



Development District of Central Texas

**April 6th, 2023
9:30 a.m.**

Agenda



Development District of Central Texas

Thursday, April 6th, 2023

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: [+1 255-230-469](#)

Access Code: 255-230-469

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Opportunity for Public Comment.
3. Staff Update (*Pages 1-4*)
4. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding Approval of Meeting Minutes from the January 5th Meeting. (*Pages 5-10*)
5. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding Approval of New Board Members. (*Pages 11-14*)
6. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding Approval of 2023 Leadership Central Texas Applications. (*Pages 15-18*)
7. **Discussion and Action Item:** Regarding Approval of 2023 Rural Internship Program Applications. (*Pages 19-24*)
8. **Discussion Item:** Regarding 2022-2026 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Implementation. (*Pages 25-28*)
9. **Discussion Item:** Regarding Furthering TDA and TDHCA Fair Housing Efforts. (*Pages 29-36*)
10. **Discussion Item:** Regarding Updates on Regional Broadband Initiatives. (*Pages 37-38*)
11. **Discussion Item:** Regarding Federal and State Legislative Updates Pertaining to Economic Development. (*Pages 39-42*)
12. **Discussion Item:** Regarding Updates on Grant Opportunities. (*Pages 43-57*)

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 DDCT 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.



13. Board of Director's Comments.

14. Other Business: Next meeting date Thursday, July 6th, 2023, at 9:30 AM.

15. Adjourn.

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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 managing the Discover Central Texas Tourism Project, marketing listings and events updated by cities on the site. Advertising for Facebook/Instagram has continued at \$10/day. Currently \$1,062.40 have been spent over 107 days, with 3,233 Facebook page likes.
- Staff has continued publishing two weekly newsletters on
 - Economic Development grants, resources and webinars;
 - Economic Development regional highlights, and events.And a biweekly newsletter on 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, TxCBDG grant programs for public infrastructure, 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.
- Bell and Coryell Counties are working with the procured consultant, the Foresite Group, utilizing ARPA funds to address broadband in their counties.
- Staff is assisting the City of Cameron with reimbursements for engineering fees and completing required documentation for construction bid submittal for their EDA grant.
- Staff is now administering an EDA grant for the City of Belton for their Rockwool project.
- Staff completed and submitted a FY 2023 RAISE grant application for the City of Cameron.
- Staff is applying for the TxCBDG Community Development Fund for the cities of Mullin and Copperas Cove.
- Staff is applying for the EDA Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs for the cities of Little River Academy and Rogers.

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- Staff continues to provide technical assistance to communities for grant applications and general resource requests, particularly for the TxCDBG Community Development Fund and Downtown Revitalization Program.
 - CTCOG will be running the Central Texas Public Transportation Summit on April 26th at Copperas Cove Civic Center with Reinvent Healthy and United Way Central Texas to bring together public transportation stakeholders across the region for workforce, education, economic, healthcare, childcare and others to discuss needs and brainstorm solutions.
 - \$1000 was spent over 81 days for Leadership Central Texas and Rural Internship Programs' advertisements on Facebook. Notification of the programs was also sent out to regional contacts and posted in county courthouses.
 - Staff completed addition and update of industry, workforce, and economic asset data to CTCOG and DDCT website.

Workforce Solutions of Central Texas Q4 2022 Economic Snapshot for CTCOG Region:

- **Unemployment Rate:** As of December 2022, the unemployment rate is 3.94%, a decrease from the 4.21% rate at the end of Q4, 2022.
- **Workforce:** 201,146
- **Exports:** \$48.93 billion; a decrease from Q4 2022's \$49.44 billion.
- **Total Jobs Increase:** From 2017 to 2022, jobs increased by 1.7% from 198,355 to 201,641. This change fell short of the national growth rate of 2.4% by 0.7%.
- **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.

Action Needed: For Discussion Only.

Item 4:
Meeting Minutes



**Development District of Central Texas
Board of Directors**

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

Thursday, January 5, 2023—9:30 AM

Board Members Present:

Jamie LaDuke: Hamilton EDC
Ted Gonzalez: Central Texas College
Brian O'Connor: Nolanville EDC
Dean Roome: Bartlett Municipal Development District
Cynthia Hernandez: Belton EDC
Cheri Shepherd: Gatesville Convention and Visitor's Bureau
Charley Ayres: Workforce Solutions of Central Texas
Jim Gibson: Rockdale Municipal Development District
Michael Boyd: City of Killeen

Others Present:

Uryan Nelson: CTCOG
Anna Barge: CTCOG
Dominic Elizondo: CTCOG
Hope Geiger: KTMPO
Connie Quinto: CTCOG
Anita Janke: KTMPO
James McGill: KTMPO
Linda Bridges: City of Morgan's Point Resort
Jason Johnson: JJ Realty Group

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Cynthia Hernandez, Vice Chair of the Board, at 9:31 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 the advertising of the Discover Central Texas website and social media, the Opportunity Zone Summit, economic development newsletters, the Milam County Annex grant completion, EDA grant administration for Belton and Cameron, plans for an EDA FIRE event in early 2023, and other economic updates from Workforce Solutions' Economic Snapshot for Q3 of 2022. Uryan Nelson provided an update on the \$1.7 trillion appropriations bill for FY 2023, including \$800 billion in non-defense funding. Agriculture and rural development has nearly \$4 billion allocated to it, including \$455 million for broadband infrastructure; there is also \$1.7 billion for rural water and wastewater

infrastructure, business and industry loan funding, and \$11.2 billion in discretionary funding for the Department of Commerce (including \$498 million for the EDA). Cynthia Hernandez asked if our rural communities are active in applying for resources like this and if they are able to meet local matches. Mr. Nelson responded that for some programs communities are able to utilize in kind labor or waivers to meet matches, but another hindrance is the amount of staff time and work to complete grant applications. Mr. Nelson said CTCOG staff may assist where needed to help with grants. Ms. Hernandez suggested that when a notice is sent out of what is being funded by the appropriations bill that staff also let cities know that they are there as a resource for applying.

