

FIRST TENNESSEE DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
1st QUARTER STATUS REPORT
JANUARY – MARCH, 2015

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- The First Tennessee Development District assisted the following communities with Community Development Block Grant applications:
 - **Greene County** Water Line Extension
 - **Hancock County** Water Line Extension
 - **Johnson County** Fire Equipment
 - **Town of Surgoinsville** Sewer Line Extension
 - **Unicoi County** Water Line Extension
 - **Washington County** Sewer Line Extension

- The **Town of Mosheim** was funded for a Recreation Trails Program (RTP) grant for an asphalt trail around Pottertown Road Park. The project will include fencing, landscaping, benches, grading, and drainage.

- The District *Historic Preservation* staff has been developing and submitting materials to the State Historic Preservation Officer for Section 106 Reviews. The purpose of each review is to determine whether or not historic resources will be adversely impacted by projects with federal funding or regulation involvement. Staff visits project sites and takes photos to determine impact on historic resources. During the quarter, reviews have been or are being completed for projects in **Elizabethton, Greeneville, Kingsport, and Mosheim**.

- Economic and demographic data is available at the District's website www.ftdd.org under the Regional Statistics/FACTS heading.

INDUSTRIAL PROGRAMS

- The following communities were assisted with Fast Track Infrastructure Development Program (FIDP) funds and Economic Development Funds (ED) from the Tennessee Department of Economic & Community Development (TECD):
 - **Greene County (FIDP)** The second phase bid opening took place on March 24, 2015. Construction should begin in April 2015.
 - **Carter County (FIDP)** Working on application to assist a company (20/20 Vision) with grading to expand their facility in the Watauga Industrial Park.

- The following communities were assisted with Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) funds:
 - **Johnson County (ARC)** Submitted an application for electrical upgrades to assist Parkdale Mills, Inc. in Johnson County. The company has committed to 120 jobs and a \$140M investment in the facility.

- The following communities were assisted with U. S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) funds:
 - **Town of Unicoi (EDA)** The Kitchen Incubator application is in the final stages of the approval process. A contract from EDA should be issued within the next 60 days.

- The following communities were assisted with Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG):
 - **Johnson County (2015 CDBG)** An application was submitted to assist the eight volunteer fire departments serving Johnson County with new equipment to lower the overall ISO rating.
- The following communities were assisted with Tennessee Department of Transportation (SIA):
 - **Carter County (SIA)** The final piece of property at Watauga Industrial Park has been acquired so the project has been placed in the spring letting schedule.

HOUSING PROGRAMS

- Attended Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) grant workshop for the HUD HOME program. Applied for housing rehabilitation grants in the amount of \$500,000 each for **Hancock County** and **Greene County**.
- Hosted public meetings for the five year consolidated planning process for the Northeast Tennessee/Virginia HOME Consortium. Meetings were held at the Sullivan County Planning Commission in Blountville, First Tennessee Development District's office and at the Appalachia Regional Coalition on Homelessness. Input was solicited for direction on the HOME program activities and funding.
- Attended a partnership meeting hosted by Kingsport Housing and Redevelopment to discuss redevelopment activities for **Kingsport**.
- Met with **Bristol YMCA** about forming a volunteer group for addressing urgent home repairs. The THDA Emergency Repair Program for the elderly was presented as a potential source of project funding.
- A partnership was formed for the **Town of Surgoinsville** sewer line project. Applications were approved for 12 homeowners to receive \$10,000 each to connect sewer to their homes and pay tap fees using the THDA Emergency Repair funds.

During this quarter the following projects were completed:

