

**GRAND GATEWAY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ASSOCIATION**

**COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGY
(CEDS)
2010-2020**

**Prepared by:
Grand Gateway Economic Development Association-2016**

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Grand Gateway Economic Development District Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

MISSION

The principal goal of the district is to improve the quality of life through assistance to public entities and private sector firms to expand, retain and create long-term jobs without adverse impact on the environment.

Executive Summary **Overview of CEDS Process**

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is based on input from all sectors and representatives of each county of the District. Presently, the CEDS Committee is comprised of the Grand Gateway Board, Grand Gateway Executive Board, Representatives of private and public entities within the Grand Gateway service area, and Employees. The CEDS Advisory Committee has been active since 1999. The towns and cities have ongoing needs assessments for their respective areas.

The CEDS is viewed as an on-going and viable process and not as a planning document, per se. A grass root input is provided by CEDS Board Committee members and other sectors of each county of the Grand Gateway District. Staff provides technical assistance and drafts the annual update(s). The Board reviews and recommends refinement as appropriate. The current CEDS update was reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors.

Board of Directors

Board Membership Form presents a complete listing of the current Board Membership including CEDS sub-committee/area of interest designation.

Organizational Staffing Chart

The Grand Gateway Organizational Staffing Chart enumerating the current list of employees is included. The staffing pattern may be revised periodically to be consistent with current needs of the organization.

DIRECTORS

Chairman of Grand Gateway Board of Directors

Russell Earls, Chairman
Ottawa Co. Comm.

STAFF MEMBERS

Position

Name

Executive Director

Edward J. Crone

Deputy Director/Financial Officer

Errin Clocker

Deputy Director/Legal Counsel

Marion Stinson

Economic Development Director

Tami McKeon

REAP Director

Annette Morgan

Regional Transportation Planning Org

Debbie McGlasson

Pelivan Transit Director

Kendra McGeady

Area Agency on Aging Director

Kay Carter

Rural Fire Director

Melvin Mashburn

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 - C. Enhances and protects the environment
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 - E. Balances resources through sound management of physical development
 - F. Promotes the use of technology in economic development including access to high speed telecommunications
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I. BACKGROUND

The Grand Gateway Economic Development Association (hereinafter referred to as “Grand Gateway” or “The Association” for reasons of convenience) is an association of local governments formed under the provisions of Oklahoma’s Interlocal Cooperation Act. Through a joint Resolution and Agreement – currently filed with the Secretary of State of Oklahoma, on May 14, 1971, -- and subsequently amended nine times – the Association serves as a CEDS Committee for certain local program operations within a seven-county service area consisting of Craig, Delaware, Mayes, Nowata, Ottawa, Rogers and Washington Counties. A Grand Gateway Economic Development Association district map is included.

Simply put, the purpose of the Association is the planning and development of district-wide, long-term, economic, physical, and social programs for the future growth of the seven-county district. The designated contact person for Grand Gateway is Mr. Edward J. Crone, Executive Director, (918) 783-5793. The Planning Organization: **Grand Gateway Economic Development Association**, a quasi-governmental, voluntary association of seven (7) counties, fifty-two (52) communities, ten (10) Native American tribes, multiple school districts, rural water districts, and an inland port as defined by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration as an Economic Development District. Grand Gateway Economic Development Association (GGEDA) offers services and assistance through multiple programmatic resources through local, state, and federal funding to and for entities that choose to work in a collaborative effort for the benefit of approximately 246,192 citizens of these specific counties in Northeast Oklahoma. GGEDA has been serving these entities since 1967 in and through the focus areas of Economic Development Administration , Area Agency on Aging, Pelivan Rural Transit System, Community Development Block Grant Program, Capital Improvement Planning, Geographical Information Systems, Rural Fire Program, Rural Economic Action Plan, E-911, Disaster Planning, FEMA Hazard Mitigation Planning, FEMA Structure Repetitive Loss Program, Masonic Lodge funding, as well as the associated tasks and programs that are germane to the encompassing umbrella of the parent entity. The CEDS Committee consists of representatives of private and non private entities, based on sustainable development considerations throughout the service region.

GGEDA also works in tandem with other funding agencies, i.e. US Department of Agriculture (USDA), Community Resources Group (CRG), Cherokee Nation Indian Health Services and Cherokee Nation Business Services, as well as the multiple programs focusing on Public Transit in the Federal Transportation Association to supply infrastructure and services that spur economic activity and sustainable development.

II. ANALYSIS of Economic Development Problems and Opportunities

A. U.S. and Oklahoma Unemployment Rate (Seasonally Adjusted) Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

The unemployment rate measures the percentage of people who are without work and is calculated by dividing the estimated number of unemployed people in the state by the civilian labor force. The result expresses unemployment as a percentage of the labor force.

The unemployment rate is a lagging indicator of economic activity. During a recession, many people leave the labor force entirely, as a result the jobless rate may not increase as much as expected. This means that the jobless rate may continue to increase in the early stages of recovery because more people are returning to the labor force as they believe they will be able to find work. The civilian unemployment rate tends towards greater stability than payroll employment on a monthly basis. It reveals the degree to which labor resources are utilized in the economy.

The U.S. unemployment rate unexpectedly dropped sharply in November, falling to its lowest level in 2 1/2 years. The unemployment rate fell 0.4 percentage point to 8.6 percent in November, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Prior to this decline, the jobless rate had shown little change since April. The rate is now lower than at any point since March 2009, when it was 8.6 percent as well.

Oklahoma's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased by 0.2 percentage points to 6.1 percent in October, the highest statewide jobless rate since March. It was also the 8th lowest jobless rate among all states for October. Nevada continued to report the highest unemployment rate among the states, 13.4 percent in October, while North Dakota again registered the lowest jobless rate, 3.5 percent. Over the year, Oklahoma's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate has declined by 0.8 percentage points.

OKLAHOMA

ECONOMIC INDICATORS –November 2011

Oklahoma Employment Security Commission

Jon Brock, Executive Director

Economic Research and Analysis Division

Lynn Gray, Director & Chief Economist

Will Rogers Memorial Office Building

Labor Market Information Unit, 4th Floor N

P.O. Box 52003

Oklahoma City, OK 73152-2003

B. While 6.9% Unemployment for the state of Oklahoma, three (3) counties in the GGEDA service area are unemployment levels that exceed this level. Please refer to OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION Economic Research & Analysis...*Bringing Oklahoma's Labor Market to Life!*

C. Economic Opportunity

Given the nature of private sector employment in the region, rural based employment centers exist in the surrounding communities concentric with industrial and/or business parks, especially with reference to the distribution of subsidized housing. Most of the subsidized housing is in rural areas located on individual owned property, not in housing clusters or other forms of developments that were designed with an employment center focus.

This factor is most clearly demonstrated by the use patterns in the Pelivan and Tribal transit programs above. Because of time and distance constraints those who use the public transportation systems seldom use it to get to work. Rather, it is to education, health care, shopping or other purposes that are not time dependent like work. Our long range goal is to create a data base of public housing locations and opportunities for public transit systems to mirror employment centers as a larger category in public transportation use patterns. To make these in local transportation modes more desirable, GGEDA is planning with the Private Sector and local governments to develop CNG Infrastructure capacity.

D. Transportation Access

Pelivan and Tribal Transit systems only collect data on passenger use and fees paid, not individual miles traveled. Stakeholders and clients utilizing the Pelivan Transit System include area city, county, and tribal governments, area Community Action Programs, area social agencies including Department of Human Resources, Grand Lake Mental Health, Home of Hope Foundation, Oklahoma Healthcare Authority, area

nursing homes, area retirement housing developments, area housing developments, Agency for Aging Americans, area Senior Citizen Centers, multiple private industries, area Chamber of Commerce, area shelters, area daycares and schools, area hospitals, medical clinics, doctors, therapy centers, dentists, medical support businesses, tribal citizens and the general public. Further development of the transit system includes investigating University Student ridership in Claremore, OK at Rogers State University as well as a trolley loop in Miami, OK.

Coordinated planning is needed to address the existing transit and area transportation systems' gaps and overlaps of transportation services currently being provided and how all the stakeholders can form a mobility management program. This coordination will enable participants in the CEDS Committee to expand and enhance the existing system. Additional work routes and vanpools will be developed for commuters from outlying communities into the Mid-America Industrial Park located near Pryor, Oklahoma as well as the Port of Catoosa near the cities of Claremore and Owasso. Each city within this region will develop a transit and transportation plan to address park and ride locations for commuters as well as ADA compliant bus stops with proper walkways for safe transit boarding of passengers.

The approach to create a Long Range Regional Transportation Plan is summarized as follows: Grand Gateway and the CEDS Committee of stakeholders involved in the regional planning will conduct technical fact finding to quantify the transportation problems, and develop initial solutions and strategies. Second, at two key stages, the community at-large will be asked, through public meetings, to verify that the right issues are being addressed and that the solutions are sound and well prioritized. The study is expected to continue over a 36-month period. There will be continuous information updates to our website to keep the public informed and involved. Funding for this activity is expected to begin in 2014 from the Oklahoma State Department of Transportation.

The goal of our study is to develop a Long Range Regional Transportation Plan that responds to future needs including improvements that will enhance both transportation and economic development of the Grand Gateway Economic Development region into the year 2035. Current federal legislation is changing that will place the full responsibility of transportation planning to Sub-State Planning Districts. This means that the outcomes of this transportation planning will have been even more significant when procuring federal funding for transportation and transit funding in the GGEDA service area.

E. Environmental Quality

Given the continuing nature of the rural counties and communities, there has been little if any changes in urbanized land use patterns. The data for total miles distribution of water infrastructure per population served is not available because the Oklahoma Water Resources Board allocates water by permit to use documented acre feet of

water from defined sources, not based on how many miles of water line have or will be installed. This means that the different providers of potable water are cities and other municipalities; rural water districts; Indian Tribes and Nations; the Public Health Service; and, individual separate development by private sector developers. GGEDA works with all of the public water entities in planning, design, securing funding, and construction of water and wastewater systems.

F. Housing

The need for affordable housing is a theme that was echoed throughout the region during the region's community action agencies, NEOCAA and CARD, annual community assessment process. This need was identified in all of the communities and in all of the surveys conducted.

Considering the demand for affordable housing and given the limited availability of housing throughout the region, it can be said that there are not enough resources available to the agency to meet the needs. A combination of efforts including housing rehabilitation and weatherization to maintain current housing stock, new construction of affordable single-family homeownership units, consideration of the development and construction of both single-family and multi-family rental units and the provision of homebuyer education services and down payment assistance will be needed to begin to impact on the region's housing needs.

