Funding & Technical Assistance

Citizen's Institute for Rural Design
Request for applications from communities closes July 22. The Citizens' Institute on Rural Design™ will continue its tradition of offering local design workshops that address specific community challenges, and also create a new cohort learning program that will engage rural leaders from up to 20 additional communities. All rural communities of 50,000 or less are eligible to apply. [More info here](#).

Rural Responses to the Opioid Epidemic Grant Opportunity
The Rural Responses to the Opioid Epidemic grant program leverages the combined resources of the U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the State Justice Institute (SJI), and other partners. The goal of this funding opportunity is to reduce the morbidity and mortality associated with opioid overdoses among individuals who come into contact with law enforcement or are involved in the criminal justice system in high-risk rural communities and regions.

Under this solicitation, up to eight rural communities or regions will be selected for an award of up to $750,000 each for a 24-month time period. Grant funds may be used to support activities including: strategic planning; strengthening epidemiologic surveillance and public health data infrastructure; increasing the use of evidence-based/culturally appropriate prescribing interventions; developing and implementing community-level opioid overdose prevention activities; and expanding peer recovery and support services. More information on this grant program can be found [here](#). The deadline to apply is 5:00 pm ET on July 26, 2019.

USDA Rural Development Value Added Producer Grant
Program's FY 2019 Funding Opportunity is coming soon! NOFA will be coming out sometime near the end of July and will have over $30,000,000 in grant funds available nationwide. The VAPG is designed to help with planning or working capital grant funds at a 50/50 applicant match for agricultural producers as they look to market and sell their value added products from the raw commodities they currently produce. It is never too early to start working on a VAPG application. Contact: P.J. Howe | Business Program Specialist | Rural Development 970-3151 | p.j.howe@usda.gov | [www.rd.usda.gov/co](http://www.rd.usda.gov/co).

Women in Apprenticeship and Nontraditional Occupations (WANTO) grant program
U.S. Dept. of Labor. [WANTO grant program](#) will award $1.5 million to community-based organizations to encourage women's employment in apprenticeship and nontraditional occupations. Deadline: July 8.

Bonding Program for Workers Recovering from Opioid Abuse
U.S. Dept. of Labor. funds available to increase the usage of fidelity bonds, through the Federal Bonding Program (FBP), to secure employment opportunities for workers recovering from the misuse
of opioids. The Department is committed to helping those recovering from opioid use find family-sustaining jobs, informing employers about opportunities to provide second chances, and advancing strategies to address barriers to employment that may exist. More info here.

Endangered Places Nominations
Colorado Preservation, Inc.'s program works with communities throughout the state to preserve endangered historic places. Nominations can be submitted by individuals or organizations and should clearly indicate the nature of the threat to the building or historic resource, such as abandonment or neglect, development pressures, weatherization and natural damage, or other factors. Nominations close August 16th. Nominate Today!

Grants Promote Contemporary Visual Arts
The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. Funding for the advancement of the visual arts. The Foundation fosters innovative artistic expression and the creative process through its support of cultural organizations that, in turn, support artists and their work. Grants are provided for curatorial programs at museums, artists' organizations, and other cultural institutions to originate innovative and scholarly presentations of contemporary visual arts. Projects may include exhibitions, catalogues, artists' residencies, and other relevant activities. The next postmark deadline for proposals is September 1, 2019. Visit the Foundation’s website to review the grant guidelines.

Small Business Administration - Disaster Loan Assistance
More info here. Small nonfarm businesses in 31 Colorado counties and neighboring counties in New Mexico are now eligible to apply for low-interest federal disaster loans from the U.S. Small Business Administration. These loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by drought in counties that began Nov. 1, 2018. Primary Colorado counties: Chaffee, Crowley, Custer, El Paso, Elbert, Fremont, Huerfano, Lake, Las Animas, Lincoln, Otero, Park and Pueblo; Neighboring Colorado counties: Alamosa, Arapahoe, Baca, Bent, Cheyenne, Clear Creek, Costilla, Douglas, Eagle, Gunnison, Jefferson, Kiowa, Kit Carson, Pitkin, Saguache, Summit, Teller and Washington.

