

building a stronger region

SOUTHWEST TENNESSEE DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

102

Annual Report 2022

Southwest Tennessee Development District

Building A Stronger Region for More than 50 Years

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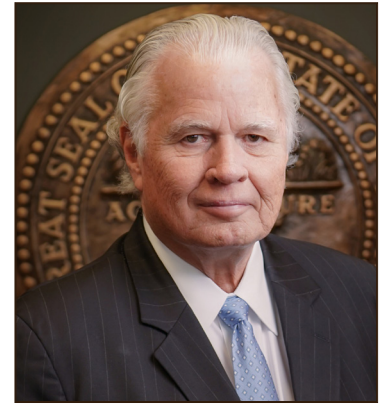
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A Letter from Joe Barker, Executive Director of SWTDD

In 2022, Southwest Tennessee Development District celebrated 50 years of service to the citizens of Southwest Tennessee! For the past 15 years, I have had the honor of serving as SWTDD Executive Director. Prior to becoming Executive Director, I served on the SWTDD Board of Directors for eight years in my capacity as County Executive of Hardin County. SWTDD continues to be a vital partner with our leaders in local government as we continue to serve the aging and those in need with a dedicated professional staff and volunteers from throughout the District.

SWTDD is the Area Agency on Aging and Disability (AAAD) and constantly looks for more programs and services to assist our increasingly aging population. SWTDD also works closely with our local communities in economic and community development. Our ECD division, writes and administers grants, provides planning and technical assistance, develops strategic plans, and assists in economic growth with small business loans to grow jobs and expand the local tax base.

In 2022, the Southwest region saw the beginning of many years of transformational change with construction of BlueOval City. The ripple effect of this project will affect every county and city in rural West Tennessee. We saw increased funding and demand for almost every program SWTDD provides. A renewed interest in working together as a region is at the forefront of everything we do. SWTDD has taken the lead in developing this regional synergy. We understand that we are stronger working together than we are as individual cities or counties. Now is the time for local leaders to look beyond county lines and municipal city limits to determine how best we can capitalize on this great new economic opportunity. We also know, in addition to jobs created, the demand for educational upgrades, additional fire, police, and EMS services, health care facilities, infrastructure, and senior services will continue to grow at a very rapid pace. We must have strong, visionary local leadership to meet the challenges ahead! I am confident that the Southwest region is well positioned to meet these challenges and SWTDD looks forward to being a vital partner in the exciting future for West Tennessee.



Joe W. Barker, Executive Director
Southwest TN Development District

~ Joe W. Barker

FY2022 SWTDD Board of Directors

CHESTER COUNTY

County Mayor Barry Hutcherson*
Vacant, Minority Representative*
Mayor Melinda Johnston, Enville
Mayor Bobby King, Henderson*

DECATUR COUNTY

County Mayor Mike Creasy*
Joseph Fisher, Minority Representative
Mayor Tim Grace, Decaturville
Mayor Tim David Boaz, Parsons*

HARDEMAN COUNTY

County Mayor Todd Pulse*
Elmer Cobb, Minority Representative
Mayor Julian McTizic, Bolivar*
Mayor Curtis Lane, Grand Junction
Mayor Ricky Ayers, Hickory Valley
Mayor Megan Hedwall, Hornsby
Mayor Evan Mott, Middleton
Mayor Jim Daniel, Saulsbury
Mayor Willard Beshires, Silerton
Mayor Jackie Kelley, Toone
Mayor Gene Bowden, Whiteville

HARDIN COUNTY

County Mayor Kevin Davis*
Allen Cherry, Minority Representative*
Mayor Ricky Tuberville, Crump
Mayor Ricky Hollin, Milledgeville
Mayor Greg Billings, Saltillo*
Mayor Bob Shutt, Savannah

HAYWOOD COUNTY

County Mayor David Livingston*
Robert Green, Minority Representative*
Mayor William Rawls, Jr., Brownsville*
Mayor Allan Sterbinsky, Stanton

HENDERSON COUNTY

County Mayor Robbie McCready*
Barbara Parker, Minority Representative*
Mayor Jeff Griggs, Lexington*
Mayor Kenneth Kizer, Parkers Crossroads
Mayor J.W. Creasy, Sardis
Mayor Woody Capley, Scotts Hill

LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS

Senator Ed Jackson*
Representative Chris Todd*

MADISON COUNTY

County Mayor A.J. Massey*
Herbert Slack, Minority Representative*
Mayor Scott Conger, Jackson*
Mayor Brad Replogle, Medon
Mayor Larry Sanders, Three Way

MCAIRY COUNTY

County Mayor Larry Smith*
Harry Crayton, Minority Representative*
Mayor David Leckner, Adamsville
Mayor John Wood, Bethel Springs
Mayor Elvis Butler, Eastview
Mayor Cody Moss, Finger
Mayor Keith Rinehart, Guys
Mayor Anthony Smith, Michie
Mayor George Armstrong, Ramer
Mayor Sherry Inman, Selmer*
Mayor Larry Russell, Stantonville

*Member of SWTDD Executive Committee



SWTDD Officers



Mike Creasy, Mayor of Decatur Co.
Chairman of the Board



Jeff Griggs, Mayor of Lexington
Vice Chairman of the Board



Bobby King, Mayor of Henderson
Secretary/Treasurer

Our Mission is...

As a planning organization, Southwest Tennessee Development District promotes the renewal and revitalization of both rural and urban communities through betterment of an economic base (Economic Development), physical infrastructure (Community Development) and quality of life (Area Agency on Aging & Disability) for the eight county area that we serve.

Our Vision is...

To enable self-sustaining economic growth and ensure the personal well being of all citizens in the areas we serve.

Created to Serve and Assist...

Southwest Tennessee Development District was created by the Tennessee General Assembly under the Tennessee Development District Act of 1965. Like all development districts, SWTDD provides comprehensive planning and promotes economic, community, and human resource development in a defined geographic area.

Organized in 1971, as a public non-profit association of local governments, SWTDD serves Chester, Decatur, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, McNairy and Madison counties. The SWTDD Executive Director & Board of Directors (including member government officials, a state senator and representative, minority representatives, and industrial representatives) manage SWTDD. Its 24-member Executive Committee meets six times per year to set policy and conduct business. The full Board of Directors, which includes all county and city mayors in our region, meets once each fiscal year – typically at the Annual Meeting held in the fall.

SWTDD is staffed by 34 full-time people with expertise in district management, economic development, community development, housing, environmental planning, regional planning, aging and disability assistance, social work, nursing, grant writing, and public guardianship for the elderly. Financial support is provided from EDA, THDA, Tennessee Department of Economic & Community Development, Tennessee Department of Transportation, TACIR, Tennessee Commission on Aging & Disability, TennCare, Delta Regional Authority, USDA Rural Development, and others.

Funds received from the Commission on Aging & Disability are distributed through contracts to senior centers and regional service provider agencies. SWTDD also receives fees for grant administration/management services rendered for member governments and income from its small business loan program. SWTDD is designated as a regional clearinghouse for projects under Executive Order 12372 and acts as the Regional Affiliate Data Center for the Bureau of the Census.

FY 2021/2022: SWTDD Administrative Accomplishments

SWTDD'S administrative team works closely with all staff and governmental groups by assisting in the roles of human resources, office management, financial management, IT management, facility management, and communications. Some highlights during FY2022 include:

Facilities Management: SWTDD replaced the storefront windows on College and Highland streets in September 2021. The old windows leaked and were replaced with energy-efficient, double-plane glass. Since moving into our building, the District has leased the back hallway; this lease agreement was included by the seller when the District purchased the building in 2012. The 10-year lease was up in March and was no longer available. This space contained offices for 8 employees. In June 2022, SWTDD began leasing a building at 217 N Liberty St, a block from the main office. This space is home to the six employees of the CHOICES Program.

Technology: In April 2022, the District had the building re-wired for data and Internet. This was necessary, because the space being leased for the server room would not be available by June.

Health & Wellness: As people everywhere began to emerge from their homes and back to their work places, SWTDD was able to resume health and wellness activities with the staff.