The CAA's have a combined capacity to provide extensive access to resources to meet projected population growth and housing needs of the region. These include, but are not limited to: certification by the Oklahoma Housing Finance Authority as Community Development Housing Organization (CHDO); experience in administering HOME funds and related housing programs; administering Weatherization LIHEAP funds for OERB, DOE, and DHS; Homeless shelters and facilities in region: Emergency Shelter Facilities: Transitional shelter Facilities: and, Permanent Housing Facilities; development of new rental housing with special needs housing, homebuyer units; CDBG housing activities; USDA Housing Preservation Grant; Owner occupied housing rehabilitation; Homebuyer Education; Down payment/closing cost assistance; Weatherization; OHFA Homeowner Occupied Rehabilitation; CDBG CBDO; Homebuyer Education and homeownership; and, down payment/closing cost assistance.

The CEDS COMMITTEE will address the ability of residents to take advantage of housing opportunities throughout the area without discrimination because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, disability, or familial status. Existing analysis methodologies already assess impediments to fair housing choice and, with implementation of the CEDS COMMITTEE project, will be able to link transportation, employment, and housing resources in order to promote fair and affordable housing in high opportunity areas, and adhere to and promote economic development while utilizing the housing factor as an economic indicator.

In this context, the GGEDA PELIVAN public transportation system, together with that through the Indian Tribes and Nations, has made planning a priority for these considerations and is doing extensive research to link housing areas; employment centers; health service delivery facilities; and, educational opportunities. Therefore, the CEDS COMMITTEE has a unique collective capacity and access to resources that will ensure positive outcomes for the future.

III. CEDS Goals and Objectives-Defining Regional Expectations

Grand Gateway identified 11 goals to work on during the period 2010 through 2020. Following is a narrative of steps toward each goal:

Goal 1:

Continue to improve the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy of the Association so that it reflects the needs, sets the strategy of the area and focuses on the greatest potential for economic growth.

Objective:

The Board of Directors reappointed the CEDS Committee into the CEDS Committee in 1999. This group consists of multi-discipline representatives with varied background, education, experience and expertise. In 1993 the Overall Economic Development Plan (CEDS) Committee formed seven sub-committees to help in the planning process. The sub-committees are Environmental/Infrastructure, Healthcare/Housing, Transportation/Communication, Employment/Unemployment, Business/Industry, Education/Agriculture and Finance. The CEDS Committee requested each Board of County Commissioners to name additional people to serve on the committee so that there is adequate representation from each county. EDA staff provides assistance and guidance as needed throughout the process. This procedure continues to date.

Goal 2:

Continue activities for promoting the continuous growth and development of recreation/tourism and related services within the district.

Objective:

A focus for the district during 1993 has been the utilization of a tourism strategy for the area. Application was made for a Technical Assistance grant for this study in 1992. The application was approved and a sub-contractor selected in December 1992. The study was initiated in December 1992 and was completed in June 1993. This strategy is available to the district for future development of the tourism industry. Additionally, direct technical assistance is provided to communities, associations, chambers of commerce, local citizen groups and businesses in developing an expanding tourism industry. EDA staff works closely with state legislators in developing and implementing tourism throughout the seven county EDD.

Goal 3:

Continue to establish an effective public relations plan and marketing campaign to promote positive image of the EDD and the Association.

Objective:

The Association began the year by continuing public news releases and newsletters, which promoted the activities and accomplishments of the Association. A member of Grand Gateway's staff also works as a local media journalist and currently generates an increased number of positive press releases and articles with pictures. Further, a "photo op" is held either at the beginning or the completion of all state and federally funded projects. This activity has also strengthened relations with district legislators. These efforts have now expanded to three periodic newsletters; agency-wide, environmental and aging issues.

Goal 4:

Stimulate interest and activity in planning and developing transportation systems and network throughout the district.

Objective:

The Association continues to operate a seven-county public transportation system for Craig, Delaware, Mayes, Ottawa, Rogers, Nowata and Washington Counties. The Transit System coordinates with aging services, private industries and other public interests in order to provide the best services possible in light of funding constraints. The Association actively works with organizations in other counties to promote development of transportation systems. Additionally, the Association supports activities and programs to further improve the transportation network in the district by working with cities, towns and counties on funding for road, street, highway and bridge improvements and working with the Port of Catoosa on waterway requirement issues. The Association actively works with airport authorities throughout the district in order to improve these facilities.

Goal 5:

Focus on industrial development activities for expanding existing firms, target attraction efforts toward firms providing services which are compatible with the needs of the district, highlight development of new basic service industries, and develop government contracting potential.

Objective:

The EDA staff of the Association continues to work with the industrial authorities throughout the district; the various economic development authorities in the communities and counties; chambers of commerce; and local business and community leaders in efforts to enhance employment opportunities. The district staff continues to work with the career-tech systems and community colleges, regional universities in the district to improve training programs that will enhance the work force as new or existing employers expand in the area. Multiple contacts are on going with local firms. The Association is also actively involved with the Workforce Investment Act Board for the district.

Goal 6:

Continue to strengthen planning and management capabilities of the Association to guide the discussion and decision-making of local leaders on economic development activities.

Objective:

The Association has made great strides in improving the planning capabilities of the district as evidenced by transition to the CEDS process. This will provide the framework for carrying out similar activities on the county and local level. The Association has developed a web site and has the computer network capability to link with other systems such as Oklahoma Department of Commerce and the resources of the Internet to provide up-to-date data necessary for strategic planning. Requests for data have continued to increase yearly, as the quality of reports provided by the Association becomes known.

Grand Gateway continues to strive for improved management capabilities within the Association and 2010-20 promises to be a decade of improvement as the Board and staff strengthen their relationship with each other and the local entities the Association serves.

Goal 7:

Continue training seminars to equip local leaders with tools for economic development activities in the area.

Objective:

The Association staff has been instrumental in conducting seminars for local leaders during the past year. Examples include: technical assistance with Rogers State University in becoming an EDA University Center, training on tourism development, district wide; training on career-tech programs, Delaware County; training on EDA programs, Ottawa County, Delaware County, Mayes County; training for community foundation, Craig County; training on strategic planning, Nowata County. This represents a broad spectrum of activities regularly conducted by the Association.

Goal 8:

Develop programs and activities necessary for communities to evolve to their greatest extent, thus fostering long-term economic expansion of the local area.

Objective:

The Association provides various programs to assist communities to develop their economic viability. The major activity the past several years has been to develop a working relationship with each community, through personal contact by the EDA staff, in order to help each community set priorities and determine what they need to do in order to facilitate economic development in their area. This effort will continue in the 2010-20 work program.

Goal 9:

Initiate and conduct studies and strategies necessary to provide data and analysis that presently are not available from current sources.

Objective:

GIS-CIP community assessment tools have become vital for planning future development. A partnership with RSU Innovation Center has provided access to business development data and resources to help economic development planning throughout communities.

Various other studies, smaller in nature, have been carried out by the EDA staff for local entities and organizations throughout the district.

Goal 10:

Continue to initiate inter-agency relations at all levels of government for promoting improvements in existing educational system for all training and education programs.

Objective:

The Association assisted in the passage of a bond issue to develop a career-tech system in southern Rogers County that has been previously unserved. Construction of the new career-tech facility located at Claremore, Oklahoma has recently been completed. The school provides the community with expanded course offerings, but has plans to expand its curriculum. The Association will continue to assist in the further development and expansion of this system. Additionally, the district staff maintains contact with two (2) career-tech systems on six (6) campuses, community colleges, regional universities and public schools throughout the district in order to promote effective training programs for workers. GGEDA works in tandem with the Northeast Workforce Investment Board to provide seamless educational opportunities targeted at fulfilling employment positions identified for the present and future needs in the area.

The Association has several school districts as member entities and provides assistance and support to them for education programs, bond issues, etc. Understanding of the significance is the key to the CEDS Committee decision-making process and was used as an information tool for all levels of elected officials so that they understood the value of EDA, the EDD, and the Association.

Goal 11:

Environmental Stewardship

Objective:

As previously reported, Grand Gateway acted as the catalyst in designing the not-for-profit Northeast Oklahoma Solid Waste Management Research Institute serving a fourteen (14)

county regional area. The institute conducts ongoing activities to improve the environment (solid waste management, water quality, quality of life, etc.) in Northeast Oklahoma. Charter members include representatives from Eastern Oklahoma Development District, Cherokee Nation, Oklahoma State University Extension Service, State Health Department, etc. The Oklahoma State Department of Health and Department of Environmental Quality has seen the value of this organization and is working closely with the membership. The Institute is frequently asked for guidance and assistance for determination of regulatory impacts on area entities. An incidental benefit is promotion of the recreation and tourism service industry in Northeast Oklahoma. Grand Gateway's executive director, Mr. Edward J. Crone, currently serves on the Institute's Board of Directors.

GGEDA staff has spent the past three (3) years hosting county and regional meetings with Oklahoma Water Resources Board and Oklahoma State University Oklahoma Water Resources Institute to develop a new fifty (50) year Oklahoma State Water Plan that will be governed by watersheds a sensitive environmental issue in the district. This information will be used by the CEDS sub-committee on Environment/Infrastructure in development of future CEDS and in assisting local leaders in planning for environmental concerns and issues.

Continuing educational efforts on identifying Brownsfields for redevelopment throughout the district has also enabled the communities to assess their needs for economic development within their jurisdictional areas and with their neighboring communities.

IV. Community and Private Sector Economic Development Participants

Northeast Workforce Investment Board, Claremore Industrial Economic Development Authority, Mid America Industrial Park, Miami Area Economic Development Service, City of Miami Progressive Industrial Park, Bartlesville Development Corporation, Rogers County-City of Tulsa Port of Catoosa, Pryor Chamber of Commerce, Mayes County Prosperity Project, Nowata Chamber of Commerce, Jay Industrial Authority, Rogers State University, North Eastern Oklahoma A&M College, Northeastern State University, Inter Tribal CEDS Committee, Rogers County Industrial Economic Development Authority, Friends of the Coleman Theatre, Tommy Allsup Music Foundation, Inola Economic Development Council, Northeast SACE-ZZ, Welch Area Development Authority, Littlefield Business Park in Afton, Grove Municipal Services Authority, Cherokee Nation Enterprises, Cherokee Nation Businesses, Grand Lake Association and USDA. This listing of participants is not inclusive of all participants, but, those most active in Economic Development activities in the GGEDA service area. GGEDA's bordering states and their respective Economic Development entities work in tandem for ever expanding regional efforts. This list of participants will continue to expand and contract as regional projects develop.

