



Development District of Central Texas

**January 4, 2023
9:30 a.m.**

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Agenda



Development District of Central Texas

Thursday, January 4, 2024

Central Texas Council of Governments Building
2180 North Main Street, Belton, Texas 76513

Regular Meeting: 9:30 AM

Virtual Link: [DDCT Meeting](#)

Call in Number: [+1 \(872\) 240-3212](#)

Access Code: [599-946-797](#)

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Opportunity for Public Comment.
3. Staff Update (*pgs. 1-4*)
4. **Action Item:** Regarding approval of meeting minutes from the October 5, 2023 meeting. (*pgs.5-8*)
5. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding approval of new board members. (*pgs.9-12*)
6. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding approval of 2024 Rural Internship and Leadership Central Texas Programs. (*pgs.13-20*)
7. **Discussion Item:** Regarding presentation on Census Business Builder tool. (*pgs.21-28*)
8. **Discussion Item:** Regarding 2022-2026 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) implementation. (*pgs.29-36*)
9. **Discussion Item:** Regarding updates on regional broadband initiatives. (*pgs.37-38*)
10. **Discussion Item:** Regarding federal and state legislative updates pertaining to economic development. (*pgs.39-40*)
11. **Discussion Item:** Regarding updates on grant opportunities. (*pgs.41-54*)
12. Board of Director's comments.
13. Other Business: Next meeting date Thursday, April 4, 2024, at 9:30 AM.
14. Adjourn.

The Development District of Central Texas is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonable accommodations and equal opportunity for effective communications will be provided upon request. Please contact the DDOCT office at 254-770-2379 24 hours in advance if accommodation is needed. Citizens who desire to address the Board on any matter may sign up to do so prior to this meeting. Public comments will be received during this portion of the meeting. Comments are limited to 3 minutes maximum. No discussion or final action will be taken by the Board.

Item 3:

Staff Update

Update on CTCOG Planning Grants and Activities

EDA Planning Grant Update:

- Staff has kept up to date with reporting for the EDA Planning Grant, including ED916 and 918 Semi-annual Program Outputs and Annual Capacity Outcomes Questionnaires, Annual Progress Reports, and SF-425 Financial Reports.

CTCOG Activities:

- Staff has continued publishing three weekly and biweekly newsletters on
 - Economic Development grants, resources and webinars;
 - Economic Development regional highlights, and events.
 - Central Texas Transportation, highlighting grants, resources, and updates on implementation of the 2022-26 Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan.
- Staff attended TxCBDG, TDA, TEDC, TARC, EDA, TML and other partner agency virtual meetings during the last year to receive updates. Staff recently returned from an economic and community development training from Texas Association of Regional Councils.
- Staff has updated the grants and resources page on the DDCT website to include more information on deadlines and eligible uses of funds, as well as deleted older resources and added new ones. These include grants for water and wastewater infrastructure, broadband, economic development, and for small businesses and community resiliency.
- Staff has continuously updated the DDCT and Central Texas Transportation Facebooks with grants and other resources.
- Staff is researching and coordinating implementation of programs for the 2022-2026 CEDS and Regionally Coordinated Transportation Plan.
- Staff is monitoring programs funded and created by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) to learn how they can benefit our region.
- CTCOG, HOTCOG, and BVCOG are in the Central Texas Regional Broadband Working Group for the Texas Broadband Development Office.
- Staff is assisting the City of Cameron with reimbursements for engineering and construction fees for their EDA grant.
- Staff is continuing administering an EDA grant for the City of Belton for their Rockwool project with reimbursements for engineering fees and completing required documentation for construction bid opening and submittal as well as the construction contract. Easement requests for parcel owners on property have been submitted,
- Staff has submitted an application for the TVC General Assistance Grant to administer a veteran transportation program.
- Staff is working on an EDA EAA grant application for the city of Copperas Cove for a Downtown Improvements Plan update.
- Staff is assisting Copperas Cove with funding construction of a senior center.
- Staff is assisting the non-profit New Life Village to fund new tiny homes, a water storage tank, and water and street infrastructure for aged out foster youth. Staff is applying for the USDA Community Facilities grant for this project..
- Staff is working on an application for TWDB's Drinking Water Revolving Loan program for Central Texas Water Supply Corporation for new raw water and high capacity pumps.

- Staff is assisting the the cities of Little River Academy and Rogers in developing a regional Economic Development Alliance.
- Staff is working with the city of Mullin on an EDA Public Works grant for water/sewer line construction and street reconstruction.
- Staff is working on a Veteran Entrepreneurial Summit held in Lampasas on January 30, 2024.
- Staff continues to provide technical assistance to communities for grant applications and general resource requests.
- Staff applied for new EDA Partnership Planning Grant for FY 2024-26.

Workforce Solutions of Central Texas Q2 2023 Economic Snapshot for CTCOG Region:

- **Unemployment Rate:** As of September 2023, the unemployment rate is 4.49%, an increase from the 4.02% rate at the end of Q2, 2023.
- **Labor Force Participation Rate:** As of September 2023, the labor force participation rate is 54.4%, a decrease from 57.05% in 2018.
- **Workforce:** 205,993
- **Exports:** \$48.86 billion; an increase from Q3 2023's \$48.75 billion.
- **Total Jobs Increase:** From 2017 to 2022, jobs increased by 2.9% from 206,224 to 212,215. This change fell short of the national growth rate of 3.8% by 0.9%.
- **Professional & Business Services:** 80,000+ Jobs vs. national average 172,000+ Jobs.
- **Trade, Transportation and Utilities:** 76,000+ Jobs vs. national average of 150,000+ Jobs.
- **Government Sector:** 60,000+ Jobs vs. 35,000+ national average.
- **Fastest Growing Industries:** Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services, accommodation and food services, and professional, scientific, and technical services.

Action Needed: No action needed; for discussion only.

Item 4:

Meeting Minutes



**Development District of Central
Texas Board of Directors Meeting**
Central Texas Council of Governments
2180 North Main Street, Belton, Texas 76513
Thursday, October 5, 2023—9:30 AM

Board Members Present:

Jamie LaDuke: Hamilton EDC
Dean Roome: Bartlett Municipal Development District
Jim Gibson: Rockdale Municipal Development District
Ginger Watkins: Cameron Industrial Foundation
Dexter Morris: City of Mullin
Charley Ayres: Workforce Solutions of Central Texas
Stacey Ybarra: Lampasas Economic Development Corporation
Ted Gonzalez: Central Texas College
Cynthia Hernandez: Belton Economic Development Corporation
Mick Huston: Headwater Companies
Jason Johnson: Morgan's Point Resort Economic Development Corporation
David O'Connor: Nolanville Economic Development Corporation

Others Present:

Anna Barge: CTCOG
Dominic Elizondo: CTCOG
Tay Floyd: KTMPO
Connie Quinto: CTCOG
Anita Janke: KTMPO

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Ginger Watkins, Chair of the Board, at 9:32 AM. A quorum was present.

2. **Public Comments.** No public comments were made.

3. **Staff Updates.**

Dominic Elizondo gave an update about CTCOG activities including:

- Leadership Central Texas class was completed with 9 students graduating. The graduation will be on October 26th. Staff are assisting the City of Cameron and the City of Belton with administration of EDA grants. Staff submitted a grant application on behalf of Rockdale ISD for the Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant. We are helping Copperas Cove, Central Texas Water Supply Corporation, and New Life Village with grant and loan applications. Staff are assisting with planning and hosting a Veteran Entrepreneur Summit in January 2024. Mr. Elizondo also provided economic updates for Q3 2023, noting that the unemployment rate went down almost half a percentage point.

4. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding Approval of Meeting Minutes from the July 6th,

2023 Meeting.

Ted Gonzalez made a motion to approve the minutes, and it was seconded by Dean Roome; the motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion and Action Item: Regarding Election of Board Officers.

Ginger Watkins noted that herself and Cynthia Hernandez have been in their roles longer than the bylaws allow. This makes the election of a new Chair and Vice Chair necessary. Ginger opened up the item for a new chair.

Ted Gonzalez made a motion to nominate Dexter Morris for the Chair position, and it was seconded by Dean Roome; the motion passed unanimously. Ginger Watkins made a motion to nominate Ted Gonzalez for Vice Chair, and it was seconded by Dexter Morris; the motion passed unanimously.

6. Discussion Item: Regarding Presentations on Rural Internship Program Participants.

Dominic Elizondo noted that we had three interns in our region: Hamilton EDC, Cameron EDC and Chamber, and San Saba Chamber of Commerce.

Jamie LaDuke of Hamilton EDC gave a presentation about their intern, Brooklyn Bragg's experience. The intern managed social media consolidating social media pages from 5 to one. She also took photos for the Texas Film Commission website. She researched kayak kiosk for city lake and met with downtown business and property owners. She also attended Main Street and EDC board meetings.

Ginger Watkins discussed their intern, Haley White who had just graduated from high school. Their intern completed a lot of social media work related to their downtown, mainly focused on Facebook. She also completed newsletters via Constant Contact.

Both Ms. LaDuke and Ms. Watkins felt like increasing the internship payment this year proved very successful and no additional changes needed to be made.

7. Discussion Item: Regarding 2022-2026 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Implementation

Dominic Elizondo discussed the CEDS objective "cultivate, attract, and retain a talented workforce".

Mr. Elizondo read the first strategy and asked Charley Ayres about the P20 Council. Mr. Ayres updated us that the P20 council has changed their name to the Central Texas Regional Pathways Council. It is now funded by the Texas Education Agency (TEA). All the ISDs and Higher Learning Institutions in the 7 counties have MOUs with the council registered at the TEA. The goal is to try to train in high demand industries for Central Texas which are Software Development, Nursing, and Education.

Mr. Elizondo read the second strategy about facilitating entry of Fort Cavazos personnel into local private sector talent pool. This item was discussed on what strategies could be best utilized to support this strategy.

Mr. Elizondo showed the board the draft agenda for the Lampasas Entrepreneur Summit in January 2024 and went over the agenda.

8. Discussion Item: Regarding Updates on Regional Broadband Initiatives

Anna Barge updated on the Local Government Broadband Roundtable meeting schedule and the Bringing Online Opportunities to Texas (BOOT) Program. Mrs. Barge updated the board that the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program's Initial Proposal draft and their Texas Digital Opportunity Plan draft comment period is open.

9. Discussion Item: Regarding Federal and State Legislative Updates Pertaining to Economic Development

Anna Barge discussed the upcoming propositions related to economic development that will be on the November ballot. This included Proposition 2 related to childcare facilities, Proposition 7 related to the Texas Energy Fund, and Proposition 8 related to the Broadband Infrastructure Fund.

