

**SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

**COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPEMNT STRATEGY
COMMITTEE**

October 15, 2024

1:00 PM

SAP&DC

Altoona, PA

MEETING MINUTES

I. Welcome

The following members were present at the meeting:

- Larry Myers, Schneider Electric
- Diana McClure, Keller Engineers, Inc.
- Matt Price, Huntingdon County Visitor's Bureau
- Paul Johnson, FIDA
- Jennifer Sklodowski, SAWDB
- Kellie Goodman-Shaffer, Bedford County Chamber of Commerce
- Natalie Toma, Penn Highlands Community College

Others in attendance included:

- Lee Slusser, SAP&DC
- Matthew Bauerlin, SAP&DC
- Janice Streightiff, SAP&DC

Each participant received a meeting packet that included:

- Copy of the Draft Goals and Objectives

II. Review of the Draft FY 2025 - 2029 CEDS Document

Lee welcomed the committee to the meeting and reviewed the process thus far, noting that the feedback from the last meeting has been incorporated into the document. The next steps are the 30-day public comment period and approval by the SAP&DC Board of Directors in November.

Lee reviewed the goals, objectives and strategies, noting any changes that were made. Energy (both sustaining and renewable) and education were both added. Lee noted that Jennifer Slodowski updated the Workforce Development section since the last time the

committee met. Lee and Jannifer reviewed the Workforce section with the committee answering any questions they had. There was some discussion about how having a daycare in the business parks can be an attraction to workers and businesses in the park. There is currently a push for more co-op daycares.

In the Infrastructure goals there was some discussion on stormwater as well as zoning and ordinances. Solar farms do have stormwater implications. When installing solar and wind farms they are running into ordinances that were poorly thought through. Should there be something included in the CEDS document to help them understand reasonable language when approached and when decommissioned?

Next was to implement Alleghenies Ahead on Housing. Blight is a big issue in the Region and scored very high in the survey. Within the objectives, a strategy for ethnic and cultural diversity can be included. Entertainment options are also not very diverse. As baby boomers pass on, the housing market will go market rate to a younger generation.

Following that was the Environmental Justice data, access to the outdoors, and health. Matt Price added that the CDC or Department of Health requires all counties to complete a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). He wondered if it would be beneficial to do it on a regional level like what was done with Alleghenies Ahead.

III. Implementation and Action Plan

Lee reviewed the design of the implementation and action plan with the committee. He asked the committee if he could release the Draft FY 2025 – 2029 CEDS document for a 30-day public comment period once the changes requested today were completed. The committee agreed.

He asked the committee if they would like to meet again before the Draft FY 2025 – 2029 CEDS document is sent to the SAP&DC Board of Directors. The committee did not feel that was necessary unless a lot of public comments are received during the public comment period. Lee will send out the comments received to the committee.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:33 PM.

<p>NOTE: The next meeting of the CEDS Committee will be held at a date and time to be determined.</p>
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ACTION ITEMS

Action Items	By Whom	Due Date
Send out public comments received during the 30-day public comment period to the committee members.	Lee Slusser, SAP&DC	Following the public comment period