Communications: SWTDD assisted Brownsville-Haywood County widen its search for a new Chamber of Commerce Director, provided publicity for MyRide, SNAP, CREVAA, Public Guardianship and other services through monthly newsletters, flyers/brochures, Facebook, and releases to media outlets.

Meeting Assistance: SWTDD's administrative team assisted the Memphis Regional Megasite Authority Board by coordinating meetings and taking minutes until the announcement of BlueOval City in Sept. 2021. SWTDD continues to host Megasite meetings several times each year for the newly appointed board. SWTDD also hosts meetings for the West Tennessee mayors and federal, state, and local partners at our facility. We are available to assist at these meetings, when requested.



(Above) Tennessee Governor Bill Lee speaks at a Megasite meeting and to a standing-room-only crowd welcoming Ford Motor Company and BlueOval City to the Megasite. (Left) WestStar hosted a leadership program at SWTDD with former Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam. Haslam discussed his new book and how people of faith can have a positive influence on the country's political divide.



SWTDD
Financial
Overview

FY 2022 - Operating Budget	\$7,265,232
Pass Through Budget	\$2,691,563
Total Assets & Liabilities [Govt.-Wide] Audited FY22	\$4,397,169
Full-Time Staff Members - 32	Part-Time Staff Members - 4

In FY 2021-2022, SWTDD received additional funding to help our communities and aging population during the pandemic. This included additional meals, disaster recovery planning, and small business loans. Our staff remained constant during this time in helping our communities.

FY2022 Services and Programs for the Aging & Disabled

The Southwest Area Agency on Aging & Disability staff's ultimate goal is to ensure that each client receives the services and supports to live in a dignified and fulfilling manner. Staff members receive training on providing person-centered planning and strive to include each consumer's family members when developing a plan of action. The following programs are provided either directly or through service provider contracts:

Options for Community Living: In-home care: meals, homemaker, and personal care services.

Public Guardianship: Court-appointed guardian for financial and medical decisions for persons 60 years of age and older who are unable to manage their own affairs and have no family member, friend, bank, or corporation willing and able to act on his or her behalf.

Ombudsman: Advocates for persons in nursing homes and other long-term care institutions.

Nutrition Services: Nutritious meals at community locations and through home-delivered services.

CREVAA (Collaborative Response to Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse): This referral-based program provides needed emergency services to elder and vulnerable adult victims of crime.

Caregiver Support: Helping families provide better care for their loved ones.

Senior Centers: SWAAAD has ten community centers that provide resources, support groups, congregate meals, and activities for seniors and their families.

TennCare CHOICES: Medicaid long-term services and supports.

MyRide West TN: Provides volunteer transportation service to those 60 years and older.

Senior Volunteer Transportation Network: Coordinating statewide expansion of volunteer transportation services to senior adults who are 60 years and older.

SNAP: Application assistance and information to older adults interested in SNAP benefits.

The Southwest Area Agency on Aging and Disability (AAAD) serves consumers who are 60 years and older, as well as, adults 18 years and older with a physical disability. The service area includes Chester, Decatur, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, and McNairy Counties. Services are targeted to persons who have the greatest economic need with particular attention to low-income older individuals (including low-income minority older individuals, older individuals with limited English proficiency, and older individuals residing in rural areas).



SWAAAD's mobile resource van makes it easier to sign up for services in Southwest Tennessee and the MyRide program provides rides for senior adults to get to appointments and essential places. Each year SWTDD has a fundraising team in Alzheimer TN's "Walk to Make Alzheimer's a Memory". Our golf tournament putting contest raises money toward our fundraising goal. At the 2021 tournament, \$975 was raised. Each year, SWAAAD hosts a volunteer luncheon to thank those who give of their time and talents.

Southwest Area Agency on Aging and Disability Services

The mission of SWTDD's Area Agency on Aging and Disability is to improve the quality of life for older adults and persons with disabilities in the eight county service region. Never has this mission been in greater focus than during the COVID-19 pandemic. The AAAD was particularly focused on ensuring that services, resources, and information were available through all delivery methods during FY 22.