Dean Roome asked if the Texas Energy Fund would provide funding for small cities like Bartlett. Ms. Barge said she would look into this and let Mr. Roome know.

10. Discussion Item: Regarding Updates on Grant Opportunities

Dominic Elizondo provided an update on State and Federal grant opportunities and their eligible projects and match, including

- the Texas Veterans Commission General Assistance Fund
- the EDA Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs
- USDA Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant
- Communities Unlimited Financing
- FY 24-25 OneStar Foundation AmeriCorps Program.

11. Board of Directors' Comments.

There were no comments.

12. Discuss agenda items for next meeting on Thursday, January 4th, 2024, at 9:30 AM.

13. Adjourned at 10:22 AM

Dexter Morris, DDCT Chair

Uryan Nelson, CTCOG Planning Director

Item 5:
New DDCT Board
Members

Approval of New Board Members

Kayla Schraub, Main Street Manager for the City of Hamilton, and Teddy Clevenger, Superintendent of Bartlett ISD have submitted letters of support for joining the DDCT Board. Kayla Schraub will replace Jamie LaDuke as a representative from Hamilton. The letters of support are attached in the packet below.

Action Needed: Consider approval of new DDCT board members.

October 15, 2023

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to enthusiastically recommend Dr. Theodore Clevenger for the Economic Development board member position for the Central Texas Council of Governments. I have had the privilege of working closely with Dr. Clevenger during his tenure as the School Superintendent in our district, and it is with great confidence that I offer my support.

Dr. Clevenger has consistently demonstrated exceptional leadership, dedication, and a deep commitment to the well-being of our students and the success of our educational programs. His ability to foster a positive and collaborative environment within our schools has been truly commendable. Through a combination of strategic planning, effective communication, and a clear vision for our district's future, Dr. Clevenger has been instrumental in driving positive changes.

Furthermore, Dr. Clevenger possesses an outstanding ability to adapt to evolving educational needs, consistently advocating for innovative teaching methods, technological integration, and student-centered learning. His initiatives have led to measurable improvements in student performance and a sense of pride within our school community.

In addition to Dr. Clevenger's professional attributes, I have been impressed by his strong ethical character, integrity, and unwavering commitment to fostering inclusivity and diversity within our educational institutions. His dedication to creating an environment where every student can thrive has been exemplary.

I am confident that Dr. Clevenger will continue to make a significant and positive impact within the field of education, and I wholeheartedly recommend him for the position of Economic Development board member for the Central Texas Council of Governments. His tireless work, visionary leadership, and passion for education make him an ideal candidate for this role.

If you require any additional information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (254) 931-1564.

Sincerely,



Jessica Belcher
School Board President
Bartlett Independent School District

November 1, 2023

Central Texas Council of Governments

Attn: Dominic Elizondo

P.O. Box 729

Belton, Texas 76513

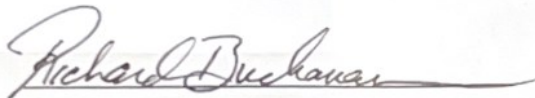
RE: Development District of Central Texas (DDCT)

Mr. Elizondo,

I would like to nominate Kayla Schraub, Main Street Program Manager, to represent the City of Hamilton on the Development District of Central Texas Board. Kayla will be a great asset. She has agreed to serve and will meet the required criteria.

Please feel free to contact me if additional information is required. I can be reached at 469-556-0530 or

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Richard Buchanan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Richard Buchanan

Hamilton City Council Member

Item 6:

**2024 Rural Internship and
Leadership Central Texas
Programs**

2024 Rural Internship and Leadership Central Texas Programs

Rural Internship Program: This program offers \$3,000 in scholarships to Chambers of Commerce, Economic Development Organizations, and Departments of Tourism for the internship of high school students that promotes economic development in rural communities. Awards will be made in the amount of \$1,000 per entity. Three awardees are expected but at the board's discretion more funds may be allocated to award more scholarships. To be eligible for this program, the rural community population of the applicant must be 20,000 or less based on the 2020 US Census and must be located within the seven county DDCT region. DDCT has the authority to revise award amounts and/or total program funds awarded. The 2024 application is included in the meeting packet for review.

Leadership Central Texas: This program is offered by the DDCT to any citizen who lives or works within its seven county region to identify and develop regional leaders and to promote awareness of regional/state leadership opportunities. The program provides participants with knowledge on avenues for leadership and resources in areas including government and CTCOG planning services, regional infrastructure and social services, and economic development planning. Topics are taught by leaders in these various fields. Each participant will be encouraged to identify leadership opportunities where their individual talents would best be applied to ensure the growth and future well-being of the central Texas region. Tuition is \$75 and applicants must have an interest in regional leadership and/or be a graduate of a local leadership program as well as live or work in the seven county region. The 2024 Leadership Central Texas Application is included in the meeting packet for review.

The application deadline is **March 29, 2024**.

The acceptance of applications and awarding of funds will be considered during the April meeting following the review of applications received.

Action Needed: Consider approval of 2024 Rural Internship and Leadership Central Texas Programs.

Rural Internship Program Application

The DDCT is offering \$3000 in scholarships to Chambers of Commerce, local Economic Development organizations or tourism organizations for the internship of Junior and Senior high school students that promotes economic development in rural communities. Scholarships are \$1000 each. To be eligible for this program, the rural community population must be 20,000 or less based on the 2020 US Census and must be located within the seven-county Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG) region.

Organization: _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **Zip:** _____

1. Applicant community population per 2020 US Census: _____

2. What community service will the student be assisting?

Chamber of Commerce () Economic Development Org () Tourism Organization ()

Other () Explain: _____

3. Current Staffing and reason for need of student Intern:

4. Tasks/Responsibilities student will be assigned:

5. **Skillsets/Talents the student should possess:**

6. **Desired start date for Student Intern: ____/____/2024.**

NOTE: Student must submit a Letter of Acceptance to the Organization within 60 days of being selected. Only 2 Applications will be selected by the Board per fiscal year.

7. **Estimated Daily/Weekly hours required from Student Intern: _____**

NOTE: Student is required to work a minimum of 60 hours, not to exceed 100 hours. Scholarship may be split between students.

8. **Additional Information/Comments:**

Application submitted by:

Name: _____ Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: ____/____/____/ email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Applications or questions may be submitted to Dominic Elizondo at

dominic.elizondo@ctcog.org. **Application Deadline is March 29, 2024**

Applications will be evaluated by the DDCT Board and recipients selected on April 5, 2024.

To be completed by DDCT Staff:	Date Application received _____
DDCT Board Action: Application Approved/Denied	Date of Action: _____
If denied, explanation: _____	



Leadership Central Texas 2024 Application

PURPOSE

Leadership Central Texas is offered by the Development District of Central Texas to any qualified citizen who lives or works within the seven county-region (Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills, and San Saba) served by the Central Texas Council of Governments. The purpose of Leadership Central Texas is to identify and develop regional leaders and to promote awareness of regional/state leadership opportunities. Topics are taught with active participation from leaders serving on regional boards, committees and organizations. Each certified attendee will be encouraged to identify leadership opportunities where their individual talents would best be applied to insure the growth and future well-being of our Central Texas Region.

OBJECTIVES

Leadership Central Texas has the following objectives:

1. Highlight opportunities for regional public service which match the area(s) of interest of the participants resulting in benefits for the participants, their communities and the region.
2. Provide useful information for participants to utilize, thereby enabling them to be effective leaders on the regional level.
3. Develop relationships across the Central Texas Council of Governments' 7 county region.

** Organizations, presentations and dates are subject to change.*

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS*

To be eligible, an applicant must fulfill one of the following requirement(s):

1. Citizens demonstrating a desire to serve in a leadership role;
2. Completed a local leadership program in his or her community or is currently enrolled;
3. Be a past/present elected official of his/her community, region or state.

** Prior non-acceptance of an applicant does not affect future consideration for selection.*

Local Leadership Program Completed, if any:

Date Completed

Name of company, organization or individual sponsoring your application, if other than self:

APPLICANT OBLIGATIONS

- The tuition fee of **\$75.00** for Leadership Central Texas is nonrefundable and payable upon acceptance to the program.
- Tuition must be submitted with a 1 page personal biography.
- The deadline for applications is **March 29, 2024.**
- The selection process will be finalized as of April 5, 2024.
- Class size is limited. All eligible applicants will be considered with an effort to have leaders from each county represented in the class.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Limit your responses to the space available. Letters of recommendation are encouraged but not required.

Name: _____

Name as you wish it to appear on your name tag: _____

Business Name: _____

Business Address: _____

 _____ Zip: _____ County: _____

Business Phone: _____

Business Email: _____

Home Address: _____

City _____ Zip: _____ County: _____

Home Phone: _____

Home Email: _____

Which address should we use to contact you? [Business](#) [Home](#)

Number of years you have lived in the region. _____

Number of years you have worked in the region. _____

How did you hear about Leadership Central Texas? _____

Word-of-mouth _____ DDOCT web page _____ Local chamber _____

Other (please list) _____

EDUCATION

Include high school, college, business / trade school or other training as well as degrees and/or certifications.
(Most recent first)

--

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Employer Name _____

Your title _____

Previously held positions at this firm:

Do you have the full-time support of your employer for the time required to participate effectively in Leadership Central Texas?

May we call your supervisor for verification?

Name of Supervisor/ Phone #

Do you want your firm to be identified in news releases?

ORGANIZATIONS & ACTIVITIES

Organizations (civic, social, professional, business, non-profit, etc.) please include dates and positions held. (Include honors and awards if any.)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

What do you consider to be your best skill, career, or personal achievement to date? Be descriptive.

Describe what you believe to be your most significant contribution to any community in which you have lived? Describe current or previous leadership activities/experience.

If you are chosen as a class member, what do you hope to gain from the experience?

PROGRAM UNDERSTANDING

- I have answered the above questions to the best of my knowledge.
- I have read and understand the eligibility requirements.
- I hereby give Leadership Central Texas the right to make inquiries regarding the information provided on this application form.
- It is my understanding that Leadership Central Texas is to be a learning experience and that attendance of the meetings is mandatory. Due to the in-depth and timed instruction given, any participant who is absent for two (2) or more hours in any given session, up to and including missing a full session, will not receive certification from the class.

2024 Class Dates (subject to change):

Thursday, June 20, 2024 Thursday, July 18, 2024 Thursday, August 15, 2024

Classes times are from 9:00am-4:00pm with lunch provided.