Groundwork USA Community Improvement
The mission of the Groundwork USA network is to bring about the sustained regeneration, improvement, and management of the physical environment by developing community-based partnerships that empower people, businesses, and organizations to promote environmental, economic, and social well-being. Letters of Interest must be received by July 31, 2019. The selected community will be eligible for up to $200,000 in funding and technical assistance from the National Park Service, US Environmental Protection Agency, and Groundwork USA to plan, establish, and build the capacity of a Groundwork Trust organization in their community. For more info. visit www.groundworkusa.org.

Our Town Creative Placemaking Grant Program
Our Town is the National Endowment for the Arts’ creative placemaking grants program. These grants support projects that integrate arts, culture, and design activities into efforts that strengthen communities by advancing local economic, physical, and/or social outcomes. Successful Our Town projects ultimately lay the groundwork for systemic changes that sustain the integration of arts, culture, and design into local strategies for strengthening communities. These projects require a partnership between a nonprofit organization and a local government entity, with one of the partners being a cultural organization. Matching grants range from $25,000 to $200,000, with a minimum cost share/match equal to the grant amount. Deadline: August 8.

ATV Safety and Trail Access Funding
The T.R.A.I.L.S. Grant Program, an initiative of Polaris Industries, provides support to national, state, and local organizations in the United States to ensure the future of ATV riding. Deadline: September 1. More info here.

The U.S. Department of Transportation Funds for Mobility Innovation
Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has announced that $15 million in research funds is available to transit providers, state agencies, and federally recognized tribes through the Integrated Mobility Innovation Demonstration program. Applications are due August 6, 2019. For more information, view the funding announcement posted here.

Support for Downtown Housing Projects through HUD
The HOPE VI Main Street Program provides grants to small communities to assist in the renovation of historic or traditional central business districts, or "Main Street" areas, by replacing unused, obsolete commercial space in buildings with affordable housing units. Deadline: July 30.

Training, Workshops, & Events

Innovation and Design Training: Methods & Tools for Generating New Ideas and Turning them into Action
July 23 from 1 - 5 pm at the Summit County Main Library in Frisco - more info and register here
Workshop Objective: Introduction to the methodology and tools for Innovation. Learn about various Innovation approaches, methods, tools and creative problem-solving techniques to encourage your teams to develop new ideas. Join CRC for a 1/2-day introduction to Innovation. Learn about the methods of Innovation and specific tools to encourage and support innovative thinking within your organization. This hands-on, interactive workshop will provide participants with a greater understanding of the various approaches and ways to Innovate. More info and register here.

Webinar on Water Loss and Asset Management for Small Water Systems
July 23 at 12:00 p.m. MT
Utility mapping can assist your water system with asset management and water loss reduction if you know how to utilize it correctly. Join the Smart Management for Small Water Systems project this webinar that will answer all your questions about mapping for water loss and asset management. Examples of topics include: different maps, mapping, and data collection technologies; types of attributes that can be collected; and the analysis that can be done within the context of an asset management and water loss reduction framework. Register and learn more here.

Colorado's Mutual Prosperity (COMP) Program Informational Webinar
July 25 from 10:00 - 11:00 AM
Offered by the Economic Development Council of Colorado (EDCC). This webinar covers the recently announced Colorado's Mutual Prosperity (COMP) Program, a program designed to encourage collaboration between key economic development stakeholders in Colorado's urban and rural communities by expanding the benefits of large, urban job creation projects.
Learn how the program will be implemented and how it will use existing economic development tools to incentivize employers to hire on-site employees in urban communities as well as remote employees in rural communities. This program also includes an incentive for companies who allow employees to work in a rural location at least three days a week. A Strategic Fund cash incentive in addition to applying for Job Growth Incentive Tax Credits (JGITC) is now available. More info here.

