**TRRC Small Towns Pilot Initiative**

**Application**

**Objective:**

The TRRC Small Towns Initiative will select two pilot communities in 2020 to demonstrate the viability of community-led and place-specific economic development strategies for the creation of higher paying jobs, and attraction of higher skilled workers to rural downtown commercial business districts. Small towns will generally be defined as communities with populations under 5,500 which demonstrate high vacancy rates in the downtown commercial district and strong interest and committed capacity from public and private leaders in addressing opportunities for economic revitalization and growth. Please refer to the TRRC Small Towns Pilot Initiative Guidelines posted on [www.revitalizeva.org](http://www.revitalizeva.org) and indicate your community’s interest by completing the application and submitting with a Letter of Interest to [info@revitalizeva.org](mailto:info@revitalizeva.org) no later than **Friday, April 10, 2020.**

**Lead Organization and Contacts:**

Name of primary point of contact within unit of local government:

Hours per month the point of contact can dedicate to the project:

Name of Lead Organization (Incorporated Locality or IRS-designated Non-Profit):

Principal Contact Name, Phone, E-mail and Mailing Address:

**Lead Organization:**

Why is the organization taking the lead in this initiative?

**Commercial Buildings**

How are boundaries of the business district identified? Of the total buildings in the business district, how many buildings are zoned for commercial and/or mixed use?

**Other Infrastructure**

What are the public water and sewer capabilities of the business district?

What is the status of broadband internet service to the area?

Does the area encourage pedestrian use with sidewalks, crosswalks, nearby recreational amenities?

**Vacancy Rate**

Estimate what percentage of those buildings are currently completely or substantially vacant.

**“Anchor” Buildings**

List any existing buildings that historically could be considered anchors of the business district (e.g. department store, hotel, factory, school, hospital, church, train station etc.) and indicate if they are currently occupied.

**“Anchor” Businesses**

List businesses that currently could be considered anchors of the business district.

**Other Major Assets:**

List any other significant assets in or immediately adjacent to the business district.

**Virginia Main Street:**

Is your community currently a Virginia Main Street Affiliate or Designated Community (if so, please indicate which):

**Recent Efforts:**

Briefly describe any recent and/or current efforts and activities (within the past three years) to stimulate economic development in the proposed business district:

**Partner Organizations**

List the organizations that are likely to be active primary partners in the economic development of the business district.

**Primary Challenges and Barriers**

Describe the primary challenges or barriers to stimulating economic development in the proposed business district:

**Primary Goals and Objectives**

Briefly describe the primary goals and objectives under the community’s proposed Small Town Initiative for stimulating economic development in the proposed business district:

**Strategies to Achieve Objectives**

Describe any strategies that are being considered in the proposed Small Town Initiative in order to achieve these goals and objectives.