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Employer Signature, if applicable: _____

Date: _____

PROMOTIONAL RELEASE AGREEMENT

I hereby grant the Development District of Central Texas ("DDCT"), their partners, affiliates, agents, contractors and respective successors and assigns, the right and permission, with respect to those photographs taken of me, any video and/or audio recordings of me, and with respect to any printed matter in connection therewith, to do the following:

1. Include such photographs, and/or recordings in all media pertaining to Leadership Central Texas, and in the advertising, publicity, and promotion thereof.
2. Use my name in connection with the foregoing.

I hereby release, discharge and agree to indemnify and hold harmless DDCT, their partners, affiliates, agents, contractors and respective successors and assigns, from all claims and demands whatsoever arising out of or in connection with the foregoing, and waive any right to inspect or approve the same.

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

For application submission or questions, please contact Dominic Elizondo at dominic.elizondo@ctcog.org or 254-770-2379.

Item 7:
Census Business Builder
Tool

Presentation on Census Business Builder Tool

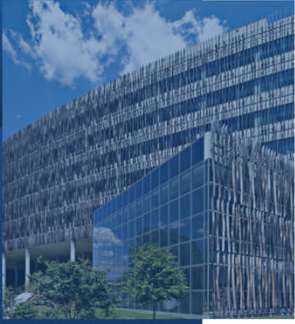
Adam Grundy, Supervisor for the Data User and Trade Outreach Branch of the U.S Census Bureau will provide a presentation on the Census Business Builder Tool.

Action Needed: No action needed; for discussion only.

Census Business Builder 5.3

January 4, 2024

Adam Grundy
U.S. Census Bureau, Data User and Trade Outreach Branch
Adam.P.Grundy@census.gov
301-763-7592




1

Meet Your Presenter

Adam Grundy:

- Supervisor in the Data User and Trade Outreach Branch
- Leads the ECON Outreach Working Group
- Maintains an online calendar for the Economic Directorate
- Writes several articles for the America Counts series
- Former President of the General Workforce Advisory Board
- Has a bachelor's degree in Human Studies and a certification in elementary education

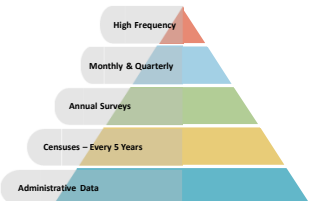



2

Programs

Census Bureau economic programs are a key source for official statistics:

- **NEW** High Frequency data
- Monthly and quarterly small sample surveys provide the most **TIMELY** data available
- Annual surveys have larger samples and provide the most up-to-date **TREND** data available
- Every 5 years, the Censuses measure all businesses and governments and provide the most **COMPREHENSIVE** data available
- Plus, **FOUNDATIONAL** administrative data from the Business Register to supplement or produce additional economic products



These programs set the standard for U.S. economic statistics, and are fueled by the data provided by businesses and governments



3

What Topics Are Available?

NAICS (North American Industry Classification System)	Level	Code	Description
• Our primary data dimension	Sector	51	Information
• Establishments (vs. Companies, Firms, etc.)	Subsector	515	Broadcasting (except Internet)
• Our collection/tabulation level	Industry Group	5151	Radio and Television Broadcasting
• Employers (vs. Nonemployers)	Industry	51511	Radio Broadcasting
• Most programs only cover employer businesses	U.S. Industry	515112	Radio Stations
• Nonemployers: self-employed individuals			
• U.S. Code Title 13 and 26 protects business privacy and confidentiality			



4

Where do these data come from?




County Business Patterns

This program covers Employer Businesses in the U.S.

Nonemployer Statistics

This program covers Nonemployer Businesses (self-employed persons) in the U.S.

Annual Business Survey

This survey covers Employer Businesses in the U.S., and includes business owner data.

Economic Census

The official five-year measure of American businesses providing comprehensive statistics at the national, state, and local levels.

5

What is the Economic Census?




- Conducted every 5 years, it produces the most comprehensive economic data available
- Data covers 19 economic sectors that encompass 950 NAICS industries, that span over 21,000 geographic areas
- Data includes number of establishments, products, revenue, employment and more
- The current Economic Census will be collected in 2023 with businesses reporting their 2022 year-end numbers.
- The Economic Census is conducted online, and response is mandatory.

6

We measure more than people

- Most people know that the U.S. Census Bureau measures the population every 10 years
- But most people don't know that we **also measure the economy**
 - In fact, the Census Bureau conducts more than 30 economic surveys each year
- This includes the **Economic Census** which measures all U.S. businesses every 5 years

United States
Census
2020

United States[®] The 2022
Census Economic
Bureau Census

United States[®] The 2022
Census Economic
Bureau Census

7

The Economic Census

- The official measure of U.S. business and the economy
- The **2022 Economic Census** is underway
 - Companies report their 2022 year-end numbers
 - Primary collection period: January through March 2023
 - Data release is planned for early 2024 through 2026
- Response is mandatory under Title 13, U.S. Code
 - The Census Bureau is also required by law to keep information private and secure
 - Information is used for statistical purposes only
- Results are free and available online

United States[®] The 2022
Census Economic
Bureau Census

United States[®] The 2022
Census Economic
Bureau Census

8

The 2022 Economic Census

- Official letters were mailed out January 31
 - Letters included unique authentication codes for companies to access survey online
- Respondents were instructed to set up an online account on secure website to complete survey
 - Similar to other online accounts with email username, password, security questions
 - Response URL is portal.census.gov
- Help is available online and via telephone
- Due date was March 15. Currently in non-response phase



United States[®] The 2022
Census Economic
Bureau Census

9

U.S. Business Target Universe

- Most companies do not receive the economic census
- Only businesses with employees
- Only a sample of smaller businesses are required to respond

There are more than
30 million businesses
in the United States.

~ 8 million are
employer
business
establishments.
~ 4 million
businesses
receive the
economic
census.

United States[®] The 2022
Census Economic
Bureau Census

10

Information Required

The economic census asks for the following information location:

- Employer Identification Number
- Physical location
- Primary business activity
- Sales, receipts, or revenue
- Employment and payroll
- Industry-specific questions

United States[®] The 2022
Census Economic
Bureau Census

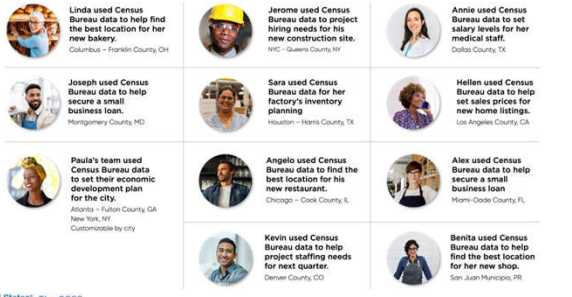
11



United States[®] The 2022
Census Economic
Bureau Census

12

Data Stories:

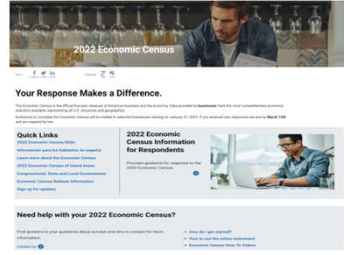


- Linda** used Census Bureau data to help find the best location for her new bakery. Columbus - Franklin County, OH
- Jerome** used Census Bureau data to project hiring needs for his new construction site. NYC - Queens County, NY
- Annie** used Census Bureau data to set salary levels for her medical staff. Dallas County, TX
- Joseph** used Census Bureau data to help secure a small business loan. Montgomery County, MD
- Sara** used Census Bureau data for her factory's inventory planning. Houston - Harris County, TX
- Hellen** used Census Bureau data to help set sales prices for new home listings. Los Angeles County, CA
- Paula's team** used Census Bureau data to set their economic development plan for the city. Atlanta - Fulton County, GA
New York, NY
Customizable by city
- Angelo** used Census Bureau data to find the best location for his new restaurant. Chicago - Cook County, IL
- Alex** used Census Bureau data to help secure a small business loan. Miami-Dade County, FL
- Kevin** used Census Bureau data to help project staffing needs for next quarter. Denver County, CO
- Benita** used Census Bureau data to help find the best location for her new shop. San Juan Municipio, PR

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Resources for Respondents at: [Census.gov/econ](https://www.census.gov/econ)



Economic Census promotional website: [census.gov/econ](https://www.census.gov/econ)

- Information for Respondents
- Census Bureau Statistics
- How Your Response Makes a Difference
- Information for Partners
- Promotional Materials

Advertising and promotional materials with are available for your organization

- Digital ads and social media
- Printed brochures

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Current Outreach Efforts

- Information sharing and relationship building with Partners/Trusted Voices
 - Geographic and Industry based – Low response
 - Organizations with reach to local businesses
- In-person and online events
- Non-response push: "Estimates are Acceptable"
- Data user Focus groups



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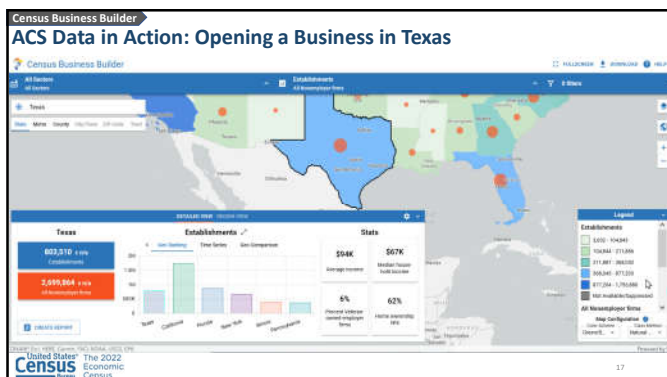
How You Can Help

- Spread the word where you can & help us connect
- Share assets with your contacts
 - Partner briefing/customizable slides
 - Messaging – Talking Points
 - Electronic brochures
 - Economic Census images
 - [census.gov/econ](https://www.census.gov/econ)
- Contact us for available promotional materials, emd.respondent.outreach@census.gov

