

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANTS, RESOURCES, AND WEBINARS NEWSLETTER

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES & RESOURCES

January 31, 2024

Governor's Community Achievement Awards

Keep Texas Beautiful in partnership with TxDOT created the Governor's Community Achievement Awards to award Texas communities with grants to recognize them for their outstanding overall efforts to keep their communities beautiful. In 2024, ten winning communities will share \$2 million in landscaping funds. The application assesses the applicant's environmental program achievements in seven areas:

- Community Leadership and Coordination
- Public Awareness and Outreach
- Environmental Education and Youth Engagement
- Beautification and Community Improvement
- Litter Prevention and Cleanup
- Solid Waste Management
- Litter Law and Illegal Dumping Enforcement

Awardees will receive \$90,000 to \$310,000 based on population size (ten categories from under 3,000 to over 180,000). There is a \$25 application fee. Applications are due **February 15, 2024**. For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) Rural Economic Development Finance Program Texas Rural Community (TRC) Loan

The TRC loan provides financing to rural political subdivisions including cities, counties, and special purpose districts as well as EDCs to address economic development [riorities, rural economic development, or support the agriculture industry. Unincorporated areas or cities must have a population under 50,000 and counties must have a population under 200,000. Maximum loan amount is \$5 million. Loans can be used to capitalize economic development projects including infrastructure, business recruitment and expansion, community facilities (i.e. healthcare facilities), and any other eligible use that can be identified to improve or assist in rural economic development and/or impact the agricultural industry. Match is at least 10%. Application deadline is rolling. For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

OTHER RESOURCES

Census Business Builder

The Census Business Builder is a tool by the Census Bureau to provide detailed economic and industry data for regional locations across the country for use for businesses, EDCs, chambers, and other economic development entities. Data can be found for state, metro area, county, city, and census tract for economic census, BLS, USDA, and other sources data such as median household income, non-employer businesses, business revenue, workforce information, consumer spending, and building permits. To access the tool, click [here!](#)



UPCOMING EVENTS

BDO Local Government Meeting
February 1, 2024 10:00-11:00 AM
Registration Fee: Free
To attend click [here!](#)



Find us on
Facebook

**ReConnect Program Webinar: Round 5
Preparing to Apply**
February 7, 2024, 12:00-1:30 PM
Registration Fee: Free
To register, click [here!](#)

Newly Elected Officials Class
February 20, 2024, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
Registration Fee: Free
To register, email Anna.Barge@ctcog.org with your name, email address, role, and city/county affiliation.
To view the agenda, click [here!](#)