4. Discussion and Action Item: Regarding Approval of Meeting Minutes from the October 6th, 2022 Meeting.

Michael Boyd made a motion to approve the minutes, and it was seconded by Jamie LaDuke; the motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion and Action Item: Regarding Approval of New Board Member

A new member was before the Board for approval-Jason Johnson, the owner of JJ Realty Group in Morgan's Point Resort, as a replacement for Stan Briggs. Mr. Johnson introduced himself to the Board. Jamie LaDuke made a motion to approve his application to the Board, and Michael Boyd seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Discussion and Action Item: Regarding Approval of 2023 Leadership Central Texas and Rural Internship Programs

Dominic Elizondo provided an overview of the Leadership Central Texas and Rural Internship programs. Mr. Elizondo noted the only difference in the applications for 2023 was the deadline, now Mar.31, and the dates. Mr. Elizondo said that if they were approved, marketing could begin for the program.

Cynthia Hernandez asked how many applicants Leadership Central Texas had for 2022 and how it was marketed before. Mr. Elizondo said that there were 8 applicants in 2022 and notification of the program was sent out to city managers, county secretaries, EDCs, and Chambers, advertised in the Temple Daily Telegram and Killeen Herald, as well as posted on Facebook. Ms. Hernandez asked if the requirement was that participants must have previously attended a local leadership program and Mr. Elizondo clarified that there are three requirements, one being if they participated in a prior program and another including anyone with an interest in becoming a leader in the region. Ms. Hernandez asked how many students participated in the Rural Internship Program last year, and Mr. Elizondo said only one since the Kay Theatre at Rockdale had to return their scholarship since they could not obtain an intern. Mr. Elizondo also noted that a change in the Rural Internship Program for 2023 was that the requirement that the city population of the applicant be 20,000 or less is now based off of the 2020 Census. Michael Boyd asked what the participation goal was for Leadership Central Texas and Mr. Elizondo stated that there was no specific number CTCOG was looking for, but they would like more. Mr. Boyd suggested 20-25 participants as a goal. Cynthia Hernandez said that the initial idea for Leadership Central Texas was that it would function as the regional step up to local leadership programs and that staff should take note of how and to who the program is being promoted, maybe by visiting local leadership program graduations and reaching out to graduates. Uryan Nelson said promotion should be easier this year with CTCOG's more active social media presence. Dominic Elizondo said it was a possibility to advertise the program

through paid advertising on Facebook, similar to Discover Central Texas. Ms. Hernandez said that Leadership Central Texas was a great way to introduce rural community members to what regional resources are available, with Charley Ayres emphasizing that it shows participants the scope of what central Texas is, rather than just thinking in terms of their local communities. Mr. Ayres then asked when the last time the hourly rate for the Rural Internship Program was evaluated and Mr. Elizondo responded that interns were not required to be paid \$7.25 an hour and that the wording in the application was to give applicants an idea of how many hours the intern could work. Mr. Ayres suggested changing the scholarship up to \$1,000 and maybe reducing the number of awardees to two instead of four. Ms. Hernandez said that the program was not receiving many applicants and she was not sure if that was a result of the scholarship only being \$500. Mr. Elizondo noted he was also unsure as the program is marketed the same as Leadership Central Texas. Jason Johnson asked if there was a limit on the number of interns an awardee could have and Mr. Elizondo stated there was none, but the scholarship would have to be split up among the interns. Mr. Ayres suggested marketing the program to school districts as well. Mr. Nelson asked if there was one individual at Workforce Solutions that staff could send information to to distribute among CTE programs in schools. Mr. Ayres said that staff could send it to him and Workforce Solutions could distribute it. Jamie LaDuke asked if the number of awardees would be limited to two or if there were more applicants would they be accepted. Mr. Elizondo said that there would be money in the DDCT budget to accept more, and Mr. Nelson suggested that if there are more applicants that the Board decides whether to approve the additional applications based on the budget. Jim Gibson said that \$500 was too low as from a competitive standpoint students would be asked to give up a large part of their summer to work for a small amount instead of working a job that pays more. Ms. Hernandez suggested the idea of the program was not to compete with a job since overall the amount of hours they work would be small and the purpose would be to supplement economic development activity for a city. Ms. LaDuke said removing the hourly rate wording in the application and adding in the word "stipend." Mr. Ayres said it would be better to outline the rate students would be paid hourly up front to attract more, and Mr. Elizondo noted that since the program is marketed to cities staff didn't have a required hourly rate in the marketing as the awardees would market their own hourly rate to students directly. Ms. Hernandez said that the application could include an hourly range requirement so that students aren't spending the whole summer on a project and the student knows how long he or she would be working as an intern. Ms. Hernandez suggested two \$1,000 scholarships with a range of 60 to 100 hours and the Board voiced agreement. A motion to approve both applications, including the removal of the hourly rate example and changing 2010 Census to 2020 as well as the scholarship increase and hourly range in the Rural Internship Application was made by Cheri Shepherd. Motion was seconded by Michael Boyd.

7. Discussion Item: Regarding Updates on the 2022-2026 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Implementation

Dominic Elizondo gave an overview on the implementation of the 2022-2026 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Action Plan Matrix throughout 2022, including the top five accomplishments: the Small Town Summit series, Veteran Employer Summit, Opportunity Zone Summit, the Newly Elected Officials Class, and Discover Central Texas. Mr. Elizondo noted that an ad campaign was started for Discover Central Texas after approval at the October meeting for \$10/day ads, resulting in 23,284 people being reached by the ads. Mr. Elizondo explained that around Dec.11 likes and visits to the Discover Central Texas page increased greatly due to the target audiences being changed to Texas and surrounding states.

The page had 1,415 visits and 711 likes. Many of the followers of the page were 35-54 year old females, due to Facebook users being skewed towards that demographic. Mr. Elizondo said that the Board can look at the long form accomplishments document with a list of everything accomplished, what strategies are recurring each year, and which staff is currently working on. Mr. Elizondo said that the CEDS Workshop would be Jan. 12th and the Board will determine what objectives and strategies are priorities and what specifically they would like staff to do to implement strategies, as well as amend the CEDS if needed.

Cynthia Hernandez said she wanted to know if attendance was good for the summits staff held and if surveys were sent afterwards. Connie Quinto responded that no formal surveys were sent for feedback afterwards, only more information and copies of presentations, though some attendees sent feedback. Jim Gibson asked if EDA grants required that projects need to be aligned with the CEDS to which Uryan stated they did need to be aligned. Anna Barge noted that there were 122 attendees across all Small Town Sessions.

