



# LEDA

## WHAT IS IT? DOES MY BUSINESS QUALIFY? HOW CAN I USE IT?

LEDA is the Local Economic Development Act (Chapter 5, Article 10 N.M.S.A) which allows cities to establish a tax to assist new and existing businesses grow the economy. Alamogordo adopted Article 2-14 under the Act in 1996, establishing the local economic development plan.

### **What kind of businesses are being sought under the plan?**

- Industry that meets all environmental standards.
- Industry that does not use large amount of water.
- Industries that pay a living wage.
- Industries that can take advantage of the highly skilled former military personnel.
- Office or service industries such as telemarketing or data processing.
- Industry that will diversify the local labor market.
- Research and development
- Light assembly or manufacturing industry that are labor intensive.

### **Will my business qualify for help?**

Under the state and local rules only certain businesses would be qualified to apply for funding. A “qualifying entity” is a corporation, LLC, partnership or other business entity which is one or more of the following:

- Industry for the manufacturing, processing or assembling of agricultural or manufactured products
- Commercial business for storing, warehousing, distributing, or selling productions of agriculture, mining or industry
- A business, including restaurants or lodging; in which all or part includes the supplying of services to the general public
- An Indian nation, tribe, pueblo or tribal corporation
- Telecommunications sales making most of its sales outside New Mexico
- Farmer’s market
- Developer of a metropolitan redevelopment project
- Cultural facility
- A retail business (so long as the population remains under 35,000 and it does not compete with an existing business)

## **What can I use this money for?**

N.M.S.A. 1978 §5-10-2 enacted the Local Economic Development Act because municipalities might need to be able to provide land, buildings or infrastructure to enhance basic business growth. The money or other public assistance may only be used for projects which will expand or improve a business in order to enable that business to employ more people. The end result must be a tangible and non-removable element of the business.

This might include:

- Land to build a company on
- Additions to an existing building
- Construction of a new building
- Mechanical upgrades to increase production

Items which would not be qualifying expenses:

- Tools
- Food
- Any equipment which is removable from the building
- Advertising
- Start-up expenses

**For more information on the possibility for your  
business to receive assistance contact  
Alamogordo City Attorney, Petria Schreiber at 575.439.4210**

