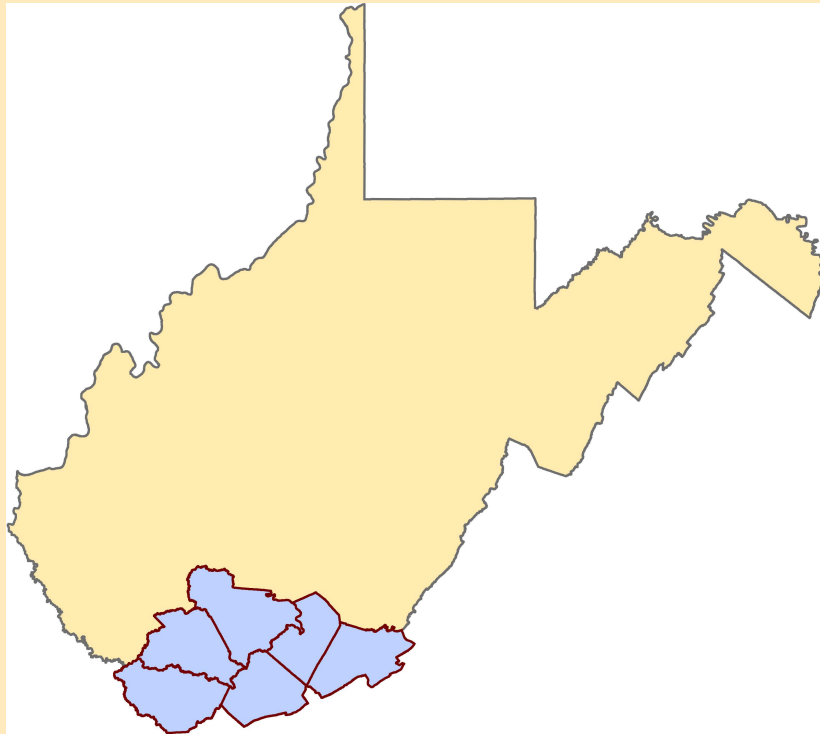


# Region I Planning & Development Council

## 2020 CEDS Annual Update



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"Serving the people of McDowell, Mercer, Monroe, Raleigh, Summers & Wyoming Counties"

## **I. Introduction/Purpose**

### **Acknowledgment**

The production and publication of this document was made possible partially through funding from the Economic Development Administration, Appalachian Regional Commission, State of West Virginia, local funding, and others.

# **Region I Planning and Development Council's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy**

## Introduction and Purpose

The Region I Planning and Development Council is a council of local governments consisting of six counties in southern West Virginia - McDowell, Mercer, Monroe, Raleigh, Summers and Wyoming, and twenty-seven municipalities located within these counties. The twenty-seven (27) mayors and six (6) county commissioners, along with private sector appointees, comprise the Regional Council Board of Directors who also serves as Region I PDC's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee. This Council also works closely with local Economic Development Authorities and Public Service Districts throughout the region, and various other local organizations.

Each year, the Regional Council must prepare or update a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for submission to its members, the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Economic Development Administration, the West Virginia Development Office, and the general public at large.

The purpose of the following is to provide an annual update to the Region's 5-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

This Plan is a strategic perspective with planning focus on factors critical for economic advancement of the region. As the lowest common denominator, all economic and community development occurs at the local level - that is - in towns, cities, and counties. These local units of government must provide the necessary infrastructure and amenities that make an area competitive and attractive for economic and community development. After all, it is the local unit of government that provides development sites, water and sewer facilities, solid waste disposal, fire and police protection, and even recreational and cultural opportunities. This community development platform is necessary before an area can attract employment opportunities.

Economic development planning involves assessing and maximizing local resources while minimizing local deficiencies and coordinating approaches to alleviate economic distress.

It is the consensus of local, state, and federal government that this process can most

effectively be developed at the regional level.

This local planning approach to solve the Region's needs develops a strategic plan for this Council of local governments, while simultaneously fulfilling the planning requirements of the U.S. Economic Development Administration, the Appalachian Regional Commission, and the West Virginia Development Office.

In summary, the CEDS is a local planning and regional implementation process designed to create jobs, foster more stable and diversified economies, improve living conditions and provide a mechanism for coordinating the efforts of persons and organizations concerned with economic development. This document describes the problems, needs and resources of this region, identifies the goals and objectives of the development program, presents the strategies and action plans devised to achieve these goals, and outlines the standards for evaluation of the program achievements.

**THE REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**WHAT? WHO? WHY? WHERE? HOW?**

## THE REGION I PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

- What?** A public agency created by West Virginia law to provide comprehensive planning of all types for the region; coordination of federal and state funding in the region; a means of technical assistance to and cooperation between units of local government.
- Who?** All units of government in McDowell, Mercer, Monroe, Raleigh, Summers, and Wyoming Counties, plus up to 49% private sector appointees.
- Why?** Because the interdependence and relationships between neighboring communities and counties cover areas of employment, industry, housing, health, recreation, and environmental protection.
- Because the restricted tax resources and limited technical staff of the local government makes it more difficult to deal with the problems of development.
- Because natural resources such as clean water and air, land and mineral deposits are limited, and the use of these resources affects everyone.
- Where?** The Region I Planning and Development Council office located at 1439 E. Main Street, Suite 5, Princeton, WV 24740; Telephone (304) 431-7225; Fax (304) 431-7235; or E-mail us at: [regionone@regiononepdc.com](mailto:regionone@regiononepdc.com).
- How?** By the development of overall regional planning, continually updated to meet changing needs and conditions.
- Through the review, comment, and assistance in formulation of plans or proposals which involve public funding, governmental action, public property, intergovernmental cooperation, and regional development.
- With the involvement of local governments, citizens advisory councils, special interest representation, and task forces.

