TennesseeGov. Bill Lee called for a November referendum on the allocation of the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) to local governments based on a per capita basis. This memorandum is intended to provide information related to the allocation of CRF funding:

1. The Department of Finance and Administration (TDOA) has established a website that provides information related to the allocation of CRF funding: https://tncaresact.tn.gov/

This website provides information on each CRF funding received by each town. It also includes a page of frequently asked questions such as how to request CRF funding and what are the general rules for spending CRF funding: See FUND on Page 3

2. Local governments should develop local ordinances to implement the general rules for spending CRF funding. To address issues related to the $115 million allocated to local governments based on a per capita basis.

The memorandum is intended to provide guidance to local governments on how to spend the $115 million allocated to local governments on a per capita basis.

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LA VERGNE

The city of La Vergne has received a $2.6 million grant to build a new state-of-the-art facility as part of the city’s Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) program.

The grant will be used to expand the city's current traffic control center, which is currently located at the Fire Station No. 1 previously located on Grayson-Denton Road in the city. The building was formerly occupied by the Lenior City Utilities Board (LCUB) and will replace the city's current traffic control center.

LENOIR CITY

Former city officials and current Mayor with Lenoir City gathered with state representatives and community members to open the new Grayson-Denton Fire Station in Lenoir City. The building is located at Depot Street, and the building was formerly occupied by the Lenoir City Utilities Board (LCUB) and will replace the city's current traffic control center.

PIKEVILLE

Aviagen will invest $35.5 million to expand their broiler production in Pikeville, expected to create up to 360 jobs.

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TENNESSEE TOWN & CITY/AUG. 10

NEWS ACROSS TENNESSEE

BLUFF CITY

A former school building in Bluff City will soon be renovated to house offices for nonprofits, conference rooms, and retail office space. City officials with the Bluff City Information Systems have purchased the former school, which faces the intent of renovating the building as well as the nonprofit.
BY JOHN HEY

1. Local governments to request a TN CAMS account (or CRF based CAMS account). 
   - Sept. 1, 2020: Deadline for requesting a 30% advance. 
   - Sept. 30, 2020: Deadline to spend the 30% advance. Any unused funds must be returned to F&A. 
   - Nov. 1, 2020: Deadline to submit budget requests for the remaining 70% of CRF funding. These requests can include anticipated December expenditures. 

7. CRF money should be treated as cash and expenditures. This may require that money already received or expended will need to be reconstructed into the budget and budgeted accounts to the Uniform Chart of Accounts. 

8. IT funding will be subject to audit under the Single Audit Act and OMB’s Uniform Guidance. 

9. The Division of Local Government Affairs has added a reminder to CRF funded agencies to view the Uniform Chart of Accounts to allow counties to track CRF funding separately. This new Chart of Accounts can be located at https://kttetесп/gray-office/other/fundingsources. 

10. When COVID-19 expenditures may be considered reimbursable under specific circumstances, additional measures may be required to ensure that the CRF funds are maintained. 

11. Local governments must submit pre-award applications to the Uniform Chart of Accounts before the CRF funding separately. This is required by state and OMB’s Uniform Guidance. 

Announced, this guidance is general in nature. F&A should be your direct contact for questions related to eligible expenses and submitting pre-award applications. 

If you have questions or comments, please contact Bryan Barkley at Bryan.Barkley@tennessee.gov or 615.253.3009.
The city of Bolivar has taken the initial steps to creating and certifying an emergency response dive team as part of the local emergency services. Inaugural members of the team include: from left to right, Bolivar Police Department Officers Chris Willerson, Cris McKinney, and Nelle Muszler, and Bolivar Fire Department Engineer Rory White. The four-person team completed their first phase of training in July and are being trained through the Dive Shop in Memphis. The decision to create the team was made after the opening of Sand Beach Lake last year, and the team will work with the Hardeman County Rescue Squad to keep waterways in the area safe.

Nashville announces changes to personnel

Nashville Mayor John Cooper has announced two personnel changes within the city: the creation of a new position, and the realignment of city hall operations to better serve continued and emerging needs in the community.

Shonna Whitlow will transfer from her role as executive director of Metro Public Works to lead the department through a review process that will determine the best ways to realign the transportation and solid waste services to better serve the community.