The CEDS planning process allows regional sessions for data collection and coordination of service delivery into an integrated regional plan that ensures all constituents have a voice in the final outcomes of the plan. For example, as mandated in all federal applications and to comply with Oklahoma Statue, open meetings with full agendas and participation are made available to the public in either posted and/or printed media in papers of local distribution, in the respective court house and are disseminated by the appropriate entity.

The important point in this discussion is that the data bases and resources are all ready identified, the CEDS Committee has been formed, and the intent is to merge these into a coherent and useable long range vision and plan for the region. Given that the plan will be a work in progress while it is developed by the CEDS Committee the respective partner entities from GGEDA will report to their respective boards of directors for review, comment, critique and final approval. Regular meetings ensure that all parties to the plan will have immediate and long term involvement in its development and commitment to its implementation.

The formal structure and commitment of the parties in the CEDS Committee are contained in the express purpose to... "fashion the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the Benefit for all Members, Partners and/or Stakeholders in the region. The target population that this CEDS Committee intends to serve reside in the Oklahoma counties of Rogers, Mayes, Delaware, Ottawa, Craig, and Nowata. The population benefit from the strategy by equity of plans and services being distributed throughout the service region based on the integration of local objectives with broader regional concerns consistent with the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy document."

Further, GGEDA will be the lead technician and vehicle for submitting EDA and other funding agency applications for member entities. GGEDA, along with the member applicants, shall

have responsibility for submitting the funding applications, and, with the CEDS Committee recommendation, shall execute fiscal and programmatic responsibility.

In addition, if other stakeholders are identified they will be invited to become full participants in the planning and evaluation processes that lead to the final regional planning document. These include, but are not limited to, rural volunteer fire departments, private sector housing developers, PHA's that are localized and want to participate in a large area project.

An essential component of any plan is sustainability – the project directors, in their role as managers and long term investment strategists, will work with all partners to assist with their continuation applications, provide data bases that enable them to expand service delivery, and conduct searches for additional funding for service delivery.

V. Strategic Projects, Programs and Activities

Projects are selected and prioritized according to District eligibility criteria. Criteria include:

- Project is a Pressing Need For the Area
- Project is Consistent With CEDS
- Area of Impact
- Justified Need for Project
- Cost Effectiveness
- Resources Available
- Number of Term Jobs Created to Reduce Unemployment/Underemployed of Area
- Feasibility of Project, Impact on Environment

The CEDS Committee, as historically established at GGEDA, consists of multi-discipline representatives with varied background, education, experience and expertise. The committee meets prior to each GGEDA Board of Director's meeting in February, June, August, October, and December. The CEDS Committee also meets should a

The CEDS Committee will make a report at each Board Meeting of the Association and will recommend to the Board the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the District for their adoption. The CEDS Committee will bring revisions and/or additions to the existing CEDS to the Board during the year for necessary action.

The EDA staff of Grand Gateway will provide the manpower and technical assistance to the CEDS Committee in order to carry out the work of the strategy.

Staff members from all departments represented by the Association are constantly talking to the people in the district about all the programs available and how they impact each other. This information is shared among the staff so that needed projects are identified. Further, use of the Capital Improvement Plans and advanced networking will also identify projects.

Grand Gateway staff has conducted several informative meetings with other agencies and private sector groups in each county. The information derived is used in conjunction with input from the public sector to update the EDA Annual Report.

A. Economic Development Administration

EDA was created by Congress pursuant to the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to provide financial assistance to both rural and urban distressed communities. EDA's mission is to lead the Federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy. EDA will fulfill its mission by fostering entrepreneurship, innovation and productivity

through Investments in infrastructure development, capacity building and business development in order to attract private capital investments and higher-skill, higher wage jobs to Regions experiencing substantial and persistent economic distress. EDA works in partnership with distressed Regions to address problems associated with long-term economic distress as well as to assist those Regions experiencing sudden and severe economic dislocations, such as those resulting from natural disasters, conversions of military installations, changing trade patterns and the depletion of natural resources. EDA Investments generally take the form of Grants to or Cooperative Agreements with Eligible Recipients.

B. Community Development Activities

Community Development activities will continue to focus on assistance to the local government entities in planning activities and technical assistance for day to day operations of the town. This will be accomplished by assigning at least one full-time staff member to carry out local government specialist activities.

The Association will continue to house a regional data center and continue to collect, develop, evaluate and maintain data on the district and its local government entities. This data will be disseminated through various means including newsletters, reports, special publications and one-one one requests.

The Association will continue to provide technical assistance and advise to local entities in developing, implementing and managing action oriented projects such as CDBG, OWRB, EPA, Rural Development, etc., especially those resulting in overall improvements in the infrastructure of the area.

Since the inception of the 1996 Oklahoma State Legislature Rural Economic Action Plan Act, REAP has provided more than \$20 million dollars for local infrastructure needs throughout the GGEDA service area. The program implementation is approved by the district's Board of Directors. The board uses the CEDS process to help determine local needs and set priorities for funding based upon those needs.

All activities carried out in the community development program will be coordinated through the economic development division of the Association in order to assure activities ultimately address improvement of the community's economic capabilities. This assures the activities meet the overall goal of long-term job development, creation, and retention in the area.

C. Special Contracting Arrangements

The Association will continue to provide special services to member entities on a contract basis with the community. These services will include:

- Development and maintenance of Codes of Ordinances
- Median Household Income Surveys;
- Administration of CDBG Contracts;

- Special planning reports and activities specified by local entities.

The listed services are provided as a means for communities to share costs in providing services as required by Oklahoma State Statutes. Since many small communities cannot afford, and do not need a full time service, cost sharing permits these types of service.

GGEDA is the recognized planning entity for the region as set by state statute and EDA. As noted above, our service delivery to member entities is extensive in administration and management of multiple programs and serve as subcontractor and passes through entity for funding to local small communities who do not have the capacity to secure the funding or to administer grant programs.

GGEDA, through the CEDS Committee, partners with the two (2) Community Action Agencies, Northeast Community Action Agency and Community Action Resources and Development. All three (3) agencies serve the same constituent population with programs and services that require annual planning activities for low and moderate income persons and families. The CEDS Committee method and strategy merges these capabilities, qualifications and programs into a coordinated and well defined strategy to complete a long range planning.

Programs offered through Grand Gateway Economic Development Association's Economic and Community Development department are briefly described below.

D. Community Development Block Grant/Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (CDBG/EDIF)

Community Development Block Grant/Economic Development Infrastructure Financing (EDIF) program provides public infrastructure financing to help communities grow jobs, enable new business startups and expansions for existing businesses.

The national objective of this program is the development of viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities principally for people earning low to moderate incomes. The state program will achieve this national objective by funding projects in which at least 51 percent of the new jobs created are made available to low and moderate income individuals.

Types of Projects Funded

Publicly owned and maintained improvements that will provide basic infrastructure services to a new or expanding business, including water, wastewater, transportation improvements, and rehabilitation and new construction of publicly owned industrial buildings.

Typical Uses of Funds

- Acquisition of real property for public ownership and maintenance;
- Acquisition of public facilities for public ownership and maintenance (except for buildings used for the general conduct of government);

- Construction of public facilities;
- Installation of public facilities;
- Reconstruction of publicly owned and maintained industrial buildings or structures and other industrial real property;
- Rehabilitation of publicly owned and maintained industrial buildings or structures and other industrial real property;
- Publicly owned fiber optic lines.
- Eligibility
Eligible applicants are units of local government (counties and incorporated towns or cities)

D-1. Community Development Block Grants –

CDBG Water-Wastewater Phase I and Phase II; Community Development Block Grant Water and Wastewater Phase I Engineering and Planning; CDBG Water-Wastewater Engineering

Program Overview/Purpose

The Water and Wastewater Engineering program was developed to fund water and wastewater projects that require more than one year to complete through a “phased approach.” Phase I of the Water and Wastewater Engineering program will cover only engineering costs plus an appropriate amount of administration. Once the applicant receives their construction permit, ODOC/OCD will issue an award for construction and the second phase of the project will begin.

- Grant proposals must address how the project achieves at least one of the following national objectives: Provide benefit to people earning low to moderate incomes;
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight;
- Meet other community development needs having particular urgency, posing a serious or immediate threat to the health or welfare of a community.

D-2. WATER AND WASTEWATER CONSTRUCTION

Program Overview/Purpose

The purpose of the Water and Wastewater Construction program is to fund projects that are ready to begin construction. The funds may be used for construction and administration only. Eligible entities have already used other funding sources to design their projects.

Eligibility

The non-competitive Water/Wastewater Phase II Construction program is designed to work in concert with the Water/Wastewater Phase I Engineering Program. Applicants who are

awarded a Phase I Engineering contract will automatically qualify for the Water/Wastewater Phase II Construction program once they submit final plan documentation and secure a permit to construct from the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality. The National Objective and program eligibility requirements are met under the applicant's Phase I Engineering grant proposal. See the Phase I Engineering program for these requirements.

D-3. Community Revitalization

The Community Revitalization Program addresses aesthetic and quality of life needs in rural Oklahoma communities, helping these communities thrive, grow, and spark a sense of pride in citizens. By taking a holistic approach to planning and development of community needs, and allowing several projects to be funded under one grant, Community Revitalization can make a greater impact in the overall viability of a community. Community Revitalization can be used to accomplish economic revitalization, downtown revitalization, and/or neighborhood revitalization.

Eligible projects include, but are not limited the following:

- Solid waste
- Fire protection
- Streets
- Housing demolition or rehabilitation
- Rehabilitation of a publicly owned building to accommodate a business
- Senior citizen centers
- Gas and electrical system improvements
- Removal of architectural barriers associated with handicapped access
- Storm water drainage improvements

Grant proposals must address how the project achieves at least one of the following national objectives:

- Provide benefit to people earning low to moderate incomes.
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight.
- Meet other community development needs having particular urgency, posing a serious or immediate threat to the health or welfare of a community.

D-4. CDBG REAP (Rural Economic Action Plan)

Program Overview/Purpose

The CDBG REAP program was developed in partnership with the Sub-state Planning Districts (SSPD) in order to make a greater impact on each district by matching CDBG funds dollar for dollar on each project in their respective area. Your local SSPD will receive and

rank each application in their area. All completed CDBG/REAP applications should be sent to your local SSPD by their required deadline. Applicants should contact their local SSPD to verify application deadlines.

Eligible projects include, but are not limited the following:

- Water
 - Wastewater
 - Solid waste
 - Streets
 - Housing demolition
 - Fire protection
 - Senior citizen centers
 - Gas and electrical system improvements
 - Removal of architectural barriers associated with handicapped access
 - Storm water drainage improvements
 - Eligibility
- Eligible applicants are units of local government (counties and incorporated towns or cities)

Grant proposals must address how the project achieves at least one of the following national objectives:

- Provide benefit to people earning low to moderate incomes;
- Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight;
- Meet other community development needs having particular urgency, posing a serious or immediate threat to the health or welfare of a community.