**REGION I PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

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**Chairperson**

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Raleigh County Commission  
116 ½ N. Heber Street  
Beckley, WV 25801

**Vice-Chairperson**

D. Michael Goode P.O.  
Box 816 Pineville, WV  
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**Treasurer**

Tim Pike  
Town of Athens  
P.O. Box 458  
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**Secretary**

Bill Shiflet  
P.O. Box 560 Union,  
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Lisa Miller  
**Financial Manager**

Kim Odle  
**Administrative Assistant**

Jeff Raines  
**Project Manager**

Jason Roberts  
**Executive Director**

Debbie Sarver  
**Financial Assistant**

Lori Shrewsbury  
**Financial Assistant**

## MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

*	<b>Michael Brooks</b>	(304) 436-8548	McDowell County Commission	Commissioner
*	<b>Gene Buckner</b>	(304) 487-8306	Mercer County Commission	Commission President
*	<b>William "Bill" Miller</b>	(304) 772-3096	Monroe County Commission	Commission President
*/*	<b>David Tolliver</b>	(304) 255-9146	Raleigh County Commission	Commissioner
*	<b>Jack David Woodrum</b>	(304) 466-7100	Summers County Commission	Commission President
*	<b>Jason Mullins</b>	(304) 732-0007	Wyoming County Commission	Commission President
**	Dorothy Wilson	(304) 383-2993	Town of Anawalt	Businessperson - Mayor
	Brian Harrison	(304) 967-7370	Town of Bradshaw	Mayor
	Kenneth Gentry	(304) 656-7145	Town of Davy	Miner - Mayor
**	Larry Hairston	(304) 448-2209	City of Gary	Retired - Mayor
**	Joe Ford	(304) 938-3035	Town of Jaeger	Businessperson - Mayor
**	Vondelere Scott	(304) 862-2239	City of Keystone	Acting Mayor
**	Adam Gianato	(304) 585-7913	Town of Kimball	Mayor
**	Carol Sizemore	(304) 862-3414	Town of Northfork	Mayor
	Robert Beavers	(304) 875-3111	City of War	Businessperson - Mayor
*	<b>Harold McBride</b>	(304) 436-3113	City of Welch	Businessperson - Mayor
*/*	<b>Timothy Pike</b>	(304) 384-3525	Town of Athens	Businessperson - Mayor
*	<b>Jim Spencer</b>	(304) 327-2401	City of Bluefield	Community & Economic Development Director
**	Louise Stoker	(304) 248-7114	Town of Bramwell	Businessperson - Mayor
	c/o Mercer Co. Commission	---	Town of Matoaka	---
**	Deborah Rachel	(304) 898-2431	Town of Oakvale	Acting Mayor
	Jim Harvey	(304) 487-5024	City of Princeton	Council Member
	Michael Lively	(304) 753-9509	Town of Peterstown	Businessperson - Mayor
***	<b>Caroline S. Sparks</b>	(304) 772-5522	Town of Union	Business Owner - Mayor
*	<b>Robert Rappold</b>	(304) 256-1750	City of Beckley	Full-time Mayor
**	Kenneth Allen	(304) 934-6301	Town of Lester	Businessperson - Mayor
	Wayne Houck	(304) 253-5654	Town of Mabscott	Businessperson - Mayor
	c/o Raleigh Co. Commission	---	Town of Rhodell	---
	Danny Barr	(304) 683-4456	Town of Sophia	Retired - Mayor
*	<b>Jackson L. Scott "Jackie"</b>	(304) 466-3255	City of Hinton	Mayor
***	<b>Virginia Martin</b>	(304) 294-7132	City of Mullens	Mayor
	T. H. Evans Jr. (Tom)	(304) 682-6231	Town of Oceana	Retired Businessperson - Mayor
	Mike Kodak	(304) 732-6255	Town of Pineville	Mayor

### PRIVATE SECTOR MEMBERS

*	<b>Mike Mitchem</b>	(304) 938-3182	McDowell	Former Executive Director, King Coal Highway
	Dr. Donald R. Reed, Jr.	(304) 436-6588 ext. 101	McDowell	Executive Director, McDowell Co Commission on Aging
*	<b>Bruce Mutter</b>	(304) 425-6946	Mercer	Director, CART, Inc.
**	Lisa Jones	(304) 952-4264	Mercer	Chief Executive Officer, So. Highlands Mental Health Clinic
	Duane Miller	(304) 646-1575	Monroe	Business Owner
*/*	<b>Bill Shiflet</b>	(304) 646-3398	Monroe	Insurance Agent
	Jim Nelson	(304) 646-6242	Monroe	CEO, Monroe Health Center
***	<b>Manuel Cartelle</b>	(304) 255-4914	Raleigh	Retired Executive Director Housing Authority
**	Judy Radford	(304) 252-0233	Raleigh	Retired EDA Director
	Clint Ransom	(681) 220-0693	Raleigh	Manager, Mercer County Airport
**	Drema Short	(304) 575-7859	Raleigh	Licensed Professional Counselor
	Tom Cochran	(304) 255-0476	Raleigh	Manager, Raleigh County Memorial Airport
*	<b>Norman L. Kirkham</b>	(304) 647-0364	Summers	Retired Regional Council Director
	Dr. Steve Richman	(304) 466-3943	Summers	Semi-Retired, Physician
**	Peni Adams	(304) 890-6526	Wyoming	Business Advisor, WV Hive
*/*	<b>D. Michael Goode</b>	(304) 673-3829	Wyoming	Semi-Retired, Funeral Director
**	Christy Laxton	(304) 732-6707	Wyoming	Executive Director, Wyoming County EDA

