



Community and Rural  
Development  
Initiatives

# Rural Development Programs

Site Development	Entrepreneurship	Community Development	
<p><b>Select TN Property Evaluation Program</b></p> <p>Select TN Certified Sites</p> <p><b>Site Development Grant</b></p>	<p>Business Enterprise Resource Office</p> <p>Launch TN Rural Accelerators</p> <p><b>Main Street Incubators Grants</b></p> <p>AgLaunch</p>	<p>Governor's ThreeStar Program</p> <p>Tennessee Main Street</p> <p>Tennessee Downtowns</p> <p><b>Tourism Enhancement Grant</b></p>	<p>Community Development Block Grants</p> <p>Delta Regional Authority Grants</p> <p>Appalachian Regional Commission Grants</p>
<p><b>Broadband Initiative</b></p>			

# Rural Development Programs

- **Rural Development Team**

- Amy New, Assistant Commissioner
- Brooxie Carlton, Deputy Assistant Commissioner
- Kent Archer – Community Programs Director
  - Jamie Bedgood, David Goodman, Karla Nicodemus, Rice Pritchard – Community Programs Team
- Leanne Cox – Site Development Director
- Jody Sliger – ThreeStar Director
- Jimmy West – Capital Projects Director
- Nancy Williams – Main Street Director
- Amanda Martin – Governor’s Fellow
- Lindsay Gainous – ARC Program Coordinator



# Broadband Initiative

# Why is TNECD Looking at Broadband?

- Tennessee's economic future is directly tied to our broadband Internet access.
- Leaders in all nine TNECD regions voiced concerns about a lack of rural broadband access to the department in 2015.
- Broadband Internet access is a requirement for business, education and healthcare systems worldwide. Tennessee is no different.
- Entrepreneurs need broadband Internet for their startup businesses.

# The Statewide Broadband Assessment

- Available at [tn.gov/broadband](https://tn.gov/broadband)
- Impartial survey of broadband access, adoption, and usage
- Two assessments:
  - Households
  - Business (including government and non-profits)
- Primarily online (although telephone outreach is planned for March in areas with low response rates)

# Help us make sure every voice is heard!

- Take the Assessment! [tn.gov/broadband](http://tn.gov/broadband)
- Promote the assessment in your community through:
  - Social media
  - Emails
  - Ads
  - Conversations with you community
- A distribution toolkit has been made available for all partners to help get the word out about the assessment.
  - <http://tnecd.populr.me/broadband-survey>
  - Password: “tnecd”
- Community organizations are encourage to provide computers in public spaces to allow residents without access at home to complete the assessment.



Select Tennessee

# Certified Sites

## Certified Sites

**Requires each site to undergo a comprehensive due diligence and documentation process**



# Certified Sites

## PROCESS

- Submit Letter of Intent
- Complete Step 1 Application
- Consultant Site Visit (*discovery, verification, consultation*)
- Complete Step 2 Application
- Certification Award

**Spring Round: Step 1 Applications due  
January 13, 2016**



# Property Evaluation Program

## Property Evaluation Program (PEP)

**Improve inventory of industrial sites and buildings in Tennessee by evaluating potential properties, advising counties on where investment may be most beneficial and what steps are needed to address issues**



# Property Evaluation Program

## PROCESS

- Submit Letter of Intent
- Complete Application
- Submittal of Site Comparative Forms
- Webinar
- Field Investigation
- Findings and Recommendations

**Spring Round: Applications due March 4, 2016**



# Site Development Grant

## Site Development Grant

**Hallmark grant program designed to help Tennessee communities prepare to attract industrial development by providing funds to better position local industrial product.**



# Site Development Grant

- \$6,000,000 Budget Statewide
- Provide funds to enhance Tennessee sites
- Overcome obstacles for certification or improve Certified Site

**Letters of Intent due January 15**

**Applications due February 1**



# Site Development Grant

## Grant Parameters

- **Maximum Grant \$500,000**
- **Community Match**
  - **Tier 1 50/50**
  - **Tier 2 90/10**
  - **Tier 3 95/5**



# Site Development Grant

## Eligibility

- Applicant must be a governmental entity (City, County, IDB)
- Site must be publicly owned
- One application per site
- One application per entity
- Sites must have gone through at a minimum the site visit by Austin Consulting (Foote) of the Select TN certification program or the site visit by KPMG of the Invest Prep program
- County must be ThreeStar





Tennessee  
Downtowns

# Tennessee Downtowns



- An affiliated program of Tennessee Main Street
- Uses the MS approach in communities that are not ready for the full commitment to MS
- Requires a 5-person steering committee who commits to the training provided by ECD and the National Main Street Center
- Provides a \$15,000 grant to implement training

# Tennessee Downtowns



## Round 5 Schedule

- Applications available – January 2016
- Intent to apply – Due April 1, 2016
- Application due – April 30, 2016
- Awards announced – June 17, 2016
- Contracts begin – July 1, 2016
- Community Training – Fall 2016
- 4-Point Workshop – Winter 2016
- SWOT Analysis – 2017
- \$15,000 Grant Project - 2017

# Tennessee Downtowns



## **\$15,000 Innovation Grant**

- Letter of intent-description/budget
- Grant application
- Idea must be approved
- Project must be tangible and reflect one of the “Four Points”
- Reimbursable funds

# Tennessee Downtowns



## Selection criteria

- Downtown commercial district
- Historic resources
- Economic need
- Physical need
- Demonstrated local effort
- Overall presentation
- Probability of success

Email [Nancy.Williams@tn.gov](mailto:Nancy.Williams@tn.gov) for an application



ThreeStar

## Upcoming Deadlines

- January 15 – Online portal opens
- January 29 – JECDB minutes due
- February 29 – Fiscal confirmation letter due
- March 31 – FY17 Activity Plan due, FY grant application due (Tier 2 and 3)
- April 8 – FY17 Activity Plan due (Tier 1)