Other Economic and Community Development programs offered through Grand Gateway EDA include: REAP, Hazard Mitigation, E-911, Area Agency on Aging, Rural Fire, GIS/CIP, and Pelivan Transit system.

E. GIS/CIP (Geographical Informational Systems/Capital Improvement Planning)

Program Overview/Purpose

The CDBG Capital Improvement Planning (CIP) grant provides funds to help communities create or update a Local Inventory of Governmental Capital Assets & a Local Capital Improvement Plan & Budget. The CIP process requires communities to create strategic

plans for addressing the needs for publicly owned capital assets. By prioritizing capital budget needs, a community is better prepared to meet the financial requirements for enhancing its local infrastructure & paving the way for future community & economic growth & stability.

Geographical Information Systems (Geo) & Capital Improvement Planning (CIP)
GeoCIP© combines Geographical Information Systems (GIS) technology & Capital Improvement Planning (CIP) or local government asset management practices into a standardized process for creating a GIS based inventory of local government assets to be used in annually evaluating asset conditions, setting improvement priorities for assets & updating the local government capital budget.

GeoCIP© Helps Communities Improve Strategic Planning & Operations

- Provides a GIS-based, comprehensive & detailed inventory & mapping of local government owned assets - the same tools used by larger communities
- Provides a standardized guide to local governments who have little or no structured way of taking care of the needs of infrastructure management
- Establishes a local administrative & policy framework for making responsible capital budgetary decisions
- Clarifies & projects economic & demographic trends likely to influence the needs for new & expanded local capital facilities
- Estimates the cost for repairs, replacements & expansions that incorporate mandatory, essential, desirable & deferrable needs
- Provides small grants to aid in the costs incurred

Eligibility - Eligible applicants are units of local government (counties & incorporated towns or cities)

- Eligible applicants must have an existing Local Inventory of Capital Assets & a Local capital Improvement Plan & Budget.
- All Capital Improvement Planning set-aside projects must qualify their proposals under the national objective to benefit at least 51 percent of people earning low to moderate incomes.
- Grant participants must conduct the project in accordance with the current version of the GeoCIP© Toolkit as provided by the Oklahoma Department of Commerce.
- Grant participants must contract with a local COG (Council of Governments) for implementation of a CIP including administrative & technical aspects of the program

Pelivan Transit

Transportation Planning

Our transportation planning will develop Grand Gateway EDA's service territory transportation system to promote better mobility in and around our communities for the next 20 years. A study will be conducted to include all means of person travel as well as goods movement. The study will address roads, bridges, transit, rail facilities, airport access, ports, pedestrians and cyclists.

The goal of our study is to develop a Regional Transportation Plan that responds to future needs including improvements that will enhance both transportation and economic development of the Grand Gateway Economic Development region into the year 2035.

The Plan should meet both local needs and federal requirements, through:

- Supporting the economic vitality of the United States, the State of Oklahoma and the Grand Gateway region.
- Increasing the safety and security of the transportation system for motorized and non-motorized users
- Emphasizing the preservation of the existing transportation system;
- Increasing the accessibility and mobility options available to people and freight;
- Protecting and enhancing the environment, promoting energy conservation and improving the quality of life
- Including stakeholder outreach and public involvement, plus involving advisory groups that represent transportation system providers and users for the movement of both people and goods.
- Forming a Regional Transportation Organization to more fully utilize stakeholder leverage and shared concerns in regards to all forms of mobility management within, throughout, and adjoining the Grand Gateway service area, including, but not limited to; roadways, interstates, rail, waterways, pedestrian traffic, and the Port of Catoosa.

Other important issues to be studied include: funding uncertainties, potential air quality concerns and how best to address climate change and energy dependency. The resolution of these issues may be of paramount importance and will influence the final development of a Long Range Plan.

The approach to create a Long Range Plan is summarized as follows: First, Grand Gateway and the consortium of stakeholders involved in the regional planning will conduct technical fact finding to quantify the transportation problems, and develop initial solutions and strategies. Then, at two key stages, the community at-large will be asked, through public meetings, to verify that the right issues are being addressed and that the solutions are sound and well prioritized. The study is expected to continue over a 36-month period. There will be continuous information updates to our website to keep the public informed and involved.

Transit Planning

Grand Gateway Economic Development Association owns and operates the Pelivan Transit System. This rural transportation service has been in operation since 1985 and currently serves seven counties in northeastern Oklahoma. The counties currently served include Craig, Delaware, Mayes, northern Tulsa, Ottawa, and Rogers. Nowata, Washington, and Cherokee counties along with border towns along the Kansas, Missouri, and Arkansas stateliness also are served with ridership demand requests to transport them to these Pelivan Transit has formed and coordinates several consortiums and coalitions for mobility management and transportation services. These services address the gaps and overlaps of transportation needs in the area communities. The transportation services currently provide a curb-to-curb demand response dial-a-ride, deviated fixed routes inter-connecting cities through work routes including various stops to major employers in the seven county region, and a trolley system in Miami, Oklahoma.

Stakeholders and clients utilizing the Pelivan Transit System include area city, county, and tribal governments, area Community Action Programs, area social agencies including Department of Human Resources, Grand Lake Mental Health, Home of Hope Foundation, Oklahoma Healthcare Authority, area nursing homes, area retirement housing developments, area housing developments, Agency for Aging Americans, area Senior Citizen Centers, multiple private industries, area Chamber of Commerce's, area shelters, area daycares and schools, area hospitals, medical clinics, doctors, therapy centers, dentists, medical support businesses, tribal citizens and the general public.

Coordinated planning is needed to address the existing transit and area transportation systems' gaps and overlaps of transportation services currently being provided and how all the stakeholders can form a mobility management program. This coordination will enable participates in the consortium to expand and enhance the existing system. Additional work routes and vanpool will be developed for commuters from outlying communities into the Mid-America Industrial Park located near Pryor, Oklahoma as well as the Port of Catoosa near the cities of Claremore and Owasso. Each city within this region will develop a transit and transportation plan to address park and ride locations for commuters as well as ADA compliant bus stops with proper walkways for safe transit boarding of passengers.

A transit study will be conducted in all areas within this regional planning service area to address the transportation needs of the communities to develop routes and integrated transit services for the needs of all people for all ages. Coordination with a coalition of governments will focus on the transit needs and submit grant requests to the federal, state, local and private entities to fund projects based on the study and data for expanded and enhanced transit services.

Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), an alternative fuel source is available in the State of Oklahoma. Pelivan Transit has taken the lead to coordinate with the area stakeholders in this region to strategically plan to develop the infrastructure for fueling capabilities in each area city to accommodate fleet conversions and public consumption of CNG fueling of vehicles. The Oklahoma Natural Gas Company and Tulsa Gas Technologies along with the state and federal legislators have joined this coalition and will be involved in the planning meetings to develop the CNG infrastructure in our region. Planning engineers and professionals will be sought to develop a strategic plan and to gather the technical feasibility data for this project.

Tourism Planning

The Grand Gateway Economic Development Association's service territory has a vast array of tourist attractions situated in the area includes Grand Lake O' The Cherokees. Grand Lake was created in 1940 with GRDA's completion of Pensacola Dam. It is one of the premiere lakes in the Midwest and the crown jewel of a chain of lakes in the northeastern Oklahoma region.

Its 46,500 surface acres of water are ideal for boating, skiing, fishing, swimming and sailing. In fact, the lake, which lies in a southwest to northeast direction, is popular with sailboat enthusiasts wishing to take advantage of the prevailing wind. Normal surface elevation is 742 feet above sea level.

With 1,300 miles of shoreline meandering through the foothills of the Ozark Mountains, everything from bustling lakeside communities to quiet secluded coves and lakeside resorts can be found along its shore.

Consistently ranked among the top lakes for bass fishing in the region, Grand and GRDA's Lake Hudson are the only two major lakes in the state where residents can own lakefront property on the water's edge. It is also a haven for migratory waterfowl and other wildlife. Pelivan Transit was named after the Pelicans that migrate to Grand Lake.

Other tourist attractions include the Coleman Theatre located in Miami, Oklahoma located in a national historic district. The Coleman Theatre originally was a vaudeville theatre and movie palace, the "Coleman Theatre Beautiful" opened to a full house of 1,600, at \$1.00 a seat, on April 18, 1929. Built by George L. Coleman, Sr., local mining magnate, the opulent structure with Louis XV interior design dazzled the audiences of the day. From that day forward the Coleman has never been "dark". The historic structure was donated to the City of Miami by the Coleman family in 1989. Restoration and renovation of the theatre has become a "labor of love" in the community. Efforts have included returning the "Mighty Wurlitzer" pipe organ to its original home and restoring the magnificent chandelier. Live performances continue in this beautiful theatre located in northeastern Oklahoma.

Indian gaming has become a multi-million dollar industry in Oklahoma with 39 federally recognized tribes within the state. Currently there are 19 casinos located within the Grand Gateway EDA service territory. There are twelve casinos situated within Ottawa County alone which is located in the furthestmost northeastern corner of Oklahoma just 20 minutes from Joplin, Missouri and one hour from Tulsa on I-44. Hotels, entertainment venues, and beautiful golf courses have arisen around these attractions for tourism. Tourism planning will be an important component for jobs and economic growth in this region. Performing arts, along with venue sector employment, is a rising economic force throughout the region.

Area Agency on Aging

Long Term Care Ombudsman Program

Older Americans Act Services

Collaborates with Ombudsman Long Term Care, Information & Assistance, Pelivan Transportation, Legal Services of Eastern Oklahoma, Caregiver Training & Respite, Homemaker Chore Service, Nutrition Programs, Case Management, Medicare Plan D Consultations, and Health promotion & Medication Management

AAA Programs

Include Elder Abuse Awareness, Referral Services, Silver Haired Legislators, Educational Presentations, Prescription Drug Programs, Resource Directory, O4A Assessment Training, Medicare+Choice, Assistive Technology, C.E.N.A. Program, Disaster Assistance, Advisory Council on Aging, Grand Old Times Newsletter

Emergency Preparedness Programs

Hazard Mitigation Planning

Funding for Planning services and technical assistance for communities, counties, and public entities to build Hazard Mitigation plans

E-911

Funding for planning, policy and procedure implementation of the E-911 regional collaborative system

Structure Repetitive Loss

Removal of repetitive loss structures due to flooding in Ottawa County.