Whitlow, a professionally licensed civil engineer with 14 years of experience in transportation and a sector and another 14 years of experience in solid waste, has extensive experience in design and construction management of municipal projects and long-range capital planning and asset management.

Her last five years have been spent in strategic planning and process improvement in Metro Water Services, where she has served as a significant contributor to Metro Water Services' status as a utility that provides exceptional services at one of the lowest costs compared to local and regional peer cities.

Meanwhile, present Director of Metro Public Works Mark Sturtevant will move to Metro's Planning Department as a director of public works, a new position within the department focused on how to address Nashville's infrastructure challenges in historically underserved and underserved neighborhoods.

“Recent events have highlighted the need for our department to take a different position that might provide them with the best ways to realign and solidify the work that we do to serve the community,” said Mayor Cooper.

Sturtevant will remain in his role as director of public works through the transition and will be working with the city to ensure a smooth transition. Beginning in June, Sturtevant will lead the new team focusing on how to better serve the community.

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Tennessee lottery saw record $438M in college scholarships

The numbers from the Tennessee Education Lottery Corporation (TEL) show that more than $438 million went to funding educational scholarships across the state to encourage residents to stay in Tennessee and complete college. The lottery’s 13th fiscal year, which runs from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, saw the money go to more than 139,000 students with a median list price of $257,900, median price-per-square-foot of $136, and median value of bottom-tier housing at $99,300.

The lottery’s number one goal is to help students in Tennessee realize their dreams of higher education and to ensure that Tennessee remains a competitive state in which to stay in college.

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ENVILLE

re-elected to the two open seats on the Dobson ran unopposed and was elected to the Ward 1 alderman seat. The incumbent candidates ran for the two open seats. Likewise, no candidates ran for the unexpired-term alderman seat.

BAXTER

Incumbent Mayor John Martin ran unopposed and was re-elected as the mayor of Baxter. He defeated challenger Scott McGowan to win the mayor’s seat.

BELL BUCKLE

Incumbent alderwoman Betty Wood ran unopposed and was re-elected to her Ward 1 seat in Farragut while Drew Mitchell ran for the Ward 2 seat and was defeated.

BELLFRONT

No candidate qualified for two open commission seats in Friendsville.

GAINESBORO

Incumbent Mark Farley and challenger Bartis Rutger will be returning to the board. Rutger defeated incumbent Michael Grass.

GREENBRIER

Current alderman Kenneth Knowis was defeated by newcomer Jessica L. Higgins along with challengers Randy Davis and Tabbie Wall. The incumbent candidates ran for the two open seats.

HARRIMAN

Incumbent Steve Kerns ran unopposed and was re-elected to his Ward 1 seat on the Harrods Creek City Council.

NEWTON-TOOLON

Incumbent David Cagle ran unopposed for the three open city commission seats, defeating challenger Christopher Brogle.

TOWNSEND

Incumbent Jeff Heal and sitting Alderman in the third open council seat.

WHITEVILLE

Challenger Gayle Bowden narrowly defeated市委員 William Phillips and challenger Leon Croft to take the mayor’s seat in Whiteville. Treadway ran unopposed to retain his seat in the third open council seat.

WINNSBORO

Incumbent Mayor Dwayne Wilson won his re-election bid and will remain mayor of Winnsboro in 2021. He defeated challenger Tom F. Bradley.

WRIGHTSVILLE

Incumbent and former Mayor John Martin ran unopposed and was re-elected for a third term. He defeated challenger John Byrd.

