

**NWCCOG Economic Development District
CEDS 5-Year Update
NWCCOG EDD CEDS Update: Regional Action Plan [DRAFT]**

VISION:

NWCCOG Economic Development District is a regional leader, working cooperatively with its partners and stakeholders to enhance the economic conditions and cultivate resilience and vitality to position the region for a prosperous future.



[DRAFT]

Goal: Support our workforce such that their needs are met, and the workforce needs of businesses are met

Objective: Increase the availability of affordable and attainable housing for the workforce

Strategies	Lead & Stakeholders	TF	Actions	Status
Support the region’s programs, policies, and incentives which aim to increase the availability and affordability of housing for the workforce	Lead: NWCCOG EDD Board Stakeholders: Towns and Counties in the NWCCOG and neighboring region	ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist towns and counties navigate and utilize new funding sources now available via recent legislation passed. To name a few: HB 1271 and/or HB 1329, which allocates \$550 million from the American Rescue Plan Act to create the affordable housing and home ownership case fund at the State Treasury; HB 1271 builds a menu of offerings that provides more opportunities for affordable housing builders and reduces costs associated with development; HB 1028 creates a transparent report for tracking new and current investments to increase affordable housing options, helping to ensure that state and federal investments are going to the entire housing continuum. Continue to monitor state, federal and local legislation as it pertains to affordable and attainable housing 	
Provide information to stakeholders regarding programs, funding opportunities, success stories and best practices in affordable workforce housing	Lead: NWCCOG EDD Stakeholders: Stakeholders: Towns and Counties in the NWCCOG and surrounding region	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update Regional Workforce Housing Report – 2022 Update Explore solutions to Short-term rentals and their effect on the availability of affordable workforce housing 	
Collaborate with community partners to expand the reach of the region’s workforce housing efforts.	Lead: NWCCOG EDD; NWCCOG Stakeholders: Towns and Counties in the NWCCOG and neighboring region	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Convene regional think tanks on key issues like housing, workforce Bring attention to the unique needs of our region; advocate for designated funds for the NWCCOG Region 	

Goal: Support our workforce such that their needs are met, and the workforce needs of businesses are met

Objective: Build capacity in and support the needs of our workforce

Strategies	Lead & Stakeholders	TF	Actions	Status
Support efforts that seek to provide affordable health insurance options as well as other benefits such as retirement for individual wealth building	Lead: Chambers of Commerce Stakeholders: workforce, businesses	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assist towns and counties navigate funding sources and new programs which seek to connect the workforce with benefits such as affordable health insurance and retirement plans	
Support efforts to develop and improve workforce needs and services including broadband, transportation, childcare, education, training, healthcare, and mental health services	Lead: NWCCOG EDD; NWCCOG Stakeholders: workforce, businesses	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Support actions in NWCCOG Regional Assessment of Child Care Industry Report (Feb. 2021)Continue Project THOR to improve broadband in the regionProvide information on funding sources for improvements to workforce needs such as broadband, childcare, healthcare, mental health services, transportation, education and training	

Priority Area: **WORKFORCE**

Goal: Support our workforce such that their needs are met, and the workforce needs of businesses are met

Objective: Attract and develop a well-trained workforce to meet current and future employment demands

Strategies	Lead & Stakeholders	TF	Actions	Status
Network, support and partner with other organizations on workforce development efforts	Lead: CDLE; Workforce Centers; CMC; K-12 Stakeholders: businesses, workforce	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support local and regional and statewide workforce development efforts which seek to providing training, education, and career pathways• Work with partner organizations to provide small business development training and education throughout the region	
Cultivate career pathways in the trades	Lead: CDLE; Workforce Centers; K-12; CMC Stakeholders: businesses, workforce	LT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Engage K-12, CMC, CDLE, Workforce Centers on resources – mapping career pathway opportunities; promote these programs• Explore regional training programs for the trades• Promote on the job training programs within businesses in the region	

Goal: Cultivate a diversified, stable, balanced, sustainable, vibrant economy

[DRAFT]