Rural Fire Protection Activities

Since 1986, the Association has operated a Rural Fire Coordinator's Program funded by the State of Oklahoma. This program provides a full-time fire coordinator on staff to provide direct technical assistance to rural areas in developing fire protection organizations; assistance to existing departments in training, equipment requisitions, etc.; with the overall emphasis to lower ISO ratings so that insurance is available in all areas.

Includes 80/20 state grants for rural fire departments serving populations under 10,000
Includes Operational grants for rural fire departments serving populations under 10,000
Includes FFP assistance for reassignment of military equipment to be used in rural fire departments

Conclusion

Grand Gateway operates many vital programs on a district-wide basis which allows for coordination of program activities for improvement and development of the district. Grand Gateway also coordinates with various other entities and Indian Tribal activities so that activities are carried out in an efficient and cost effective manner.

The Association has a foundational relationship with the Inter Tribal Council, an organization representing nine (9) tribal governments. Grand Gateway continues to work with these very important governments in order to enhance and coordinate economic development activities.

VI. CEDS PLAN OF ACTION

A. CEDS PLAN OF ACTION

- Promotes economic development and opportunity
- Fosters effective transportation access
- Enhances and protects the environment
- Maximizes effective development and use of the workforce consistent with any applicable State or local workforce investment strategy
- Balances resources through sound management of physical development
- Promotes the use of technology in economic development including access to high speed telecommunications
- Obtains and utilizes adequate funds and other resources

B. DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The current district development strategy and implementation plan for the period January 1, 2011 through January 1, 2014 are addressed in this chapter. Assumptions for the new funding period are consistent with plans from the past. These assumptions are:

1. The Tourism and Recreation, and Entertainment venues potential will continue to develop in Northeast Oklahoma; growth is occur more rapidly than in past years based on the gaming industry and performing arts.
2. Northeast Oklahoma continues to be an idea growth area for service industry, i.e., insurance, research wholesale, other business services.
3. Northeast Oklahoma will continue to be an ideal retirement area.
4. The trend for multiple-family member jobholders is expected to continue to increase for the foreseeable future.
5. Northeast Oklahoma will continue to be a desirable location for industrial development for targeted industries.
6. Expansion of existing firms continues to be a viable potential for creating new employment opportunity in Northeast Oklahoma.
7. The trend in locally owned and operated small firms employing 10 to 50 employees will continue in Northeast Oklahoma.
8. Activities aimed at marketing and promoting Northeast Oklahoma will continue to increase for the foreseeable future.

9. Agriculture and energy industries will continue to impact Northeast Oklahoma economic considerations in the future.
10. Environmental issues and concerns will continue to play an ever-increasing role in economic development activities in the foreseeable future.
11. Educational systems will continue to feel pressure to improve.
12. State assistance to rural areas for program development, planning and project implementation will decrease in the foreseeable future.
13. Reliable or easily accessible sources of financing for small business creation or expansion will continue to be a problem unless more public funded Revolving Loan Funds are established in the area.

C. WORK ACTIVITIES & STRATEGIES for 2010-2020

GRAND GATEWAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION WILL:

- A. Review needs assessments for all counties and for all cities large enough to have economic development programs. The needs assessment will identify barriers to economic development for these sub-areas.
- B. Review and update the environmental surveys of the district. The survey will include environmentally sensitive issues and areas in this region, which could impede or constrain economic development projects, or provide economic development opportunities. The information will be in sufficient detail to develop economic development policies to address areas of concern that might constrain potential economic development projects.
- C. Sustain and update the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy employing the methodologies discussed in length previously
- D. The CEDS Committee will be responsible for monitoring and approving work elements of this planning grant. The Committee will give the staff guidance and priority in implementing work program.
- E. Coordinate economic development planning and implementation with other economic development organizations affecting this area, especially EDA funded grantees such as Rogers State EDA University center, state and regional planning grantees, adjoining economic development districts and Indian Tribes. The final product will be a progress report showing number of meetings the district's staff has had with these groups.

- F. Perform planning grant management requirements. Prepare progress reports required by the grant. These reports will follow the work program approved in the grant and will show specific accomplishments. The progress reports will include items that were accomplished using EDA planning grant funds. GGEDA will perform other administrative functions of the grant contract.
- G. Perform any of the work elements listed in the CEDS Committee Agendas and/or Minutes as provided by Addendum.

D. Additional work items:

- A. Perform activities necessary to maintain the CEDS process and will be useful in the development of a district strategy.
- B. Prepare special economic studies and projects identified in the CEDS or approved by the CEDS Committee.
- C. Network with economic development organizations and other groups to implement CEDS recommendations.
- D. Develop and maintain a socioeconomic information system.
- E. Disseminate socioeconomic information.
- F. Maintain current information of federal, state, and local economic development programs. Special emphasis will be placed on EDA programs.
- G. Provide staff support to develop and monitor projects and programs that will increase economic development opportunities with the district. Priority will be placed on developing EDA grant applications.
- H. Provide technical assistance for capital improvement programs for member agencies, industrial parks, land use regulations, bond elections, district committees and sub-committees, and cities and counties.
- I. Implement special projects, studies and programs that have been specifically identified in the district's CEDS.
- J. Provide training and workshops to local governments, economic development groups, and businesses.

- K. Coordinate and network with agencies and businesses located outside the district that can provide benefits for the district's economic development program.
- L. Participate in other activities approved by the Austin Regional Office.

E. EDA funded OARC statewide CEDS and EDGE

The Oklahoma Association of Regional Councils (OARC) has been awarded an EDA grant to assemble a statewide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. OARC works closely with the eleven sub-state planning districts across the state, along with the programmatic funding agencies, to provide a forum for developing a standardized methodology in procuring and processing programmatic instruments for the benefit of Oklahomans.

Oklahoma's EDGE was developed in late 2003 by hundreds of Oklahomans from across the state, providing a blueprint for our state's future. The 2004 EDGE Action Plan summarized high-priority recommendations from the blueprint. Since then, more than 100 initiatives have been undertaken to implement the EDGE action⁵⁴ plan. Clearly, EDGE continues to serve as an effective blueprint for Oklahoma's economic growth. A cooperative spirit has been the hallmark of the EDGE process from the beginning. Gov. Brad Henry launched the initiative in cooperation with the Oklahoma Department of Commerce and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. Throughout the EDGE project, approximately 2,400 Oklahomans have participated in the process that has led to these recommendations.

The statute creating the EDGE endowment fund (Title 62 O.S. Supp.2007 §47, §52) specifies that the seven-member EDGE Policy Board shall determine the specific investments to be made each year from the earnings of the EDGE endowment. This endowment is separately managed by the EDGE Board of Investors who certifies the amount of funds annually available to the EDGE Policy Board.

Funding awards can be made to “push” technology from researchers to businesses and “pull” research and technology needed by business sectors. Many types of awards are possible, including proof of concept, applied research, matching funds, purchase of equipment, seed capital, or other projects that meet the EDGE mission. Moreover, the Policy Board can employ multiple investment instruments, e.g., grants, contracts, loans, investments, contributions, supplementary funds to existing programs and other applications.

Applicants eligible to receive EDGE funding are:

- (a) Private or public Oklahoma institutions of higher education,
- (b) Non-profit Oklahoma research foundations or other non-profit organizations,
- and
- (c) For-profit enterprises.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Economic Development 1

PRIORITY: 1

GOAL: To equip local leaders with knowledge necessary to lead economic development activities including environmental awareness, and to relate better with business operators and owners.

STRATEGY:

- (a) Grand Gateway will provide information to local elected officials concerning relations with businesses.
- (b) Grand Gateway CEDS sub-committee on Industry/Business will explore opportunities for education seminars for local officials.
- (c) Grand Gateway will coordinate with local economic development corporations and agencies and career-techs to develop specific training sessions.
- (d) Grand Gateway CEDS Sub-Committee on Environment and Infrastructure will facilitate information exchange and training seminars to equip local leaders and businesses with the environmental concerns which will impact economic development activities.
- (e) RSU EDA University Center
- (f) Entrepreneurial Communities Ready
- (g) Bass masters location decided for Grove 16th Street project
- (h) Coordinate Environmental mapping

RESOURCES: State, Career-Tech, Native American Nations, and Local

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local agencies and private agencies

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Economic Development 2

PRIORITY: 1, Pressing Need

GOAL: To utilize an economic development strategy for areas to focus on job creation activities to provide guides for economic development.

STRATEGY: (a) Grand Gateway will contact each community to ascertain economic development potential.

- (b) Grand Gateway will provide technical assistance to help communities develop a local economic development strategy.
- (c) Grand Gateway will train selected local leaders in implementing the strategy.
- (d) Energy Plans for Nowata and Claremore
- (e) Diana Forth explained how Welch State Bank bought Arvest Bank in South Coffeyville in 2011. Nowata County has created a Development Authority to help with any possible opportunities for the area.
- (f) Anna Knight with Cherokee Nation Department of Commerce announced there is a NORA Day at the State Capitol on Tuesday, February 26, 2013 for anyone who would like to attend.
- (g)

RESOURCES: EDA, State, and Local.

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local governments.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Economic Development 3

PRIORITY: 1, Pressing Need

GOAL: To stimulate private investment in long-term physical plants, technology infrastructure, and equipment.

- STRATEGY:**
- (a) Grand Gateway will provide technical assistance to develop revolving loan funds throughout the region.
 - (b) Grand Gateway CEDS Sub-Committee on Finance will provide local banks and financing institutions information regarding RLF funds and how they work.
 - (c) Grand Gateway CEDS Sub-Committee on finance will provide information to local businesses on RLF funds availability.
 - (d) Grand Gateway will coordinate with organizations that have RLF funds.
 - (e) Encourage Green Sustainable Development

RESOURCES: EDA, USDA, and ODOC.

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local organizations.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Economic Development 4

PRIORITY: 2

GOAL: To provide data and in-depth information to business, industry and community leaders for financing options in order to increase opportunities for job creation and retention.

STRATEGY:

- (a) Grand Gateway will serve as a contact point for business financing.
- (b) Grand Gateway will provide information and referral on business financing.
- (c) Grand Gateway will provide follow-up on contacts.
- (d) Miami Nation Business Services ---Create 40-100 jobs in conjunction with private business owner and tribe's 8(a) status
- (e) Eastern Shawnee Tribes need for EDA Funding for Expanding to Building new business in the area

RESOURCES: EDA, SBA, ODOC, USDA, WIB, REC and BIA.

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local businesses needing assistance.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Economic Development 5

PRIORITY: 2

GOAL: To provide infrastructure improvements to communities with industrial sites in order to create jobs for unemployed and underemployed persons in the area.