\* Member of Executive Committee

\*\* Minority / Female

\*\*\* Minority / Female and Member of Executive Committee

\*/\* Officer/Executive Committee



## **CHANGES IN THE REGION**

- A. **Changes within the Regional Council** – The significant changes within the region were the election of the Honorable Jackie Scott as the Mayor of Hinton, to election of David Tolliver to Chairman of the Council, and the election of Mike Goode to Vice Chairman of the Council.
- B. **Changes within the Regional Economy** - The greatest change has been a significant increase in the unemployment rate.

As of May 2019, the unemployment rate for the region was 5.6%. As of May 2020, the unemployment rate had raised to 12.4 %, representing an increase of 6.8%.

**Unemployment Rates May '19 vs. May '20**

	<u>May '19</u>	<u>May '20</u>	<u>Change</u>
Region I PDC	5.6	12.4	6.8
WV	4.5	12.5	8.0
U. S.	3.4	13.0	9.6

*\*Data Source: WV Bureau of Employment Programs (WV BEP)*

### Non-Farm Payroll - Region I PDC

	<u>May 2019</u>	<u>May 2020</u>	<u>Change</u>
Total Non-Farm Payroll Employees	67,770	61,900	- 5,870
Goods Producing	10,520	10,900	380
Mining/Logging	5,190	5,080	-110
Service Providing	64,350	64,040	-310

These are rather amazing statistics reflecting a major change in the region's economy. Unlike the statistics for May 2019, the data for May 2020 reflects a regional unemployment rate slightly lower than the state average. Additionally, the Region experienced unemployment rates lower than the national average in May, 2020. This is no doubt an impact of COVID-related employment disruptions.

### **Cluster Development**

The Region has and plans to encourage projects that enhance various industry clusters that are geographic concentrations of competing, complementary, or interdependent industries or firms that do business with each other and/or have common needs for talent, technology, and infrastructure. Examples of clusters that have developed or are currently developing:

1. Information Technology Cluster - Developing Interstate Tech Corridor Program to support this cluster.
2. Manufacturing Cluster
3. Energy - Fuel, Generation, Transmission
4. Value-Added Hardwood
5. Bottled Spring Water
6. Distribution Cluster - Due to central location to eastern U. S. and highway systems I-64, I-77, Appalachian Corridors L & Q, I-79, Coalfields Expressway.
7. Travel Tourism - White water rafting, skiing, resort parks, Hatfield-McCoy Trail System.

## **ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS IN FY-20**

In order to determine and assess the progress made during the planning year on an ongoing basis, the evaluation will show the relationship of funded projects to the planning goals and objectives of the CEDS. This will result in reports which will document progress of the CEDS.

The review of this will be used as an evaluation of the effectiveness in meeting the goals and will be used to adjust the CEDS, as needed. This report will be made available to the public and Board of the Regional Council for decision making adjustments.

Progress for FY-20 is as follows: During this period the Regional Council prepared and submitted thirty-nine (39) funding applications. See the following assessment for recent program evaluation.

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

### **Community Facilities and Services**

(Neighborhood Improvements, Libraries, Public Safety, Sewer, Water, Solid Waste and Recreational)

#### **Goal**

1. To provide, where financially and physically feasible in the most effective time-frame possible, adequate sanitary sewer, water and solid waste facilities to meet both the existing needs and the future growth and development needs of the Region I area.
2. To provide adequate community facilities and services for each community within the region.
3. Ensure that future generations will have the opportunity to enjoy the open space and adequate recreation facilities and services.

#### **Objectives**

1. Provide technical assistance and procure investments for development of traditional land innovative sanitary water and sewage systems and solid waste collection and disposal systems where there exists an imminent threat to public health as a result of untreated waste and/or contaminated water, or there is a designated growth area, special development opportunity, or rural service center that can feasibly support growth.
2. To assist local governments in developing their abilities for planning and development through creation of planning commissions and development authorities.
3. To upgrade existing municipal streets and sidewalks and county orphan roads.
4. To provide fire and police protection to adequately protect all residents and their property.
5. Preserve and reserve land for open space purposes.
6. Maintain the existing public recreational facilities and services.
7. To develop a Geographic Information System.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **Goal**

To encourage industrial/commercial development, tourism and travel growth, which enhance employment opportunities and diversity, resulting in a large tax base needed to support the existing and future community.

### **Objectives**

1. To provide for industrial parks, making the most efficient use of land, water facilities, sewage facilities, and minimizing excessive traffic flow patterns.
2. To preserve our existing job opportunities throughout the Region I area.
3. To encourage the location and expansion of diversified job opportunities for the unemployed and underemployed.
4. To encourage future retail, commercial and service enterprises toward existing central business districts.
5. To reserve areas of sufficient size which have location and service characteristics unique to industrial and commercial development requirements, thus making the Region I area highly attractive for new industries and resulting job opportunities. Characteristics of primary importance to industrial and commercial development land use are proximity to interchanges, variety of modes of transportation and essential public utilities.
6. To organize local development groups throughout the region, including but not limited to, Area Partnership Councils, Economic Task Forces and County Development Authorities.
7. To preserve, yet develop, our many national attractions to generate additional tourism and travel to the region.
8. To develop a Geographic Information System.
9. Analysis of COVID impact; implementation of recovery and resiliency effort

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **Flood Prevention**

#### **Goal**

To promote flood control projects where needed.