Northwest Colorado Small Business Development Center Workshops
Join SBDC in the Vail Valley for these workshops - more info and register at www.northwestsbdc.org:
Finance Essentials for Small Business - August 8
Startup to Scale Up - September 13-14

AARP Livable Communities Conference
August 21 at Beaver Run Resort in Breckenridge - FREE!
Nearly one out of every five Coloradans will be 65 years or older by 2030, a demographic
shift that holds both challenges and opportunities for Colorado communities. AARP Colorado is organizing a one day conference that will bring together national, state and local policy experts with government and community leaders to explore the potential creation and development of age-friendly communities for people of all ages. The conference will feature presentations on best practices by local communities and opportunities for future networking. Attendance is free, a light breakfast and lunch will be provided. To rsvp or for additional information please respond to the AARP Colorado State Office at: rrey@aarp.org

The 2019 CML Annual Seminar on Municipal Law
Sept. 27-28 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Greeley at Lincoln Park.
This seminar provides expert Colorado-specific information relevant to the daily practice of municipal attorneys in the state, as well as opportunities to network with peers. CML has contracted special lodging rates, and online reservations and registration are now open. For more details, visit bit.ly/2XIvUXG.

Small Town, Big ideas: Downtown Institute for Business
Sept. 10 in Manitou Springs - More info and register here
Across the country and the world communities are realizing the power of the creative economy and experiential business. Manitou Springs has been supporting creative entrepreneurs before it was trendy, and in partnership with Downtown Colorado, Inc. (DCI) and APA Colorado will share the tools, resources, and networks essential to building the systems to feed the business ecosystem. Join us for this innovative day in collaboration with the Manitou Arts Center and Start Up Colorado Springs!

American Planning Association Colorado Conference: Elevated Planning: Balancing Place and Change!
Sept. 18-20 in Snowmass Village, CO - more info and register here
Check out the preliminary program and register online at http://www.apacolorado.org/2019-conference.

Grand County Economic Summit
September 12 at the Headwaters Center in Winter Park
Come join for the afternoon to hear about: Colorado Demographer - State and Grand County projections; Northwest Regional Workforce Center - cost of living and employee wages; WorkInGrand.com updates and work station. Agenda coming soon!

Housing Colorado Now Annual Conference
Oct. 8 - 11 - Keystone, CO
In 2019, the Housing Colorado Now Annual Conference will celebrate 31 years as Housing Colorado's signature event, which gathers affordable housing professionals for creative, inspiring, and thought-provoking education. We will continue to build from our past successes to shape Colorado's future-a future of more affordable options and excellent, safe housing for all. The time for solutions and collaboration is now! Come join us as we tackle the big issues together and find ways to develop and preserve our state's housing.

Campsight Breck
Sept. 22-24
An innovation and marketing unconference for outdoor industry brands, adventurous visionaries and bold storytellers. More info here!

Drive, Lead, Succeed Conference - Economic Development Council of Colorado
October 9 - 11 at Cheyenne Mountain Resort, Colorado Springs CO - more info here
This annual conference aims to provide the knowledge, tools, and connections that are vital to foster a growing Colorado economy: Gather the industry's top influencers and thought leaders together to share knowledge and answer questions that no one else can; offer new and vital tools and solutions to pressing economic issues facing Colorado's professional economic development community; Facilitate quality collaboration and opportunity to exchange fresh, new ideas among Colorado's leading Economic Development professionals, business and non-profit leaders, government officials
2019 Community Building Colorado-Style Conference
Squeezed Out: Challenges of Dislocation, Diversity and Affordability in Fast-Growing Colorado Communities
Oct. 25 at University of Colorado Boulder - more info here.
Join planners, city officials, community activists, scholars, and students in discussing the challenges of dislocation, affordability, and diversity in Colorado's fast-growing communities with a full day of workshops, roundtables, discussions, and keynotes.

State Demography Summit
November 1st at Arapahoe Community College
Save the date for the 37th Annual State Demography Summit. This one-day summit will present updates to SDO population estimates and forecasts, and provide up-to-date information for county and municipal planners, data analysts, economic development professionals, and others. This year’s summit will offer continuing education credits for real estate appraisers, real estate brokers and members of the American Institute for City Planners (AICP). Registration will open September 2, 2019.

Resources
WorkinGrand.com
Over a hundred positions are posted. Housing opportunities are listed as well as local events and organizations. New information is being added every day. This resource is helpful for people new to Grand County, and long-time locals alike. To learn more and become involved please contact DiAnn Butler at 970-531-1343 or dbutler@co.grand.co.us.

People and Public Lands: What is the economic impact of America's public lands and waters? How can we quantify how these remarkable resources contribute to our quality of life? And how are our valuation methods and public policies changing? This diverse collection of essays from Headwaters Economics addresses questions related to the economic impact of America's public lands.