STRATEGY:

- (a) Each community will be visited at least annually.
- (b) Assistance will be provided to specific projects and/or Job Loss as they arise based on priority set by CEDS Committee.
Port of Catoosa Port of Catoosa for Economic
- (b) Development and Infrastructure Improvement purposes: i.e.; 200/300 ton Overhead Crane –Main Wharf, New Barge Fleeting Facility, Truck Staging Area, Perimeter Fencing / Security Cameras, Conference and/or Industrial Training Building, Day Care Facility, Rail trans-load / intermodal (container) facility,

Railroad crossing signalization projects - discussed the Port of Catoosa Projects as the Panama Canal Expansion is expected to open in 2014 and the beneficial these projects would be for the area

- (c) Approval from the CEDS Committee for the TIGER Application for Port of Catoosa
- (d) **Jeri Koehler, Director of Rogers State University Innovation Center stated that Claremore has been named an Entrepreneur Ready City. She also provided an Entrepreneur Ready Claremore Certification Review handout to the group. Jeri also discussed an innovative ideas competition they are doing in Bartlesville. They have seven finalists that have submitted their applications for the \$15,000.00 prize. Jeri further explained RSU applying for another term of Economic Development Administration University Center with a new 5-yr round of funding.**

RESOURCES: EDA, BIA, USDOT, ODOC, USDA and REC

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local governments, Public agencies.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Economic Development 6

PRIORITY: 1, Pressing Need

GOAL: To provide infrastructure improvements for further development of existing industrial parks in South Coffeyville, Vinita, Grove, Jay, Afton, Inola, Chelsea, Dewey, Ramona, Kansas, West Siloam Springs, Welch, Oaks, Pryor, Nowata, Miami, Quapaw, Claremore, Catoosa, Fairland and Bartlesville.

STRATEGY:

- (a) On request, as projects become viable, Grand Gateway will assist in project development and application preparation.
- (b) CEDS Committee will review projects for priority consideration.
- (c) Parks will be assessed each year to determine needs.
- (d) Possible company expanding into Nowata County and the collaboration of South Coffeyville and Welch State Bank.
- (e) Town of Disney is looking into a new business coming to their community
- (f) Town of Disney is also looking into new sewer system possibilities.

- (g) Sludge maintenance in the Town of Langley.
- (b) Grove Airport just received funding for expansion
- (c) Wi-Fi for the Grove Industrial Park
- (d) The Port of Catoosa fleeting area and Logistic Center
- (e) Natural Gas 20 miles line project for the Eastern Shawnee Tribe
- (f) **Cary also stated with the current business expansions and increasing number of businesses moving into the area, CRC is looking into Trans-modal Rail Facility, roads and natural gas and other public infrastructure improvements to keep up with the demand.**

RESOURCES: EDA, SBA, USDA, BIA, REC, FFA, ODOT, and ODOC

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local, State and Federal governments.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Economic Development 7

PRIORITY: 1, Pressing Need

GOAL: To provide direct technical assistance to local industries to expand and/or develop new industries which create jobs for the unemployed and underemployed persons in the area.

STRATEGY:

- (a) CEDS Committee will develop an appropriate visitation guide to be used by local leaders to promote job creation with existing industries.
- (b) Grand Gateway staff will be assigned as needed to work with local economic development groups, authorities, etc. to provide needed technical assistance to enhance job creation.
- (c) Grand Gateway will analyze unemployment trends versus job creation to measure impact on unemployment rates.
- (d) Grand Gateway will provide technical assistance in addressing environmental issues surrounding expansion and/or location of industries in the area.
- (e) Mayes County Employment Services Building
- (f) WIB meeting that was held in Pryor and distributed a brochure/pamphlet on "Get Ready to Grow". Tami stated the WIB committee is considering the option of 7 northern counties (GGEDA Service Area) and 7 southern counties (EODD Service Area) to consolidating to one large WIB encompassing all 14 counties
- (g) **Cary Jester with CIEDA – CRC Partnership gave updates on all projects in the Claremore, Rogers County area. BLM, NXTGen, ParFab, Baker-Hughes are all companies looking to**

locate or expand in the Claremore, Rogers County area. These companies are expected to bring numerous respectable paying jobs including engineers to the area.

RESOURCES: EDA, SBA, USDA, BIA, ODOC, OIFA, ODFA, REC, and EPA.

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local, state and federal governments; Private industries and Public/Private agencies.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Economic Development 8

PRIORITY: 1, Pressing Need

GOAL: To increase productive capabilities of businesses and industries.

STRATEGY: (a) Grand Gateway will provide technical assistance for creation of Revolving Loan Funds in the EDA District.
(a) Grand Gateway CEDS Sub-Committee on business/Industry will provide information about RLFs to businesses needing to expand, retain jobs or diversify existing product lines.
(b) Grand Gateway CEDS Sub-Committee on business/Industry will provide information about RLFs to manufacturers desiring to update their capabilities and improve productivity.
(c) **Verdigris---formed local Economic Industrial Organization**
(d) Lisa Clark with ODOC talked about a Business Retention and Expansion opening in Tulsa.
(e) Jeri Koehler with RSU stated they are working with Cherokee Nation and SBA to start-up a OSBDC (OK. Small Business Development Center). RSU is also working on a Build Bartlesville Competition and hoping to expand in the Regional Community to a Statewide competition with a 10,000 award to be given to the best design.
(f)

RESOURCES: EDA, USDA, ODOC and Private firms.

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Private/Public agencies, Private firms, Federal and State agencies.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Promote Tourism 1

PRIORITY: 2

GOAL: To provide public recreation areas for individuals, family and corporate utilization for improvement in quality of life and economic development competitiveness.

(a) Bass Master will be coming to the area next year and looking into options for the location of the event.

STRATEGY: Grand Gateway will continue to assist local entities in developing plans and funding proposals for park and recreation development and facilities.

RESOURCES: BOR, Local, Private Foundations

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local, state, federal governments.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Promote Tourism 2

PRIORITY: 1, High

GOAL: To provide cultural and heritage display opportunities for historical data dissemination.

STRATEGY: (a) Grand Gateway will continue to assist local entities and private groups to explore development of community centers, museums, cultural centers and tourist information centers.

(b) Grand Gateway will continue to promote the joining of fragmented private efforts in order to enhance funding opportunities.

RESOURCES: EDA, USDA, SBA, CDBG, BIA, BOR, and OWRB

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local, state, federal governments; public and private organizations.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Promote Tourism 3

PRIORITY: 1, High

GOAL: To assist local areas to collectively market attractions in order to create jobs by bringing more tourist dollars to the local area.

STRATEGY: (a) Grand Gateway will share findings of the TA Tourism strategy with local groups and area chambers of commerce to promote collective marketing.
(b) Grand Gateway CEDS Committee will use strategy to develop an area-marketing plan for tourism.
(c) Roy Clark School of Music formation with NE Tech with intentions of collaboration with Rogers State University and the Coleman Theatre in Miami.

RESOURCES: EDA and State.

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local government and Public/Private organizations.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Promote Tourism 4

PRIORITY: 1, High

GOAL: To provide advice and proper solutions to avoid loss of area businesses so that jobs are retained and commercial enterprises are expanded.

STRATEGY: (a) Grand Gateway will continue to implement tourism strategy developed by TA grant from EDA in 1992.
(b) Grand Gateway will meet with local chambers of commerce, tourism committees, etc. to assist in utilizing database to demonstrate growth areas in tourism.
(c) Grand Gateway will utilize tourism strategy data to help local leaders develop necessary framework for growth in area tourism industry.
(d) Grand Gateway will address environmental concerns surrounding tourism development to assist local leaders in strategic planning for environmentally sensitive areas that will be impacted by growth.
(e) Chief Glenna Wallace announced their new Indigo Sky Casino will be opening in September 2012 and it includes a 117 room motel and RV site. Chief Wallace discussed all the amenities included at the new location. Chief Wallace stated that Missouri had to supply most of the utilities due to the infrastructure in Oklahoma could not support the needs to operate the facility. Once they move into the new structure there will be two large buildings that

- will be available for new opportunities. Chief discussed Eastern Shawnee Tribe programs and how they are improving
- (f) Access Road Project to support Claremore Industrial Park as well as Baker Hughes

RESOURCES: EDA, State, ODOC and EPA.

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local government, Public and Private Agencies, Private businesses.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Transportation 1

PRIORITY: 1

GOAL: To improve and/or replace substandard or dangerous roads, bridges, port traffic, rail service, air service centers, and road culverts to improve movement of goods and people across the area.

STRATEGY:

- (a) Grand Gateway CEDS Committee will analyze data concerning roads and bridges to ascertain impact of the problem.
- (b) Grand Gateway will host meetings of local leaders for the purpose of developing a strategy to address the problem and implementation plan.
- (c) Develop Regional Transportation Planning Organization
- (d) Federal Transit Administration - State of Good Repair Grant
- (e) EDIF Project in Rogers County with up to 600 jobs – Baker Hughes is planning on expanding their operation and bringing in engineers and engineering jobs.
- (f) EDIF Project in Rogers County with up to 120 Jobs – Tami discussed the CIEDA are working with a manufacturing company in Claremore for their expansion
- (g) CNG Infrastructure Status-planning to host a regional meeting at Grand Gateway
- (h) Rail Development needed based on Town of Ochelata Mayor Barnes announced a new business, Premier Wax Company
- (i) CNG project in Grove
- (j) CNG project in Owasso
- (k) CNG in Pryor, Miami, and Vinita
- (l) Tami and Cary showed several photos of the Economic Development Administration funded Trans-modal Rail Facility that has almost finished construction in the Claremore's North Business Park. Cary stated Burlington Northern inspected the rail spur and approved it for service. BNSF is planning to extend the

- current siding in Claremore north to Sequoyah and eventually run a double track from Ada, OK to Chicago.
- (m) Cary also stated the Town of Inola Industrial Park in Rogers County received a grant from Grand Gateway EDA REAP Department to expand the road.
 - (n) Ed Crone announced Tulsa and Rogers County are looking into working together to move a Rail North of Tulsa to Include Nowata, Wagoner & Rogers Counties. Tami also discussed some options for collaboration of all communities in those areas.

RESOURCES: EDA, USDOT, Local and State.

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local governments.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Transportation 2

PRIORITY: 1

GOAL: To provide adequate service in rural areas to stimulate the economy by moving people to commercial areas and employment.