#### **Objectives**

1. To assist in short-term flood prevention projects.
2. To assist the local governmental entities in developing flood plain management policies.
3. To develop a Geographic Information System.

## HUMAN RESOURCES

### **Vocational Education**

To provide vocational education facilities within each county of the region.

### **Higher Education**

1. To provide a variety of easily accessible, quality, higher education opportunities which consider present and future professional needs.
2. To provide maximum cooperation and coordination between secondary, private, local and regional sectors.
3. To provide maximum productivity and efficiency in program and utilization of resources.

### **Public Education**

The goals of public education for the children and youth of the region may be stated as follows:

1. To develop skills in reading, spelling, perceiving, speaking, listening, adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing numbers and using reference materials.
2. To develop the knowledge of governmental, social and economic systems in order to make informed choices.
3. To develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to function successfully in advanced academic and technical training programs and useful occupations.
4. To develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to develop self-esteem.
5. To develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes related to the creative, visual and performing arts to enrich the quality of their lives and provide an undertaking of their culture and heritage.
6. To develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes related to science and technology, rational decision-making and creative problem solving in order to function successfully in a high technology society.



## **TRANSPORTATION**

### **Goal**

To promote an effective transportation and circulation network that improves the movement of people and goods, protects the environment, facilitates energy conservation, promotes sound development patterns, and is supportive of economic growth.

### **Objectives**

1. To enable a well-coordinated system of streets and highways, separating local traffic from industrial traffic, thus to improve the accessibility of transportation to public facilities.
2. To help develop large commercial airports to handle the present and future needs of developing areas.
3. To encourage the expansion of a passenger rail system.
4. To promote an adequate public transportation system in terms of jobs and shopping opportunities for elderly, handicapped, and low-income residents.
5. To encourage the utilization of existing and potential tourism parkways throughout the region.
6. To develop a Geographic Information System.
7. To perform the technical and analytical services for the Fayette/Raleigh Metropolitan Planning Organization.

## GOVERNMENT

### Goal

1. To promote developments that are indicative of our balanced land use strategy and which are compatible with our efforts to minimize air, water and noise pollution.
2. Schedule future development based on the availability of required facilities and services.
3. Minimize strip development in areas unsuited for it in terms of soil capabilities, slope conditions, or location of development in flood plains.
4. Develop a Geographic Information System.
5. To analyze COVID-related impacts and disruptions; implement continuity of operations procedures

## **ENERGY**

### **Goal**

To promote economic prosperity and ensure a safe environment for the region through energy conservation and efficiency, the wise management of traditional energy resources, and the development and use of viable competitive and alternative energy systems.

### **Objectives**

1. To develop a Comprehensive Regional Energy Development Plan.
2. To develop an energy impact planning capability within the Regional Staff.
3. To provide proper management for the siting and improvement process for energy production and generation, especially from our coal resources.
4. To utilize hydro-electric production at the Bluestone Dam.
5. To develop a Geographic Information System.

## **HOUSING**

### **Goal**

An adequate amount of decent, safe and sanitary housing in various price ranges so that every person/family has the opportunity to buy or rent decent housing in a suitable living environment.

### **Objectives**

1. To plan neighborhoods which will retain long-term livability and be free from blighting factors such as incompatible land use.
2. To pursue a program of renovation of existing units, especially for those on social security and those in low income brackets.
3. To eliminate housing discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.
4. To improve and expand the immediate housing opportunities for all residents of the region in order to alleviate housing shortages.
5. To provide the distribution of housing resources, including assisted housing to meet the needs of all citizens in order to provide a choice of housing types, price and location.
6. To encourage private developers to increase production and to develop a diversity of housing units at various price ranges throughout the region.

The following Community Facilities and Services Projects have been funded in FY20 to address our goals and objectives.

I. Community Facilities and Services Goals:

Bradshaw Sewer Upgrade: \$800,000 CWSRF

Madam's Creek Water: \$436,884 Local

Broomstraw Road/Mark Meador Road Water: \$275,653 Local

Athens Sewer Plant Flood Repairs: \$628,121 CWSRF Loan

North Beckley Wastewater Treatment Plant: \$1,075,000 DEP SRF Loan

Brenton/Baileysville Water: \$85,000 Local; \$4,500,000 AML

Bradshaw Sidewalks: \$150,000 WVDOH Transportation Alternative Grant

Iaeger Sidewalks: \$130,000 WVDOH Transportation Alternative Grant

Mercer County Bluestone River Trail: \$150,000 WVDOH Transportation Alternative Grant

Union Pickaway Water: \$1,121,100 CDBG, \$42,000 Local; \$283,000 DWTRF Loan

Coal Mountain Waterline Extension: \$1,500,000 CDBG; \$1,850,000 ARC

Raleigh County Memorial Airport Industrial Park Broadband: \$643,999 CDBG

Hinton CSO Sewer: \$1,550,000 ARC; \$1,500,000 CDBG

Eccles/Harper Road Sewer: \$7,647,398 AML

Rhodell Water: \$2,125,000 AML

White Oak Water: \$1,319,050 AML

Talcott Broadband: \$220,500 CDBG

Keenan/Doss Shaver Road Broadband: \$50,059 CDBG

Iaeger Sewer: \$1,500,000 CWSRF Forgivable Loan

North Welch Wastewater Collection: \$812,000 RUS Grant

## II. **Economic Development Goals:**

Region I understands that economic development is vital to the success of the region. To that end, Region I assists (either directly or indirectly) with multiple economic development applications and planning continually.