Objective: Build capacity in our existing businesses in all sectors

Strategies	Lead & Stakeholders	TF	Actions	Status
Support, strengthen, build capacity in our region’s key industries and existing businesses	Lead: SBDC; NWCCOG EDD; Chambers; CDLE Stakeholders: businesses; workforce	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NWCCOG EDD Resources Bulletin• NWCCOG EDD website: nwccog.org/edd• Establish Regional Business Retention and Expansion program/position – to support existing businesses and all key industries in the region• Provide access to capital for existing businesses• Provide education and workshops on succession planning and exit planning for businesses	
Connect economic development stakeholders with resources and information	Lead: NWCCOG EDD Stakeholders: Towns, counties, businesses, workforce	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NWCCOG EDD Resources Bulletin• NWCCOG EDD Website	
Partner with other organizations to provide business training opportunities	Lead: NWCCOG EDD, Chambers, CDLE, SBDC Stakeholders: businesses; workforce	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide business training program	

Priority Area: **ECONOMY**

Goal: Cultivate a diversified, stable, balanced, sustainable, vibrant economy

[DRAFT]

Objective: Support a thriving tourism & outdoor recreation industry while maintaining quality of life and quality of experience for residents and visitors

Strategies	Lead & Stakeholders	TF	Actions	Status
Tell the region's success stories through newsletters, website, and other modes of communication to promote a positive vision for the region	Lead: NWCCOG EDD Stakeholders: the region's communities	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NWCCOG EDD Resources Bulletin• NWCCOG EDD website• CEDS	

Goal: Cultivate a diversified, stable, balanced, sustainable, vibrant economy

[DRAFT]

Objective: Foster the creation of high-quality jobs with career pathways

Strategies	Lead & Stakeholders	TF	Actions	Status
Advocate for efforts that enable existing and new businesses to pay a wage on par with the region’s cost of living	Lead: Stakeholders:	ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Develop entrepreneurial resources in the region including mentorship programs, investors, venture capital, angel investment networks, accelerators incubators, events, cowork spaces, training programs	
Support the development of an entrepreneurial ecosystem in the region	Lead: Stakeholders:	ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Develop a Regional Entrepreneur Resource Center- website, quarterly workshops, work with SBDC, develop a regional angel investment network with West Slope Angels, possibly create a position for this (i.e. not just a website)Monthly call on workforce, sbdc, cmc, business support community, chambers; organizations working on entrepreneurship	
Encourage the development of higher-paying jobs outside of the tourism industry	Lead: Stakeholders:	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Support the Digital Workforce Development program currently underway in Grand County (pending EDA funding)	

Priority Area: **COMMUNITY**

Goal: Enhance the region's quality of life and unique community character

[DRAFT]

Objective: Promote a wide range of attainable housing opportunities for all facets of the community

Objective: Strive to establish a minimum standard of living for all and increase the standard over time

Objective: Support initiatives that promote community character

Strategies	Lead & Stakeholders	TF	Actions	Status
Serve as a resource for best practices, solutions, efforts, initiatives, and funding for attainable workforce housing	Lead: NWCCOG EDD Stakeholders: Towns and Counties	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">NWCCOG EDD Resources BulletinResearch on attainable and affordable housing strategies	
Support our communities' attainable housing efforts	Lead: NWCCOG EDD Stakeholders: Towns and Counties	ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Monitor federal, state, and local land use policies and legislation pertaining to workforce housing	
Ensure the region stays knowledgeable about the cost of living in the region	Lead: NWCCOG EDD Stakeholders: Towns and Counties	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Disseminate and present information in the Colorado Self-Sufficiency Standard; Colorado Legislative Council Cost of Living Study (every other year); have more participation in the development process so that the numbers accurately reflect the conditions in our region; make data readily available and as useful as possible to be used as a benchmarkHost economic summit to evaluate common data sources and best practices; sharing knowledge and insights	

Priority Area: **COMMUNITY**

Goal: Enhance the region's quality of life and unique community character

[DRAFT]

Objective: Support the development and enhancement of community assets and infrastructure