STRATEGY:

- (a) Grand Gateway will continue to provide a transportation system in Craig, Delaware, Mayes, Ottawa, Washington, Nowata and Rogers counties.
- (b) Grand Gateway will; provide assistance to Vinita, Miami, Grove and Claremore to expand service in the cities.
- (c) Grand Gateway will contract with private industries to provide transportation to and from the job for persons needing rides to their employment.
- (d) Rural Transportation Planning Organization
- (e) Grove, Claremore, and Ketchum Municipal Airport are looking for Infrastructure Improvements
- (f) Debbie McGlasson Director of Pelivan Transit gave an overview of the vast services Pelivan provides to all our citizens in NE Region of Oklahoma. Debbie also explained the need for CNG in our area and how plans are now being considered in our communities – the City of Grove is building a CNG fast fuel station.
- (g) *Joe Hutchison – gave an update on the plans and ideas for consideration super highway connecting NW Arkansas to the City of Grove in NE Oklahoma.

- (h) *Cary Jester stated Grand Gateway EDA and the Tulsa Metro Area will work with CIEDA and CRC to complete a Rail & Marketing Study for the Tulsa Metro and Nowata County area.
- (i) *Cary also stated Claremore and Rogers County are working together to improve Lowery Road from Highway 66 west to Highway 88 to three or more lanes. Also, the synchronized stop lights completed with the assistance of GGEDA for the City of Claremore are a benefit for the residents and they would like to expand the project. The City of Claremore is also considering relocating Highway 20 on the east side of the city.
- (j) Sydney Barnes with Ochelata talked about the projects in their town including the benefits of the new Rail Spur and adding a Car Storage. Sydney also discussed the operations of the PreMer Wax.
- (k) Bill Harrison with Afton stated they were awarded CDBG/REAP for a Road Resurfacing project.
- (l)

RESOURCES: ODOT, State, FTA, Local, and Private companies.

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local government, Grand Gateway and Private businesses.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Transportation 3

PRIORITY: 1

GOAL: To build or expand existing commercial ventures necessary for providing services to shoppers and tourists in order to supply service and products for improving job development and the economic base of the region.

STRATEGY: (a) Grand Gateway will work with area economic development agencies, authorities, etc. to assist and prioritize development potential.

- (b) Grand Gateway will provide technical assistance and referral to firms needing financial assistance.
- (c) Grand Gateway will work with travel and entertainment venues to create entertainment clusters
- (d) Coffey Dam Project, Mayes County
- (e) NE Career Tech Training Consortium, Claremore, Oklahoma—Coleman Theatre
- (f) EECBG grant for the Rogers County Traffic Light project.

RESOURCES: Tribal entities, SBA, USDA, USDOE, ODOC, OIFA, ODFA, Venture Capital, Private industries, REC

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Private firms, Public/Private agencies, Federal, State and Local governments.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Local Government 1

PRIORITY: 1, High Need

GOAL: To provide data and technical assistance to develop plans and implementation tools to foster economic and community development along with infrastructure improvements.

STRATEGY:

- (a) Grand Gateway will continue to respond to requests from local entities and private companies for data and technical assistance on infrastructure improvements and plans.
- (b) Grand Gateway will maintain database and census data to assist leaders in developing adequate plans.
- (c) Oologah, Inola, Claremore are working on TIF Districts for their areas
- (d) **Approve GGEDA US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration Resolution submitting state, federal &/or all funding applications on behalf of the Tulsa-Rogers County Port of Catoosa Logistics Center project**
- (e) **Approve GGEDA US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration Resolution submitting state, federal &/or all funding applications on behalf of the Rogers State University Innovation Center-EDA University Center Application for Funding**
- (f) **Approve GGEDA US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration Resolution Authorizing Application for Financial Assistance from any and/or all local, state and/or federal funding vehicles of behalf of the**

Cherokee Nation for the Cherokee Nation Health Clinic and Hospital Project.

- (g) Approve GGEDA US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration Resolution Authorizing Application for Financial Assistance from any and/or all local, state and/or federal funding vehicles of behalf of the Town of Ochelata**
- (h) Approve GGEDA US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration Resolution Authorizing Application for Financial Assistance from any and/or all local, state and/or federal funding vehicles of behalf of the Town of Jay**
- (i) Approve GGEDA US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration Resolution Authorizing Application for Financial Assistance from any and/or all local, state and/or federal funding vehicles of behalf of the Town of West Siloam Springs**
- (j)**

RESOURCES: EDA, ODOC, and Local

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Federal, state, local governments

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Local Government 2

PRIORITY: 2

GOAL: To provide management and support service to local entities that do not have the capacity to administer projects.

STRATEGY: Grand Gateway will continue to directly assist local entities of government, as requested, in areas of grant and/or project management activities.

(a.) Tami discussed some of the plans and ideas for the Southern Delaware County Water Dist. Tami also stated the she has meeting tomorrow with Alan Brooks regarding the feasibility study for Southern Delaware County.

RESOURCES: CDBG, EDA, OWRB, and RD

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local, state, federal governments and private contractors.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Local Government 3

PRIORITY: 2

GOAL: To assist local elected officials in the day to day operation of local governments and programs.

STRATEGY: (a) Grand Gateway will continue to provide data and technical assistance on matters of local government concern.
(b) Grand Gateway will provide **SWOT** analysis (alternately SWOT Matrix) is a structured planning method used to evaluate the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats involved)

RESOURCES: State Agencies, Local

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local governments, Public agencies

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Local Government 4

PRIORITY: 1, High Need

GOAL: To verify local income levels to determine whether a community meets program eligibility criteria.

STRATEGY: Grand Gateway will assist local entities desiring to meet program eligibility requirements for low and moderate income people by referring them to private sector entities that perform this function.

RESOURCES: CDBG, OWRB, USDA, and Local

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local, state, federal governments.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Environmental Quality 1

PRIORITY: 1, Pressing Need

GOAL: To provide solutions for area and regional solid Waste/Sludge Management problems in a cost-effective manner.

STRATEGY: (a) The CEDS sub-committee on Environment will continue to analyze data and explore alternatives for area residents.
(b) Grand Gateway staff will continue to be directly involved with Solid Waste Research Institute of Northeast Oklahoma.
(c) Grand Gateway will continue to explore ways to be involved in promoting and coordinating efforts in regards to solid waste and sludge management.
(d) **Ken Purdy – with Solid Waste Institute (SWI) – gave an update of what the SWI is and what services they can provide and/or coordinate with the communities.**

RESOURCES: EPA, USDA, Oklahoma State Department of Health, US Department of Interior, private companies, public non-profits.

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local governments, state government, federal government and private organizations.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Emergency Preparedness P1

PRIORITY: 1, High Need

GOAL: To provide adequate fire protection services to protect investments and residents; lower the costs and provide job retention.

STRATEGY: Grand Gateway will continue to operate the Rural Fire Defense Program:
(a) assist in securing equipment for existing departments;
(b) provide training to fire fighters;
(c) lower ISO ratings;
(d) Assist in establishment of fire protection districts in unserved areas.
(e) Disaster Grant for Craig, Delaware and Ottawa Counties.

RESOURCES: EDA, FEMA, USDA, state appropriations, local

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local residents, local governments

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Housing 1

PRIORITY: 1, High Need

GOAL: To provide adequate and affordable housing options

STRATEGY: Grand Gateway will continue to collaborate efforts with Community Action Agencies.

- (a) Form consortium with CAPs to develop affordable/sustainable housing;
- (b) Future geographic information system of housing assessments;

RESOURCES: USDA, state appropriations, local

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local residents, local governments, Oklahoma Housing & Finance Authority, CAP Agencies

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

CATEGORY: Housing 2

PRIORITY: 2, High Need

GOAL: To provide adequate housing development infrastructure

STRATEGY: Grand Gateway will continue to collaborate efforts with Housing Authorities, Communities and Private Developers.

- (g) assist in securing water/wastewater infrastructure;
- (h) arterial roads, alleyways and or energy elements;
- (i) collaboration of long range plans;

- (j) Assistance in creating special districts to fund infrastructure improvements for housing or revitalization.
- (k) RTPO added opportunities that could bring Housing

RESOURCES: USDA, state appropriations, local, TIF District

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: Local residents, local governments, Oklahoma Housing & Finance Authority, CAP Agencies

NEW OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

- A. Further refine the CEDS process to properly identify the private sector entities that need assistance.
- B. Utilize all public assistance programs to assist communities to support private sector entities to expand, thereby creating jobs.
- C. Analyze the projects requiring assistance for presentation to the CEDS Committee. Make special reports, when appropriate, so that the Project Selection Process can become district-wide in scope.

VII. Performance Measures

Share knowledge amongst partners

CEDS meetings will be held between the CEDS committee, diverse program directors, data collected and preliminary assessments of integration criteria and strategies developed for review and critique by each partner entity. This will be supplemented by on-line access to the websites of each entity and continual information sharing. The full schedule of meetings and total programmatic participation is in place and can be implemented.

Expand Cross-Cutting Policy Knowledge

Data collection will match factors in the EDA programmatic reporting form(s) plus the additional requirements of respective agency and programmatic needs for continuation funding. First, GGEDA staff will hold peer meetings with programmatic staff from partner entities to collect the base line data. Second, GGEDA staff will work with the Center for Innovation at Rogers State EDA University Center to set the metrics for data collection,

updating, outcome projections and evaluation of the final plan to be submitted to the CEDS Committee Board and the Board of each participating partner.

Our experience has been that one of the most important outcomes of this opportunity can be to make more standardized public policy documents, such as contracting, fiscal and programmatic management, bid process, etc., can be made available to the rural communities and county governments. This will enable a better defined administration in each governmental entity and afford the private sector an opportunity to have access to region wide standardized policies and processes. This will lower the final cost per project to all involved.

The primary reason for this expectation is that the full range of programmatic resources and staff expertise by partner organizations includes additional levels of government, by type and size, their respective fiscal capacities, and the requirements of multiple funding from other public and private sources that will be included in the CEDS to be created and adopted.

The CEDS plan and strategy outlined above will ensure that, as the lead entity GGEDA will be better situated to fulfill its mission of providing multiple level service delivery; contracting opportunities; coordinated planning strategies and creation of plans; and, most important, having a new capacity to assist regional service providers with expanded access to resources to fulfill our shared mission of serving the rural populations in our service area jurisdiction.