McDowell County Dilapidated Structures Mapping - \$40,000 ARC, \$10,000 local

Bluefield Exit 1 Development - \$375,000 Local; \$100,000 Local

Raleigh County Memorial Airport Industrial Park Development - \$200,000 Local; \$365,000 Local; \$3,000,000 WVIJDC Grant; \$75,000 Local; \$1,000,000 Local; \$1,750,000 US EDA; \$1,750,000 ARC

Mercer County Airport Diversification Initiative: \$250,000 ARC

## III. **Environmental Goals:**

Region I has experienced multiple federally designated natural hazard events over the past decade. Region I PDC is currently completing the regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, as well as assisting multiple communities with applications to the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

## IV. **Human Resources/Education:**

Region I realizes the need for continued education and professional development. To that end Region I utilizes local educational resources whenever possible.

## V. **Transportation Goals:**

Region I realizes the importance of adequate transportation infrastructure and services. Region I has assisted in acquiring funding for multiple transportation studies throughout its tenure. Most recently, the Region has supported the development of the Fayette/Raleigh Metropolitan Planning Organization. Region I also assisted the newly-formed New River Transit

Authority with the commencement of its operations.

Fayette/Raleigh MPO: \$81,234.85

VI. **Energy Goals:**

The Region administered the recently-completed Energy Efficiency Block Grant throughout its six-county territory and continues to participate in energy efficiency project development.

VII. **Housing Goals:**

Region I has assisted various county and municipal agencies with meeting local housing needs. Extension of water and sewer to many previously unserved communities is a major factor in improving housing needs within the Region.

VIII. **Government Goals:**

The Region regularly aids member communities with a myriad of assistance in local and community projects.

Region 1 Administrative Expense Grant: \$70,000 US EDA; \$84,138 ARC

Region 1

Monroe County Courtroom Improvement - \$76,356 CFIA, \$25,000 local

Summers County Courthouse Facilities Improvement - \$66,000 CFIA, \$16,500 local

Wyoming County Courthouse Annex Roof - \$100,000 CFIA, \$25,000 local

## PROCESS OF REGIONAL PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

We face the situation of limited resources versus unlimited wants and needs. Federal, State and local funding resources are limited, and funding is not available for all projects. As a result, federal funding agencies and the State have required the Regional Councils to make regional decisions on how available resources should be allocated in order to solve the most pressing needs first.

The task of choosing the most beneficial projects within the region is a very difficult process. This process should be done in as scientific and objective a manner as possible. This can be accomplished through development of specific criteria on which to intelligently make comparisons among projects. Projects will receive points on how well they meet these criteria. The purpose of the following evaluation instrument is to assist in the priority setting of projects for the region.

Under the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, the process for Project Selection consists of five steps which are utilized to analyze projects in order to develop a Priority Project List. Criteria are assigned a maximum number of points as shown below:

<u>CRITERIA</u>	<u>MAXIMUM POINTS</u>
1. Regional Functional Category Priority	20
2. Community Functional Category Priority	25
3. Project Impact	25
4. Preparedness of Funding	38
5. Compatibility to State Development Plan Priorities	18

Each criterion has subcategories and assigned points which are shown on the prioritization form that is contained in this section.

The process of Project Prioritization may be conducted on at least a quarterly basis, or as determined necessary.



# **PROGRAM AND PROJECT PRIORITIES BY GOAL/OBJECTIVE**

## **CRITERIA 1**

### **Regional Functional Category Prioritization - Maximum 20 Points**

Prioritization of functional categories is based on the latest Community Priority Survey conducted by the Region I staff. The category received the most project replies as being the greatest need for the greatest number of communities within the region becomes the Region's number one priority.

The results of the March 2001 Community Priority Surveys revealed that Community Facilities and Services (Infrastructure) was their number one priority. Since this category received the most replies as being the number one priority of all categories, it becomes the Region's number one priority, and so on down the list of functional categories.

Following is the regional functional category priority listed based on the March Community Priority Survey:

#### **Functional Category**

1. Community Facilities and Services
2. Economic Development
3. Human Resources
4. Environment and Natural Resources
5. Transportation
6. Housing
7. Energy
8. Government

## CRITERIA 2

### Community Functional Category Prioritization - Maximum 25 Points

The local community's priorities are established at town meetings where interested groups of citizens and officials provide input. This way, each community has equal input into the CEDS. This survey is submitted to Region I PDC, where the projects are then prioritized on a regional level.

An individual community's needs and project priorities may not be identical to the Region's as a whole. A community's *overall* prioritization of project as based on their Community Priority Survey is given the following points:

<u>Community's Priorities</u>	<u>Number of Points</u>
Priority 1	25 points
Priority 2	22 points
Priority 3	19 points
Priority 4	16 points
Priority 5	13 points
Priority 6	10 points
Priority 7	7 points
Priority 8	4 points
Priority 9	2 points
Priority 10	1 point

Communities should keep in mind the availability of funding for their prioritized projects. Before a project is given a high priority, some type of funding should be available to fund the project.

