EDA Resources for Economic Development and Resiliency
Florida Brownfields Summit
February 29, 2024
Topics

- EDA Investment Programs/Priorities
- Brownfield Connections
- Working with EDA
EDA’s mission – to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy.

EDA is a small agency within the U.S. Department of Commerce with an annual budget of approximately $500M (fluctuating in recent FYs)

EDA is predominantly a grant-making agency
EDA has 6 Regional Offices and approximately 300+ staff nationwide.
EDA Investment Programs

EDA works directly with communities to build capacity for economic development through a number of Investment Programs, including:

- Economic Adjustment
- Planning
- Public Works
- Local Technical Assistance
- University Centers
- Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms
- Research & National Technical Assistance
- Build to Scale (B2S)

Funding Opportunities: [https://www.eda.gov/funding](https://www.eda.gov/funding)
EDA investments Create Jobs and Leverage Private Funds

EDA provides economic tools and seed investments to state and local governments, tribal organizations, universities, and non-profits in communities and regions suffering from severe economic distress.

EDA targets its investments to attract private investment and support long-term job creation.

EDA investments are focused on locally-developed, regionally-owned economic development strategies that directly contribute to economic development.

EDA is helping communities compete in the 21st century by making catalytic investments that support regional competitiveness, innovation, and entrepreneurship.
Eligible Applicants

➢ State, county, city or other political subdivision of a State
➢ District Organizations (Economic Development Districts)
➢ Indian Tribes
➢ Colleges and Universities
➢ Non-profit organizations*

*Requires local government support
EDA Investment Programs

Under EDA’s Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance programs, eligible public projects could include but are not limited to:

**Construction**
- Infrastructure improvements
- Specialized facilities (R &D/Technology)
- Business incubators
- Workforce training facilities
- Airport/Port facilities
- Industrial Parks

**Non-Construction**
- Feasibility studies
- Disaster recovery strategies
- Target industry studies
- Revolving loan funds
- Supply chain analysis
Investment Priorities

Through its competitive grant process, EDA evaluates all project applications to determine the extent to which they:

- Align with EDA’s investment priorities;
- Create or retain high-quality jobs;
- Leverage public and private resources;
- Demonstrate the ability to start the project quickly and use funds quickly and effectively; and
- Provide a clear scope of work and specific measurable outcomes.
Investment Priorities

1. Equity
2. Recovery & Resilience
3. Workforce Development
4. Manufacturing
5. Technology-Based Economic Development
6. Environmentally-Sustainable Development
7. Exports & FDI

Visit: https://eda.gov/funding/investment-priorities
Brownfield Connections

The Brownfields Redevelopment Process:

Planning → Assessment → Cleanup → Redevelopment

EDA – Local Technical Assistance, Economic Adjustment Assistance, Build 2 Scale programs

EDA – Public Works, Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs

- Funding for public works and infrastructure enhancements relating to brownfields redevelopment.
- Funding for economic development planning to economically distressed states, regions, and communities impacted by brownfields.
- Funding for local technical assistance to help public and nonprofit leaders with their economic development decision-making.
- Funding to capitalize revolving loan funds for state and local implementation of strategies to attract private sector investment.

Between FY 2000 and FY 2022, EDA invested approximately $433.7 million in more than 384 brownfield redevelopment projects (with an average investment of roughly $1.3 million).
Enhancing Entrepreneurship

**Expanding a Business Incubator (Gainesville, FL):** In 2019, EDA awarded a $4.8 million grant to Santa Fe College to help re-build and expand the Santa Fe College Center for Innovation and Economic Development (CIED) at the new Blount Center in downtown Gainesville.

As a mixed-use incubator, the Santa Fe College’s CIED Entrepreneur Incubator located in the Santa Fe College Blount Center in downtown Gainesville serves early-stage startups across a broad spectrum of industry sectors including Service, Education and increasingly Information Technology.

The EDA business incubator expansion investment supports the development of high-wage, knowledge-based companies and related jobs in the region’s Information Technology, Medical Services and emerging Clean Tech industry sectors.
Enhancing Technology-Based Economic Development

Infrastructure Improvements (Clearfield, PA): In 2019, EDA awarded a $2 million grant to Clearfield County Economic Development Corporation to help construct a new facility that can accommodate manufacturing and entrepreneurial tenants on a former brownfields site known as the Tool Shed along West Market Street.

Made possible by regional planning efforts led by the local Economic Development District (EDD), the River's Landing project is a great example of a brownfield redevelopment initiative within a Federal Opportunity Zone that is estimated by the grantee to create 50 jobs and generate $10 million in private investment.

The project will construct a 12,000 square foot building on an urban brownfield site and will house new business startups needing office space, or space for research and development, product development, marketing, etc. Once completed, the project will promote advanced manufacturing, enable startup businesses, and spur job creation in a community that has been impacted by the decline in the coal industry.
**Enhancing Manufacturing**

**Infrastructure Improvements (Asheville, NC):** In 2013, EDA awarded a $1.12 million grant to Asheville, North Carolina, to fund infrastructure improvements (i.e., transportation improvements and waterline upgrades) on a former brownfields site to help **New Belgium Brewing Co.** establish a brewery, tasting facility and distribution center for its craft beers. The project was estimated by the grantee to create approximately 150 new jobs and generate $175 million private investment, while enhancing the emerging "beverage" cluster in western North Carolina.

The EDA investment is part of a project undertaken by Ashville to redevelop a former livestock market and salvage yard. New Belgium specifically sought a brownfield property for its east coast expansion to **prevent taking agricultural land out of production or eliminating natural habitat** to lovingly bring what was once a source of jobs and industry back into productive use and to find a location near other amenities increasing density and walkability.

The infrastructure improvements funded by EDA were completed in 2016. To date, the project has created **180 jobs** and generated over **$123 million** in private sector investment.
CEDS Requirements

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies

Each project must be consistent with the region’s current approved CEDS or EDA accepted equivalent strategy.

Each of the ten Regional Planning Councils (RPCs) is a federally-designated Economic Development District (EDD) for its particular region of Florida.

EDA looks to each RPC to:

- Prepare and maintain a CEDS
- Assist with implementation strategies identified in the CEDS
- Provide technical assistance to local governments
- Demonstrate support of funding applications to EDA
Regional Brownfield Programs

Planning Councils are multi-purpose entities comprised of local governments that solve problems at the regional level and help communities grow.

Local knowledge  Regional solutions  Statewide impact

Getting America Back to Work!
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