



5 Tips for A Winning EDA Awards of Excellence Submission

1. Be Concise! You have 750 words to convince the judges that your project is a winner. Don't spend most of your words giving an elaborate backstory or talking about desired outcomes of the project. Focus on the actual outcomes and what was accomplished and why your project stands out. Write your abstract in Microsoft Word first to give you an accurate word count and a document you can edit to fit word count if that helps. Point form and/or listing outcomes is acceptable as well.
2. Choose your Project Category wisely! The four categories; Economic Development Renewal, Regional Collaboration and Partnerships, Innovative Approach to Economic Development, and Marketing for Economic Development Outcomes are each unique and projects in each category will be judged based on the alignment with the category description. Make sure you read the description of the category carefully. For example, Regional Collaboration and Partnerships, the key consideration is that the partnership/collaboration demonstrated in the submission is the key contributing factor to the success of the project.
3. Look at the judging criteria! Be sure to focus your submission on the 5 aspects you will be judged on and make your case in all aspects. If you don't mention one or some of the aspects, your chances of success will diminish.
 - Outcomes, effectiveness in achieving objectives, goal achievements, impacts – 20%
 - Creativity and uniqueness of approach, innovation and originality – 10%
 - Effective use of media in a project – 10%
 - Stakeholder development, community/partnership engagement – 5%
 - Implementation of ESG – 5%

For a total of 50

4. Supply every piece of information requested! You must include all of the information required in order to be judged properly. This includes: your logo, 1 slide visualization, executive summary, name of person to participate in judging, etc. It is very hard to judge submissions that do not have all required information.
5. Don't be afraid to brag! Economic developers are often humble, but this is your chance to brag about your accomplishments in 2022. Let's celebrate those accomplishments together!