**NOTE:** These points are based on the total project ranking column of the Community Survey which is the prioritization of all projects in the community, regardless of functional category prioritization by the community.

When prioritizing, it is important for a community to prioritize projects they are actively pursuing *higher* than needs the community has simply identified. If a community *has developed* or is in the *process of developing* a project application to address a certain need, this project should be prioritized *higher* than a need that has been identified only, and has no application pending or being developed.

### CRITERIA 3

Step three (3) is the impact the proposed project would have on the community, based on the following criteria:

1. Project will be rated for cost effectiveness benefit, (the cost of the proposed project divided by the number of people benefitting). The project with the best cost benefit, that is, the lowest cost per person will receive 10 points; the second best will receive 9 points, and so on.
2. If a project is in compliance with all related regional goals and objectives as documented by a preliminary or final regional Intergovernmental Review, it will receive 5 points.
3. Minimum level of service - maximum of 5 points.
4. Imminent threat to health or safety - 5 points

Any proposal that involves an imminent threat to the health or safety of a community will be awarded 5 points. This *must* be documented that as a direct result of the existing conditions, disease or accidents *are* occurring. Example: Documented cases of hepatitis as a result of drinking-water. Applicant is responsible for securing documentation.

## CRITERIA 4

### **Project Preparedness for Funding - Maximum 38 Points**

Points assigned a proposed project under this criteria are dependent upon the level of preparedness the project is in for funding.

1. If the project meets all basic program guideline eligibility requirements, the proposed project will be awarded 15 points.
2. If a proposed project has a current engineering report or a detailed written description with current cost estimates available for review, it will be awarded 5 points.
- 3.a. An applicant that has secured a minimum of 10% funding (local, state, or federal) of the total proposed project cost, it receives 5 points. It must be documented by the applicant that funding is available.
- 3.b. An applicant that has secured 50% funding (local, state, or federal) of the total proposed project cost, the project receives an additional 10 points. Funding must be documented.
- 3.c. An applicant applying for 100% single source of funding for a proposed project receives 3 points. In addition, if an applicant has secured a minimum amount of funding and is applying for a single source of funding that would complete funding for the project, it also receives 3 points.

## CRITERIA 5

### **Compatibility with State Development Plan Priorities - Maximum 15 Points**

The State's overall priority is to increase private capital investment and to improve the employment opportunities within the State.

In order to be compatible with State Policy, the following criteria have been developed:

#### ***1. Major Economic Impact - Maximum 10 Points.***

The project that can document an increase in private capital investment, or that will create new jobs, or retain existing jobs as a direct result of the proposed project will receive 10 points. This must be documented in writing from new or existing employers or private investors, that as a result of the proposed project being implemented, new jobs will be created; or that the implementation of this project will keep some employers from going out of business, thus retaining jobs; or that as a direct result of the project, private investment will occur.

#### ***2. Area-wide Impact - Maximum 5 Points.***

A proposed project benefitting more than one governmental entity will receive 5 points. Project must be jointly sponsored or funded by two or more governmental entities. If a sub-agency, such as a Public Service District is involved, documentation of joint sponsorship must come from parent governmental entity.

To increase intergovernmental cooperation, the following points will be awarded:

##### ***2.a. Bonus***

For each governmental entity jointly sponsoring a project, one (1) point will be awarded, in addition to the 5 points awarded in area-wide impact.

If a project is a unanimous priority for all governmental entities within a county, then two (2) additional points will be awarded as a bonus.

**NOTE:** All supporting documentation to be presented *must* be submitted to the Region I office five (5) work days prior to the Regional Prioritization Meeting.

The applicant is responsible for obtaining all supporting documentation.

**MINUTES OF CEDS COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

REGION I PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
QUARTERLY MEETING  
ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE  
APRIL 30, 2020 – 10:00 AM

The Quarterly Meeting of the Region I Planning and Development Council was held on April 30, 2020 by Zoom Video Conference due to the COVID-19 Pandemic Stay at Home Order. A digital Agenda and Story Board was shared with members participating by video conference.

Item 1 – *Call to Order* – Chairman Joe Blankenship called the meeting to order, a quorum present. Mr. Blankenship recognized representatives for Senators Capito and Manchin, and Congresswoman Miller.

Invocation by Jason Roberts.

Item 2 – *Approval of Minutes of January 28, 2020* – Motion was made to approve the Minutes of January 28, 2020 by Dave Tolliver, second by Manuel Cartelle; unanimously approved.

Item 3 – *Approval of Financial Statement* – Motion was made to approve the Financial Statement as presented by Norm Kirkham, second by Carol Sizemore; unanimously approved.

Item 4 – *Executive Committee Report* – Jason Roberts gave a brief report of the Executive Committee Zoom meeting held on April 17, 2020 stating the committee reviewed the project priorities and FY 2021 Proposed Budget with recommendation for full council to approve.

Item 5 – *Approval of FY 2021 Budget* – Motion was made to approve the budget for July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 as recommended by the Executive Committee, which includes a 1.6% COLA increase for staff and a Merit Raise for Eric Combs, by Manuel Cartelle, second by Carol Sizemore; unanimously approved.

Item 6 – No agenda item – incorrect numbering.

Item 7 – *Approval of Prioritizations* – Motion was made by Manuel Cartelle, second by Rob Rappold for approval of prioritizations as listed; unanimously approved. Jason Roberts mentioned that he listed generic regional projects to account for any funding that may come out of COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Roberts also stated that future project listings will not be “ranked” as funding agencies are not requiring rankings.