THDA Emergency Repair Program for the Elderly

Sullivan County - 7

Washington County - 2

Northeast Tennessee/Virginia HOME Consortium Down Payment Assistance

Johnson City – 1

Sullivan County – 1

Kingsport - 2

Johnson City CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program

Emergency Repair – 2

Substantial Rehabilitation - 5

USDA Rural Development Housing Repair Loans/Grants

Sullivan County - 1

AREA AGENCY ON AGING AND DISABILITY

- The Public Guardian program served a total of 23 clients as follows: Conservator of Person and Property; Conservator of Person only; Surrogate Power of Attorney. A total of 8 volunteers were utilized providing 6 direct and 2 indirect services.
- Evidence-Based Programs – Clinchfield Senior Adult Center began a six week Take Charge of Your Diabetes workshop with 10 participants. A one-hour presentation on “Challenge of Caregiving” was presented at the Jonesborough Area Senior Center as part of a series of educational sessions on programs provided by the FTAAAD.
- 6 monitoring visits were completed by the program review coordinator.
- Approximately 1,000 individuals received services that included home-delivered meals, personal care, homemaker, respite, personal emergency response system, and supply reimbursement.
- Waiting lists exist for all programs and services with 1,689 individuals on the lists
- 100 individuals referred to outside agencies for clothes, food boxes, hot delivered meals, cleaning supplies, home repairs, light bill assistance, and to the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).
- Assisted 12 consumers with the Emergency Assistance Program that helped with electric bills, gas bills, rent, pest control, and durable medical equipment.
- During the February snow storms, approximately 77 isolated consumers were contacted to check on their well-being by our service coordinators.
- The State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) had 10 Part D enrollment events and 9 Walgreens events; 50 ETSU Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy students volunteered. The Walgreens events consisted of 160 people obtaining one-on-one assistance.
- 896 client contacts for Medicare counseling.
- Launched Facebook page for SHIP and FTAAAD.
- Amerigroup joined Blue Cross Blue Shield and United Health Care in providing CHOICES/TennCare services in the East TN region on January 1st.
- CHOICES: 609 information, assistance and screening calls; 132 home visits to facilitate enrollment; 98 Pre-Admission Evaluations (PAE) and Medicaid applications submitted to TennCare; 194 referrals to Managed Care Organizations; 25 Money Follows the Person (MFP) surveys; 7 nursing home visits to counsel individuals and families on Long Term Services and Supports; 72 referrals received for assistance with Medicaid application processes.
- Completed the Area Plan 2016 Update and submitted to the Tennessee Commission on Aging & Disability on April 1st.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND GIS PROGRAMS

During the 1st Quarter, the Environmental Management Program staff worked on several projects that involved many of our local governments. The District assisted or implemented the following projects during the past quarter:

- Prepared 2014 Annual Solid Waste Progress Reports for **Carter, Greene, Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Washington** and **Unicoi** Counties. Presented Progress Report data to all Regional Solid Waste Planning Boards in the District

- Developed 2015-2016 FTDD's Solid Waste Assistance Program Work Plan
- Worked on 2014 **Mosheim** Recreational Trails Program environmental Categorical Exclusion

The First Tennessee Development District GIS Department received 47 requests for maps and information this quarter including:

- Provide support to Local Planning staff for Census Bureau map boundaries updates
- Worked with **Town of Unicoi** to create a map highlighting local attractions
- Create location maps for Area Agency on Aging and Disability for Meals on Wheels Distribution
- Worked with Development District staff on TACIR location maps
- Assisted the **Town of Watauga** to create a Target Area Map for project
- Continued work on the **Hawkins County** storm water outfall location maps
- Provided supporting maps for CDBG grant applications, environmental review documents and continued to update the **Greene** County zoning map database

For more information about the District's GIS program, contact Wendy S. Hill at 423-722-5094 or whill@ftdd.org. Also, you may visit our website at www.ftdd.org/programs/gis

RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION

The Environmental Management Program staff worked on several projects that involved many of our local governments. The District assisted or implemented the following projects during the past quarter:

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- Developed 2015-2016 FTDD's Solid Waste Assistance Program Work Plan.
- Worked on 2014 **Mosheim** Recreational Trails Program environmental Categorical Exclusion

PLANNING

During the past quarter, the First Tennessee Development District local planning staff assisted communities, Planning Commissions, Boards of Zoning Appeals and developers in the following areas:

- Staffed 26 Planning Commission meetings
- Staffed 11 Boards of Zoning Appeals meetings
- Staffed 6 other meetings concerning development and land use controls
- Reviewed 8 requests for zoning variances
- Prepared 4 zoning ordinance amendments
- Reviewed 3 subdivision regulation amendments
- Prepared 3 amendments to zoning maps
- Reviewed 3 requests for rezoning and prepared maps and ordinances
- Reviewed 40 subdivision plats including a total of 137 lots and 241 acres
- Reviewed 11 community development site plans for a total of 7 lots and 55 acres

- Provided continuing education opportunities for 4 Planning Commissions or Board's of Zoning Appeals totaling 10.5 hours of CEU's for 65 individuals. During the quarter the following topics were addressed:
 - Solar Panels
 - MTAS Training
 - Mobile Food Unit Regulations and Variances
 - Subdivision and Site Plan Review Process
 - Subdivision Regulation Overview

SPECIAL PROJECTS

- Public Infrastructure Inventory Survey remaining interviews were conducted and information follow-up continued.
- Assisted with the transition process and implementation of the 2015 Annual Regional Leadership Day and logistics for the Development District Association of Appalachia exhibit honoring the 50th Anniversary of the Appalachian Regional Commission
- Planning team of the Appalachian Funders Network annual training conference

CALENDER OF EVENTS

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| April 10, 2015 | Eastman/ETSU Leadership Series Executive Briefing, Millennium Centre |
| April 14-16, 2015 | Appalachia Funders Network Annual Conference: <i>Rooting the Transition</i> , Meadowview Convention Center and Resort |
| April 28-29, 2015 | Tennessee Development District Association Annual Training Conference, Murfreesboro, TN |
| April 29-30, 2015 | Annual Rural Development Conference, Murfreesboro, TN |
| May 8, 2015 | Grand Opening of the I-26 Welcome Center |
| June 10, 2015 | FTDD Semi-Annual Meeting |

WEBSITE: www.ftdd.org