

b. Communications infrastructure; and  
c. Specialized training program infrastructure.

3. Help communities plan and implement economic adjustment strategies in response to sudden and severe economic dislocations (*e.g.*, major layoffs, plant closures, trade impacts, defense restructuring, or disasters).

4. Support technology-led economic development, for example, proposals that:

a. Reflect the important role of research and development capacity of universities in regional development; and

b. Create and support technology transfers.

5. Advance community and faith-based social entrepreneurship in redevelopment strategies for areas of chronic economic distress.

#### **VII. Process for Invited Applications and Awards**

If the Selecting Official declines to invite a full application, he/she provides written notice to the applicant. If an application has been invited by the Selecting Official, it is reviewed by EDA program officials to determine whether it contains any deficiencies under EDA regulations at 13 CFR chapter III and the requirements of this notice. If deficiencies are noted, the applicant is provided a written request to amend the application to resolve any deficiencies. If deficiencies are not resolved 30 days after receipt of the written notice, the application may be rejected. If the full application is accepted, the recipient and EDR are notified and it is forwarded for final reviews and processing in accordance with EDA and DOC procedures.

#### **VIII. Program: Public Works and Economic Development Facilities Assistance—(Pub. L. 89-136, as amended by Pub. L. 105-393, 42 U.S.C. 3141)**

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance: 11.300 Grants for Public Works and Economic Development Facilities)

Funds in the amount of \$203,667,500 have been appropriated for this program. The average funding level for an investment in FY 2002 was \$1,240,000. This amount is not intended to restrict the size of future awards.

EDA will provide Public Works investments to support the construction or rehabilitation of essential public infrastructure and development facilities necessary to generate private sector jobs and investment, including investments that support technology-led

development, redevelopment of brownfield sites, and eco-industrial development.

#### **IX. Program: Planning—Planning Assistance for Economic Development Districts, Indian Tribes, States, and Other Planning Organizations—(Pub. L. 89-136, as Amended by Pub. L. 105-393, 42 U.S.C. 3143)**

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance: 11.302 Economic Development—Support for Planning Organizations)

Funds in the amount of \$23,844,000 have been appropriated for the Planning Program. In FY 2002, the average Economic Development District planning investment was \$59,000; the average Indian planning investment was \$46,000; and the average state and other planning organization investment was \$64,000. These amounts are not intended to restrict the size of future awards. EDA expects the majority of planning funds will be used for support to existing Economic Development District and Indian tribe grantees. Continuation grants are not competed. Any new planning grants shall be solicited and evaluated in compliance with this notice.

#### **X. Program: Technical Assistance—Local Technical Assistance; National Technical Assistance; and University Centers—(Pub. L. 89-136, as amended by Pub. L. 105-393, 42 U.S.C. 3147)**

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance: 11.303 Economic Development—Technical Assistance)

Funds in the amount of \$9,040,850 have been appropriated for the Technical Assistance programs of which approximately \$1,490,250 is available for the Local Technical Assistance program; \$1,093,843 for the National Technical Assistance program; and \$6,456,757 for the University Center program. The average funding level in FY 2002 for Local Technical Assistance investments was \$53,000; for National Technical Assistance investments, \$134,000; and for University Center investments, the typical range was \$75,000 to \$110,000. These amounts are not intended to restrict the size of future awards.

Multi-year funding may be available for this program. Funding for each year's activities is contingent upon continued satisfactory performance during the preceding period, the availability of program funds, and will be at EDA's sole discretion.

A separate **Federal Register** notice(s) will set forth the specific funding priorities, application process, and time frames for certain National Technical Assistance projects.

#### **Background Information on EDA's University Center Program**

EDA's University Center program helps to make the wealth of resources—faculty, staff, students, computer facilities, laboratories, etc.—at institutions of higher education available for assisting in local and regional economic development activities. This announcement provides notice of several program and policy changes. EDA intends to make additional changes in subsequent years.

EDA will provide assistance under this program only to University Centers engaged in economic development. Activities such as community development or social service type activities are not consistent with EDA's mission and will not be considered for funding. Programs focused on activities other than economic development are encouraged to seek other sources of financial support. In addition, beginning in FY 2003, EDA will not fund any University Center that operates in isolation from other resources at its sponsoring institution and lacks the support of its sponsoring institution's leadership.

Funds to establish new University Centers will be available only if an existing University Center withdraws or is dropped from the program.

#### **A. Additional Information Required**

In addition to the information described in part IV, proposals in or after FY 2003 for University Center funding must include the additional information described in this section.

The Scope of Work for University Center proposals must be structured to address the University Center's contribution to the following elements: (a) Providing technical assistance, (b) conducting applied research, and (c) disseminating results of the activities of the University Center. Applicants are expected to submit a Scope of Work commensurate with the funding requested and consistent with EDA's mission.

#### **B. Evaluation Criteria for University Centers**

University Center funding proposals will be analyzed using the Evaluation Criteria set forth below. The "Supplemental Evaluation Criteria" set forth in part VI will not apply to University Center applications. EDA will invest in University Centers that are focused on economic development and are proactive and innovative in spirit and in action. Potential University Center proposals will be analyzed using the following six special evaluation