Item 8 – *Nomination/Election of Officers* – The Nominating Committee members are Manuel Cartelle, Norm Kirkham, and Mike Goode. Mr. Cartelle presented the following recommendations for officers: Joe Blankenship, Chairman; David Tolliver, Vice-Chairman; Timothy Pike, Treasurer; and Bill Shiflet, Secretary. There were no other nominations from the floor. Manuel Cartelle made a motion to close the floor of nominations and Chairman Blankenship asked for approval of the slate of nominated officers. Motion was made by Norm Kirkham, second by Rob Rappold; unanimously approved.

Item 9 – *COVID-19/Continuity of Operations* – Jason Roberts gave update on the operations of the council. Region I Staff working remotely and has proven to be very efficient. Region One’s website has information on business impact surveys, utilities surveys, available funding assistance. Staff member have made outreach calls to municipalities and emails have been sent to keep entities informed with important information relative to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Item 10 – *Funding/Application Updates* – Jason Roberts gave an update on the amount of funding received since January meeting – 6.65 million awarded and 2.6 million in applications submitted. Staff currently administering forty-four (44) active projects.



Item 11 – *MPO Update* – Mr. Roberts gave brief update on MPO operations. He stated that Burgess & Niple to analyze rail access options for connection to the Raleigh County Airport Industrial Park.

Item 12 – *Broadband/ROC Update* – Jason Roberts stated that ROC is partnering with Facebook and have signed a Non-Disclosure Agreement. Jason and John Tuggle presented the draft Thompson & Litton draft broadband study to the WV Broadband Council in March. The WV Broadband Council approached ROC to prepare a similar plan for the entire state. This will be an item of discussion with the ROC Board.

Item 13 – *Old Business* – None.

Item 14 – *New Business* – Introduction of new staff member Brad Gibson, GIS Specialist. NADO Conference that is generally held in April was cancelled due to COVID-19. On April 16<sup>th</sup> NADO held a video conference and Regions 1 & 4 presented “Alternative Uses of GIS”. Jason stated that Region One will be utilizing electronic transmission for future meeting notices and agendas. He also stated that more technology will be implemented and continued remote access for meetings and conferences. Jason showed scenarios of savings to project costs and staff time by using video conferencing instead of commuting. Jason said that he has also made recommendations to IJDC to implement virtual meetings, as well as discussion with other agencies. He feels there will be changes to how people work. Jason also mentioned the costs associated with the board members and by holding video conferencing meetings the council would save the cost associated with meals, venue, and transportation costs for all. He would like to see more meetings held by video conference. Chairman Blankenship spoke favorably. Mr. Roberts said everyone will need to get on board for it to work. He will provide assistance to get members set up. Lastly, Jason thanked the staff for their great work and efficiency during remote work access.

Item 15 – *Adjournment* – Adjourned by Chairman Blankenship.

# Region 1 Planning and Development Council

## Consolidated Project Priority List

**April 2020**

RANK	COMMUNITY	PROJECT
1	MCDOWELL CO	COALWOOD SEWER PH. I
2	NORTHFORK	ELKHORN CREEK WATER
3	BLUEFIELD	INTUIT/ALORICA PROJECT
4	ATHENS	WALKING TRAIL AT PARK
5	BLUEFIELD	EXIT 1 DEVELOPMENT
6	OCEANA	OCEANA SEWER PROJECT
7	MCDOWELL CO	ELKHORN WATER PH. 2
8	MCDOWELL CO	CENTER PSD PH. I
9	PRINCETON	STORM SEWER CONSTRUCTION
10	RALEIGH CO	RALEIGH AIRPORT INDUSTRIAL PARK SITE PREP
11	HINTON	CSO LONG-TERM CONTROL PLAN
12	ATHENS	WASTEWATER PLANT/SEWERLINE FLOOD REPAIR
13	MCDOWELL CO	IAEGER SEWER
14	RALEIGH CO	REGIONAL BROADBAND
15	KIMBALL	SEWER SYSTEM
16	BECKLEY	DEMOLITION OF DILAPIDATED HOUSING
17	REGIONAL	REGIONAL BROADBAND
18	GARY	SEWER
19	UNION	PICKAWAY WATER
20	MONROE CO	PICKAWAY WATER
21	SUMMERS CO	JBNPSD BROOMSTRAW/MARK MEADOR WATER
22	WYOMING CO	HANOVER WATER
23	DAVY	WATER SYSTEM UPGRADE
24	BRADSHAW	WATER
25	MERCER CO	CUMBERLAND INDUSTRIAL PARK GAS LINE
26	BECKLEY	DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION - THE HOLE
27	BECKLEY	STORMWATER UPGRADES
28	WELCH	WATER PLANT RESERVOIR
29	OCEANA	RT 10 & WTP UPGRADES PROJECT
30	SOPHIA	COAL CITY SEWER EXTENSION
31	WYOMING CO	EWPSD BUD/ALPOCA WATER UPGRADE
32	DAVY	SEWER