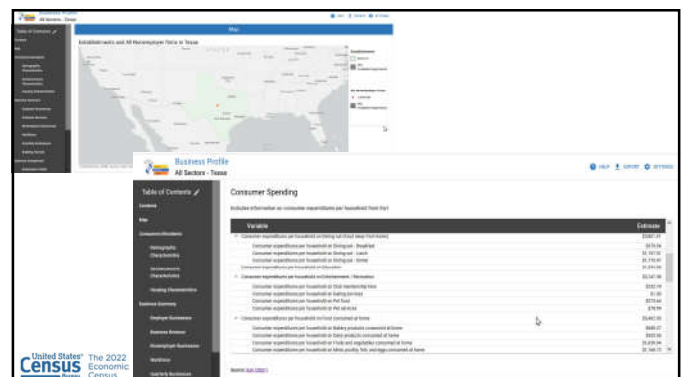


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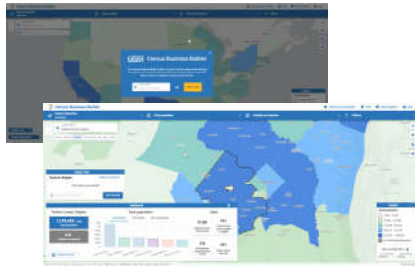


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Census Business Builder 5.3



Guiding Principles

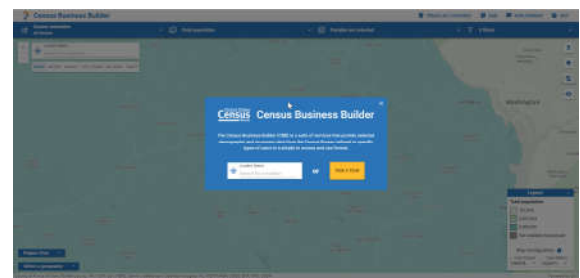
- Easy to use
- Customer focused
- Provide access to Census data and more
 - BLS, USDA, & third party
- Leverage existing Census investments
 - Esri API
- Use latest technology
 - Cloud
- Provide for free

CBB Home Page

<https://www.census.gov/economy/economic/cbb.html>

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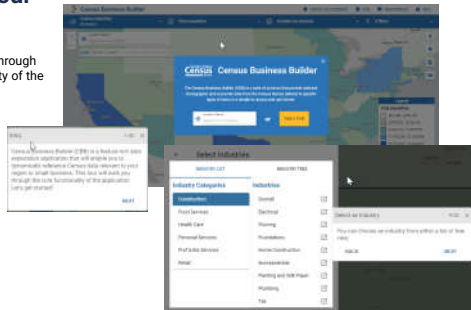
Census Business Builder 5.3



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CBB 5.3 - Tour

- Tour will walk you through the core functionality of the application

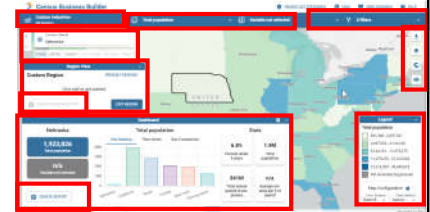


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CBB 5.3 – Key Features

Map page

- Dashboard
- Region View
- Geographic Levels
- Industry Cluster
- Map Variables options
- Filter Menu
- Map Buttons
- Map Legend
- Reports

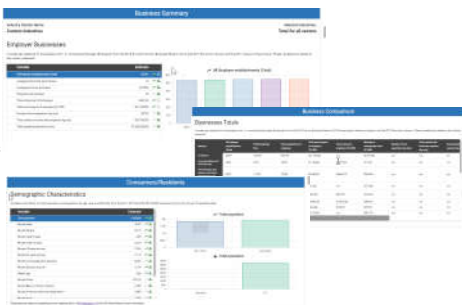


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CBB 5.3 – Reports

Reports

- Report sections, interactive charts, customizing, and bookmarking
- Single or multi-geography reports

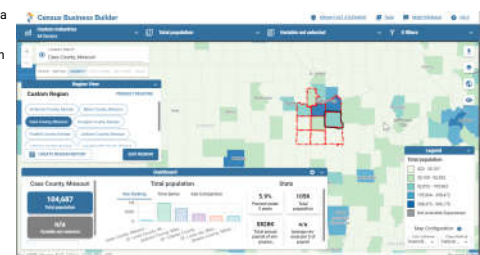


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CBB 5.3 - Region Builder

Multiple options to build a region

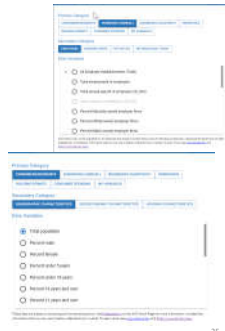
- Option #1: build region of 2+ geographies of the SAME TYPE
- Option #2: build a Region of 2 or more geographies of 2 OR MORE types
- Option #3: build a Region using Prebuilt Regions



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CBB: Data Sources

- Demographic, socioeconomic, and housing data from the American Community Survey
- Business data from the County Business Patterns, Nonemployer Statistics, Economic Census, and Survey of Business Owners
- Imports and Exports data from the International Trade program
- Workforce data from the Quarterly Workforce Indicators
- Building Permits data from the Building Permits Survey
- Your own data (via Excel file upload feature)
- Consumer Spending data from Esri
- Agriculture data from the Census of Agriculture (USDA)
- Employment and related data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW)



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Demo

Live Demo on Obtaining Relevant Business Data



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DEMO of Census Business Builder

Go to:
cbb.census.gov; or scan QR code →



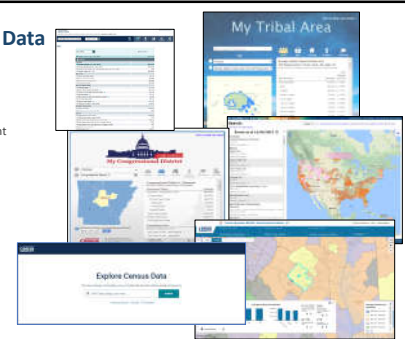
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Data Tools Available

Selected Ways to Access Data

- QuickFacts
- My Congressional District
- My Tribal Area
- OnTheMap for Emergency Management
- Census Business Builder
- TIGER/Line Shapefiles w/ Selected Demographic Data
- Application Programming Interface (API)
- COVID-19 Data Hub
- data.census.gov



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census.gov/data/data-tools.html

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Get in Touch with Us

Adam Grundy
U.S. Census Bureau
Data User and Trade Outreach Branch
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301-763-7592

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Reference Materials



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Glossary/Terms/Acronyms

NAICS = North American Classification System: www.census.gov/naics

CBP = County Business Patterns: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cbp.html>

NES = Nonemployer Statistics: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/nonemployer-statistics.html>

EC = Economic Census: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/economic-census.html>

ABS = Annual Business Survey: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/abs.html>

ASM = Annual Survey of Manufactures: <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/asm.html>

CEDSCI = Data.Census.Gov: <https://data.census.gov/>

CBB = Census Business Builder: <https://cbb.census.gov/cbb/>



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North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)

www.census.gov/naics

- A hierarchical classification system that groups establishments into industries based on the business activities in which they are primarily engaged.
- A comprehensive system covering the entire field of business activities.
- Used to collect, tabulate, analyze, and disseminate statistics.
- A common language used among the United States, Canadian, and Mexican statistical agencies
- Updated every five years



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NAICS Hierarchy

Level	Code	Description
Sector	51	Information
Subsector	515	Broadcasting (except Internet)
Industry Group	5151	Radio and Television Broadcasting
Industry	51511	Radio Broadcasting
U.S. Industry	515112	Radio Stations



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Item 8:

CEDS Implementation

**Regarding 2022-2026 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
Implementation**

The 2022-26 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) was approved by the DDCT Board on January 6, 2022.

As a result of the DDCT Board CEDS Workshop on January 12th, 2023, the Board decided to have a recurring agenda item for Board discussion on strategizing implementation of CEDS objectives and strategies.

This meeting the focus will be the objective to “Proactively shape growth to ensure quality of place.” The strategies under this objective are to:

- Study the region's housing stock and develop strategies to ensure adequate housing product for current and future residents. Product should outline tactics for municipalities to help induce both new construction and improvements to substandard homes.
- Create a Regional Trails Plan that enhances multi-modal transportation options and ensures robust access to outdoor amenities and water features.
- Encourage a diversity of retail, services, and entertainment establishments, particularly in downtowns; conduct retail leakage studies; host a small-town "Texas Downtowns" regional gathering to discuss strategies to increase foot traffic.
- Develop a regional land use plan and master plans for cities, setting the foundation for decisions affecting where growth and development are channeled.
- Assist jurisdictions with updating ordinances and policies in anticipation of subdivision development interest; with attention to policies requiring developer contribution to utilities expansion.

Action Needed: No action needed; for discussion only.

Objective	Strategies & Actions	Roles	Priority	Funding Source	Progress Status	Comments/Updates	Board Comments
Improve and formalize emergency operational and community protocol within and across jurisdictions	Prepare municipalities to function in remote/mobile formats during emergencies	CTCOG Technical Advisement to Jurisdictions	High		Not Started	Ongoing through planning process-HSAC	
	Resume periodic emergency drills on various scenarios, including rehearsals for key generator hookups.	CTCOG to participate in local jurisdiction exercises	High		Not Started	Region does trainings at various levels, not really a high priority thing	
	Evaluate scenarios for how people will access emergency medical services & supplies (including temperature-sensitive medicines) in consideration of rural areas' distance to hospitals	CTCOG assist where needed and coordinate with healthcare coalition program manager	High	N/A	Started	Emergency trailer (minus meds with temp sensitive)- reach out to HCCAA (after current grants are submitted)	
	Develop and maintain jurisdiction-specific protocols for emergency communications and operations, including Severe Weather Emergency Response Plans. Protocols should include regional communication; consider municipal leadership overturn; address communication with utilities providers; address backup power use; and address use of radio/TV for residents without social media. Appoint a CTCOG staff member to serve as a point person for advising municipal leaders in times of crisis and for performing checks that protocols are annually updated.	CTCOG to coordinate and provide templates where appropriate and needed	High		Not Started	Anna look into resources for local governments on FEMA's website, compile info and send it out	
	Host a "Small Town Summit" and coordinate basic emergency planning meetings on an ongoing basis	CTCOG as lead; leverage FEMA NIMS materials	High	N/A	Complete	Emergency Mgmt sessions complete	
	Create local volunteer task forces composed of residents willing to perform physical infrastructure checks and advise municipal leadership where roads, water distribution, and electric poles are out; seek participants that own drones.	Municipalities	Med		Not Started	Maybe part of community preparedness program?	
	Educate jurisdictions on how to leverage the Defense Support of Civil Authorities program to secure generators, water, etc. from Fort Cavazos during crises.	CTCOG with DSCA program and National Guard	Med	N/A	Complete	Happened at Small Town Summit	
	Develop and centrally store templates for municipalities to send out emergency information (e.g. boil notices).	CTCOG	Low	N/A	Not Started	CodeRed notification	
Educate and prepare residents and businesses to better sustain themselves during disasters.	Assist businesses in developing continuity plans and accessing resources/programs for recovery and resilience. Leverage U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Guides.	CCOG with SBDCs, local chambers, EDCs, and "SBA Regional Navigator" designee	High	SBA programs	Complete	In appendix of CEDS and on our drive in our toolkits from Ready.gov	
	Develop and disseminate educational materials to households regarding preparations they can make to sustain themselves longer without utilities or transportation	CTCOG prepare materials; municipalities disseminate	Med	N/A	Started	Follow up with Connie and Jesse	
	Conduct outreach and assistance to residents of mobile/manufactured homes and other vulnerable structures to encourage repairs and other measures to make them more resistant to storm impacts	Municipalities, coordinated by CTCOG, in collaboration with Housing Divisions, Offices on Aging, Hill Country Community Action	Med	N/A	Not Started	Winter 2022/2023	
	Consider processes for jurisdictions to further build relationships with residents to gain awareness of who has special needs and risks in the event of a crisis	Municipalities with local real estate groups; Belton "R U OK?" model	Med	N/A	Started	Need to continue outreach to local govts- maybe with the group that is being developed??	
	Encourage businesses to explore profitable supply chain localization measures.	CTCOG with local chambers and advisement from TMAC (Texas' Manufacturing Extension Partnership)	Low	TMAC assistance pursuing individual grants for businesses to offset costs	Not Started		
	Identify facilities that can house displaced/evacuated residents and serve as command-and-control centers. Prepare them with backup generators, caches of food/water, and transportation plans.	EMCs	High		Not Started	Winter 2022/2023-Anna	
	Evaluate the cyber preparedness of CTCOG's 7-county 911 system.	CTCOG	High		Started	CSEC has staff member doing this	