This year the aging network continued to see significant increases in federal funding for senior nutrition, caregiver services, aging and disability resource center services, and transportation. As a recipient of these funds, the AAAD was able to clear the waitlist in FY21 and continued in FY22 to maintain no waitlist. Unfortunately, an increase in persons approved to receive services continued to put significant strain on the aging network within the region who continued to struggle to hire enough staff to meet the demand.

Ten Senior Centers

The AAAD is particularly proud of the ten area Senior Centers it funds. The additional funds mentioned above allowed the Agency to assist the Senior Centers who host nutrition sites by purchasing new kitchen equipment. Each senior center was also provided funding to stock a pantry with items for those in need. Although the senior centers were still feeling the effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic, each center was able to open their doors and begin serving seniors on site. These services provided needed support and connection to older adults, especially those who were feeling lonely and/or in social isolation. The Centers provided 48,040 units of service to 1,835 individuals during the FY 22 year.

Nutrition for Older Adults

The Nutrition program at the AAAD provides for the nutritional needs of older adults through the provision on congregate meals, home-delivered meals, nutrition education, counseling, and nutrition screening. During the pandemic, the nutrition sites closed to participants in order to prevent the virus from spreading among participants in close contact. However, each site began full congregate meal operations on August 1, 2021. The congregate sites continue to gain strength as seniors feel more comfortable in group settings. For the period of July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022, the Agency utilized \$939,954.40 to provide 222,738 meals. The AAAD provides direct administration of the Nutrition program, and operates the Lewis Center Nutrition Site in Jackson. The provider for the meals (under contract) is the Southwest Human Resource Agency in the nearby city of Henderson.



To enable self-sustaining economic growth + ensure the personal well being of all citizens in the areas we serve.

- ① Security
- ② Health
- ③ Finances
- ④ Support System
- ⑤ Access
- ⑥ Safety
- ⑦ Environment

Senior adults gather for a congregate meal at the Selmer Senior Center. SWAAAD staff reflected on their goals at a staff planning retreat. Federal funding helped provide food that was collected and distributed to those in the Southwest region who were at greatest risk of complications from COVID-19.



FY 2021/2022: SWAAAD Accomplishments

Public Guardianship Services

The Public Guardianship for the Elderly program provides services to persons over the age of 60 who have a physical disability, are unable to make financial or healthcare decisions for themselves, and who have no person or entity willing to serve. The program takes direct referrals from consumers, healthcare centers, hospitals, Adult Protective Services, and other agencies. The program is not allowed to solicit cases. During FY 22, the program served 44 persons through either court-appointed conservatorship or power of attorney, and provided 2,034 units of service. Kichisa McGoughy serves as the Public Guardian on behalf of the Development District and Olivia Thompson, LPN serves as the Assistant Public Guardian. The program has served clients in seven of the eight counties within the region this fiscal year and collected \$54,091 in fees according to the approved sliding scale fee rates.

Long-Term Care Ombudsman

The Long-Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO) Program is directly administered by the AAAD through a Waiver for Services with the Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability. This program provides advocacy, support, education, and assistance with dispute resolution for persons living in a healthcare facility and assisted living facility. Due to the nature of this work, all activity with residents and/or their representatives is kept highly confidential. The Southwest TN LTCO is Norma Bell, MSW. Cases opened in FY 22 were 129. Cases closed were 137. Total cases were 151 and \$66,653 was utilized on the program.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (formerly known as food stamps) is a program aimed at assisting individuals who qualify with enrollment assistance. SWAAAD works throughout the region to provide education on the benefit, ways to utilize items purchased with the benefit, and to facilitate the gathering of documentation needed for the application. During the 2022 fiscal year, application assistance was provided to 40 individuals, 2,213 persons were pre-screened for benefits and \$28,525.31 was utilized for the program.

Assistance for Elderly and Vulnerable Adult Abuse

The CREVAA (Collaborative Response for Elderly and Vulnerable Adult Abuse) program worked alongside local law enforcement, district attorneys, Adult Protective Services, and other agencies to provide emergency services for victims of crime. Services included emergency housing, clothing, food, home modifications, and other items that the victim needs due to the crime. The CREVAA Advocate for the AAAD was Allison Hurst, MSW. Total number of people served during FY 22 was 69 utilizing \$7,875.97. Unfortunately due to the lack of referrals in Southwest TN and the program undergoing changes at the state level, SWAAAD ended the CREVAA program on June 30, 2022.



