

ETDD Newsletter

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ETDD BOARD HOLDS 51ST ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

The East Tennessee Development District held its 51st Annual Awards Banquet on Thursday, July 13th, 2017 at The Venue at Lenoir City. The banquet was attended by ETDD staff and more than 120 local officials and guests.



Guest speaker Tre Hargett, Secretary of State, provided keynote comments at the Annual Awards Banquet



Johnny Merritt, City of Luttrell Mayor, presented Anderson County Mayor Terry Frank with a plaque of appreciation for her service.

Each year ETDD recognizes local governments, other agencies and individuals for special contributions to regional development. At the 2017 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. New Madisonville Library
2. Sweetwater Visitors Center/Train Depot Project
3. Jefferson County/NMUD Water Line Extension Project
4. Jefferson City Mossy Creek Station
5. Dandridge/KUB Water Line Interconnection
6. Campbell County Comprehensive Cultural Resource Survey
7. Morgan County Bicentennial Celebration
8. Oneida Centennial Celebration
9. Anderson County Tennessee College of Applied Technology Facility
10. Lenoir City Event Facility - The Venue
11. Roane County Riley Creek Campground and Pavilion
12. Sevierville Main Street Program
13. Knox County Extreme Energy Makeover Program
14. Claiborne County Little Sycamore Water Line Extension Project
15. Monroe County Water Line Extension

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



Jefferson City Mayor Mark Potts and Kay O'Brian accept the award for the Mossy Creek Station



Campbell County Mayor E.L. Morton accepts the award for the Comprehensive Cultural Resource Survey

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Mitch Loomis has recently been hired as the Director of Economic Development for ETDD. Mr. Loomis been with the East Tennessee Development for over 23 years working on grants and grant administration for CDBG, ARC, solid waste, police, fire, recreation, transportation and others. Mr. Loomis will now also offer his assistance in the area of Economic Development that provides opportunities for communities to create jobs, by working directly with industries, development boards, downtown merchants, etc.. Mr. Loomis is currently reaching out to these different economic organizations to offer his assistance and looks forward to meeting and forming a long lasting relationship as we improve the lives of our citizens.

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

- EDA planning grant that will allow Campbell County to develop a plan for broadband access to all parts of Campbell County.
- Providing an opportunity for a local company in Campbell County, BMT, for plant expansion by allowing the grant to be contracted with the development district as pass through funds.
- Preparing a dual welding grant for the Tennessee Technology Center in Jacksboro that will provide training for high school kids in welding.
- Assist Knox County on the Eastbridge Business Park infrastructure improvements by providing administrative help.
- Assist Clinton Utility Board with wastewater infrastructure at the Eagle Bend Industrial Park.
- Assist in the reimbursement request forms for Cirrus in Blount County.

As a part of ECD's focus on rural economic development, Asset Based Planning Grants were announced for applications with the following communities being awarded to help spur economic growth into their area. The awarded participants were:

- Campbell County – renovation of the historic Post Office in the downtown district that will be the focal point of future events in the downtown area.
- Scott County – work with Roane State and Highland Communications to provide internet in homes that have adults in college that cannot afford internet services at home.
- Claiborne County – will provide a second river access to allow rafters and boaters to enter and access the Powell River waters that can spur business development.

- Cocke County – provide streetscaping to downtown Newport; hire a firm to create a plan for developing the Hartford area and funds for marketing.
- Union County – funds will be used to hire a firm to provide a marketing plan for the county, funds to implement the plan including a new website and sound and lighting equipment for Wilson Park.

A total of \$250,000 funds were earmarked by the State, with a local match of \$13,160 for a total investment of \$263,160.00. The State has already set aside monies to provide these funds for other communities this upcoming fiscal year that starts in July.

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

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 (\$9.8 billion), health, safety, welfare (\$6.2 billion) recreation and culture (\$1.8 billion), economic development (\$417 million), and general government (\$722 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)

The 2017 CDBG applications are currently being reviewed by State ECD staff with announcements expected sometime in the fall of 2017.