Prepare and harden infrastructure needed for emergency communications, emergency services, & resilience.	Procure and place generators (esp. diesel with 5-7 day capacity) at additional priority locations that will serve as warming/cooling centers.	CTCOG coordinate with municipalities and service providers	High		Not Started	As needed	
	Adopt rural healthcare innovation models that provide for rural urgent care and health emergency response teams, leveraging Texas A&M Health.	Counties, Texas A&M Health (OnMed collaboration)	High	Texas A&M Health program supported by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas	Complete	OnMed presented at Sept Ex Committee Meeting -no one interested	
	Continue investing in and hardening broadband and cellular networks (e.g. improved battery backup and/or solar on cell towers/repeaters).	CTCOG coordinate with municipalities and service providers	High	Municipal funds, Federal funding and ARPA, Texas Comptrollers office, IIAJ	Started	Research level, networking	
	Invest in roadways needed for emergency services.	CTCOG coordinate with municipalities and service providers	High	Killeen-Temple Metropolitan Organization (KTMO), IIAJ, GLO for Milam & Coryell Counties	Started	Currently identifying the roads that are important for emergency services and their status (flooding, road issues), try to address this in the SS4A Action Plan	
	Set up social media channels for individual jurisdictions to build following for improved outreach during emergencies.	Individual jurisdictions, with CTCOG technical assistance	Med	N/A	Started	Shared tips in December. Dominic followed all of the city and county pages that he could find. Shares content via email and tagging local governments on posts.	
	Explore and develop capability for CTCOG to deliver alerts to all phones active in the region.	CTCOG	Med	N/A	Complete	CodeRed app will notify you based on your location, phones already kind of do this independently of us	
	Educate jurisdictions on resources available for cyberattack prevention and mitigation.	CTCOG, leveraging Texas Municipal League and State resources	Med	State Homeland Security Program	Started	Grant opens in Dec, funded following fall, educate region starting Jan	
	Invest in backup power and communications; consider use of solar for redundancy	CTCOG coordinate municipalities	Med	TX PACE Program, SERI, 911	Started	CTCOG PS paying for maintenance and some repairs of generators for 9-1-1 centers	
Develop a strong regionally-based business marketing effort.	Develop a regional brand and marketing plan and unified business attraction messaging effort and showcasing Central Texas as the "hub" of the major Texas metros; diversity of communities and people, including lower-density rural living options; I-14 improvements/expansion; and historical heritage tourism.	CTCOG	High	Consider EDA funding	Started	Industry info and economic data is on the CTCOG and DDCI websites, next step is to merge with DCT website	
	Hold Opportunity Zone investment forums to generate interest in specific development projects and connect investors with developers.	CTCOG with OZ host municipalities	High	N/A	Complete	10/7/2022	
	Develop a regionally-based tourism marketing effort promoting area destinations, downtowns, and outdoor assets.	CTCOG	Med	Municipal contributions; Texas Commission on the Arts' Cultural Districts Designation Program and associated grants	Complete	Updating content, reminding cities about themes, still need 13 cities to participate	
	Integrate messaging about the Fort Cavazos talent base into business attraction marketing efforts.	CTCOG	Low	Municipal Contributions	Started	Work with Fort Cavazos TAP	
	Expand broadband, creating a Broadband Advisory Council to accelerate the audit/survey/buildout process across jurisdictions.*	CTCOG with consultant and locally active ISPs	High	ARPA, Connected Nation, Rural Digital Opportunity Fund	Started	BDO Regional Working Group (CTCOG, BVCOG, HOTCOG), Texas received BEAD funding to create BEAD 5 year Action Plan and a TX Digital Opportunity Plan. Both have received public comments. The BOOT program will see more eligible locations due to SB 1238. Local Gov Broadband Roundtable meets virtually on first Thurs of each month at 10am. The Broadband Infrastructure Fund has been created.	

Strengthen the conditions for growth of new and existing businesses.	Develop a regional water/sewer plan prioritizing investments needed for <u>industry growth</u> .	CTCOG with local water and sewer authorities	High	Texas Water Development Board; USDA Rural Development, EDA Public Works Grant	Started	Brainstorm on how this would be useful, focus on industry growth, maybe more of a focus on water, think of dams	
	Identify and prepare additional sites for industrial and distribution facilities; conduct site assessment and preliminary site design to aid in prioritization and site marketing.	EDCs as lead, with counties and municipalities	High	CDBG for certain areas; potential future TxEDC programs replacing Texas Capital Fund Real Estate	Started	Discussed in STS- need further discussion on how EDCs want assistance with this	
	Build on the momentum of the Research Park to further cultivate high tech industry clusters; study the potential to develop a broader "innovation zone" with the Park as its hub.*	CTCOG with A&M-Central Texas	High	Municipal Contributions	Started	Research Park is applying for EDA Tech Hubs grant, with focus on tech such as AI, rehabbing building for military transition program	
	Create a regional outreach effort to promote entrepreneurial opportunities to Fort Cavazos personnel transitioning into the civilian workforce, with a focus on defense contractor opportunities	CTCOG, SBDCs, area incubators, PTACs	Med	DOD Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation; SBA Office of Veterans Business Development	Started	Event to take place in Jan 30 2023	
	Collaborate with Tesla to connect local businesses to related supply chain opportunities.	CTCOG and Tesla with local chambers and advisement from TMAC (Texas' Manufacturing Extension)	Low	N/A	Not Started	What lense do we want to look at this through?	
	Encourage greater utilization of Procurement Technical Assistance Centers to help local businesses capture greater federal procurement opportunities and Fort Cavazos economic impact; host education/awareness events in collaboration with PTACs.*	PTACs, Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs), CTCOG, Fort Cavazos	Low	N/A	Not Started	Try to do event/webinar/summit with PTAC in 2023, incorporate into entrepreneurial event, tried reaching out but no response	
	Promote digital literacy in small businesses, leveraging existing training models.*	Chambers	Low	N/A	Not Started	CTCOG creates fact sheet, type based on feedback from DDCCT	
Cultivate, attract, and retain a talented workforce.	Strengthen and continue partnerships between institutions of higher education and high/middle schools in the region to provide apprenticeships opportunities and increase participation of youth in skilled jobs and post-secondary degrees.	High schools and middle schools, higher education institutions, Workforce Solutions of Central Texas, Chambers, major employers	High	Texas Workforce Commission programs (Skills Development Fund), employer contributions	Complete	P20 Council-SOAR Career Coaches program engaging thousands of students with career readiness and support, training workshops, resources for employment, and graduate hiring events. Next hiring event is Apr.16, 2024 at Cadence Bank Center. Also provides Virtual College Experience Program. Rockdale technical education/career development center with EDA Public Works grant.	
	Further leverage and scale mechanisms for facilitating entry of Fort Cavazos personnel into local private sector talent pool (e.g. the Heroes MAKE America and Hiring Our Heroes programs). Create a marketing campaign and associated "concierge service" to encourage Fort Cavazos personnel to remain local after service, supporting them in career exploration and accessing transitional services.	CTCOG coordinate with area higher education institutions, Workforce Solutions of Central Texas, Heart of Texas Defense Alliance, Chambers, Hiring our Heroes (U.S. Chamber Foundation), Heroes Make America (The Manufacturing Institute)	High	CTCOG and partner staff time with potential employer contributions/sponsorships	Started	Veteran Employer Summit-May 17th, Maybe reoccurring summit (entrepreneurship and/or milspouse). Possibly hold annually. Central Texas Entrepreneur Summit to be held in Lampasas on Jan.30,2023 with resources for veterans. TAP at Fort Cavazos concierge service. Milspouse Event was on 11/1/22. Approx a dozen attendees Maybe have discussions with partners when planning entrep. event on what our role can be on this topic	
	Study the region's housing stock and develop strategies to ensure adequate housing product for current and future residents. Product should outline tactics for municipalities to help induce both new construction and improvements to substandard homes.	CTCOG and Jurisdictions	High	Community Development Block Grant	Started	How does the DDCCT want us to address this?	