YORKS

Incumbent Mayor Bill Shacklett was joined by challenger Michael Phillips to win the Mayfield City Commission. He defeated incumbent David F. Fitzgerald.
CIVIL ENGINEER/INSPECTOR
The City of Alcoa is an equal opportunity employer. This position is new; previous positions filled at this level were considered to be in the planning department. The City of Alcoa is an equal opportunity employer. Must have a bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering, with a minimum three years of experience as a Civil Engineer/Inspector. Work will include providing technical assistance in roadway, drainage, and external public agency permitting. CIVIL ENGINEER/INSPECTOR
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**TENNESSEE TOWN & CITY/AUG. 10, 2020**

**Denise Paige, Government Relations**

**John Holloway, Government Relations**

**Tennessee Town & City**

**Kate Coil, Communications Specialist**

**TML STAFF**

**VC3**

**American Fidelity**

**Tennessee Health Works**

**Waste Connections of Tennessee Inc.**

**TLM Associates, Inc.**

**Tennessee 811**

**Smith Seckman Reid**

**Republic Services**

**Entegrity**

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**Alexander, Thompson, Arnold, CRA’s**

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**TN Stormwater Assn**

**TN Municipal Attorneys Assn.**

**TN Assn. of Floodplain Management**

**TN Fire Safety Inspectors**

**TN Assn. of Chiefs of Police**

**TML AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS**

**Tracy Baker, Sevierville**

**Tommy Pedigo**

**Sam Tharpe**

**Curtis Hayes**

**Mayor, Livingston (2015)**

**Mayor, Dyersburg (2016)**

**Wallace Cartwright**

**Vice Mayor, Three Way**

**Vice Mayor, Columbia**

**Mayor, Bartlett**

**Walter Popalousi, Mayor**

**Prostate, TN Municipal Bond Fund**

**Mayo, Economics & Mayor**

**Mayor, Dyersburg**

**Mayor, Liguori**

**Dale Kelley**

**Mayor, Huntington**

**Mayor, Oak Ridge**

**Mayor Sam San Tennessee**

**2016, Commissio**

Humboldt stream art creates unique downtown branding

BY DR. BRIDGET JONES  
Journalist and community group leader

The city of Humboldt is located just minutes west of Jackson and halfway between Memphis and Nashville with the city presiding over the TNECD Downtown Development District. With annual festivals and fine arts, movies and music, shopping and sports events and everything in between, Humboldt is authentically Tennessee. Community leaders promote the opportunity to live the dream of fifty minutes from Jackson and seventeen other West Tennessee towns and cities.

Humboldt is the home of the West Tennessee Strawberry Festival held the first week of May. Established in 1934, it has gained national recognition featuring one of the largest Grand Fruit Parades in America and possibly the largest non-motorized parade in the world. City residents and visitors enjoy events and activities held during the week-long celebration.

Downtown Humboldt is the heart of this community and the historic, traditional business district where all gets started. With the iconic shops and businesses, the Opera House Event Hall, and the Plaza Theater, it is easy to recognize that Downtown Humboldt is special.

The historic business district, private and civic buildings, the streets and the people of Humboldt all combine to form a place rich with character.

TENNESSEE DOWNTOWNS DESIGNATION

As a result of the TNECD Seed Grant, Humboldt was selected to participate in the TNECD Ten Towns Initiative in 2013. This coincided with a downtown property owners, the Chamber of Commerce, and the city to improve the downtown district for residents and investors that are being recruited to the community.

As part of the selection process to become a Tennessee Downtown community, Humboldt leaders formed a Steering Committee that continues to guide the community’s redevelopment efforts in conjunction with chamber of commerce and city leaders.

During the eighteen-month program, leaders participated in training and technical assistance sessions and received a $15,000 grant for improvements and promotion of the downtown district.

The steering committee proposed a grant project to build Humboldt's historic downtown and the activities were designed to have an immediate visual impact on some of the most noticeable negative aspects of the downtown’s appearance.

Interrelated improvements highlighted the social and cultural dimension of downtown properties and Humboldt’s identity as the “Strawberry Capital of Tennessee” through the installation of public art and signage along the gateway through the downtown. The grant project had three strategies:

Strategy One: Building identity through historical information  
Element One: Historic property signage

The committee proposed to design and install up to 50 individualized signs to be placed on buildings in the project area to promote their historical significance and to rename Humboldt’s Downtown signs for gateway entries to the downtown district.

The historical signs would be constructed of flat aluminum that could easily be mounted to the buildings with a consistent color scheme and fonts and branded with the city’s logo. The signs give current and historical information about each building including its uses and ownership through the years.

The committee intended the Historic Property Signage project to provide interesting background to keep people engaged as they visited the downtown district.