8. Discussion Item: Regarding Updates on Regional Broadband Initiatives

Dominic Elizondo briefly discussed the State Broadband Plan and plans for a new grant program. The FCC also released new broadband maps and were receiving comments until mid-January. The NTIA also awarded \$8.1 million to Texas for the BEAD program to plan for deploying broadband.

Charley Ayres asked about the situation with Bell County and broadband, and Uryan Nelson said that a couple of years ago CTCOG applied for funding to do a regional broadband plan but the EDA ran out of funding for the project, but Bell and Coryell counties were now working with a consultant selected by CTCOG to plan for deploying broadband. The other counties will be working with CTCOG to obtain funding for broadband initiatives.

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

Dominic Elizondo discussed the IIJA and ARPA, and the opening of the Texas legislature session.

Cynthia Hernandez asked if staff were members of TEDC because they provide information on legislative actions relevant to economic development and staff responded that they were not but would look into receiving their updates.

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 TxCDBG Community Development Fund and Downtown Revitalization Program, the USDOT RAISE grant, the FEMA BRIC and Flood Mitigation Assistance Program, the USDA Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program, and the TWDB State Water Implementation Fund (SWIFT).

Cynthia Hernandez asked if RAISE projects have to be on the KTMPO Metropolitan Transportation plan, and Uryan Nelson responded that they did not have to be.

11. Board of Directors' Comments.

Ted Gonzalez asked if CTCOG had done any type of impact study for certain types of businesses coming in the region and around such as Samsung in Taylor, and how it might impact areas such as in real estate and broadband. Dominic Elizondo said he would look at Williamson County and see if they had any type of study done for their county. Cynthia Hernandez said that Belton's area is seeing an impact on business and investment growth due to Samsung and Meta.

12. Discuss agenda items for next meeting on Thursday, April 6th, 2023, at 9:30 AM.

13. Adjourned at 11:20 AM

Ginger Watkins, DDCT Chair

Uryan Nelson, Planning Director

Item 5:

**Regarding Approval of
New Board Members**

Regarding Approval of New Board Members

Summary:

Dexter Morris, city manager for the city of Mullin, and Stacey Ybarra, the economic development director for the city of Lampasas, have Letters of Support submitted for their application to the Board. The Letters of Support are included in the packet for Board approval.

Action Needed: Approval of New Board Members.

March 15, 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 Stacey Ybarra, Economic Development Director, to represent the City of Lampasas on the Development District of Central Texas Board. Stacey Ybarra 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 mistitalbert@yahoo.com.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Misti Talbert", written in a cursive style.

Misti Talbert
LEDC President
City of Lampasas
Texas, 76550

CITY OF MULLIN
PO BOX 93
MULLIN, TEXAS 76864

March 28, 2023

Central Texas Council of Governments
Attn: Dominic Elizondo
PO Box 729
Belton, Texas 76513

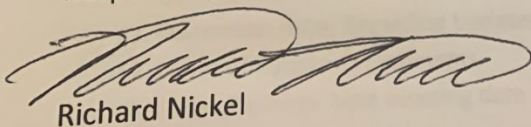
RE: Development District of Central Texas (DDCT)

Mr. Elizondo,

I would like to nominate Dexter Morris, City Manager, to represent the City of Mullin on the Development District of Central Texas Board. Dexter will be a great asset. He 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 325 647-1010.

Respectfully,



Richard Nickel

Councilman

Item 6:

**Regarding Approval of
2023 Leadership Central
Texas Applications.**

Regarding Approval of 2023 Leadership Central Texas Applications

Summary:

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 to identify and develop regional leaders and to promote awareness of regional/state leadership opportunities, including Government and CTCOG planning services, regional infrastructure and social services, and economic development planning.

The FY 2023 program opened for applications January 5th, 2023 after Board approval. Applications and advertisements were sent out in emails to regional city managers, county secretaries, EDC and chamber directors, and CTCOG department directors. \$500 was spent on boosting a Facebook advertisement for Leadership Central Texas for 81 days. Notices were posted in county courthouses as well.

The program has received 14 applications for 2023! The applications are from:

Applicant Name	Employment	City of Employment	City of Residence	Best Skill, Career, or Personal Achievement?
Amy Merriman	Texell Credit Union	Temple	Rogers	Ran volunteer group of Texell employees to serve community as well as career development for staff.
Bobby Ehrig	Citizens for Progress	Temple	Temple	Advocacy on local, state, and federal level to obtain \$6.4 million in funding for Veteran Transitional and Permanent Housing program in Albuquerque. Also advocated for two passed laws in Texas for utility discount for veterans with severe burns and complications.
Carmen Sanchez	Lions Club Park Senior Center Resin Art Class	Killeen	Killeen	Coordinator for learning development for students and teachers.

Jeff Harris	Joe Bland Construction	Austin	Belton	Gained reputation as "Fixer" at Caterpillar dealership, moving to correct each department and becoming top performer.
Kayla Schraub	Hamilton Main Street Program	Hamilton	Hamilton	Becoming Main Street Manager for Hamilton
Becky Sims	City of Lampasas	Lampasas	Lampasas	Developing career from utility clerk to administrative secretary to assistant and then city secretary.
Linda Angel	Workforce Solutions of Central Texas	Belton	Harker Heights	Worked on the Board of the Texas Board of Quality Examiners, as well as their Examiner and for the Texas Quality Foundation's Board of Judges.
Anita Miscavage	Workforce Solutions of Central Texas	Temple	Salado	Becoming Operations Manager for Workforce Solutions in Temple.
Regina Baker	San Saba County Chamber of Commerce	San Saba	San Saba	Created new events and meetings for Chamber over two years, began increasing instead of decreasing membership.
Risha Sexton	N/A	N/A	Harker Heights	Will soon graduate with a master's degree from Vanderbilt as Nurse Practitioner, and Clinton Global Initiative University Fellow.
Sandra Wooten	N/A	N/A	Killeen	Raising three children as a single mother, Being a licensed foster mom for 15 years, and Woman of the Year award for State of Michigan.
Jared Porritt	Workforce Solutions of Central Texas	Belton	Salado	Project Management and Jack-of-all-trades, organized and ran teams in combat and for events around central Texas.

