

Proposed Strategic Initiatives

The following initiatives, listed alphabetically, have been identified thus far as possible targets for sustained support to encourage broadened economic development in the four County economic district. All of these initiatives are designed to build upon or supplement existing programs.

Business Development Support

- Business incubators and flexible use space.
- Gap financing
- Business plan assistance consulting
- Product development and marketing assistance.

Cluster Support

- Monitor existing and emerging clusters
- Facilitate leadership meetings
- Work on development and horizontal expansion of clusters

Community Development

- Downtown redevelopment
- Emphasize marketable advantages
- Focus on sustainable projects
- Capacity building and training

Coordination of Infrastructure Needs

- Need identification and quantification
- Project development
- Funding application preparation and management

Economic Gardening, Enterprise Development

- Micro-enterprise encouragement
- Outreach for existing and new support systems
- Mentor support programs

Energy Development

- Research & development incentives for alternative energy sources
- Business conservation assistance
- Foster cluster growth

Industrial Site Preparedness

- Inventory sites
- Preliminary evaluation of barriers to development (infrastructure, brownfields, market)
- Prepare reports for property owners on development needs