Strategy Two: Visual improvements and marketing of downtown properties

Element Two: Pull-up banners for vacant storefronts

The committee proposed to design and produce 40 individual pull-up banners with historical photos to be used in vacant storefronts. These banners would feature positive memories of past downtown businesses and block the view of building interiors that were vacant.

The pull-up banners would be similar in color and style and would be another tool to engage visitors by providing a more positive visual than empty or decaying building interiors. As vacant buildings are occupied, these banners can be moved to different locations and used at other community functions.

Strategy Three: Gateway and streetscape public art installations

Element Three: Install a series of stainless-steel strawberries along the Downtown Streetscape

The committee proposed to install eight stainless-steel strawberry statues to reinforce the city’s brand identity. This public art would provide a striking visual element and serve as an interesting backdrop for events and photographs.

The strawberries would be substantial enough to be outdoor decorations and reflect the city’s main agricultural focus. The strawberries would be 32 inches wide and 42-inches tall and would be designed and produced by a downtown artisan.

The city of Humboldt achieved downtown program status in 2016 and recently became an accredited Main Street Community. Its historic downtown includes unique destinations like the Plaza Theater, Opera House Event Hall, and the Strawberry Museum. Known as the “Strawberry Capital of Tennessee,” each year the city honors its agriculture heritage by hosting the West Tennessee Strawberry Festival Downtown. Unique public art of strawberries are also located throughout the community.

Recently, the city has begun making numerous improvements to highlight both the beauty and heritage of its unique downtown community with new branding and signage aimed at both improving the overall appearance of vacant storefronts and giving passersby a glimpse into how the area looked in the past.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC IMPACT

The overarching goal of all of Humboldt’s downtown investments is to make the city a vibrant destination that attracts residents and visitors who will spend money at local businesses, events, and entertainment venues. To this end, downtown leaders successfully created destination branding through public art and historical signage that is creating increased awareness and pride. The project also is catalyzing new businesses, retail and promotion. The local utilities employee who made the strawberries and signs is now looking for a 10,000-square-foot building to house his business. A new retail cluster around the Plaza Theater for “Dinner and a Movie” opportunities is promising entertainment and growth. A new downtown mini park with benches and solar panel chargers is in creating an open-air workspace. A promotional effort by three Gibson County Chambers of Commerce is creating a list of must-visit places for selfies that chamber staff hope leads to posts on various social media platforms. Additionally, the Humboldt Chamber of Commerce and downtown committee are working together to support the popular sweet events within ten minutes of downtown through focused marketing efforts and exploration of the establishment of a community commercial kitchen in downtown to serve these and attract other food and event-related businesses and tourism. Increased customer traffic will provide the greatest benefit to existing local businesses and future investors that are being recruited to the community.

FIRST YEAR RESULTS

- Historic Plaques installed on downtown properties: 50
- Storefront Window Banners installed: 40
- Downtown Events Hosted: 2
- 2017 and 2018 Christmas On Main:
- Downtown Events Attendees: 1,100
- Social Media Photo Locations Created: 5
- New Downtown Jobs Created: 5
- New Downtown Businesses Started/Expanded:
- New/restaurants, coffee shop, restaurant, children's clothing stores, bakery, art studio, classroom, label: clothing boutique, radio station, insurance company expansion/merger

PROJECT FUNDING

- TNECD Downtowns Grant: $15,000
- Strawberries Streetscape Public Art: $9,400
- Historic Banners for Vacant Buildings: $3,000
- Historic Information Building Places: $2,400

TOTAL DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT FUNDING: $18,900

PROJECT LEADERS AND PARTNERS

Humboldt Chamber of Commerce
City of Humboldt
USDA Rural Development
Memphis Motion
Banking South
Humboldt Downtown Business Association
Stawberry Festival History Museum

Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development

For project information contact the Humboldt Chamber of Commerce.

TNECD TENNESSEE DOWNTOWNS AND FACADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAMS

Downtown revitalization is a critical component of successful rural economic and community development. TNECD encourages revitalization and adaptive reuse of commercial buildings in downtown business districts through the Tennessee Downtowns and the Tennessee Main Street programs that provide technical assistance and funding for improvements. For more information visit TNECD Community and Rural Development.