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

1. Anderson County - Waterline Extension
2. Clinton - Housing
3. Claiborne County - Road Repair (Disaster project)
4. Claiborne County - Waterline Extension
5. Cumberland Gap - Water Systems Improvements
6. Hamblen County - Fire Truck
7. New Tazewell - Housing
8. Norris - Wastewater System Improvements
9. Rockwood - Housing
10. Rocky Top - Water system Improvements
11. Tazewell - Housing
12. White Pine - Waterline Extension

Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)

Communities that submitted ARC pre-applications in December are anticipating to hear any day now if they will be asked to submit a full application for funding. Pre-applications that ETDD assisted with are: Claiborne County - Waterline Extension; Dandridge - Water Tank; Newport Utility - Broadband; TASS - Water Treatment Plant; and Union County - Sharps Chapel School Sewer System.

ETDD staff helped prepare an ARC full application for Highland Communications that will provide broadband access into the Jellico area. The grant amount is \$1,691,659.00 federal; \$422,915.00 local for a total of \$2,114,574.00.

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

Recreation

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 summer. ETDD staff will be happy to assist your community with preparation and submission of your application.

Solid Waste Grant Programs

Hub & Spoke Grants are being prepared at the time of this newsletter for the following communities; 1. Campbell County – Horizontal Baler to replace an existing baler. 2. Grainger County – Horizontal Baler to add a new piece of equipment to handle their recycling commodities. A total of \$132,800 state funds are being requested with a local match of \$24,900 for a total request of \$157,700.00.

The State has announced a workshop for the upcoming Recycling and Used Oil grants on July 20, 2017 in Gatlinburg. Call Tim Hendrick, Solid Waste Planner for more information. The grants that will be discussed with an application period from July 5 – October 2, 2017 are the following:

- Education and Outreach
- Convenience Centers
- Recycling Equipment
- Recycling Measurement
- Used Oil/Automotive Fluids

Counties, municipalities, solid waste authorities, and non-profit organizations are eligible to apply for these grants.

Call Tim Hendrick for more information and to discuss your needs and what will be required for the grant application. Tim can be reached at 865-273-6003 or by email at thendrick@etdd.org.

Tennessee Department of Health

The Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) recently came out with a one-time Mosquito Control Grant opportunity. The TDH recognized the increasing importance in controlling mosquito-borne diseases to protect the health of our communities and therefore half a million dollars in grant funds were made available. Applications were due June 23, 2017. ETDD staff assisted both Campbell County and Union County with grant applications with a grant request of \$41,490.00 to be used for equipment, testing and education.

SOLID WASTE

Burchfield School

ETDD staff met in May with the principal of Burchfield School in Scott County to select recycling containers. Burchfield School will be implementing a school-wide recycling program with the beginning of the 2017-18 school year. Congratulations to Burchfield School for this new effort at waste reduction!

In addition to recycling, composting is a great way to reduce waste output. A new annual grant opportunity in Organics Management will provide funding for projects to reduce food waste. If you are interested in developing a project to lessen your food waste output, contact Tim Hendrick at 865-273-6003.

Environmental Show of the South

ETDD staff attended the 46th annual Environmental Show of the South held May 17-19 in Chattanooga. This largest environmental conference in the region provided training opportunities and valuable updates on important trends and developments in the solid waste industry.

Needs Assessments

ETDD staff completed Solid Waste Needs Assessments for Jefferson, Loudon, Monroe, and Union Counties. These comprehensive reports capture demographic information, analyze existing solid waste infrastructure, and identify areas of need for each solid waste region. Work will soon begin on Needs Assessments for Sevier, Roane, and Claiborne Counties.

Annual Reports

The State is currently reviewing the numbers that were submitted on the Annual Reports and all indications is that all of the East Tennessee Development District communities met the 25% waste reduction goals. ETDD staff will provide a numerical report on how much waste was generated and diverted on the next newsletter once the State has verified the numbers.

