

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The main aim of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) process is “to create jobs, foster more stable and diversified economies, and to improve living conditions”¹. A CEDS is required to qualify for Economic Development Administration (EDA) assistance under its public works, economic adjustment, and most planning programs, and is a prerequisite for designation by EDA as an economic development district (EDD).

This 2009 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy is designed to guide the region’s economic growth by fostering a more stable and diverse economy, assisting in the creation of jobs, and improving the overall living conditions in Lincoln, Montgomery and Warren counties. It also provides a mechanism for coordinating the efforts of individuals, organizations, local government, and private industry concerned with the region’s economic development. This plan further, integrates with the State’s economic development priorities and workforce investment strategies.

CEDS Goals & Objectives

I. Promote regional prosperity

- I.1. Increased retention and expansion of existing businesses
- I.2. New business attraction and entrepreneurial development
- I.3. Diversified economic base
- I.4. Enhanced public private partnerships to address regional development needs
- I.5. Improved circulation of dollars within the region
- I.6. A trained workforce capable of meeting the needs of emerging technologies
- I.7. Expanded financing tools and incentives to fuel economic recovery
- I.8. Industry presence in emerging technologies and green industries.
- I.9. Increased international presence through export development

II. Plan for regional development

- II.1. Orderly development of the region
- II.2. Ongoing infrastructure planning, financing and construction
- II.3. Housing opportunities for all population groups
- II.4. Development or redevelopment environmentally challenging sites.
- II.5. Coordinated infrastructure development within the region to support economic expansion.

¹ EDA Guidelines, 2002

III. Preserve regional quality of life

- III.1. Protection and preservation of the natural resources and beauty of the region
- III.2. Responsible use of the region's natural resources and agricultural opportunities
- III.3. Increased income potential for residents through education and improved job skills
- III.4. Balancing quality of life issues including clean air, clean water, safety, affordable housing, community amenities and services, with opportunities for economic expansion.
- III.5. Environmentally sound and energy efficient development

The mission of the Boonslick Regional Planning Commission is to preserve and enhance quality of life in Lincoln County, Montgomery County and Warren County. The Boonslick Regional Planning Commission takes an active role in community and economic development issues.