MyRide Chester County began in FY22. McNairy County created MyRide⁺ to provide its veterans with transportation to VA clinics in Corinth, Memphis, and Nashville. Pictured below are volunteers who were honored at SWTDD/SWAAAD's Volunteer Luncheon.



FY 2021/2022: SWAAAD Accomplishments

Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)

HCBS are integral to the mission of the AAAD. By providing homemaker and personal care services, the Agency enables older adults to remain independent and in their own home longer. Those 18 years and older with a physical disability and 60 years and older are directly screened for services by phone or online at www.swtd.org; services are managed by the Agency's four Options counselors. The Agency contracts with six service providers to complete the authorized services. Older American's Act funding (supplemented by state funding) served 160 consumers utilizing \$120,087.42 for homemaker services. Options funding for the AAAD was \$539,500 and utilized to provide homemaker, personal care, and home-delivered meals to 365 consumers. CARES IIIB Homemaker funding served 93 consumers utilizing \$28,131.84. The National Family Caregiver Support Program assists Caregivers in their home with homemaker, personal care, and respite services. NFCSP served 73 consumers with \$187,177.40.

Legal Representation

West Tennessee Legal Services contracts with the AAAD to provide legal representation and advice to older adults who are age 60+. Focus areas include public benefits, healthcare, housing, consumer, and simple wills, powers of attorney, and advance directives. WTLS utilized \$26,250 to serve 167 consumers. 100% of seniors responding to surveys strongly agreed or agreed they were satisfied with the legal help they received from WTLS, and 96% reported that their legal situation improved because of the help they received. The number served and level of satisfaction are strong evidence of a high quality, cost effective program.

Senior Volunteer Transportation Network (SVTN)

The SVTN began a quick climb in FY22. The Program has been providing assisted transportation to older adults since 2017, but when the pandemic began to shut down many local businesses and facilities, many older adults had to change how they receive necessary household items, healthcare and groceries. However, SVTN saw a steady increase in rides from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022; the SVTN program performed 23,035 rides using 21,976 hours of volunteer time in FY22.

MyRide West TN

MyRide West TN is an affiliate program of the SVTN and served consumers in Madison, Henderson and Chester Counties in FY 22. Chester County became fully operational in May of 2022. The Program Coordinators, Renee Young (serving Madison County & Chester County) and Bethany Payne (serving Henderson County) worked to recruit new volunteers and ensured all requested rides were picked up. McNairy County began having steering committee meetings in FY 22 and the program officially launched in July 2022. During FY 22, MyRide provided 818 trips, to 36 persons in Madison County. In Henderson County, 715 trips were provided to 34 persons and in Chester County 20 trips were provided to 9 persons.

Tennessee State Health Insurance Assistance Program (TN SHIP)

The Tennessee State Health Insurance Assistance Program (TN SHIP) is a program that provides free, unbiased counseling and assistance to Tennessee's Medicare-eligible individuals, their families, and caregivers. TCAD approached SWAAAD about assuming operation of the TN SHIP program for FY22. There are three parts to the TN SHIP Program, MIPPA, SHIP, and SMP. Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) is the portion of the program that provides outreach and assistance to eligible Medicare beneficiaries to apply for benefit programs to help lower the cost of their Medicare premiums and deductibles. SWAAAD began the MIPPA portion in September 2021 and hired a coordinator in November 2021. The MIPPA program served 715 beneficiaries from September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022. SWAAAD started the remainder of the SHIP program in April 2022. The SHIP program served 485 beneficiaries from April 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022. The Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) empowers and assists Medicare beneficiaries, their families, and caregivers to prevent, detect, and report health care fraud, errors, and abuse through outreach, counseling, and education. SWAAAD began its operation of SMP on June 1, 2022.

SWTDD Economic and Community Development Programs

The SWTDD Economic & Community Development team works with our regional governments to improve the quality of life for citizens in the area. Our ECD services are free-of-charge to our area governments – except planning services and solid waste assistance, which are provided on a contractual basis with participating communities. Below are brief explanations of some ECD services.