Congratulations to ETDD and Area Wide Development Corporation for replacing the lights in their facility with LED lights that will provide energy savings and carbon reductions in the future. Staff will be able to provide numerical numbers after the first year of use.

ETDD staff can attend any of your solid waste board meetings to go over items of interest and give you updates from the State anytime throughout the year. Call Tim Hendrick at 865-273-6003.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

In July 2017, new grants will be available for Recycling Equipment and Used Oil/Automotive Fluids. The Recycling Equipment grant can be used to purchase equipment such as recycling carts, containers, balers, compactors, glass crushers, densifiers, sorting systems, scales, forklifts, and other items necessary for your recycling facility's functionality. Please note that the Recycling Equipment Grant requires a 10%-50% Grant Match. The Used Oil Grant requires no funding match and can be used to purchase oil collection containers, containment structures, shelter covers, used oil burners, and other such equipment. 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, call Tim Hendrick at 865-273-6003.

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. Several properties in the East Tennessee region were approved in May 2017 by the State Review Board of the Tennessee Historical Commission, to move forward for listing on the NRHP. These properties include the Sixteen Mile Tunnel in Morgan County, Kern's Bakery in Knoxville, the Vose School in Alcoa, and the Tanner Store in Wartburg. ETDD preservation staff prepared nominations for the Vose School and the Tanner Store. These properties will receive a final round of review by the NPS and will be officially listed on the NRHP in the upcoming months.

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. To qualify for historic preservation grants, a site must be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Please contact Lindsay Crockett with ETDD for assistance with grant applications and National Register nominations.

The East Tennessee Preservation Alliance is hosting two Summer Supper events to benefit regional preservation

programs: “Moonshine and Macbeth in Historic Cumberland Gap” on July 1, and “An Evening in Chestnut Hill” on August 12, at the Bush Family Homestead outside of Dandridge. See knoxheritage.org for more information and tickets.

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 for more information.

HOUSING

ETDD expects to receive 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 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.

RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION (RPO)

The RPOs continue to be a source of information and assistance for transportation grants, TDOT project status reports, construction activities, requests to study new

roadway improvements, safety improvements and other transportation matters. Please contact us if we can be of any assistance on your transportation issues.

The RPO maintains a data base / mailing list of voting members, non-voting members and other stakeholders / interested parties. The other stakeholders / interested parties list was recently expanded to add additional mayors, city managers, public works staff, planners and economic development staff. Please contact me if you would like to be added to this mailing list / data base to receive transportation related information and meeting notices.

Study area descriptions have recently been prepared for the ET NRPO and ET SRPO (Draft). The study area descriptions discuss land use, socioeconomic conditions, population projections, employment projections, major traffic generators, commuting patterns and the existing transportation system. The ET NRPO Study Area Description is posted on the East Tennessee Development District website. The NRPO Study Area Description will be posted upon TDOT review and approval. Please contact us if you would like copies of either of these reports.

The recently passed IMPROVE Act will provide additional funding for state and local transportation projects. Please contact us if you have any questions regarding how the improve act may impact funding or projects in your community.

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

State Legislature Nixes Eminent Domain for Industrial Parks

During the 2017 legislative session, the Tennessee General Assembly passed legislation that prevents counties, municipalities, and other authorized entities from using eminent domain to acquire property for industrial parks. The legislation specifically deleted minor subsection 29-17-102(E) of the *Tennessee Code Annotated* where eminent domain was authorized for the establishment of industrial parks. This legislation was initiated by the Jefferson County Commission to prevent local governments from using

eminent domain to acquire property for use by private companies or organizations. The intent of the new law is to afford private property owners a higher level of protection from local governments taking private property for private use.

Municipalities, counties, and other authorized entities can continue to establish industrial parks. However, they will not be able to condemn property for that purpose. Instead, they will have to negotiate the purchase of property with private property owners.

