

July 6, 2017

## Council Connections

Bridging Allegany, Garrett and Washington Counties



Tri County Council  
For Western Maryland

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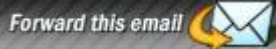
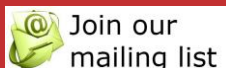
[MARBIDCO Announces Applications Available](#)

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### Dates to Remember

**September 26-28, 2017**  
**Ocean City, MD**

**TAM Conference & Expo**  
[Click here for Full Schedule and Registration Information](#)



## Invitation to Participate in Online Survey for Western Maryland Communities

What are the biggest challenge(s) or opportunities for which you think resources should be directed to assist in achieving a healthy community and economy?

If you would like to affect how locally proposed projects are ranked to receive federal funding,

[\*\*Click here to start the Survey.\*\*](#)

Do you believe all needs have been met in regard to infrastructure for broadband, roads, source water, waste water, and storm water? What about education and workforce development? What about healthcare? What about tourism? If needs and opportunities are not defined, resources will not be directed toward them.

**Tri-County Council invites the region to guide its economic development efforts by participating in the Survey to prioritize issues that affect Western Maryland through Tuesday, July 25, 2017.**

In addition to making an impact by taking the survey, you will have an opportunity to be entered into a drawing to win one of five \$100 Visa cards!

The Survey takes less than 10 minutes to complete. Access to the Survey is also available by visiting [www.tccwmd.org](http://www.tccwmd.org).

## Notice of Funding Availability

### USDA Accepting Rural Business Development Grant Applications to Provide Technical Assistance for Rural Transportation Systems

Funds can be used to support on-site technical assistance to local/regional governments, public transit agencies, and related nonprofit and for-profit organizations in rural areas; for the development of training materials; and for the provision of necessary training assistance to local officials and agencies in rural area.

**Completed applications must be received no later than 4:30pm on Wednesday, September 6, 2017.**

### National Endowment for the Arts Creative Community Development Efforts Supported

The "Our Town" program supports creative placemaking to improve communities.

Program areas include arts engagement, cultural planning, and design of public and cultural spaces.

**The application deadline is September 11, 2017.**

### National Park Service Historic Preservation Funds Available

Grants to Underrepresented Communities program supports the survey, inventory, and designation of historic properties that are associated with communities currently underrepresented in the National Register of Historic Places and among National Historic Landmarks.

**The application deadline is July 31, 2017.**

## Maryland Agricultural & Resource-Based Industry Development Corporation (MARBIDCO) Announces Application for Rural Business Equipment and Working Capital Loan Fund Available



**MARBIDCO**  
*growing rural ventures™*

The Rural Business Equipment and Working Capital Loan Fund has been established by MARBIDCO to help meet the unique financing needs of Maryland's rural businesses that are not otherwise able to obtain commercial financing for working capital and equipment purchases from traditional commercial lenders (e.g., banks or Farm Credit Associations). This program makes available moderate-cost loans to qualified applicants for working capital and equipment purchases (only). A major aim of this program is to help rural businesses to innovate, diversify, and exploit emerging market opportunities.

For complete details including Program Description, Loan Terms and Conditions, and Application, [click here](#).


View the Maryland Resource-Based Industry Financing Fund Brochure [here](#).

*"Promoting Innovation in Maryland Agricultural and Resource-Based Business"*

## Nominations for the Transportation Association of Maryland Excellence Awards is Now Open!

Nominations for the TAM Excellence Awards is now open! These awards honor the best in Maryland community transportation and are awarded every year at our annual Conference & Expo in September. These awards acknowledge and recognize "the best of the best" -





those persons and organizations that have made significant contributions in the community transportation industry and are a role model of excellence. This is your opportunity to recognize and be recognized for outstanding achievement.

Use [this link](#) to submit the online nomination!

For complete details, [click here](#).

**Only TAM members are eligible to nominate, and nominations must be received by August 11!**