

PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENT

Subject: Russell Theater Restoration Project

VA-20397-302-22

Grantee: Lebanon, Town of

Lebanon, VA

Local Contact: Nelson Dodi Congressional 9

276-889-7200 **District(s)**:

Funding: ARC \$500,000

State \$347,779 Local \$696,074 Total \$1,543,853

WASHINGTON, D.C.-

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) today announced approval of a \$500,000 grant to the Town of Lebanon, Virginia for the Russell Theater Restoration Project. The project will renovate and reopen the 5,590-square-foot Russell Theater, thereby creating 3 FTE jobs and improving 22 businesses in downtown Lebanon.

Lebanon is the county seat of Russell County, an economically at-risk county in southwest Virginia. In order to capitalize on the region's growing outdoor recreational tourism sector, the Town needs an anchor destination that will draw visitors to its central business district. The restored and renovated Russell Theater will be a boon to approximately 22 businesses by attracting visitors and residents from across the region to downtown Lebanon for live performances, concerts, and other events.

In addition to ARC funds, CDBG and the Virginia Tobacco Commission are contributing a combined \$347,779, and local sources are contributing \$696,074 towards the project, bringing the total project funding to \$1,543,853.

About the Appalachian Regional Commission

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) is an economic development agency of the federal government and 13 state governments focusing on 420 counties across the Appalachian region. ARC's mission is to innovate, partner, and invest to build community capacity and strengthen economic growth in Appalachia and help the region achieve socioeconomic parity with the nation. More information is available at www.arc.gov.

Date Approved: 2/10/2022