EDA CARES Act Recovery Assistance Overview

May 19, 2020
Kevin Byrd
Executive Director, New River Valley Regional Commission (Radford, Virginia)
President, NADO Executive Committee
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 into 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 its 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.

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
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
- Currently interviewing candidates
EDA CARES Act Recovery Assistance online

- CARES Act Recovery Assistance Notice of Funding Opportunity:
  
  Grants.gov

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

  EDA.gov/coronavirus

- Job Openings

  EDA.gov/careers
Mr. Bryan Borlik

Director
Performance and National Programs, Trade Adjustment Assistance
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
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?