Proactively shape growth to ensure quality of place.	Create a Regional Trails Plan that enhances multi-modal transportation options and ensures robust access to outdoor amenities and water features. -probably 2023	CTCOG and KTMPO, jurisdictions, Texas Parks, and Wildlife, US Army Corp	High	KTMPO; Texas Parks & Wildlife Department	Not Started	Could be part of Regional Multimodal Plan (KTMPO), TxDOT has their Bicycle, Tourism, and Trails Plan which was created by their statewide BPAC	
	Encourage a diversity of retail, services, and entertainment establishments, particularly in downtowns; <u>conduct retail leakage studies</u> ; host a small-town "Texas Downtowns" regional gathering to discuss strategies to increase foot traffic	CTCOG and local EDCs	High	N/A	Started	Small Town Summit 9 Ask if retail leakage studies is something DDCT is interested in	
	Develop a regional land use plan and master plans for cities, setting the foundation for decisions affecting where growth and development are channeled.	CTCOG and Jurisdicaitions	Med	Texas Dept. of Agriculture Programs	Not Started	Master plans should be developed via consultants, CTCOG can help with land use planning as needed - we can look into funding sources (state and federal level)	
	Assist jurisdictions with updating ordinances and policies in anticipation of subdivision development interest; with attention to policies requiring developer contribution to utilities expansion.	CTCOG and Jurisdicaitions	Low	N/A	Not Started	CTCOG can assist in a contract level as needed	
Enhance the region's economic connectivity.	Expand broadband, creating a Broadband Advisory Council to accelerate the audit/survey/buildout process across jurisdictions.	CTCOG with Connected Nation and locally active ISPs	High	ARPA, Connected Nation, Rural Digital Opportunity Fund	Started	Same as another above objective-CAPCOG, BVCOG, CTCOG Regional Working Group on broadband.	
	Expand public transit offerings to provide reliable, affordable public transportation options for connecting <u>rural residents</u> with employment centers	CTCOG , Hill Country Transit District, TXDOT, MPO's	High	Federal formula funds	Started	Rural service for the HOP is free for a year, Killeen has a city wide dial for a ride service, upcoming changes will be announced soon. Plans for microtransit zones. HOP is trying to secure funding from cities/counties to make up for budget shortfalls. April 2024- microtransit stops getting rolled out, TMAs later that year Secured contributions from every county but Hamilton, still in the talks with Hamilton RFP out for 60-90 microtransit vehicles and a tech vendor to do trip planning, might be applying for TxDOT coordinated call grant and ICAM Pilot Program	
	Improve the conditions of roadways, with particular attention to increased use of county roads.	CTCOG discussions with Killeen-Temple MPO and other MPO's	Med	State Highway Fund, CDBG	Not Started	INFRA, MEGA, Surface Transportation, Community Development Fund grants may be useful, EDA grants Can be addressed in SS4A Action Plan	
	Develop an airport master plan addressing airport marketing/branding, increasing competitiveness vis-à-vis Austin, and needed upgrades such as additional hangar space	CTCOG and airport authority	Med	FAA Airport Improvement Program	Not Started	Maybe reach out to airport staff across region to see if they are intersted? , microtransit route to GRK?	
Improve municipal systems that allow for fair taxation, stable revenues, and growth.	Accelerate appraisal efforts, particularly in high-growth communities.	Tax Appraisal Districts with CTCOG coordinating	High	N/A	Started	Context: Rogers not doing thorough appraisals - losing out on tax money Bartlett and other small towns have opposite issues-appraisals too high due to high growth in neighboring urban areas Waiting on Uryan	
	Harmonize all communities' GIS systems and parcel address methodologies.	Municipalities with CTCOG technical assistance	Low	N/A	Started	We would need specific funding for staff coordination	
	Build additional capacity to assist jurisdictions with grant identification/writing/administration.	CTCOG	High	N/A	Complete	Anna working on this at the end of August	

Strengthen CTCOG offerings to complement municipalities' capabilities.	Hold a periodic introductory class for newly elected officials to familiarize them with CTCOG capabilities, and to provide them with a "municipal imperatives" cheat sheet to aid in their prioritization.	CTCOG	Med	N/A	Complete	Next class is February 2024	
	Create marketing materials summarizing CTCOG services, assistance, and resources available to municipalities.	CTCOG	Med	N/A	Complete	Printed and sent out!	
	Conduct remote/hybrid meetings to increase accessibility for rural communities.	CTCOG	Med	N/A	Complete	Ongoing	
	Provide technical support as-needed to communities on subjects of planning, transportation, legal, etc.	CTCOG	Med	N/A	Complete	Ongoing	
	Perform a "circuit rider" function, checking in with smaller/rural communities in particular to ensure functioning relationships with Tax Appraisal Districts, 911 system effectiveness, etc.	CTCOG	Low	N/A	Not Started	Uryan & Jim, have county level meet ups- start scheduling in March, send a Planner with staff	



Small Town Summit
Economic Development

Wednesday, December 7th, 2:00-3:00pm

Driving Economic Development through Parks and Recreation (20 minutes)
Brynn Myers, City Manager, City of Temple

Leveraging Your Downtown through the Texas Community Development Block Grant Programs (20 minutes)
Crystal Ortegon, Program Specialist, Texas CDBG

Downtown Development Success Story: City of Belton (20 minutes)
Judy Garrett, Tourism/Retail Development Coordinator, City of Belton

Item 9:
**Regional Broadband
Initiatives**

Updates on Regional Broadband Initiatives

Staff will provide an update on various broadband initiatives and opportunities for the region.

- Texas BDO Regional Working Group Central Texas Region has been established (CTCOG, BVCOG, HOTCOG)
- The BOOT program will see more eligible locations due to SB 1238.
- Local Gov Broadband Roundtable meets virtually on first Thursday of each month at 10am (BDO program). The event link can be found [here](#).
- The BDO is accepting comments for their [Texas Digital Opportunity](#) Plan draft. Public comments are open through January 5th.
- The BDO is developing interactive data dashboards to visualize and understand the geographic and demographic state of digital opportunity across Texas. They are also coordinating virtual bootcamps to prepare communities for funding programs.

Action Needed: No action needed; for discussion only.

Item 10:
Federal & State Updates

Regarding Legislative Updates Pertaining to Economic Development Texas

Legislative Updates

On November 7, there were several propositions on the ballot. The following propositions relate to broadband, economic development, and other relevant topics:

- **Proposition 2** – SJR 64 "The constitutional amendment authorizing a local option exemption from ad valorem taxation by a county or municipality of all or part of the appraised value of real property used to operate a child-care facility." - **Passed**
- **Proposition 5** – HJR 3 "The constitutional amendment relating to the Texas university fund, which provides funding to certain institutions of higher education to achieve national prominence as major research universities and drive the state economy." - **Passed**
- **Proposition 7** – SJR 93 "The constitutional amendment providing for the creation of the Texas energy fund to support the construction, maintenance, modernization, and operation of electric generating facilities." - **Passed**
- **Proposition 8** – HJR 125 "The constitutional amendment creating the broadband infrastructure fund to expand high-speed broadband access and assist in the financing of connectivity projects." - **Passed**

Action Needed: No action needed; for discussion only.

Item 11:

Grant Opportunities

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Other Grant Opportunities

Texas Community Development Block Grant

- **State Urgent Need (SUN) Fund**

Deadline is 1 year from event

Description: Fund is by invitation only. Funds can only be utilized for activities that will restore water or sewer infrastructure whose sudden failure has resulted in either death, illness, injury or pose an imminent threat to life or health within the affected applicant's jurisdiction and the problem being addressed must be of recent origin (no more than 30 days from date of event).

- Match: Varies 70/30-80/20
- Award minimum: \$25,000
- Award maximum: \$350,000

For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

- **Community Development Fund**

Reopens Spring 2025

Description: The objectives of the TxCDBG Program are to improve public facilities to meet basic human needs, principally for low-to-moderate income persons, to improve housing conditions, principally for persons of low-to-moderate income, to expand economic opportunities by creating or retaining jobs, principally for low-to-moderate income persons, to provide assistance and public facilities to eliminate conditions hazardous to the public health and of an emergency nature. Although most funds are used for Public Facilities (water/wastewater infrastructure, street and drainage improvements and housing activities), there are numerous other activities for which these funds may be used. Scoring of applicants will be done by the State out of 200 points, with 150 determined by the Unified Scoring Committee Criteria and TDA State Scoring Factors. 50 points are determined by the applicant's project being one of our region's selected priorities. CTCOG's past priorities have been flood drainage improvements, water/sewer improvements, street improvements, first time public service water/wastewater yard line projects. Non-Federal Match: <2%->20% depending on population.

Award:

- Application Minimum: Single Jurisdiction: \$200,000; Multi-Jurisdiction: \$200,000
- Application Maximum: Single Jurisdiction: \$500,000; Multi-Jurisdiction: \$500,000

Contact Aubrey-Ann Gilmore by email at Aubrey-Ann.Gilmore@TexasAgriculture.gov or by calling (512) 936-7894. For more information, click [here!](#)

- **Downtown Revitalization and Main Street Programs**

Reopens Spring 2025

Description: Addresses the objective of eliminating slum or blight conditions in the downtown area of a city or town. The assistance must be for public infrastructure improvements, which will aid in the elimination of a slum or blighted area. Eligible applicants are cities with less than 50,000 people, and counties with less than 200,000 people, with a designated downtown district satisfying two or more of the following:

- The city's historic area of commerce
- May be the area around the courthouse or city square;
- Commercial area for the community
- Buildings of historical significance, but not primarily residential
- Must be areas included in or contiguous to the economic center of the community; and
- The retail area for the community that does not include single-family dwellings.

Match: Minimum 3.5%

Award Minimum: \$250,000

Award Maximum: \$500,000

Contact Crystal Ortegon by email at

Crystal.Ortegon@TexasAgriculture.gov

For more information, click [here!](#)

- **Planning and Capacity Building Fund**

Reopens 2024

Description: The Planning and Capacity Building Fund is a competitive grant program for local public facility and housing planning activities. Localities apply for financial assistance to prepare a "comprehensive plan" or any of its components. Match depends on population of localities. Grant maximum depends on population of localities

Beneficiary Population	Maximum Grant Amount	Minimum Match Commitment
200 to 1,000 persons	\$35,000	5%
1,001 to 1,500 persons	\$37,500	5%
1,501 to 2,500 persons	\$40,000	10%
2,501 to 5,000 persons	\$45,000	10%
5,001 to 7,500 persons	\$55,000	15%
7,501 to 10,000 persons	\$65,000	15%
10,001 to 25,000 persons	\$75,000	20%
25,000 to 50,000 persons	\$75,000	25%

Contact Aubrey-Ann Gilmore at (512) 936-7894 or Aubrey-Ann.Gilmore@TexasAgriculture.gov.

