



EDA - Public Works Projects

Objectives:

'To promote long term economic development in areas experiencing substantial economic distress. EDA provides Public Works investments to support the construction of rehabilitation of essential public infrastructure and development facilities necessary to generate higher-skill, higher-wage jobs and private investment.'

Uses and Restrictions:

Investments in; water and sewer improvements, industrial access roads, industrial and business parks, port facilities, railroad sidings, distance learning facilities, skill-training facilities, business incubator facilities, redevelopment of Brownfield's, eco-industrial facilities, and telecommunications infrastructure improvements needed for business retention and expansion.

Eligible Activities

Eligible activities include; acquisition, rehabilitation, design, and engineering, or improvement of public land or publicly-owned and operated development facilities, including machinery and equipment. Projects may also include infrastructure for broadband deployment and other types of telecommunications-enabling projects and other kinds of technology infrastructure.

Eligible projects must fulfill a pressing need of the area and must 1) improve the opportunities for the successful establishment or expansion of industrial or commercial plants or facilities; 2) assist in the creation of additional long-term employment opportunities; or 3) benefit the unemployed/underemployed residents of the area or members of low-income families. In addition, all proposed investments must be consistent with the currently approved Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the area in which the project will be located, and the applicant must have the required local share of funds committed and available. Also, the project must be capable of being started and completed in a timely manner.

Applicant Eligibility:

States, cities, counties, an institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education, and other political subdivisions, Indian tribes, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Commonwealth and territories of the U.S. flag, Economic Development Districts, and private or public nonprofit organizations or associations acting in cooperation with officials of a Political Subdivision of a State or Indian Tribe. Individuals, companies, corporations, and associations organized for profit are not eligible.

Credentials/Documentation:

Applications must describe the type of facility proposed, estimated costs, purpose of proposed project, permanent private sector job impact (estimated payrolls, estimated private investment), estimated time for construction implementation and completion, and assurances that the project will satisfy EDA's statutory requirements. Most important, documentation must demonstrate how the project will satisfy a pressing need of the area and have a positive impact on the economic development of the community.

Examples of Funded Projects:

(1) Infrastructure for industrial park development; (2) port development and expansion; (3) infrastructure necessary for economic development (e.g. water/sewer facilities); (4) renovation and recycling of old industrial buildings; (5) construction of vocational/technical facilities and skill centers; (6) construction of incubator facilities; (7) redevelopment of Brownfields; and (8) Eco-industrial development.