



# **EDA CARES Act Recovery Assistance Overview**

**May 19, 2020**



## **Kevin Byrd**

**Executive Director, New River Valley Regional Commission (Radford, Virginia)**  
**President, NADO Executive Committee**



**U.S. Department of Commerce**  
**EDA's CARES Act Recovery Assistance Overview**

INNOVATION. REGIONAL COLLABORATION. JOB CREATION.



## Mr. Dana Gartzke



**Performing the Delegated Duties of the  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development**



## Mr. Dennis Alvord



**Deputy Assistant Secretary and Chief Operating Officer**



## EDA CARES Act Recovery Assistance

- ❖ **March 27, 2020, President Donald J. Trump signs Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act in to Law.**
- ❖ **CARES Act Provided EDA \$1.5 billion**
  - **\$1.467 billion for grants via Economic Adjustment Assistance Program (EAA)**
  - **Remaining funds for salaries and expenses and oversight**
- ❖ **May 7, 2020, U.S. Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross announces that EDA is accepting applications for it's CARES Act Recovery Assistance funding opportunities.**



## EDA CARES Act Recovery Assistance Investments

- ❖ EDA's CARES Act funds will be administered under EAA Program.
- ❖ EDA CARES Act Recovery Assistance investments will support wide range of non-construction and construction activities in communities across country experiencing severe economic dislocations brought about by coronavirus.
- ❖ Examples of projects EDA can fund under CARES Act Recovery Assistance:
  - Economic recovery planning, preparing technical assistance strategies
  - Preparing or updating resiliency plans
  - Innovation and Entrepreneurship
  - Constructing public works and facilities to support economic recovery, including deployment of broadband, including supporting telehealth and remote learning for job skills.



## ELIGIBILITY

- ❖ Economic injury from coronavirus pandemic constitutes “Special Need” and eligibility may be established without reference to other economic distress criteria.
- ❖ Applicants still required to explain clearly in application how project would *“prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus”* or respond to *“economic injury as a result of coronavirus.”*
- ❖ Eligible applicants include a(n):
  - District Organization;
  - Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes;
  - State, county, city, or other political subdivision of a State, including a special purpose unit of a State or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions;
  - Institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; or
  - Public or private non-profit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State.





# CARES Act Recovery Assistance and Opportunity Zones

- ❖ Department of Commerce member of White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council (WHORC)
- ❖ EDA working with WHORC on support to communities effected by COVID-19.
- ❖ Since FY2018, invested \$443 million in 318 projects in/near Opportunity Zones using core and disaster supplemental funding. CARES Act Recovery Assistance funding to similarly go to Opportunity Zones projects.
- ❖ EDA WHORC Opportunity Zone Focused Policy Changes:
  1. Investment Priority
  2. NOFO Special Needs Category
  3. CEDS Guidelines
- ❖ Created online mapping tool, [www.statsamerica.org/opportunity](http://www.statsamerica.org/opportunity)





## EDA CARES Act Hiring Initiative

- ❖ Provide EDA special hiring authority
- ❖ Enables EDA to rapidly hire staff
- ❖ Identified more than 80 positions, which are on [EDA.gov/careers](https://eda.gov/careers)
- ❖ Currently interviewing candidates



## EDA CARES Act Recovery Assistance online

- ❖ CARES Act Recovery Assistance Notice of Funding Opportunity:

[Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)

- ❖ FAQ, information on eligible entities, guidance on assistance available for communities, EDA's regional offices contact information, and more:

[EDA.gov/coronavirus](https://www.eda.gov/coronavirus)

- ❖ Job Openings

[EDA.gov/careers](https://www.eda.gov/careers)



## Mr. Bryan Borlik



**Director  
Performance and National Programs, Trade Adjustment  
Assistance**



## EDA CARES Act Recovery Assistance Non-competitive /Supplemental Awards

- ❖ Streamlined grant applications and, where appropriate, providing non-competitive awards to existing grantees already well positioned to respond to urgent public need.
- ❖ These grantees include EDA's:
  - Economic Development Districts
  - University Centers
  - Tribal Groups
- ❖ Time is of the essence

## Ms. Angela Martinez



**Regional Director, EDA Denver Regional Office**



# The Regional Office Perspective

- ❖ Regional Offices engaging in extensive outreach to planning partners and university centers.
- ❖ Committed to quickly and effectively investing non-competitive and competitive funds.
- ❖ Expecting high demand and encouraging strong nexus as to how the project will *“prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus”* or respond to *“economic injury as a result of coronavirus.”*



**Questions?**