For more information, click [here!](#)

- **Fire, Ambulance and Services Truck (FAST) Fund**

Reopens 2024

Description: The Fire, Ambulance, & Service Truck (FAST) Fund provides funds for eligible vehicles to provide emergency response and special services to rural communities. Match is 50%. Award amounts are minimum \$50,000 for single and multi-jurisdictional applicants, and maximum \$750,000. Contact Michelle Phares by email at Michelle.Phares@TexasAgriculture.gov or by calling (512) 936-6702. For more information, click [here!](#)

EDA

• **EDA Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs**

Applications Ongoing

Description: These Programs provide funding for cities, counties, states, private and public institutes of higher education, and non-profits for build, design, or engineer critical infrastructure and facilities that will help implement regional development strategies and advance bottom-up economic development goals to promote regional prosperity if aligned with the current 2022-26 CEDS, and any construction and non-construction activities that help communities experiencing or anticipating economic dislocation. Examples of previously funded Public Works projects include:

- Acquisition and development of land and improvements for use in public works or other types of development facilities;
- Design and engineering, construction, rehabilitation, alteration, expansion, or improvement of public works, public service, or related development facilities, including related machinery and equipment;
- Water and sewer system improvements;
- Creation or expansion of industrial parks;
- Creation or expansion of business incubator and accelerator facilities;
- Construction or expansion of facilities for workforce development;
- Redevelopment of brownfield sites;
- Expansion, construction, or improvements of technology-based facilities and research and development commercialization centers, including the procurement of necessary equipment;
- Construction of multi-tenant manufacturing facilities;
- Expansion or improvement of research, business and science parks; and
- Expansion or enhancement of public facilities with higher quality fiber optic cables and
- Telecommunications infrastructure and broadband infrastructure deployment.

Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) projects include infrastructure, design and engineering, technical assistance, economic recovery strategies, and capitalization or re-capitalization of revolving loan funds in regions experiencing adverse economic changes. Examples of prior funded projects include:

- Construction or upgrading of public infrastructure;
- Design and implementation of sectoral partnerships;
- Activities necessary to strengthen cluster acceleration and expansion;
- Capitalization or recapitalization of revolving loan funds (RLFs);
- Enhancement of infrastructure to make it more resilient to natural disasters;
- Implementation of military base realignments and closures (BRAC) responses;

- Procurement of equipment for workforce training programs;
- Market or industry research and analysis for larger hard or soft economic projects;
- Economic development projects that enhance density in the vicinity of other economic development; and
- Development of projects that provide technical assistance to enhance the capacity of key economic development actors in the region to promote the region's locally owned strategies.

Awards are expected to be \$600,000-\$5 million for the Public Works Program and \$150,000-\$2.5 million for the EAA. Match ranges from 50-80% based on the average per capita income and unemployment rate as well as the actual or threatened economic situation of the region where the project is located. For more information and to apply, click [here](#)!

TDA

- **Rural Economic Development Finance Program Texas Rural Community (TRC) Loan**

Application deadline on rolling basis.

Description: The TRC loan provides financing to rural political subdivisions including cities, counties, and special purpose districts as well as EDCs to address economic development priorities, 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%. For more information and to apply, click [here](#)!

LCRA

- **Community Development Partnership Program**

Application period is January 1st-31st, 2024.

Description: Program provides grants of up to \$50,00 for capital improvements projects in its service area, including Coryell, Mills, Hamilton, Lampasas, and San Saba counties. Past projects include improvements for fire departments, emergency response centers, community centers, schools, and libraries. Match is 20%. For more information and to apply, click [here](#)!

USDOL

- **YouthBuild Program**

Deadline to apply is February 1st, 2024

Description: This program will provide \$700,000 to \$1.5 million to ISDs, state governments, counties, local governments, institutes of higher education, special district governments, and nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status for pre-apprenticeship services that support education, occupational skills training, and employment services to opportunity youth, ages 16 to 24, who are performing meaningful work and service to their communities. Applicants must include construction skills training and may include occupational skills training in other in-demand industries. Programs should include:

- Training and curriculum that aligns with the skill needs of employers in the economy of the state or region involved;
- Access to educational and career counseling and other supportive services, directly or indirectly;
- Hands-on, meaningful learning activities that are connected to education and training activities;
- Opportunities to attain at least one industry-recognized credential; and
- A partnership with one or more registered apprenticeship programs that assists in placing individuals in a registered apprenticeship program.

The period of performance is 40 months and match is 25%. For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

SBA

- **7(a) Loans**

Applications are accepted throughout the year

Description: The 7(a) Program is the SBA's most common loan program, and provides up to \$5 million in working capital for for-profit small business, as defined by SBA. Eligibility is determined by income, credit history, and where the business operates. Eligible uses of funds include

- Long- and short-term working capital
- Revolving funds based on the value of existing inventory and receivables
- The purchase of equipment, machinery, furniture, fixtures, supplies, or materials
- The purchase of real estate, including land and buildings
- The construction a new building or renovation an existing building
- Establishing a new business or assisting in the acquisition, operation or expansion of an existing business
- Refinancing existing business debt, under certain conditions

Loan terms are worked out with the SBA. For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

USDA

- **Community Facilities Grant and Loan Program**

Applications are accepted throughout the year

Description: This grant and/or loan is for the purchase, construction, and/or improvement of essential community facilities, including health care facilities such as hospitals and medical clinics, public facilities such as town halls and courthouses, community support services, public safety services, utility services, and local food systems such as community gardens and kitchens. For FY 2022, Texas has approximately \$30 million for loans, and <\$1 million for grants. Eligible recipients include public bodies and community-based nonprofits. Applications are accepted throughout the year. Grant funds portion of project depending on population and median household income of community. Loan repayment terms may not be longer than the useful life of the facility, state statutes, the applicants authority, or a maximum of 40 years, whichever is less. Contact Daniel Torres, Acting State Director at USDA Rural Development Texas, at (254) 742-9700. Non-Federal Match: 25-85% depending on population and median household income of community. For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

- **Community Connect**

Reopens 2024

Description: The Community Connect program provides \$100,000-\$5 million grants to eligible applicants that will provide broadband service in rural, economically-challenged communities where service does not exist. Eligible applicants include:

- Incorporated organizations
- State and local units of government
- Any other legal entity, including cooperatives, private corporations, or limited liability companies organized on a for-profit or not-for-profit basis

Eligible areas must be rural areas that lack any existing broadband speed of at least 25 Mbps downstream and 3 Mbps upstream are eligible. Funds may be used for:

- The construction, acquisition, or leasing of facilities, spectrum, land or buildings used to deploy broadband service
- The cost of providing broadband service free of charge to the critical community facilities for 2 years
- Less than 10% of the grant amount or up to \$150,000 may be used for the improvement, expansion, construction or acquisition of a community center that provides online access to the public

At least 15% match required. Projects must provide 100 Mbps/20 Mbps service. For more information, click [here!](#)

- **Rural Utilities Service Telecommunications Infrastructure Loans and Loan Guarantee:**

Applications are Accepted Throughout the Year

Description: This program provides financing for the construction, maintenance, improvement and expansion of telephone service and broadband in rural areas. Eligible areas include

- Rural areas and towns with a population of 5,000 or less
- Areas without telecommunications facilities or areas where the applicant is the recognized telecommunications provider

Loans are available for improvements, expansions, construction, and acquisition and refinancing in certain cases. For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

- **Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant**

Applications Accepted Year Round

Description: This program helps eligible communities prepare, or recover from, an emergency that threatens the availability of safe, reliable drinking water. Water transmission line grants up to \$150,000 are to construct waterline extensions, repair breaks or leaks in existing water distribution lines, and address related maintenance necessary to replenish the water supply. Water source grants up to \$1,000,000 are to construct a water source, intake or treatment facility. Funds can be obtained in up to 6 months.

- Non-Federal Match: No Match Required
- Award Maximum:
 - Water Transmission Line Grants: \$150,000
 - Water Source Grants: \$1,000,000

For more information and to apply, click [here](#)!

- **Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program**

Applications Accepted Year Round

Description: This program provides \$150,000-approximately \$20 million in long term, low interest loans (and grants if funds are available) for clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage disposal, sanitary solid waste disposal, and storm water drainage to households and businesses in cities with populations less than 10,000. While it is primarily for drinking water sourcing and treatment as well as sewer collection, funds may also be used for start up operations and maintenance. Loan term is 40 years and fixed interest rate is determined by the need for the project and median household of the area to be served. Funds can be obtained in 18-24 months. For more information and to apply, click [here](#)!

- **Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program**

Application deadlines quarterly, with the next deadline being March 31st, 2024

Description: The USDA Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program provides zero-interest loans and grants to current and former eligible Rural Utilities Service borrowers to then use the funds to help local businesses finance projects to create and retain jobs or finance community facility projects. Up to \$300,000 in grants and \$2 million in loans may be requested to establish revolving loan funds. Eligible entities include:

- Nonprofit utilities eligible to receive assistance from the Rural Development Electric or Telecommunication Programs.
- Current Rural Development Electric or Telecommunication Programs borrowers.

Eligible areas are rural with a population of less than 50,000. Eligible projects include:

- Business incubators.
- Community development assistance to nonprofits and public bodies.
- Facilities and equipment to train rural residents to facilitate economic development.
- Start-up venture costs, including real estate, buildings, equipment or working capital.

For more information and to apply, click [here](#)!

- **Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program**

Application Deadlines are quarterly, with the next deadline March 31st, 2024

Description: The USDA's Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program (RMAP) for fiscal year (FY) 2023 provides loans and grants to a non-profit entity, or public institutions of higher education as a Microenterprise Development Organization (MDO) to establish revolving loan funds to provide loans to rural microenterprises and micro entrepreneurs. Loan funds are used by the MDO to establish or recapitalize a revolving loan program for making microloans to a rural microentrepreneur business. Grant funds are used by the MDO to provide technical assistance and entrepreneurship training to rural individuals and businesses. Maximum awards are \$500,000 for loans, and \$100,000 for grants. Match is 15-25%. For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

- **Intermediary Relending Program**

Application Deadlines are quarterly, with the next deadline March 31st, 2024

Description: The USDA's Intermediary Relending Program (IRP) for FY 2023 provides low-interest loans to local lenders or "intermediaries" that re-lend the funds to businesses to improve economic conditions and create new opportunities in rural communities. Eligible applicants include private non-profit corporations, public agencies, or a cooperative entity, identified as eligible intermediary. Maximum loan amounts are expected to be \$1 million. Match will be 25% minimum. For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

- **Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Improvement Guaranteed Loans & Grant Program**

Application Deadlines are quarterly, with the next deadline March 31st, 2024

Description: This program provides loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to make energy efficiency improvements. Projects must be located in rural areas with populations of 50,000 or less. Loan guarantees are available up to 75% of eligible project costs and grants up to 50% of project costs. Grant terms are:

- Renewable Energy System Grants: \$2,500 minimum, \$1 million maximum.
- Energy Efficiency Grants: \$1,500 minimum, \$500,000 maximum.