The legislation does not affect the right of cities, counties, and other authorized entities to use eminent domain to acquire land for streets, public transportation projects, utilities, housing authorities, and urban renewal. However, the costs of condemnation could change because Section 29-16-203 of the *Tennessee Code Annotated* was amended to state that the "...valuation of property shall be calculated as the highest and best use of the property" instead of "fair market value."

Title 29, Chapter 17 of the *Tennessee Code Annotated* contains the statutes pertaining to eminent domain. The recent amendments noted above are found in Senate Bill 1184 and House Bill 1167. Because of the complexity of the statutes, a qualified attorney should be consulted when eminent domain is considered.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Working with the city of Tazewell, GIS staff completed updates to the Tazewell corporate limits GIS data and zoning map this quarter. Several annexations and fourteen zoning amendments were incorporated to bring the maps and data up to date. For a transportation project in Morgan County, GIS staff created a series of seven work maps of State Route 62. For an RPO project, GIS staff exported E-TRIMS data to create a map of State Aid roads for Morgan County. This map will serve as a template for other counties in our region.

GIS staff had a busy quarter with Planning Advisory Service projects. Several proposed rezoning illustrations were created this quarter for multiple towns, including Plainview, Oliver Springs, Clinton, Harriman, and Oneida. A street map was created for Caryville, and GIS staff created a new Rutledge city base map. The last of a series of 17 Anderson County land use work maps were completed this quarter for the ETDD planner's use in analysis for the Anderson County Land Use Plan.

Two work maps were created for two zoning studies in Rockwood. The first map showed zoning and residential land use layers, while the second study map showed R-3 zones over an aerial photograph. For Jefferson City, some street names were updated in accordance with an ordinance, and the zoning map was updated and printed to reflect the changes.

Maps were created for two studies in Pigeon Forge this quarter. The first set was a series of three maps showing the Parkway over an aerial photograph. The second set was a series of three maps showing Veterans Boulevard with parcels and flood zones over an aerial photograph. Both sets are being used for ongoing studies by Pigeon Forge staff and the ETDD planner.

AREAWIDE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION **SBA 504 NEWS**

The SBA 504 loan program continues to assist small business owners with financing the purchase of land, including existing buildings, construction of new facilities, renovations or expansion of existing facilities, and the purchase of long term machinery and equipment. As of June 2017, the 504 loan rates are 4.833% for the 10 year note and 5.055% for the 20 year note. Areawide Development Corporation is currently the top ranked CDC in the state of Tennessee with five loans approved this fiscal year totaling \$2,558,000.



Mr. Brad Sayles, a long time Loan Review Committee member and faithful advocate of Areawide Development Corporation passed away on May 6, 2017 after a brief illness. Brad began his banking career in 1963 in High Point, NC. In 1968, Brad accepted a position with Bank of Maryville, in Maryville, TN where he served in various positions including Executive Vice President. In 1983, he joined American Fidelity Bank, Alcoa, TN and served as President, CEO and Director. In 1999, Brad joined United Community Bank where he served as Senior Vice President until his retirement in December 2000. Brad was dedicated to his Blount County community and served in various leadership roles throughout his career including Blount

County Chamber of Commerce Chairman, Blount County Industrial Board Chairman, Blount County American Red Cross Chairman, Blount County United Way Pacesetters Chairman, Tennessee Resource Valley Board of Directors, and Alcoa Kiwanis Club President. Even after his retirement Brad continued to serve his community by volunteering with the Blount County Sheriff's Senior Outreach Program, he thoroughly enjoyed this outreach ministry. Brad was a graduate of Wake Forest University, Carolina School of Banking, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Northwestern Graduate Trust School, Northwestern University. Brad is survived by his beloved wife, Claretta, his six children, fourteen grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Brad and his infectious smile will be missed by all that knew him. Our condolences go out to his family and friends