Sunshine Sanchez	Office Attorney General	of Temple	Belton	Working as Ombudsman for Office of Attorney General and engage with community cases.
Tik Lucas	N/A	N/A	Temple	MBA from Panyapiwat Institute of Management in Thailand, strong community involvement with disseminating community health information and organizing events such as National Children' Day, moving to America to work as Asst. CEO of Marketing for Saruncare Group

Action Needed: Approval of 2023 Leadership Central Texas Applicants.

Item 7:
Regarding Approval of 2023
Rural Internship Program
Applications.

Regarding Approval of 2023 Rural Internship Program Applications.

Summary:

The Rural Internship Program is a grant program offering \$1000 scholarships to rural (population of 20,000 or less) EDCs, chambers, cities, or other organizations dedicated to promoting local economic development for high school junior or senior interns to work on economic development projects for the community.

The FY 2023 program opened for applications January 5th, 2023 after Board approval. Applications and advertisements were sent out in emails to regional city managers, county secretaries, EDC and chamber directors, and CTCOG department directors. \$500 was spent on boosting a Facebook advertisement for the Rural Internship Program for 81 days. Notices were posted in county courthouses as well.

The program has received three applications for 2023 from the Hamilton EDC, Cameron Chamber and EDC, and San Saba Chamber! The applications are included as supplemental attachments for review.

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Intern Hours</u>	<u>Reason for Intern</u>
Hamilton EDC	2 hours/day, 10 hours/week	Social media marketing campaigns for summer and fall events, event planning, assist with on-site social media workshops.
Cameron EDC and Chamber	5 hours/day, 25 hours/week	Planning, preparation, and marketing for Cameron Air Show and Steak, Stein, and Wein.
San Saba Chamber	100 hours total	Planning and organizing events, updating business information and contacts, assisting in preparation of Board meetings, sharing business posts on social media.

Action Needed: Approval of 2023 Rural Internship Program Applicants.

Week Ending	Other Expenditure Budget After
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11/30/2022	\$7,513
12/7/2022	\$7,443
12/14/2022	\$7,373
12/21/2022	\$7,303
12/28/2022	\$7,233
1/4/2023	\$7,163
1/11/2023	\$7,093
1/18/2023	\$7,023
1/25/2023	\$6,953
2/1/2023	\$6,883
2/8/2023	\$6,813
2/15/2023	\$6,743
2/22/2023	\$6,673
3/1/2023	\$6,603
3/8/2023	\$6,533
15-Mar	\$6,463
3/22/2023	\$6,393
3/29/2023	\$6,323

*Withdrawing \$1000 total for Leadership
Central Texas and Rural Internship boosted post
costs for Jan.10-Mar.31, 2023

4/5/2023	\$5,253
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*Withdrawing \$3000 for Rural Internship
Program scholarships (could be more depending
on how many awards we want to make)

4/12/2023	\$2,183
4/19/2023	\$2,113
4/26/2023	\$2,043
5/3/2023	\$1,973
5/10/2023	\$1,903
5/17/2023	\$1,833
5/24/2023	\$1,763
5/31/2023	\$1,693
6/7/2023	\$1,623
6/14/2023	\$1,553
6/21/2023	\$1,483
6/28/2023	\$1,413
7/5/2023	\$1,343
7/12/2023	\$1,273
7/19/2023	\$1,203
7/26/2023	\$1,133
8/2/2023	\$1,063

8/9/2023	\$993
8/16/2023	\$923
8/23/2023	\$853
8/30/2023	\$783
9/6/2023	\$713
9/13/2023	\$643
9/20/2023	\$573
9/27/2023	\$503
10/4/2023	\$433
10/11/2023	\$363
10/18/2023	\$293
10/25/2023	\$223
11/1/2023	\$153
11/8/2023	\$83
11/15/2023	\$13
11/22/2023	(\$57)
11/29/2023	(\$127)
12/6/2023	(\$197)
12/13/2023	(\$267)
12/20/2023	(\$337)
12/27/2023	(\$407)
1/3/2024	(\$477)
1/10/2024	(\$547)
1/17/2024	(\$617)
1/24/2024	(\$687)
1/31/2024	(\$757)
2/7/2024	(\$827)
2/14/2024	(\$897)
2/21/2024	(\$967)
2/22/2024	(\$977)
2/23/2024	(\$987)
2/24/2024	(\$997)

Week Ending	Other Expenditure Budget After
11/30/2022	\$7,513
12/7/2022	\$7,443
12/14/2022	\$7,373
12/21/2022	\$7,303
12/28/2022	\$7,233
1/4/2023	\$7,163
1/11/2023	\$7,093
1/18/2023	\$7,023
1/25/2023	\$6,953
2/1/2023	\$6,883
2/8/2023	\$6,813
2/15/2023	\$6,743
2/22/2023	\$6,673
3/1/2023	\$6,603
3/8/2023	\$6,533
15-Mar	\$6,463
3/22/2023	\$6,393
3/29/2023	\$6,323
4/5/2023	\$5,253
4/12/2023	\$3,183
4/19/2023	\$3,113
4/26/2023	\$3,043
5/3/2023	\$2,973
5/10/2023	\$2,903
5/17/2023	\$2,833
5/24/2023	\$2,763
5/31/2023	\$2,693
6/7/2023	\$2,623
6/14/2023	\$2,553
6/21/2023	\$2,483
6/28/2023	\$2,413
7/5/2023	\$2,343
7/12/2023	\$2,273
7/19/2023	\$2,203
7/26/2023	\$2,133
8/2/2023	\$2,063
8/9/2023	\$1,993
8/16/2023	\$1,923
8/23/2023	\$1,853
8/30/2023	\$1,783

*Withdrawing \$1000 total for Leadership
Central Texas and Rural Internship boosted post
costs for Jan.10-Mar.31, 2023

*Withdrawing \$2000 for Rural Internship
Program scholarships (could be more
depending on how many awards we want to
make)

