

## TNECD Announces Two New Select Tennessee Certified Sites

The Select Tennessee Certified Sites program helps communities prepare industrial sites for private investment and job creation

Nearly 80 sites have now been certified through the program



Canterbury Site

**NASHVILLE (September)** The Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (TNECD) today announced that two sites have been certified through the Select Tennessee Certified Sites program.

*Seventy-seven sites across Tennessee have been certified to date. The newest certified sites and their local sponsoring agencies include:*

### Canterbury Site - Dickson County Economic Development Alliance

I-40 Advantage Industrial Park - Brownsville-Haywood Economic Development Corporation, the city of Brownsville, and Haywood County

*"The Select Tennessee Certified Sites program is a crucial component of our rural and community development efforts and prepares communities*

*across the state to attract new industry and investment,"* said TNECD Commissioner Stuart C. McWhorter. *"I commend the leadership in Dickson and Haywood Counties for taking the appropriate steps to ensure their communities are ready to land future economic development opportunities."*

The Select Tennessee Certified Sites program has helped communities prepare industrial sites for private investment and job creation since 2012. The program sets rigorous standards to give companies detailed and reliable information during the site selection process.

The Select Tennessee certification process ensures that each certified site meets high quality standards and are primed for development. Qualifications for certification include having at least 20 acres of developable land for industrial operations, documented environmental conditions and geotechnical analysis, existing onsite utilities or a formal plan to extend utilities to the site, and truck-quality road access. TNECD has partnered with Austin Consulting to administer the certified sites program.

*"The designation of these properties is timely, as both are positioned to take advantage of existing electric infrastructure with ample capacity available,"* said Jonathan Gemmen, senior director at Austin Consulting. *"Over the last decade, but especially with the global supply-chain issues of the last 4.5 years, available electric capacity has become one of the most important site selection factors for capital-intensive manufacturing projects."*

To learn more about the Select Tennessee Certified Sites program, visit [tnecd.com/sites/certified-sites/apply-now/](https://tnecd.com/sites/certified-sites/apply-now/)

## Harrow, Inc. Expands in Davidson County

**NASHVILLE (September)** Harrow, Inc. (Nasdaq: HROW), announced today that Harrow is expanding its corporate headquarters in Nashville.

Harrow, one of the leading U.S. eyecare pharmaceutical companies, will invest nearly \$3 million and create 147 new jobs as part of the project, increasing its current headcount in Tennessee by nearly 70%.

Harrow was originally founded in 2012 in San Diego, California. In 2019, Harrow relocated its corporate headquarters to Nashville, Tennessee. Since 2019, Harrow has continued to invest in Nashville by building a state-of-the-art analytical chemistry lab, expanding its sales and marketing organization, and hiring for other critical business operations. Harrow also recently expanded its total leased square footage in Nashville to approximately 30,000 square feet.

Source: TNECD



## Petainer Manufacturing USA, Inc. to Expand Manufacturing Operations to Maury County

**MT. PLEASANT (December)** Petainer Manufacturing USA, Inc. officials announced the company will expand to a new location at 315 Joe Frank Porter Drive in Mt. Pleasant, Tennessee.

Petainer will invest \$10 million through the expansion, creating 35 new jobs at the Cherry Glen Industrial Park, a Select Tennessee Certified Site in Maury County. Upon completion, the project will

more than double Petainer's headcount statewide.

With over 35 years of experience in designing and manufacturing cost-efficient products, Petainer offers a wide range of lightweight, sustainable PET packaging solutions to help companies in the Americas, Europe, and Asia grow their business and reduce their carbon footprint.

Source: TNECD



# TNECD Announces Three Counties to Participate in Property Evaluation Program



Franklin County Industrial Park, Winchester, TN

*Counties selected from the Southern Middle, Northwest and Upper Cumberland regions of Tennessee*

*Two of the three counties are new to the Property Evaluation Program*

**NASHVILLE (October)** The Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (TNECD) announced that the three counties selected to participate in the latest round of the Select Tennessee Property Evaluation Program (PEP).

The counties are **Franklin, Lake and White.**

PEP evaluates potential industrial properties, advising counties on industrial site improvements and where investments may be most beneficial. Since its inception in 2015, PEP has helped improve the inventory of industrial sites and buildings across the state, with 454 sites being reviewed.

*grand divisions, each with varied strengths and differing needs,” said McWhorter. “TNECD’s Property Evaluation Program is a key component of our department’s rural and community development efforts and allows us to better meet the state’s regional needs by supporting all 95 counties in finding and preparing the right site to attract future economic investment.”*

PEP originates from TNECD’s Select Tennessee Certified Site Program. With assistance from site selection firm Austin Consulting, PEP provides participating counties guidance on site planning for future industrial development projects.

*“Our state is uniquely comprised of three diverse*

*(continued on next page)*

PEP includes an on-site visit by Austin Consulting and TNECD, an educational webinar on the site selection process and a comprehensive assessment of the strengths and needs of each community's inventory of industrial sites. This assessment also offers recommendations to improve marketability.

