



**Council Connections**  
**Bridging Allegany, Garrett and Washington Counties**  
**August 19, 2025**



#### **Maryland Coordinated Transportation Planning Workshops and Focus Groups**

On behalf of the Maryland Department of Transportation's Maryland Transit Administration (MDOT MTA) the KFH Group invites you to participate in the update of the Maryland Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plans. These regional plans identify the transportation needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with low incomes; provide strategies for meeting local needs; and prioritize transportation services and projects for funding and implementation.

Importantly, the plans serve as the basis for funding through MDOT MTA's Section 5310 (Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities) Program, as future projects funded through this program will be derived from the updated plans. Therefore, current Section 5310 Program subrecipients and prospective applicants for future funding are required to be involved in the planning process.

Input from you and a wide range of stakeholders is a key component in the update of the Coordinated Transportation Plans, and therefore regional workshops and focus groups have been scheduled across the state. Please plan to join us at the upcoming workshop or focus group most appropriate to your services or interests. **Follow this link to the project website where you will find more information on the planning process and can register to attend –**

<https://marylandcoordinatedplans.com>.

We also encourage you to forward this e-mail to others that may have interest in participating in one of the upcoming workshops or focus groups. Thank you in advance for your participation in this important planning effort. Please see the contact information on the project website if you have any questions or need additional information.

**Request for Proposals (RFP)  
Professional Grant Writing Services & Grant Implementation  
Western Maryland Brownfields Assessment Grant**

**Due Date and Time:**

August 29, 2025 by 12:00 noon ET

**Deadline to Submit Questions:**

August 12, 2025 by 12:00 noon ET

**Deliver documents to:**

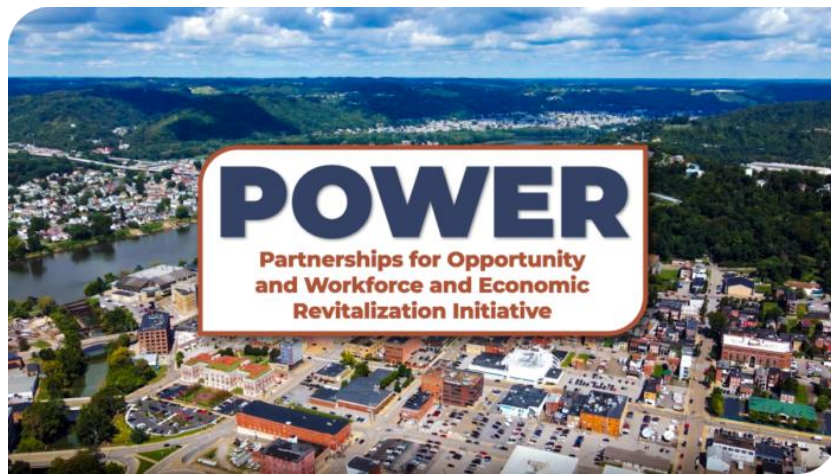
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**Introduction & Background**

The Tri County Council for Western Maryland is seeking a qualified environmental and/or planning consulting firm to provide assistance with:

- (1) Development and submission of an application for an EPA Brownfields Assessment Coalition grant on behalf of Tri County Council for Western Maryland for environmental assessment, planning, and community engagement activities in the target areas of Washington, Allegany, and Garrett Counties in Maryland.
  - (2) Implementation of the environmental assessment, planning, and community engagement activities should the EPA Brownfields Assessment be awarded.
- The U.S. EPA defines brownfields as "properties that contain or may contain a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant, complicating efforts to expand,

redevelop or reuse them." Tri County Council for Western Maryland is seeking funding from the U.S. EPA for assessment, community engagement, and planning activities on brownfields sites in areas identified as target areas and throughout its geographic service area. Tri County Council for Western Maryland will be the lead project manager of the intended grant award. Follow [this link](#) for complete details.



### **ARC Seeks Applicants for Economic Revitalization Projects in Appalachia's Coal Communities**

*Letters of intent are due September 12, 2025 for funding through ARC's POWER Initiative, which creates new opportunities in Appalachian coal communities.*

WASHINGTON, D.C., August 12, 2025—Today, the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) issued a [notice of solicitation of applications \(NOSA\)](#) for its [Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization \(POWER\) Initiative](#). POWER offers federal grant funding for projects that help Appalachian coal communities expand local and regional economies by creating high-quality, in-demand jobs, attracting new sources of private investment, and providing comprehensive workforce services and skills training.

Since its creation 10 years ago, ARC's collective POWER investments are projected to have created or retained nearly 54,000 jobs and prepared nearly 170,000 workers and students for new opportunities in advanced manufacturing, entrepreneurship, tourism, agriculture and other growing industries.

“ARC’s POWER Initiative helps strengthen Appalachia’s coal communities while giving residents a say in the course of their own futures,” said ARC Federal Co-Chair Gayle Manchin. “These communities have long been critical economic drivers for both our region and the entire country, and ARC believes in their ability to catalyze new development that will take them into the next generation of Appalachian prosperity.”

Successful POWER projects will demonstrate the ability to produce varied economic development outcomes, including broadening local and regional economic bases, creating stable employment opportunities, expanding workforce service and skills training, and attracting new sources of public and private investment. POWER projects can also entail plans to integrate activities with existing economic development strategies or to help implement these strategies on a local, regional or federal level. "The Appalachian Regional Commission and POWER program provide opportunities in communities that are impacted by changes in the energy transition, supporting efforts to create a vibrant economic future," said Maryland Governor and 2025 ARC Co-Chair Wes Moore. "By creating economic diversity, enhanced job training, and attractive new sources of investment in our region, transformative POWER projects strengthen manufacturing, entrepreneurship, and workforce development across our 13 Appalachian states.”

Key dates for the fiscal year (FY) 2025 POWER application process include:

- **August 21, 2025 (10:00 a.m. ET): [Pre-application webinar](#)**
- **September 12, 2025 (5:00 p.m. ET): Mandatory letters of intent (LOI) due**
- **October 22, 2025 (5:00 p.m. ET): Grant applications due**
- **May 2026: Awards announced**
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Since POWER was established, ARC has invested \$485 million in 564 projects to help revitalize 365 Appalachian counties.

Learn more about [ARC’s POWER Initiative](#), the [FY 2025 NOSA](#), and [how to apply](#).



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**The One Big Beautiful Bill For Business Owners**

August 25, 2025

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Cost: Free

For more details and to Register, follow [this link](#).

**Backup & Recovery Plans For Your Business**

August 26, 2025

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Cost: Free

For more details and to Register, follow [this link](#).

Visit the [SBDC Training Calendar](#) for more Event Opportunities

Tri-County Council for Western Maryland | 301-689-1300

11 S. Lee Street, Cumberland, MD 21502 | [www.tccwmd.org](http://www.tccwmd.org)