9/6/2023	\$1,713
9/13/2023	\$1,643
9/20/2023	\$1,573
9/27/2023	\$1,503
10/4/2023	\$1,433
10/11/2023	\$1,363
10/18/2023	\$1,293
10/25/2023	\$1,223
11/1/2023	\$1,153
11/8/2023	\$1,083
11/15/2023	\$1,013
11/22/2023	\$943
11/29/2023	\$873
12/6/2023	\$803
12/13/2023	\$733
12/20/2023	\$663
12/27/2023	\$593
1/3/2024	\$523
1/10/2024	\$453
1/17/2024	\$383
1/24/2024	\$313
1/31/2024	\$243
2/7/2024	\$173
2/14/2024	\$103
2/21/2024	\$33
2/22/2024	\$23
2/23/2024	\$13
2/24/2024	\$3

Item 8:
Regarding Updates on the
2022-2026
Comprehensive Economic
Development Strategy
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 6th, 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 “Develop a strong regionally-based business marketing effort.” The strategies under this objective are to:

- 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.
- Hold Opportunity Zone investment forums to generate interest in specific development projects and connect investors with developers.
- Develop a regionally-based tourism marketing effort promoting area destinations, downtowns, and outdoor assets.
- Integrate messaging about the Fort Hood talent base into business attraction marketing efforts.

Action Needed: For Discussion Only.

Audience

Age and Gender

Men 28.20%
Women 71.80%



Location

Cities

Countries

Temple, TX	219
Killeen, TX	181
San Antonio, TX	96
Copperas Cove, TX	86
Harker Heights, TX	75
Austin, TX	74
Houston, TX	63
Fort Worth, TX	59
Belton, TX	56
Fort Hood, TX	45

Ad Center

Summary ⓘ

Last 60 days ▾

Dominic Elizondo spent \$592.26 on 1 ad in the last 60 days.



Reach



39,707

[View details](#)



Post engagement



937

[View details](#)



Link clicks



488

[View details](#)



Page Likes



1,674

[View details](#)

Ads

● Active



[View results](#)

Page likes

Find out everything Central Texas has to offer for your next ...



58,851

Reach

3,272

Page Likes

\$1,080.83

Spent at \$10.00 per day

[Advertise](#)

[Show more details in Ads Manager](#) ⓘ

Item 9:
Regarding Furthering TDA
and TDHCA Fair Housing
Efforts

Regarding Furthering TDA and TDHCA Fair Housing Efforts

The Central Texas Council of Governments (CTCOG) is contracted with the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) for their Community Economic Development Assistance Fund (CEDAF) grant to provide technical assistance, TDA program dissemination, Section 3 outreach, and Fair Housing events.

A discussion of fair housing requirements for TxCDBG grant recipients and ways communities can further TDA and Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) fair housing efforts is included as a Fair Housing event.

Staff will provide a brief presentation on fair housing for the Board to discuss.

Action Needed: For Discussion Only.

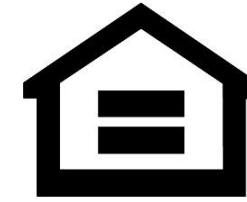
Fair Housing, Local Governments, and TxCDBG Recipients

Fair Housing Month

Texas Community Development Block Grant

Federal Fair Housing Act

- Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968
- Protects right to rent or buy apartments or homes and mortgages free from discrimination.
- Applies to cities and local governments- prohibits from zoning or land use policies that exclude or discriminate against protected persons.
- Includes protection against refusal to permit reasonable modification to premises for handicapped persons or reasonable accommodation in rules and policies necessary for equal opportunity.



EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY

**We Do Business in Accordance With the Federal Fair
Housing Law**

(The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988)

**It is illegal to Discriminate Against Any Person
Because of Race, Color, Religion, Sex,
Handicap, Familial Status, or National Origin**

- | | |
|--|--|
| ■ In the sale or rental of housing or residential lots | ■ In the provision of real estate brokerage services |
| ■ In advertising the sale or rental of housing | ■ In the appraisal of housing |
| ■ In the financing of housing | ■ Blockbusting is also illegal |

Anyone who feels he or she has been discriminated against may file a complaint of housing discrimination:

1-800-669-9777 (Toll Free)
1-800-927-9275 (TTY)
www.hud.gov/fairhousing

U.S. Department of Housing and
Urban Development
Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and
Equal Opportunity
Washington, D.C. 20410

Fair Housing and TxCDBG Recipients

- The Texas Department of Agriculture is committed to furthering fair housing in conjunction with the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.
- All recipients of TxCDBG funds must certify that they will serve to further fair housing efforts by the TDA.
- Recipients must choose at least one among different eligible fair housing activities to complete during the duration of the grant.
- Fair Housing training may be required for chief elected officials and consultants.



How Can Communities Help Further Fair Housing?

- Conduct a community-wide housing analysis to determine impediments to fair housing and implement solutions.
- Cities can pass a fair housing ordinance (with penalty clause) and publicize it.
- Counties may adopt written fair housing policies and procedures equivalent to a fair housing ordinance and publicize them.
- Sponsor or fund fair housing counseling/referral services for owners and renters.
- Designate April or any other month as "Fair Housing Month" by proclamation along with another sponsoring activity.

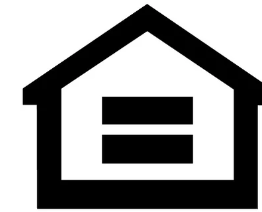
The Dallas City Code	
CHAPTER 20A FAIR HOUSING	
Sec. 20A-1.	Short title.
Sec. 20A-2.	Declaration of policy.
Sec. 20A-3.	Definitions.
Sec. 20A-4.	Discriminatory housing practices.
Sec. 20A-4.1.	Housing voucher incentives.
Sec. 20A-5.	Defenses to criminal prosecution and civil action.
Sec. 20A-6.	Fair housing administrator.
Sec. 20A-7.	Complaint and answer.
Sec. 20A-8.	Investigation.
Sec. 20A-9.	Temporary or preliminary relief.
Sec. 20A-10.	Conciliation.
Sec. 20A-11.	Violation of conciliation agreement.
Sec. 20A-12.	Reasonable cause determination and charge.
Sec. 20A-13.	Dismissal of complaint.
Sec. 20A-14.	Civil action in state district court.
Sec. 20A-15.	Enforcement by private persons.
Sec. 20A-16.	Effect of civil action on certain contracts.
Sec. 20A-17.	Service of notice and computation of time.
Sec. 20A-18.	Additional remedies.
Sec. 20A-19.	Education and public information.
Sec. 20A-20.	Effect on other law.
Sec. 20A-21.	Criminal penalties for violation.
SEC. 20A-1. SHORT TITLE.	
This chapter may be cited as the Dallas Fair Housing ordinance. (Ord. Nos. 13456; 14809; 20652; 20780)	
SEC. 20A-2. DECLARATION OF POLICY.	
It is the policy of the city of Dallas, through fair, orderly, and lawful procedures, to promote the opportunity for each person to obtain housing without regard to race, color, sex, religion, handicap, familial status, national origin, or source of income. This policy is grounded upon a recognition of the right of every person to have access to adequate housing of the person's own choice, and the denial of this right because of race, color, sex, religion, handicap, familial status, national origin, or source of income is detrimental to the health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of the city and constitutes an unjust deprivation of rights, which is within the power and proper responsibility of government to prevent. (Ord. Nos. 13456; 14809; 20652; 20780; 30246)	