Grant Writing & Grant Administration:

SWTDD has both a grant writer and a grant administrator on staff. All grant writing services are completely free to our member governments. SWTDD receives an administration fee only when a grant is funded.

Types of Grants Written by SWTDD:

EDA, FastTrack Infrastructure, Site Development Grants, TVA InvestPrep, CDBG, CDBG Façade, ARP, DRA, SAFETEA-LU, LPRF/LWCF/RTP, USDA-RD, Assistance to Firefighters, Governor's Highway Safety Office, TDOT, THDA, Solid Waste, Byrnes, Broadband, Childcare, Downtown Improvement and Main Street, and Disaster.

TACIR (Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations):

SWTDD surveyed 74 School Infrastructure projects and 552 General Infrastructure projects (including the Tennessee Department of Transportation's bridge projects) throughout our eight county region for a total project count of 626 projects. All projects were submitted to TACIR through the Public Infrastructure Needs Inventory database (PINI). The inventory projects surveyed include active and conceptual projects for the next 20 years.

Regional Planning Services (provided on a contractual basis):

SWTDD's regional planners provide customized services to planning commissions and local governments with the development of a comprehensive long range plan including land use and transportation plans, community facility plans, development process, design review guidelines, zoning ordinances/resolutions, and subdivision regulations that are compatible with local values and provide counsel that is enforceable within the scope of local and state authorities. During FY2020, SWTDD had contracts with the cities of Bolivar, Brownsville, Henderson, Lexington, McKenzie, Parkers Crossroads, Saltillo, and Stanton; as well as with Chester, Hardeman, and Haywood Counties.

Small Business Loans:

SWTDD is an economic development lender. As an Intermediary for USDA Rural Development and the Economic Development Administration, SWTDD utilizes federal funds to leverage local dollars and create jobs in the region. Loan funds extended to businesses or industries can be used for business startup or expansion, real estate or equipment purchase, and working capital. Lending policy is set by the Executive Committee. The loan program is overseen by a Loan Review Committee comprised of a Loan Officer or Bank President from each county that SWTDD serves. In addition to Revolving Loan Fund and Intermediary Relending Program loans, SWTDD administers a revolving loan fund through the CARES Act to assist businesses that were financially damaged by the coronavirus. From July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, SWTDD added 11 new loans to the CARES Act Program, totaling \$233,000.

Solid Waste/Materials Management Technical Assistance:

SWTDD contracts with interested communities in our eight county region to provide solid waste services in designing, implementing, upgrading, and maintaining solid waste plans, programs, and facilities; providing assistance in the formation or dissolution of planning regions; preparing the District-Wide Needs Assessments; providing technical assistance to solid waste boards to achieve Solid Waste Management Act goals; and providing assistance within the region to prepare and submit the required Annual Progress Report. SWTDD assisted



BancorpSouth/Cadence Bank provided SWTDD's loan program with a \$4,000 grant to help small businesses with creating a business plan and other other sources of help for loan recipients in the Southwest TN region.

Assisting Local, Regional, & State Government Organizations

Decatur, Haywood, Henderson, and McNairy County with collection of data and submission of the Annual Progress Report to the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation. Every county in the SWTDD region exceeded the 25% Recycling and Diversion goal in accordance with TCA § 68-211-861. All local governments, businesses and industry actively engage in the recovery or recycling of materials being generated.

Counties benefit from achieving the 25% waste reduction and diversion goal by demonstrating a need for collection or processing infrastructure.

Rural Planning Organization (Rural Roads & Transportation Planning):

Southwest

Tennessee Development District is one of the Tennessee Department of Transportation's 12 rural planning organizations for enhanced service and rural transportation development. Our RPO serves all SWTDD counties with the exception of Madison County. The Southwest Tennessee RPO leadership consists of an executive committee and technical committee; these groups meet several times each year.



The above Stanton home received a THDA Home Grant. Because it will be less expensive to rebuild than to restore, a new home is being built on the property and the existing structure will be torn down. At left, FLAGG Grove School, where celebrity Tina Turner attended classes, was added to the Tennessee Historic Registry in FY2022.

