

(Updated March 4, 2021) *The * denotes the updated item.*

STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

USDA to Prioritize Projects Supporting Regional Economic and Community Development Planning

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11, 2021 – United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that it is seeking applications to fund projects that prioritize strategic investments that grow the economy and build prosperity in rural communities.

The 2018 Farm Bill authorized USDA to make [Strategic Economic and Community Development \(SECD\)](#) funding available to develop and implement strategic community investment plans. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2021, the covered Rural Development programs are:

- [Community Facilities Direct Loan and Grant Program](#);
- [Community Facilities Loan Guaranteed Program](#);
- [Water and Waste Disposal Program Loan and Grant Program](#);
- [Water and Waste Disposal Loan Guarantees](#);
- [Business & Industry Loan Guarantees](#); and
- [Rural Business Development Grants](#).

To apply for funding, applicants must meet covered program requirements and application deadlines and submit Form RD 1980-88 to the nearest USDA office. Applicants who are applying for SECD funding through a loan guarantee program may submit forms under the [OneRD Guarantee Loan Initiative](#) application guidelines.

* For additional information, see the [Jan. 11, 2021](#), and [March 4, 2021](#), Federal Register

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