Fig.1: City of Dallas Fair Housing Ordinance in Code.

How Can Communities Help Further Fair Housing? Con't

- Promote housing opportunities outside historically minority and/or low and moderate-income neighborhoods.
- Utilize local businesses and banking institutions to promote fair housing by displaying fair housing posters.
- Conduct free training workshops on fair housing laws to homebuyers, rental property owners, and tenant organizations.

 Federal Fair Housing Opportunity HUD
U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

We Do Business in Accordance With the Federal Fair
Housing Law
(The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988)

**It is illegal to Discriminate Against
Any Person Because of Race, Color,
Religion, Sex, Handicap, Familial
Status, or National Origin**

- In the sale or rental of housing or residential lots
- In advertising the sale or rental of housing
- In the financing of housing
- In the provision of real estate brokerage services
- In the appraisal of housing
- Blockbusting is also illegal

Anyone who feels he or she has
been discriminated against
may file a complaint of
housing discrimination:
1-800-669-9777 (Toll Free)
1-800-927-9275 (TTY)

U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development
Assistant Secretary for Fair
Housing and Equal Opportunity
Washington, D.C. 20410

To Reorder, Call 1-888-486-7678 or order at StateandFederalPoster.com

Fig.2: Fair Housing Poster.

Discussion

- What Fair Housing measures have you implemented?
- Which will you try and implement in the future?
- Are there any barriers to fair housing access in your community?

Item 10:
Regarding Updates on
Regional Broadband
Initiatives

Updates on Regional Broadband Initiatives

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

- The Texas Broadband Development Office has announced the [Bringing Online Opportunities to Texas \(BOOT\)](#) Program which opened on April 3rd
- We are monitoring funding opportunities as they arise from the federal and state government.

Action Needed: For Discussion Only

Item 11:

**Regarding Federal and
State Legislative Updates
Pertaining to Economic
Development**

Regarding Legislative Updates Pertaining to Economic Development

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

- This Act funds programs in various infrastructure programs including water, broadband, roads, bridges as well as addressing environmental resilience and overall community resilience.
- We are monitoring grant programs that are funded from the IIJA. Some of those programs have been outlined in the grant section of the staff report.
- The RAISE Grant NOFO for FY23 has been released.

Texas

- There have been a record number of bills filed at the Texas Legislature for the 88th Legislature which formally begins on January 10th. We will be monitoring bills related to economic development, community development, environmental concerns, among others.

Bill No.	Title	Synopsis
HB 615	Relating to authorizing certain projects to be undertaken by economic development corporation	Would allow EDCs by election to spend funds on general infrastructure, or improving, enhancing, or supporting public safety
SB 377	Relating to the Texas Connectivity Fund and to the allocation and the use of certain proceeds from the imposition of state sales and use taxes on telecommunications services.	Creates a fund to improve broadband from the collection of taxes from cell phone bills
SJR 27	Proposing a constitutional amendment creating the Texas Connectivity Fund for the development of broadband and other telecommunications services in all areas of the state and authorizing the appropriation to that fund of a portion of revenue received from the existing state sales and use taxes on telecommunications services while not increasing the rate of the sales and use taxes.	As title states

SB 42	Relating to remote and other meeting held under the open meetings law	Changes requirements for open meetings including phone call in option
HB 2127	Relating to state preemption of certain municipal and county regulation	would give the state exclusive authority over any activity contained in the Agricultural Code, Finance Code, Insurance Code, Labor Code, Natural Resources Code, and Occupations Code. And unless state law expressly authorizes a city or county to act in these fields, any local ordinance or order that attempts to regulate any activity within these codes would be void and unenforceable by law
HB 2662	Relating to the administration of the broadband development office.	Changes the speeds and percentages that deem an area covered by broadband
HB 2863	Relating to the publication of certain notices on the Internet website of a newspaper	Would allow for posting on newspaper website as a public notice option rather than print
HB 3117	Relating to the type of newspaper required for the publication of notices by governmental entities or representatives in certain counties.	Would add requirements to the type of newspaper that the governmental entities use to publish notices.
HB 3440	Relating to the governmental bodies required to post on the Internet agendas for meetings under the open meetings law.	Would require not only a notice of a meeting but the agenda be posted to the entity's website
HB 3812	Relating to the establishment and use of the Texas Infrastructure Fund.	Would include funding for water, ports, or other marine infrastructure, broadband, highways, toll roads, bridges, aviation, rail, or other transit
HB 4063	Relating to the use of an electronic bulletin board to post public notice.	Would allow the internet to substitute for physical bulletin
HB 4335	Relating to certain requirements applicable to certain municipal economic development programs and grants.	Changes grant requirements for EDCs

HJR 169	Proposing a constitutional amendment providing for the dedication of certain sales and use tax revenue to a special fund established in the state treasury to pay for water infrastructure in this state.	Establishes water infrastructure funds
SB 28	Relating to financial assistance provided and programs administered by the Texas Water Development Board.	Funds TWDB Project
HB 3921/SB 1787	Relating to size and density requirements for residential lots in certain municipalities; authorizing a fee.	Would prohibit cities within a county with a population over 300k to make a requirement of a property lot to be larger than 1400 sq ft (.03 acre), wider than 20ft or deeper than 60 ft

Action Needed: For Discussion Only.