Historic Preservation Services:

SWTDD collaborates with the Tennessee Historic Commission (THC) to provide technical support and state/federal program guidance. State Programs consist of Historical Sites and Historical Markers Programs and Tennessee War Commission. Federal Programs are National Register, Preservation Grants, Investment Tax Credit, Section 106 Review, and Local Government Assistance. SWTDD also provides help to historic zoning commissions, surveys historic resources, and contributes to Tennessee's Plan for Historic Preservation.

Housing Services:

SWTDD collaborates with Tennessee Housing Development Agency (THDA) to provide technical assistance to local governments and the public. SWTDD will aid in grant preparation and, in some cases, provide individuals with references to agencies that can assist them in meeting their housing rehabilitation needs. Currently four communities are seeking assistance with THDA grants.

U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA):

SWTDD, a designated Economic Development District, conducts the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) process for our region. Partially funded by EDA dollars, this consists of keeping regional goals, strategies, and city/county statistical data up-to-date.

Environmental Reviews:

SWTDD prepares environmental reviews for state and federal grants and for loans that have review requirements - including CDBG, THDA, HOME, LPRF/LWRF/RTP, FEMA, DRA, USDA Rural Development, and other projects as deemed necessary.

SWTDD Economic & Community Development Department

Community Development Block and Façade Grants:

During Fiscal Year 2022, the following communities were awarded CDBG grants: The Town of Bethel Springs was awarded \$313,049 to replace an aging water line. Hardin County received \$290,112 and Henderson County received \$288,176 to purchase new fire tankers. The Town of Saultillo was awarded \$112,601 to replace two aging outdoor emergency warning sirens. Phase II of the Town of Stanton's Sewer System Improvements Project was awarded \$513,188.

CDBGs are used for industrial infrastructure, industrial buildings and equipment as well as for water and wastewater treatment facilities, housing rehabilitation, projects that improve community livability, and disaster recovery.

Site Development Grants:

In FY2022, Decatur County received \$394,650 to extend a sewer line to an industrial park site on Highway 641. Henderson County JECDB was awarded \$736,689 for grading and paving on an industrial site. Lexington Industrial Development Board received \$586,741 for grading on an industrial site. The Savannah Industrial Development Corporation was awarded \$80,370 for due diligence studies for a potential industrial site. Selmer-McNairy County Industrial Development Board is funding a site development project consisting of a building pad and drive with \$897,942 in SDG funds.

Site Development Grants are used, primarily, to improve TN-ECD's Select Tennessee Certified Sites and to prepare other sites to achieve certification.



TVA InvestPrep Grants:

Tennessee Valley Authority's "InvestPrep" grants are specifically match-based funds used to "attract new companies — resulting in more jobs and investments in the Valley." In FY2021, the City of Lexington received a TVA InvestPrep grant for \$352,614 for industrial development on the Reeves Property.

Rural Planning Organization (RPO) & TN Department of Transportation Grants:

TDOT's Office of Community Transportation awarded the cities of Brownsville and Lexington Multi-Modal Access Grants. TDOT also awarded the City of Lexington a \$38K grant to provide 360 degree video detectors. The Southwest Tennessee RPO met twice during the 2021-2022 program year as required by TDOT. During the program year, TDOT awarded the cities of Bolivar, Scotts Hill, Selmer, and Stanton Multi-Modal Access Grants respectively; Decaturville received the 2021-2022 Community Transportation Planning Grant for its Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan; and Bethel Springs and Stanton were awarded the Southwest RPO RUPi (Rural Planning Initiative) Grant during the 2021-2022 program year. The RPO Coordinator attended four meetings with city and county officials relative to the RPO program during the 2021-2022 program year. The RPO Coordinator also prepared 52 weekly reports, four quarterly reports, and an annual report. The RPO Coordinator attended public meetings for Decaturville's Master Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan and Stanton's Walkability Implementation Plan.