Match is 50-75% depending on certain criteria. For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

Texas Broadband Development Office

- **Bringing Online Opportunities to Texas (BOOT) Program**

Reopens 2024, Eligibility Will Broaden to Include Low Latency Areas

Description: The BOOT Program has released its NOFA! Eligible applicants, including political subdivisions of the State and broadband service providers are now eligible to apply for \$200,000-\$4,999,999 grants with no required match for broadband infrastructure projects that are designed to deliver 100 Mbps symmetrical service through last mile connections to unserved or underserved areas. Eligible expenses include the repair, rehabilitation, construction, improvement, and acquisition of real property, equipment (e.g., devices and office equipment), and facilities (e.g., telecommunications equipment, including infrastructure for backhaul, middle, and last mile networks). For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

Texas Water Development Board

- **Texas Water Development Fund (DFund)**

Applications are accepted year-round

Description: The Texas Water Development Fund (DFund) is a state funded loan program that enables the Texas Water Development Board to fund multiple eligible components in one loan to borrowers for planning, design, acquisition, and construction of projects for

- Water supply
- Wastewater
- Water quality enhancement.

Loans are 20-30 year fixed interest and projects must be consistent with the current TWDB State Water Plan. To apply, reach out to one of the TWDB's Regional Project Implementation Teams to determine if the proposed project is eligible. For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

- **Flood Mitigation Assistance Grant Program**

Applications are due January 8th, 2024.

Description: This program provides funding to help states and communities pay for cost effective ways to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk of flood damage to repetitive loss and severe repetitive loss structures covered by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). \$800 million is available for the FY 2023 program for political subdivisions that are in good standing with the NFIP with a FEMA approved and locally adopted Hazard Mitigation Plan for structures that have active NFIP flood insurance policies to:

- Develop or update the Flood Hazard component of a community's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (limited to \$25,000 in federal funding per sub applicant).
- Develop flood risk reduction projects and/or individual flood mitigation projects (limited to \$900,000 in federal funding per sub application).
- Partnership development, enhancing local floodplain management, severe repetitive loss/repetitive loss strategy plan development.
- Acquisition and demolition or relocation of structures.
- Mitigation reconstruction.
- Localized flood risk reduction (drainage and stormwater) projects (limited to \$50,000,000 in federal funding per sub application).
- Dry flood-proofing of non-residential properties and historic residential properties.
- Structural retrofitting of existing buildings, and infrastructure retrofits.

Match ranges from 0% (if project mitigates a severe repetitive loss property) to 25%. For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

Office of the Governor

- **Event Trust Fund Program**

Application Period Rolling

Description: The Event Trust Program can assist Texas communities with paying costs related to preparing for or conducting an event by depositing projected gains in various local and state taxes generated from the event in a dedicated event-specific trust fund to cover allowable expenses. Eligible entities include municipalities, counties, or non-profit local organizing committees endorsed by a Texas municipality or county which has been selected to host a qualified event. Applicants must contribute \$1 in local tax gains for every \$6.25 the state contributes to the fund. Events Trust Fund grant awards are disbursed on a reimbursement basis following a review by the Governor's Office of submitted costs after the completion of the qualified event. One-hundred percent of allowable expenses may be funded, provided sufficient tax receipts are deposited in the trust fund. The program is funded through event-generated tax increase; there is no maximum or minimum amount of funds available. For more information and to apply, click [here](#)!

Texas Workforce Commission

- **Skills for Small Business for Employers**

Apply All Year

Description: Through the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Skills for Small Business program, up to \$2 million from the Skills Development Fund is dedicated to training for employees of small employers. Small businesses can apply to TWC for training offered by their local community or technical college, or the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX). TWC processes the applications and works with the college to fund the specific courses selected by businesses for their employees. This opportunity supports businesses with fewer than 100 employees and emphasizes training for new workers though it also may help upgrade the skills of incumbent workers.

- Skills for Small Business emphasizes training newly hired employees, those who have been hired by the business up to twelve months prior to the date that TWC receives an application.
- The program pays up to \$1,800 for each new employee being trained and \$900 for existing employees per 12-month period.
- Funding for training is for full-time employees.
- All training must be provided by a public community or technical college, or the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX). No third-party vendor training is allowed.
- Training must be selected from active course catalogs/schedules— credit, continuing education, online or other available unpublished courses.
- Employers must pay the prevailing wages in the local labor market for the trainees funded under the grant.

For more information and to apply, click [here](#)!

Texas Parks and Wildlife

- **Local Parks Grant Programs**

Application deadline August 1st, Annual

Description: TPWD administers the Local Parks Grant Programs consisting of 5 individual programs that assist local units of government with the acquisition and/or development of public recreation areas and facilities. Match is 50%. The five programs are:

- Local Parks Urban Outdoor Recreation: Up to \$1.5 million
- Local Parks Non-Urban Outdoor Recreation: \$750,000
- Local Parks Small Community Recreation: \$150,000
- Local Parks Urban Indoor Recreation: \$1.5 million, Application deadline TBD
- Local Parks Non-Urban Indoor Recreation: \$1 million, Application Deadline TBD

For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

TX-PACE Program

Description: The Texas Property Assessed Clean Energy Program (TX-PACE) is a long term financing tool for improvements to energy efficiency, water-conservation, and on-site generation for commercial, industrial, and multifamily properties. The program allows property owners to finance 100% of their project costs with private funding paid off through a senior lien as long as the useful life of the equipment, allowing all PACE Projects to be cashflow positive. A non-profit, Texas PACE Authority, can administer the financing and is paid a user fee by the property owner. The Texas Pace Authority has also created a “PACE in a Box” toolkit for local governments to use to create uniform and sustainable local PACE programs. For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

Communities Unlimited Financing

Description: Communities Unlimited is a non-profit U.S. Treasury-certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) that finances small businesses, water and waste wastewater projects, and community facilities projects for nonprofit corporations and local government entities. Financing for water/community facilities projects will be up to \$750,000 at 6% interest and for small businesses \$1,000-\$100,000 at around 3% interest with a turnaround time on receiving funds of several months. Eligible recipients must serve a significant number of low-income customers and have a population of less than 20,000.

- Small Business Loans can be used for working capital, equipment purchase, and business purchase.
- Community Facilities projects include public facilities such as town halls, courthouses, fire departments and/or fire trucks, safety services, etc.
- Water and wastewater projects must improve public health and system security, extend service to new customers or improve service to existing customers, and create opportunities for economic development.

For more information and to apply, click [here!](#)

OneStar Foundation

- **AmeriCorps Program**

Deadline to apply is February 1st, 2024

This program provides grants to support the development of an AmeriCorps program and AmeriCorps member positions that engage members in service to meet critical needs in Texas. Project periods are for three years with continuation grants required for the second and third year. Eligible applicants include local governments, ISDs, nonprofits, and institutions of higher education. AmeriCorps VISTA areas include disaster services, economic opportunity, and education.

For more information and to apply, click [here](#)!

Websites:

Texas Economic Development Council: <https://texasedc.org/>

American Planning Association: <https://planning.org/>

Texas Department of Agriculture: <https://texasagriculture.gov/>

Grants.Gov: <https://www.grants.gov/>

EDA: <https://www.eda.gov/>

USDA: <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/all-programs/telecom-programs>

USDOT: <https://www.transportation.gov/bipartisan-infrastructure-law>

Texas PACE Authority: <https://www.texaspaceauthority.org/>

Texas Office of the Governor Economic Development: <https://gov.texas.gov/business>

Texas Parks and Wildlife: <https://tpwd.texas.gov>

National Telecommunications and Information Administration: <https://www.ntia.doc.gov/>

Texas Water Development Board: <https://www.twdb.texas.gov/>

Texas Workforce Commission: <https://www.twc.texas.gov/>

Department of Housing and Urban Development: <https://www.hud.gov/>

Staff requests discussion of other grants that DDCT would like to make known to the region.

Action Needed: No action needed; for discussion only.

DDCT Board Members

DDCT Board Membership 2023 Contact Information

Name	Board position	County Represented	Title	Organization	Address	Email	Phone
Cynthia Hernandez		Bell	Executive Director	Belton EDC	2180 N. Main Belton, TX 76513	chernandez@beltonedc.org	254-770-2270
Bobby Whitson		Bell	Bell County Commissioner, Pct.2	Bell County Commissioners Court	3305 E. Elms Rd. Killeen TX 76542	bobby.whitson@bellcounty.texas.gov	254-690-2274
Ginger Watkins		Milam	Economic Development Director	Cameron Industrial Foundation	102 E. First Cameron TX 76520	gwatkins@cameronindustrialfoundation.com	254-697-4970
Dean Roome		Bell	Municipal Development District Board Member	City of Bartlett	140 W Clark St Bartlett TX 76511	deana001@aol.com	254-527-3219
Charley Ayres		Bell	Director, Industry/Education Partnership	Workforce Solutions of Central Texas	200 Main St. Belton, TX 76513	charley.ayres@workforcesolutionsctx.com	972-983-1411
Cheri Shepherd		Coryell	Director	City of Gatesville Convention and Visitor's Bureau	110 N 8th St, Gatesville, TX 76528	cshepherd@gatesvilletx.com	(254)499-0102
Ted Gonzalez	Vice-Chair	Bell	Associate Deputy Chancellor	Business Services at Central Texas College	Academic Dr, Killeen, TX 76549	ted.gonzalez@ctcd.edu	254.526.1668
Jim Gibson		Milam	Economic Development	Rockdale Municipal Development District	134 North Main Street, Rockdale, TX 76687	jim.gibson@rockdalemdd.org	
Michael Boyd		Bell	Councilmember	City of Killeen		mboyd@killeentexas.gov	254-952-7837
Brian O'Connor		Bell	Director	City of Nolanville EDC	101 N 5th Street	boconnor@nolanvilletx.gov	
Jason Johnson		Bell	Owner	JJ Realty Group	Morgan's Point Resort, TX, 76513	jasonj@jirealtygroup.com	(254)541-0318
Stacey Ybarra		Lampasas	Economic Development Director	City of Lampasas	312 E. Third St. Lampasas, TX 76550	sybarra@cityoflampasas.com	512-556-6831
Dexter Morris	Chair	Mills	City Manager	City of Mullin	105 N. 3rd Street Mullin, TX 76864	dexter.morris.tx@gmail.com	(325) 985-3909

Bell, Milam, Hamilton,
Coryell, Lampasas, and = Counties represented by Board Members
Mills

End of Packet