Item 12:

**Regarding Updates on
Grant Opportunities**

Other Grant Opportunities

Texas Community Development Block Grant

- **State Urgent Need (SUN) Fund:** **Deadline is 1 year from event**
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
[https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant\(CDBG\)/CDBGResources/Applications/DisasterReliefFundApplicationandGuide.aspx](https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant(CDBG)/CDBGResources/Applications/DisasterReliefFundApplicationandGuide.aspx)
- **Community Development Fund:** **Deadline May 3rd, 2023**
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. For the Community Development Fund, 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 priorities. The Regional Priorities for the CTCOG region have been selected;. CTCOG's priorities will be 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.
[https://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant\(CDBG\)/CDBGResources/Applications/CommunityDevelopmentFundApplicationGuide.aspx](https://www.texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant(CDBG)/CDBGResources/Applications/CommunityDevelopmentFundApplicationGuide.aspx)

• **Downtown Revitalization and Main Street Programs: Deadline May 3rd, 2023**

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

<https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant%28CDBG%29/CDBGResources/Applications/DRPMS.aspx>

• **Planning and Capacity Building Fund: Reopens 2023**

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

Award Maximum: 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
[https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant\(CDBG\)/CDBGResources/Applications/PCBApplicationandGuide.aspx](https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant(CDBG)/CDBGResources/Applications/PCBApplicationandGuide.aspx)

- **Fire, Ambulance and Services Truck (FAST) Fund: Reopens 2023**

The Fire, Ambulance, & Service Truck (FAST) Fund provides funds for eligible vehicles to provide emergency response and special services to rural communities.

Match: 50%

Award Amounts:

Application Minimum:

Single Jurisdiction: \$50,000

Multi-jurisdiction: \$50,000

Application Maximum:

Single Jurisdiction: \$750,000

Multi-jurisdiction: \$750,000

Contact Michelle Phares by email at

Michelle.Phares@TexasAgriculture.gov or by calling (512) 936-6702

[https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant\(CDBG\)/CDBGResources/Applications/FASTFund.aspx](https://texasagriculture.gov/GrantsServices/RuralEconomicDevelopment/RuralCommunityDevelopmentBlockGrant(CDBG)/CDBGResources/Applications/FASTFund.aspx)

ETA

- **Low or No Emission and Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities Competitive**

Programs: Application Deadline April 13th, 2023

This program provides \$1,221,350,117 and \$469,445,424 for each program respectively under one NOFO for the purchase or lease of zero-emission and low-emission transit buses, including acquisition, construction, and leasing of required supporting facilities, and financing of buses and bus facilities capital projects, including replacing, rehabilitating, purchasing or leasing buses or related equipment, and rehabilitating, purchasing, constructing or leasing bus-related facilities. 0.5% of funds are able to be used for workforce development activities eligible under federal transportation law. Eligible applicants include States and local governments as well as entities that provide funds for fixed route bus operators. No grant recipient will receive more than 10% of total program funding. Federal share of costs is 85% for projects involving leasing or acquiring transit vehicles, and 90% for those involving acquiring, installing, or constructing vehicle related equipment or facilities. Federal share won't exceed 80% for other costs.

<https://www.transit.dot.gov/notices-funding/low-or-no-emission-and-grants-buses-and-bus-facilities-competitive-programs-fy2023>

FHWA

- **Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grant Program:** Application Deadline May 31st, 2023

This program provides funding for political subdivisions for deploying publicly accessible electric vehicle charging and alternative fueling infrastructure in urban and rural areas as well as along designated Alternative Fuel Corridors. The IIJA provides \$2.5 billion over five years for this program with \$700 million for FY 2022 and 2023. There will be two different grant categories in this program:

- The Community Program will provide \$1.25 billion to strategically deploy publicly accessible EV charging infrastructure, and hydrogen, propane, or natural gas fueling infrastructure in communities. Infrastructure may be located on any public road or in other publicly accessible locations such as parking facilities at public buildings, public schools, and public parks, or in publicly accessible parking facilities owned or managed by a private entity.
- The Corridor Program will provide \$1.25 billion to strategically deploy publicly accessible EV charging infrastructure and hydrogen, propane, and natural gas fueling infrastructure along designated alternative fuel corridors (AFCs).

https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/cfi/?fbclid=IwAR125_PCuFJ5hicNCv_PIKj3bNTnwW2wkin2Sw7kn3dPjrl5MFcey7Vi8A

American Planning Association

Community Planning Assistant Teams: Open

APA, through its professional institute AICP, organizes volunteer planning teams tailored specifically to a community's needs. Members offer their time and expertise to people and places where additional resources are needed. This program is supported by volunteer professionals, community contributions, and grant funding.

Contact Ryan Scherzinger, Programs Manager, at 312-786-6359.

<https://planning.org/foundation/initiatives/assistance/>

EDA

- **EDA Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs:** Applications Ongoing

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;
 - Expansion of port and harbor 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, expansion, or improvement of wet labs, 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);
- Development and implementation of long-term disaster recovery and resiliency plans;
- Enhancement of infrastructure to make it more resilient to natural disasters;
- Implementation of military base realignments and closures (BRAC) responses;

-
- Development or expansion of commercialization and proof of concept centers;
 - Procurement of equipment for workforce training programs;
 - Market or industry research and analysis for larger hard or soft economic projects;
 - Creation or expansion of foreign direct investment, trade, or export initiatives;
 - Economic development projects that enhance density in the vicinity of other economic development;
 - “Strategy grants” to develop, update, or refine a CEDS; 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.

<https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?dpp=1&oppPkqId=255947>

- **VISTA Corps: Apply Year Round**

EDA’s unique partnership with the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) combines the local resources and overlapping missions of both organizations to build prosperity in regions across the country.

EDA provides funding and technical assistance to advance prosperity in distressed communities, while CNCS provides human resources in the form of “Volunteers in Service to America” (VISTAs). Both organizations seek to develop lasting solutions to economic distress in America.

Under this combined program, EDA-designated Economic Development Districts (EDDs) receive VISTA Members for a one-year term to extend their mission of leading locally based, regionally driven economic development planning. Each VISTA assists their assigned EDD by undertaking tasks and building capacity in areas where EDD resources shortfalls exist.