Ottawa County-Communities of Miami, Afton, Commerce, Fairland, Quapaw, Wyandotte, Cardin, North Miami, Peoria, Picher

- A. Coordination/collaboration with the County/GRDA/ODOC/Cities & Towns regarding flood related topics
- B. ODOC CDBG Community Revitalization Application submitted for Town of North Miami for road resurfacing
- C. Continued grant administration support for all entities
- D. Brownsfield Training Attendance - [Annette Morgan attended the training on behalf of Grand Gateway EDA.](#)
- E. Possible Economic Development project in Fairland needing water line extension
- F. Continuing collaboration with the Cherokee Nation on water/wastewater projects
- G. Possible project updates from MAEDS
- H. Possible projects with Cherokee Nation
- I. Possible projects with the Eastern Shawnee Nation

Delaware County-Communities of Grove, Bernice, Cleora, Colcord, Eucha, Jay, Kansas, Oaks, West Siloam Springs, Zena

- A. Possible Jay Industrial Park Development
- B. Continuing collaboration with the Cherokee Nation on water/wastewater projects---Feasibility Study Finalized---Meeting August 16, 2013 to consider forming Rural Water District in Delaware County with Stakeholders; Delaware Rural Water Dist 11, Flint Ridge Water Dist, West Siloam Springs, Watts, Colcord, Oaks, Kansas
[Tami discussed the details of the Feasibility Study for the Southern Delaware County Project.](#)
- C. Highway 412 Business Corridor development
- D. Continuing West Siloam Springs/Watts/Cherokee Nation planning, economic development and infrastructure applications to develop increasing needs based on job creation and business retention.
- E. Possible project updates from Grand Lake Association
- F. Possible projects with Cherokee Nation
- G. Ambulance Service
- H. Lake Eucha and City of Tulsa
- I. Eucha township
- J. Potential Airport project collaboration at Grove

Craig County-Communities of Big Cabin, Bluejacket, Centralia, Ketchum, Vinita, Welch, White Oak

- A. Continuing collaboration with the Cherokee Nation on water/wastewater projects
- B. Possible project updates from MAEDS
- C. Possible projects with Cherokee Nation
- D. Potential Airport project collaboration in Ketchum
- E. Possible project updates with WADA

Mayes County-Communities of Adair, Chouteau, Disney, Grand Lake Towne, Langley, Locust Grove, Mazie, Pensacola, Pryor Creek, Salina, Spavinaw, Sportsmen Acres, Strang

- A. Continuing collaboration with the Cherokee Nation on water/wastewater projects
- B. Mid America Industrial Park
- C. Possible EDIF Project in Disney
- D. Possible projects with Cherokee Nation
- E. Coffey Dam Project

Rogers County- Communities of Catoosa, Chelsea, Claremore, Foyil Inola, Oolagah, Talala, Verdigris

- A. Inola Industrial Park infrastructure development in conjunction with CRC Partnership (Claremore Rogers County Partnership)
- B. NE Career Tech Roy Clark School of Music Status Update
- C. ROGERS STATE UNIVERSITY INNOVATION CENTER EDA UNIVERSITY CENTER Status
- D. Continuing collaboration with the Cherokee Nation on water/wastewater projects
- E. Inola continuing interest in regional sewer system expansion, infrastructure(s) and roadways for two (2) Industrial Parks
- F. Oolagah Industrial Park – Industrial manufacturer needs public water/wastewater
- G. Catoosa----Strategic Planning underway
- H. Catoosa----Possible EDIF
- I. Verdigris---formed local Economic Industrial Organization
- J. Chelsea industrial park Water/Wastewater expansion to accommodate business expansion
- K. Possible projects from Rogers County Industrial Development Authority
- L. Possible projects with Cherokee Nation
- M. Claremore Industrial Economic Development Authority potential projects
 - City of Claremore-CIEDA EDA Preliminary Transmodal - Rail Construction complete
 - City of Claremore-CIEDA EDA Industrial Park roadways underway
 - TIF District for Claremore
 - Prospects visiting in Industrial Park; potential major employers
 - Lowery Road Improvement and/or Expansion
 - Potential Airport project collaboration at City of Claremore Airport
- Pelivan Transportation – transportation for Students with RSU.
- Sanitary Sewer System on the RSU Campus.
- RSU Student Housing
- Port of Catoosa projects including Logistics Center, fleet project, dock renovation, parking expansion, infrastructure expansion to build sustainable development

Jeri Koehler Director of RSU Innovation Center stated they are working with the City of Nowata to get them Entrepreneurial Certified and hope to have it completed by the end of 2013. They are also looking for another community for 2014.

Tami stated the City of Claremore is already certified.

Ed mentioned that RSU is looking at taking this program statewide.

Nowata County-Communities of Delaware, Lenapah, New Alluwe, Nowata, South Coffeyville, Wann

- A. Possible CDBG/EDIF in future for City of Nowata industry**
- B. Potential CDBG/EDIF in South Coffeyville**
- C. Possible Nowata Industrial Park Development---RSU Entrepreneur Ready Project Ongoing**
- D. Nowata County Industrial Authority funding mechanisms meeting**
- E. Continuing collaboration with the Cherokee Nation on water/wastewater projects---Delaware town**
- F. Possible project updates from Bartlesville Development Corporation**
- G. Possible projects with Cherokee Nation**
- H. South Coffeyville---potential EDIF, retail, and germane infrastructure development**

Washington County- Communities of Bartlesville, Copan, Dewey, Ochelata, Oglesby, Ramona, Vera

- A. Continuing assistance with wastewater systems in small communities**
- B. Continuing collaboration with the Cherokee Nation on water/wastewater projects**
- C. Possible project updates from Bartlesville Development Corporation**
- D. Possible projects with Cherokee Nation**
- E. ED project(s) in Ochelata**

Round Table Discussions:

Joe Hutchison discussed the Jay Clinic. Mr. Hutchison also stated the NE Tech Center is expanding and attendance is growing.

Jerry Epperly stated Homeland grocery store is moving into the old Wal-Mart building and the Jr. High is expanding also. Mr. Epperly stated Google now has WIFI for all Downtown Pryor.

Jeri Koehler stated they have applied to EDA University Grant & was approved for a 5 year Grant. Jeri also discussed other possible projects that included 3 Hotels and 1 with a conference center for the area.

Ed Crone, stated the Claremore Industrial Park is expanding. The Grand Opening for the EDA Rail Spur Project was held on May 23.

Jane Standaford with the Town of Disney discussed the Camping facilities in the area. Jane also stated the tourism and some of the events that are taking place in Disney.

Eastern Shawnee Tribe Chief Glenna Wallace explained the some of the Tribes history and Territory between Oklahoma and Missouri. Chief Wallace also stated the relocation of their Main Tribal Office and gave updates on their programs. Chief Wallace also gave an update on Indigo Sky Casino and the expansions they are considering including Conference & Banquet rooms and possible FEMA Approved Storm Shelter.

Chad Kelly with the Eastern Shawnee Tribe discussed they are looking for any interested business to move into the old Boarder Town Casino Location.

Bill Harrison, Mayor of the Town of Afton stated the Dollar General Store that moved into Town has increased their Tax Revenue. They also received a CDBG-REAP grant to help repave some of streets. They are waited to hear if they have been accepted for grant funding on a Federal Health Center (FHC). Mayor Harrison stated the 66 Truck Service is expanding and works primarily rehab big trucks.

Ed introduced Rob Gragg the Regional Development Director with Oklahoma Department of Commerce.

Mr. Gragg stated that Lisa Clark has left her and the application deadline is tomorrow for her position. Mr. Gragg discussed the Oil & Gas is increasing business as well as Drilling. The other Incentives are to keep kids in our state and needing quality jobs to keep them here.

Thursday, October 10, 2013

10:30 a.m.

Big Cabin, Oklahoma

MINUTES

Open Meeting – at 10:43 a.m.

Round table introductions

Minutes from Thursday, June 13, 2013 CEDS Meeting – Correction to Minutes From 8-15-2013

Date needs changed to reflect August 15, 2013 instead of June 13, 2013. Cary Jester made a motion to approve the August CEDS Meeting Minutes with the correction.

Mayor Billy Mack Harrison made the 2nd Motion. All Approve – Yes / Against – None - Motion approved

OLD BUSINESS

CEDS Update Tami McKeon, EDA/CDBG Director—

Consideration and Approval of a Resolution for US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration 3 Year (2014-2016) Planning

Grant.....

(Discussion/Action).....

Joe Hutchinson made the 1st Motion to Approve the above mentioned project and Cary Jester made the 2nd motion... All Approve – Yes / Against – None - Motion Passed

Training/Discussion of further U.S.D.A. Economic Development collaboration of programs

Training/Discussion of further Brownsfield Economic Development collaboration of programs

Annette Morgan with Grand Gateway discussed the Conference she attended for the Brownsfield ED and how it can benefit our communities.

Consideration and Approval of a Resolution for US Department of Agriculture for Rural Business Opportunity Grant

Ed Crone discussed the shrinking CDBG funding and how GGEDA and USDA maybe able to collaborate on future projects.

Cary Jester made the 1st Motion to Approve the above mentioned project and Mayor Billy Mack Harrison made the 2nd motion... All Approve – Yes / Against – None - Motion Passed

Consideration and Approval of a Resolution for US Department of Agriculture for Rural Business Enterprise Grant

Mayor Billy Mack Harrison made the 1st Motion to Approve the above mentioned project and Cary Jester made the 2nd motion... All Approve – Yes / Against – None - Motion Passed

**NORA Participation-Ed Crone Moderates, “Economic Development Partnerships-
Leading Economic Development in your Community”**

Joe Hutchinson made the 1st Motion to Approve the above mentioned project and Cary Jester made the 2nd motion... All Approve – Yes / Against – None - Motion Passed

Continuing collaboration with the Cherokee Nation on water/wastewater projects---Feasibility Study Finalized---Meeting October 18, 2013 to consider forming Rural Water District with contracts amongst and between Delaware County and the potential Stakeholders; Delaware Rural Water Dist 11, Flint Ridge Water Dist, West Siloam Springs, Watts, Colcord, Oaks, Kansas

Tami McKeon discussed gave update and where the project is at this point

Tami talked about a Fair Housing training we will hold at the GGEDA office on 10-30-2013. Tami and Ed gave updates about the recent NORA meeting they attended. Ed and Tami stated the Pitcher/Carding should be completely closed out by the end of the month.

ROUND TABLE:

Joe Hutchison discussed the Music Program and Claremore Campus and a new building in Pryor the

Grand opening will be held today.

Cary Jester stated the AXH Building and their expansions. Cary also talked about the expansion of Lowery Road Project. Cary discussed the Rail Road Spur is already in use and Possible new Retail in the Claremore area.

Andy Armstrong gave update on the Catoosa Industrial Road Project.

David Yarbrough discussed the Employee Expansion at the Port of Catoosa and the Walking Trail for the employees. Davis also discussed the Improvements and future growth of the Port including the Barge Fleeting Area.

Mayor Billy Mack Harrison talked about the Town of Afton Business Park and the Lagoon System.

Jill Ferenc, Planning Director for the City of Claremore talked about Events in Claremore including the International Commercial Shopping Conference (ICSC) and talked about a Branding effort for he City of Claremore.