

March 5, 2020

Council Connections

Bridging Allegany, Garrett and Washington Counties



Tri County Council
For Western Maryland

In This Issue

[EDA Launches Build to Scale Program](#)

[ARC Seeks Input to Guide Investment Priorities](#)

[Census 2020](#)

Dates to Remember

TCCWMD Council Meeting

Wednesday, April 15
5:00 pm
Allegany County

Quick Links

[Allegany County Government](#)

[Garrett County Government](#)

[Washington County Government](#)

[Maryland Department of Planning](#)

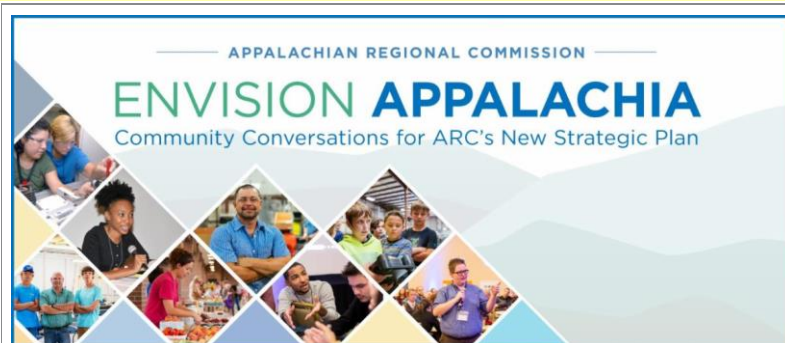
EDA Launches the Build to Scale Program, a Redesign of its Regional Innovation Strategies Program

The EDA is pleased to announce that it has redesigned its Regional Innovation Strategies (RIS) program. The new program is called **Build to Scale (B2S)**. The modernized brand better reflects the spirit of the entrepreneurship communities it works to serve.

Applications for the 2020 competition are being accepted through March 24, 2020.

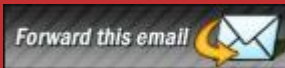
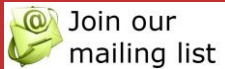
The **Build to Scale** Program supports regional economic growth through three separate competitions: Venture Challenge, Capital Challenge, Industry Challenge

Visit the **Build to Scale** [web page](#) for more information.



ARC Seeks Partner & Community Input to Guide Investment Priorities

Maryland Department of
Commerce



Notice of Funding Availability

USDA Now Accepting Rural Business Development Grant Applications

Designed to provide technical assistance and training for small rural businesses. Learn more by following this link.

The Application Deadline is March 31, 2020.

USDA Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program

helps rural communities use telecommunications-based audio and video equipment to connect teachers, students, medical providers and rural residents with each other and the world.

The Application deadline is April 10, 2020.

Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) has announced a series of public input sessions to identify critical opportunities and challenges facing Appalachia's economic future. **Envision Appalachia: Community Conversations for ARC's Strategic Plan** will gather insights from these public sessions, coupled with guidance from regional, state, and local partners, and will inform ARC's strategic plan for fiscal years 2021-2025.

ARC develops a new strategic plan every five years in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). More than 3,000 Appalachians provided input to develop ARC's current strategic plan, **Investing in Appalachia's Future: The Appalachian Regional Commission's Five-Year Strategic Plan for Capitalizing on Appalachia's Opportunities, 2016-2020**, which expires on September 30, 2020.

For those unable to attend the public sessions, ARC is also collecting input via this 10 minute **public survey**.

"As we plan ARC's investment strategy for the years to come, it is important that we be informed by the people we serve," said ARC Federal Co-Chairman Tim Thomas.

Follow [this link](#) for free public session dates, locations, and registration information.



CensusMaryland

Results from the Census are used to ensure OUR area receives its fair share of federal funding for schools, roads and highways, housing, emergency services, health clinics and other public services.

To learn more visit:

<http://census.maryland.gov>

<https://alleganycensus2020.org/>