starting or supporting a built environment project, or you need help in attaining funding for built environment projects:

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September 2017

- 4 Labor Day Holiday, ETDD offices closed
- 12 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meeting, ETHRA Offices
- 9-12 NADO 50th Annual Training Conference, Anchorage, AK
- 18 Areawide Development Corporation Annual Business Meeting, Alcoa
- 27 CROET Board Meeting, Oak Ridge

October 2017

- 9 Columbus Day Holiday, ETDD offices closed
- 10 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, ETHRA Offices
- 11-12 TN/KY Directors Meeting, Jackson Doubletree
- 18-19 Association of Tennessee Valley Governments Fall Meeting, Gatlinburg
- 24 East Tennessee Regional Council of Fire Chiefs Fall Meeting, Alcoa FD
- 26-27 ECD Governor’s Conference, Gatlinburg

November 2017

- 1-3 TCSA Fall Conference and Trade Show, Peabody Hotel, Memphis
- 2-3 Southeast Regional Directors Institute Fall Meeting, Maxwell House, Nashville
- 8 East Tennessee Regional Leadership Association Conference, Knoxville Hilton
- 10 Veterans Day (observed)
- 13 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, ETHRA Offices
- 30 Tennessee Development District Association Meeting, Nashville

December 2017

- 1 ETHRA/ETDD Legislative Breakfast, ETHRA offices
- 12 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, ETHRA Offices
- 15 Registration deadline for LUCA (Local Update of Census Addresses)
- 25-26 Christmas Holiday, ETDD offices closed