Contact Sally Waley by email at swaley@eda.gov or by calling 512-381-8141 or Southwest region or Stacey Webb at (303) 844-4715

<https://www.eda.gov/programs/multi-agency/vista-corps/>

SBA

- **7(a) Loans**

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 how to apply, visit the SBA 7(a) page- <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/7a-loans>

USDA

- **Community Facilities Grant and Loan Program:** Applications are accepted throughout the year

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.

Non-Federal Match: 25-85% depending on population and median household income of community

Award: 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

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/community-facilities/community-facilities-direct-loan-grant-program/tx>

- **Community Connect: Application Deadline June 20th, 2023**

The Community Connect 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.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/telecommunications-programs/community-connect-grants>

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

Applications are Accepted Throughout the Year

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

1. Rural areas and towns with a population of 5,000 or less
2. 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.

- **Emergency Community Water Assistance Grant: Applications Accepted Year Round**

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.

Non-Federal Match: No Match Required

Award Maximum:

Water Transmission Line Grants: \$150,000

Water Source Grants: \$1,000,000

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-environmental-programs/emergency-community-water-assistance-grants/tx>

- **Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant Program-Application deadlines quarterly, with the next deadline being June 30th, 2023**

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:

- A former Rural Utilities Service borrower who borrowed, repaid or pre-paid an insured, direct or guaranteed loan.
- Nonprofit utilities that are 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 (particularly for job creation or enhancement).
- Facilities and equipment to educate and train rural residents to facilitate economic development.
- Start-up venture costs, including, but not limited to, financing fixed assets such as real estate, buildings, equipment or working capital.
- Business expansion.
- Technical assistance.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-programs/rural-economic-development-loan-grant-program?fbclid=IwAR1H3uTwNP-QWIOskRltyTeG8PZwJSuKfMMSdEiJuEnTEDr1xANljCttBoE>

- **Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program-Application Deadlines are quarterly, with the next deadline June 30th, 2023**

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%.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-programs/rural-microentrepreneur-assistance-program/tx>

- **Intermediary Relending Program-**Application Deadlines are quarterly, with the next deadline June 30th, 2023

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.

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/business-programs/intermediary-relending-program/tx>

Texas Broadband Development Office

- **Bringing Online Opportunities to Texas (BOOT) Program-** Application deadline is May 5th, 2023

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).

<https://www.txsmartbuy.com/esbddetails/view/BDO-NOFA-001>

Texas Water Development Board

- **Texas Water Development Fund (DFund):** Applications are accepted year-round

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.

<https://www.twdb.texas.gov/financial/programs/TWDF/index.asp>

Office of the Governor

- **Event Trust Fund Program: Application Period Rolling**

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.

Match: 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.

Award Maximum: 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.

<https://gov.texas.gov/business/page/event-trust-funds-program>

- **Texas Travel Industry Recovery Grant Program: Applications Ongoing**

The Office of the Governor announced the launch of this new recovery program, which began accepting applications July 6, 2022. The purpose of this program is to provide grants to Texas businesses in the tourism, travel, and hospitality industry that were negatively impacted due to COVID-19. This program will issue a one-time grant of up to \$20,000 to eligible businesses in the following industries: arts, entertainment, and recreation; food services and drinking places; traveler accommodation; RV parks and recreational camps; traveler arrangement and reservation services; convention and tradeshow organizers; breweries; wineries; and distilleries.

<https://gov.texas.gov/business/page/texas-travel-industry-recovery-grant-program>

Texas Workforce Commission

- **Skills for Small Business for Employers: Apply All Year**

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.

<https://www.twc.texas.gov/businesses/skills-small-business-employers#overview>

Texas Parks and Wildlife

- **Local Parks Grant Programs-**Application deadline August 1st, 2023

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

[Local Parks Grants — Texas Parks & Wildlife Department](#)

TX-PACE Program

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.

<https://www.texaspaceauthority.org/>

Housing and Urban Development

Thriving Communities Program- Applications Ongoing

HUD's Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Program is now open for local governments and political subdivisions to request technical assistance!

The Program will provide technical assistance, planning, and capacity building support to teams of community partners that may lack the staffing or technical expertise to scope, fund, and develop infrastructure projects that advance broader community goals. USDOT and HUD funded capacity building teams in late 2022 to provide this technical assistance for 2023-25- local governments and other political subdivisions are now able to request technical assistance, planning, and capacity building support including assistance with grant applications, project scoping, planning and predevelopment activities, and pre-engineering studies from these teams for transportation and community revitalization activities that

1. Increase mobility
2. Reduce pollution from transportation sources
3. Expand affordable transportation and housing options
4. Improve health outcomes
5. Facilitate efficient land use
6. Preserve or expand jobs, and
7. Enhance connections to health care, education, and food security to benefit disadvantaged populations and communities.

Priority will be given to cities and political subdivisions with populations of less than 250,000 people, as well as to those receiving certain Department of Transportation competitive funds. Technical assistance will begin to be provided in Spring 2023.

https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/cpdta/tcta?fbclid=IwAR3XIX3oE1W2TA3oozFjN9WEbdMBZ3tTJXRZRFHanJkvGUrgnn_jvJDxD9g

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: For Discussion Only.

DDCT Board Members

DDCT Board Membership 2023 Contact Information

Name	Board position	County Represented	Title	Organization	Address	Email	Phone
Cynthia Hernandez	Vice-Chair	Bell	Executive Director	Belton EDC	2180 N. Main Belton, TX 76513	chernandez@beltonedc.org	254-770-2270
Bobby Whitson		Bell	Chief Executive Officer	Bell County Commissioners Court	3305 E. Elms Rd. Killeen TX 76542	bobby.whitson@bellcounty.texas.gov	254-690-2274
Ginger Watkins	Chair	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
Jamie LaDuke		Hamilton	Executive Director	Economic and Community Development City of Hamilton	103 ½ N Rice, Hamilton, TX 76531	edc@hamiltontx.com	(254) 386-5954
Ted Gonzalez		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 76	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@jjrealtygroup.com	(254)541-0318

Bell, Milam, Hamilton, = Counties represented by Board Members
Coryell

End of Packet