



Central/Southern NH Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

Strategy Committee Meeting Meeting Notes

*Central NH Regional Planning Commission
Horseshoe Pond Place Community Center
26 Commercial Street, Concord, NH 03301
5:30 PM*

In attendance: Harry Wright, Town of Bradford
David Pierce, Town of Goffstown
Johathan O'Rourke, Town of Goffstown
Jim Bibbo, Town of Bradford
Thomas Clow, Town of Weare
Chris Nadeau, Nobis Engineering
Hugh Curley, U.S. Small Business Administration
Christine Trovato, Town of Henniker
Daniel Lagueux, Town of Hooksett
Laura Buono, Town of Hillsborough
Ed Carroll, Town of New Boston
Jo Ann Duffy, Town of Hooksett
Bill Klubben, City of Manchester
Daniel Donovan, Town of New Boston
Stan Brehm, Town of Chichester
Cam Prolman, SNHPC
Stephen Henninger, CNHRPC
Matt Monahan, CNHRPC
Mike Tardiff, CNHRPC
Katie Nelson, CNHRPC

- I. Introductions: The meeting opened at 5:34 PM. Introductions were made around the table with attendees introducing themselves and briefly indicating what community they represent.

Mike Tardiff welcomed attendees to the meeting. An introduction was provided, mentioning the incorporation of Manchester into the CEDS region. Mike provided example of how he has used the 2014 CEDS since adoption, which includes the CNHRPC Regional Plan, local Master Plans, local and regional economic development work, and in various grant applications.

- II. Recap of 2014 CEDS: Matt Monahan described the 2014 CEDS with three main components- the SWOT analysis, cluster analysis, and the list of projects. This CEDS will be different due to the changes with the passage of time, inclusion of Manchester, and new mythology for the SWOT

analysis. It is expected that this CEDS document will be shorter with additional data moved to the appendix and completed in a shorter amount of time.

Matt reviewed the provided handouts with attendees, reviewing each bullet item part of the 2014 SWOT analysis. Things for the committee to think about include how much has changed and how will these change with the addition of Manchester to the region. Comments from the discussion include:

- i. Labor availability is not as much as a strength now as it was previously.
- ii. Utilities, such as electric costs and capacity, should be considered a regional weakness.
- iii. Once completed, the CEDS can be used differently by each Town but is a document that can be pointed to that emphasized regional importance of projects.
- iv. There is opportunity with businesses and entrepreneurs already here and the 2014 CEDS Strategy Committee didn't feel like it was necessary to chase employers to the region.
- v. The inclusion of Manchester will affect change as it adds an additional approximate 110,000 people to the region and 62,000 people to the region's labor force.
- vi. New commuting data has been made available since the 2014 CEDS with the Census Bureau's OnTheMap application.
- vii. Tools available for communities will be highlighted in the CEDS document.

III. Overview of the CEDS Program: This agenda item was skipped due to time.

IV. Proposed Work Plan & Schedule: This agenda item was skipped due to time.

V. Current Work in Progress: Matt Monahan noted he has been working on the cluster analysis and will have more for the next meeting.

VI. Next Steps: The next meeting will be for a subcommittee to meet in June that will focus on the action plan and prioritizing projects. The full committee will meet again in September with a target completion goal of October. A doodle poll will be sent out to find the best meeting time. It was asked that attendees provide feedback on the SWOT Analysis Research Components handout. It was also suggested that a NHDRED representative be present at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:38 PM.