PEOPLE AND PLACES

Mike Werner named Mayor of the Year

The Tennessee Municipal League (TML) recently recognized Gatlinburg Mayor Mike Werner as its Mayor of the Year at the TML Annual Conference held in Murfreesboro. Mayor Werner began his service to Gatlinburg in 1999 when he was elected as a City Commissioner and has continued that service without interruption through the present day. In May of this year, Mayor Werner was re-elected to the Commission and subsequently elected to his eighth one-year term as the Gatlinburg Mayor. Mayor Werner's outstanding leadership during the devastating Gatlinburg fire event last November has been admired and recognized throughout the state and nation. Despite losing his family home and business to the fire, Mayor Werner has been an unwavering source of strength and resilience as Gatlinburg and the surrounding area rebuilds its community and economic development infrastructure.

ETDD Staff Complete Training Course

Rick Yakubic, deputy director of the East Tennessee Development District, and Mitch Loomis, Director of Economic Development at ETDD, were two of 47 economic development professionals from Tennessee and five other states to graduate from the 11th annual Tennessee Basic Economic Development Course (TBEDC) on May 11 in Nashville. This week-long course is one of 10 courses offered by the Center for Industrial Services (CIS), an agency of the University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service (IPS), and is considered the cornerstone of the Tennessee Certified Economic Developer (TCED)

professional certification program. The course also is accredited by the International Economic Development Council. Attendees learned best practices in economic and community development, new methods and programs to promote job growth and investment, and discussed emerging trends and factors that shape local and regional economies. Congratulations to Rick and Mitch!

Lindsay Crockett honored by Tennessee Historical Commission

Ms. Lindsay Crockett, Historic Preservation Planner with the East Tennessee Development District (ETDD), was recently awarded a Certificate of Merit for 2017 by the Tennessee Historical Commission. The award is in the Category of Special Commendations and acknowledges the four National Register nominations that were completed by Ms. Crockett within the past year. The award nominations were voted on and approved by the full Commission at their most recent meeting in Nashville. Ms. Crockett received her award at a reception that was held at the Commission's office on June 7th, 2017. Ms. Crockett has been employed at ETDD for the past two years and her responsibilities include preservation planning and cultural resource preservation within the 16 county ETDD footprint. We are proud of you Lindsay!

New Solid Waste planner at ETDD

Mr. Tim Hendrick has accepted the position of Regional Solid Waste Planner at ETDD. Mr. Hendrick will be responsible for assisting ETDD communities with meeting the annual 25 % solid waste reduction threshold as mandated by the Tennessee State Legislature. Mr. Hendrick will also be responsible for assisting local solid waste boards with the preparation and submission of their annual solid waste reports and the preparation of annual needs assessment for select communities. Mr. Hendrick has both a Bachelors degree and a Masters degree from the University of Tennessee and he resides in Knoxville. Welcome Tim!



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July 2017

- 4 July 4th Holiday, ETDD offices closed
- 9-11 County Mayor’s Association Annual Conference, Murfreesboro
- 13 ETDD Annual Awards Banquet, The Venue, Lenoir City
- 18 East Tennessee Regional Council of Fire Chiefs Meeting, Rural Metro FD
- 19-20 Association of Tennessee Valley Governments Summer Meeting, Oxford, MS
- 26 CROET Board Meeting, Oak Ridge
- 27&31 Planning Commissioner Training in Jefferson City and Farragut

August 2017

- 8 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, ETHRA Offices
- 29&31 Planning Commissioner Training in Jefferson City and Farragut

September 2017

- 4 Labor Day Holiday, ETDD offices closed
- 12 ETDD Executive Committee & ETHRA Policy Council Meetings, 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
- 17 East Tennessee Regional Council of Fire Chiefs Summer Meeting, Alcoa FD
- 18-19 Association of Tennessee Valley Governments Fall Meeting, Gatlinburg
- 26-27 ECD Governor’s Conference, Gatlinburg