Strategies	Lead & Stakeholders	TF	Actions	Status
Cultivate placemaking creating desirable places to live, visit, and recreate	Lead: Stakeholders: Towns and counties in the NWCCOG Region	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Partner with organizations to offer resources on placemaking	
Support efforts to strengthen community infrastructure including broadband, transportation systems, healthcare facilities, mental health services, educational opportunities, and community amenities	Lead: Stakeholders: towns, counties, businesses, workforce	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Help communities navigate and take full advantage of new funding available (Federal – American Rescue Plan; State - HB 21-1271 Innovative Affordable Housing Strategies; HB 21-1253 Renewable and Clean Energy Infrastructure; HB 21-1289 Broadband Development.)NWCCOG Project THOR; Support efforts to strengthen high-speed internet in the regionProvide letters of support, grant writing and technical assistance as requested	
Serve as a community development and planning resource to our region	Lead: NWCCOG EDD Stakeholders: Towns and counties in NWCCOG region and neighboring communities	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provide data, research, and other resources to inform policymaking and planningDevelop and maintain a regional data clearinghouse on the EDD websiteDisseminate regional economic and demographic data on a regular basisRespond to data requestsConduct studies and prepare reports on topics of regional interest and valueCollect, present, analyze, and disseminate regional data for use in policy making and business development (Qtrly Economic Updates; community profiles; website)	

Priority Area: **COMMUNITY**

[DRAFT]

Goal: Enhance the region's quality of life and unique community character

Objective: Practice good stewardship of the region's natural environment and natural assets

Strategies	Lead & Stakeholders	TF	Actions	Status
Support our communities' efforts towards responsible tourism	Lead: Towns and Chambers Stakeholders: the region's communities; visitors and residents	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Support local strategies such as those outlined in Breckenridge Destination Management Plan and Aspen Chamber Resort Association's responsible tourism campaign	
Promote and encourage sustainable resource use and production	Lead: Stakeholders: All communities in NWCCOG Region	ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Monitor and disseminate information on new legislation and funding sources to fund sustainable resource use and production	
Encourage installation of renewable energy technologies	Lead: Stakeholders: All communities in NWCCOG Region	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Monitor and disseminate information on new legislation and funding sources to fund renewable energy technologiesCreate a clearinghouse of plans in the region which encourage use of energy efficiency technologies and share best practices (such as Summit County Climate Action Plan and Sustainable Building Code)	

Priority Area: RESILIENCY

Goal: Bolster the long-term economic durability of the region

[DRAFT]

Objective: Foster a regional economy that has the capacity to recover from, withstand, and avoid adverse conditions

Objective: Encourage diversity in industry and jobs

Strategies	Lead & Stakeholders	TF	Actions	Status
Cultivate entrepreneurship as a strategy towards economic recovery and long-term resilience	Lead: Organizations working to build entrepreneurial ecosystems; SBDC Stakeholders: entrepreneurs	ST	Provide access to capital for startups Provide equitable access to opportunity	
Maintain strong partnerships between regional stakeholders to share problems, data, stories, and solutions	Lead: NWCCOG EDD Stakeholders: towns, counties, businesses, workforce, visitors, residents, state and federal agency partners	OG	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maintain frequent communication between federal, state, regional, and local partners	
Provide a forum for regional communication, collaboration, and information sharing	Lead: NWCCOG EDD Stakeholders: towns, counties, businesses, workforce, visitors, residents, state and federal agency partners	OG	EDD Board of Directors meetings (in conjunction with NWCCOG Council meetings) Regional Economic Forum – bring back Spring 2022 Conduct studies/surveys/prepare reports on economic development topics of regional interest and value	

Goal: Bolster the long-term economic durability of the region

[DRAFT]

Objective: Prepare for and develop recovery strategies for natural disasters, economic shocks, and their aftermaths

Strategies	Lead & Stakeholders	TF	Actions	Status
Collaborate with the region’s counties on economic recovery and resiliency plan development	Lead: NWCCOG EDD Stakeholders: towns and counties in the region	ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with counties on DOLA Regional Resiliency Roadmaps (Eagle, Grand, Pitkin, Summit – all submitted applications) Carry out all projects/activities/deliverables of the EDA CARES Act grant (\$400,000) - report out on county-level projects; COVID lessons learned/best practices report from RBRC help coordinate best practices for the region on recovery plans 	
Encourage opportunities for community collaboration with respect to wildfire preparedness and mitigation	Lead: NWCCOG EDD Stakeholders: towns and counties in the region	ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate Change: Gather all county plans together. Convene regional climate change forum 	
Utilize the work of the Mountain Migration Project - strategies	Lead: NWCCOG EDD Stakeholders: towns and counties in the region	ST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present strategies and identify those the region’s stakeholders want to focus on which will bolster the long-term economic durability of the region 	