*"As more and more sites are being developed by industrial users, the pool of available, market-ready sites continues to shrink," said Jonathan Gemmen, senior director of Austin Consulting. "Over the span of my career, never has the need to identify and prepare industrial sites been this urgent."*

These counties were selected based on the demonstrated local need for industrial properties and the county's ability to assemble properties with viable market potential. The application process begins with a submission of a letter of intent, which is accepted at any time. Upon receipt of the letter, interested communities will receive the PEP application. A new round of communities will be accepted into the program in the Spring of 2025 with letters of intent due by January 16, 2025.

Source: TNECD



## Thompson Appalachian Hardwoods to Expand in Franklin County

**HUNTLAND (October)** Thompson Appalachian Hardwoods will invest \$3.9 million to expand its operations in Huntland, Tennessee.

Through the project, Thompson Appalachian Hardwoods will create 25 new jobs to better support operations of the company's new industrial-grade sawmill, increasing its Tennessee workforce by more than 20%.

Thompson Appalachian Hardwoods was founded in 1993 as a small green sawmill. Over three decades later, the company has expanded to become a full-service forest products company, offering sustainably sourced, top-quality, kiln-dried Appalachian hardwoods. The company worked closely with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture to better understand wood availability and ownership types, allowing for the company's expansion.

This is the company's first expansion in Franklin County since 2017.

Source: MTSU News

# THE FORUM ON GROWTH AND REGIONAL CHALLENGES

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY  
SIGNATURE ANNUAL FORUM

**March 21, 2025**  
**11:00am - 1:15pm**

TENNESSEE BALLROOM  
JAMES UNION BUILDING, MTSU

Scan to register



## Join us for the 2025 Forum on Growth and Regional Challenges!

The middle Tennessee region is one of the fastest growing areas in the nation. With this growth comes both exciting opportunities and challenging issues for the regional community, raising questions about the region and its future. This forum addresses these developments by bringing the community together to hear from experts and government leaders.

**Don't miss this chance to be a part of our region's future.**



Ascend Federal Credit Union  
Maury County Chamber and Economic Alliance

# 11 New Site Development Grant Recipients

- More than \$17 million in grants
- Program helps communities prepare industrial sites for business investment
- TNECD has awarded 191 Site Development Grants across Tennessee

**TNECD (January)** Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee and Department of Economic and Community Development Commissioner Stuart C. McWhorter announced 11 new Site Development Grant recipients.

The grants, totaling more than \$17 million, are designed to help communities invest in infrastructure and engineering improvements to land economic development projects and achieve Select Tennessee site certification.

*"A shovel-ready industrial site can be the deciding factor for a company looking to do business in Tennessee, and that's why our efforts are critical to community and economic development," said Governor Bill Lee. "I congratulate the communities receiving funding through this round of grants and look forward to seeing the growth our investment in these sites will bring."*

The Site Development Grant program is part of the Rural Economic Opportunity Act, which provides funding to improve the economies of Tennessee's rural communities. Since 2016, TNECD has awarded 191 Site Development Grants across the state, totaling nearly \$100 million in assistance to local communities and generating 7,091 new jobs for Tennesseans.

**The grants awarded this round include:**

**City of Trenton Economic and Industrial Development Board**  
Trenton IDB Building, \$20,000 – Due diligence

**City of Union City, TN**  
Northwest TN Regional Industrial Center, \$1,100,000  
Property clearing and grading

**Clarksville-Montgomery County Area Economic Development Council, Inc.**  
Clarksville Montgomery County North Industrial Park, \$600,000  
Access road construction and due diligence

**Industrial Board of Coffee County, Tennessee, Incorporated**  
Manchester Industrial Park, \$1,610,450  
Sewer infrastructure



Clarksville North Industrial Park

**Industrial Development Board of the City of Morristown, TN**  
East TN Progress Center Lot 10, \$4,000,000  
Speculative building construction

**Industrial Development Board of the County of Benton**  
Smith Property, \$1,937,050 – Property purchase

**The Industrial Development Board of Fentress County**  
Clarkrange Regional Business Park, \$100,000  
Due diligence

**The Industrial Development Board of Scott County, TN**  
Airport Industrial Site, \$66,500 – Due diligence

**The Industrial Development Board of the City of Fayetteville and Lincoln County, TN**  
Runway Centre Industrial Park, \$3,500,000  
Speculative building construction

**The Industrial Development Board of the County of Bradley and the City of Cleveland, TN**  
Spring Branch Industrial Park Lots 8 & 9, \$2,946,186  
Property grading

**The Paris - Henry County Industrial Committee**  
Paris-Henry County Industrial Park, \$1,123,760  
Property clearing and due diligence

*"Eleven Tennessee communities are one step closer to achieving Select Tennessee Site certification through today's announcement," said Commissioner McWhorter. "Tennessee's rural communities are the backbone of our state, and I applaud the local leaders who have taken the necessary steps to set each of these communities up for future economic investment and job creation."*

Applications were reviewed by an advisory committee made up of TNECD, Austin Consulting, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation and the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

Each application was supported by the community's senator and representatives in the Tennessee General Assembly.

Source: TNECD

# MARK *Your* CALENDARS



Board of Directors Meeting & Annual Seminar and Lunch  
**July 30 & 31, 2025**  
HILTON FRANKLIN COOL SPRINGS

Christmas Celebration  
**December 4, 2025**  
51ST TAP ROOM

*We look forward to seeing you*

## Middle Tennessee Industrial Development Association 2024-2025 Executive Committee

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### *Vice President*

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