Delta Regional Authority (DRA) Grants:

In FY2022, the City of Lexington was awarded \$300,000 to partially fund a new water storage tank for its industrial park and surrounding area. The Lexington Industrial Development Board received \$815,869 for a property expansion to support a new business and creation of 120 jobs. The City of Henderson was awarded \$200,000 to extend a water line along Highway 45 with the addition of fire hydrants to increase its fire response.

EDA Economic Disaster Recovery:

SWTDD received a three-year EDA grant in FY2021 to address post-pandemic economic recovery through strategic planning. In FY2022, SWTDD moved through EDA's "Phase Two" goals, which focused on strategic plan implementation throughout the eight county SWTDD region. SWTDD

FY 2021/2022: ECD Accomplishments

coordinated the follow-up meetings, communicated findings of asset and liability assessments, developed goal implementation responsibilities, and began work with communities to begin implementation of the plans in each SWTDD counties. As part of the process, SWTDD also created and distributed a comprehensive regional plan. These plans were developed with professional assistance from Younger Associates and were with support and input from local elected officials and community stakeholders.



Other Grant Work:

In addition to the above grants, SWTDD's grant team helps with grants for Local Parks and Recreation Fund (LPRF), Recreational Trails Program grants (RTP), ARP funds for sewer/water projects, broadband grants, and CDBG funds for child care.

FY2022 Regional Workshops, Meetings, and Events:

SWTDD hosted many trainings, forums, and workshop events-- both in-person and virtually. A few of these included CDBG Public Meetings, Grant Workshops, ECD Select TN Workshop, TDEC, USDA-RD Training, a Fair Housing Conference, West Tennessee Legislative Caucus meeting, West Tennessee City & County Mayors meetings, Memphis Regional Megasite Authority meetings, WestStar meetings, West Tennessee Affordable Housing, Medicare/SHIP Training, THDA Housing Conference and Trainings, TCAD Coalition Meetings, and more.

Tennessee Housing Development Technical Assistance Grant:

SWTDD hosted one Fair Housing Conference with our partner agency West Tennessee Legal Services. SWTDD also is working with the City of Bolivar and the Town of Stanton administering THDA HOME grants that directly affect families whose homes are selected for rehabilitation and reconstruction.

Tennessee Historic Commission Technical Assistance Grant:

SWTDD wrote and was awarded a \$20,500 grant from the Tennessee Wars Commission for Parkers Crossroads, wrote and was awarded a \$54,688 grant from TN ECD for their Historic Development Grant Program, completed 100 Tennessee Historic Commission Architectural Surveys in Lexington, attended 11 Historic Zoning Commission meetings, 8 related historic preservation meetings, 1 Tennessee Historical Commission meeting, reviewed 3 Certificate of Appropriateness applications, and, completed 8 Section 106 Reviews

Regional Planning:

Regional Planning is provided by SWTDD on a contractual basis. During FY2022, planning services were provided to Bolivar, Brownsville, Henderson, Lexington, Parkers Crossroads, Saltillo, Stanton and McKenzie and the counties of Chester, Hardeman, and Haywood. SWTDD planners attended 81 planning commission meetings and design review commission meetings for all contract communities.

During the FY2021-2022, the SWTDD regional planners had the following major accomplishments: a zoning ordinance text amendment concerning Solar Farms was prepared for Hardeman County; prepared a text amendment concerning telecommunication tower regulations for the Hardeman County Zoning Resolution, in addition to regulations germane to small scale slaughter houses; a zoning ordinance text amendment concerning Transitional Residential Housing was prepared for the City of Lexington; prepared an updated Municipal Zoning Ordinance for the City of Brownsville; prepared updated Subdivision Regulations for the Town of Stanton; and prepared an updated version of the Town of Saltillo Zoning Ordinance.

Community Transportation Grants/RPO Services:

Several transportation-related grants were awarded in the Southwest TN region during FY2022. The Tennessee Department of Transportation awarded the cities of Bolivar, Scotts Hill, Selmer, and Stanton Multi-Modal Access Grants; the town of Decaturville received a 2021-2022 Community Transportation Planning Grant for a Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan. And, the towns of Bethel Springs and Stanton were awarded the Southwest RPO RUPi (Rural Planning Initiative) Grant.

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