RANK	COMMUNITY	PROJECT
33	MCDOWELL CO	JOLO WATER PH. 5
34	REGIONAL	REGIONAL GIS
35	HINTON	DEMOLITION OF DILAPIDATED STRUCTURES
36	KIMBALL	KOPPERS STORE RENOVATION
37	ATHENS	TOWN HALL
38	WELCH	CSO SEPARATION
39	MONROE CO	REGIONAL BROADBAND
40	KIMBALL	DEMOLITION OF DILAPIDATED STRUCTURES
41	BLUEFIELD	DOWNTOWN DEMO/REVITALIZATION
42	SUMMERS CO	JBNPSD MADAMS CREEK WATER
43	RALEIGH CO	HARPER ECCLES SEWER
44	NORTHFORK	SEWER
45	PRINCETON	FIXER UPPER BUILDING PROGRAM
46	GARY	WATER UPGRADES
47	MERCER CO	CUMERLAND INDUSTRIAL PARK SITE PREP
48	BLUEFIELD	INNOVATION LAB
49	SOPHIA	SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
50	PRINCETON	HIGH ST WATER
51	BRADSHAW	SEWER UPGRADE
52	WYOMING CO	COAL MOUNTAIN WATER EXT.
53	WYOMING CO	EWPSD BARKERS RIDGE PH. II WATER
54	BRADSHAW	ECLIPSE BOTTOM BRIDGE
55	MONROE CO	PETERSTOWN SCHOOL SEWER
56	SUMMERS CO	COOPERS MILL
57	ATHENS	WATERLINE UPGRADES
58	WELCH	DEMOLITION OF DILAPIDATED STRUCTURES
59	NORTHFORK	DEMOLITION OF DILAPIDATED STRUCTURES
60	WYOMING CO	PINEVILLE BRENTON WATER
61	SUMMERS CO	SANDSTONE/MEADOW CREEK WATER
62	BECKLEY	RECREATION UPGRADES
63	PRINCETON	LONNIE GUNTER JR. MUSEUM
64	MERCER CO	MATOAKA SEWER
65	REGIONAL	COVID-19 RECOVERY/RESILIENCY
66	HINTON	RIVER ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS
67	RALEIGH CO	NBPSD SEWER PLANT UPGRADE
68	WYOMING CO	EWPSD HERNDON HTS/BEARTOWN/CLARKS GAP WATER

RANK	COMMUNITY	PROJECT
69	BECKLEY	STATE FARM BLDG REHAB FOR MUNICIPAL COURT & IT
70	MONROE CO	LITTLE RICH CREEK VALLEY WATER EXT
71	NORTHFORK	SIDEWALKS/STORM DRAINS
72	MERCER CO	RT. 19/NUBBINS RIDGE WATER
73	ATHENS	SIDEWALKS
74	RALEIGH CO	COOL RIDGE/FLAT TOP PSD - WHITE OAK WATER EXT
75	SUMMERS	BIG BEND PSD - FOREST HILL WATER
76	KIMBALL	CAMPGROUND
77	WYOMING CO	UPPER HUFF CREEK WATER EXT
78	MERCER CO	LASHMEET PSD - WEYANOKE/GIATTO WATER
79	KIMBALL	WATER SYSTEM UPGRADE
80	MCDOWELL CO	BERWIND TREATMENT PLANT & DISTRIBUTION PH. 1
81	SUMMERS CO	JOHN HENRY HISTORICAL PARK DEVELOPMENT
82	HINTON	HINTON HARDWOODS RESTORATION
83	WELCH	PARKING BLDG UPGRADE
84	MERCER CO	PINNACLE WATER
85	SUMMERS	GREAT EASTERN/MARY INGLES TRAIL BUILDOUT
86	ATHENS	PARK UPGRADE
87	NORTHFORK	CELL SERVICE
88	MERCER CO	BLUEWELL PSD - AIRPORT RD RT. 52 WATER
89	WYOMING CO	OCEANA WATER
90	WYOMING CO	RMS PSD NEW RICHMOND WATER
91	WYOMING CO	OCEANA SEWER
92	RALEIGH CO	NBPSD STANAFORD ACRES COLLECTION REPLACEMENT
93	SUMMERS CO	MEADOW CK PSD WWTP/COLLECTION SYSTEM UPGRADE
94	MERCER CO	ORPSD MERCER/SUMMERS PH. IV-B ELGOOD WATER
95	WELCH	MCDOWELL ST/RIVERSIDE DR WATER
96	WYOMING CO	CENTER PSD PH. II
97	REGIONAL	HAZARD MITIGATION PLANS
98	BLUEFIELD	UNION ST STORM WATER
99	MCDOWELL CO	ANAWALT WATER SYSTEM
100	HINTON	HINTON AMPHITHEATER
101	RALEIGH CO	MARSH FORK SEWER
102	RALEIGH CO	BRADLEY PSD - WEST RALEIGH SEWER
103	MONROE CO	RED SULPHUR PSD TIE-IN WATER PROJECT
104	BLUEFIELD	CUMBERLAND/JOHN NASH BLVD GAS LINE EXPANSION

RANK	COMMUNITY	PROJECT
105	MERCER CO	AIRPORT BROADBAND
106	KIMBALL	PARK
107	WELCH	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HISTORIC DOWNTOWN
108	WELCH	NORTH WELCH WATERLINE REPLACEMENT
109	KIMBALL	SIDEWALKS
110	NORTHFORK	VEHICLES
111	MONROE CO	RED SULPHUR WATER EXT
112	MERCER CO	REGIONAL BROADBAND/EXIT 1
113	MCDOWELL CO	ELKHORN SEWER
114	BECKLEY	COMMUNITY GARDENS
115	BLUEFIELD	COMMERCIALIZATION STATION PH. II
116	WELCH	PREMIER MTN WATERLINE REPLACEMENT
117	RALEIGH CO	RALEIGH CO PSD - MAPLE MEADOW WTP UPGRADE
118	MERCER CO	BROWNING LAMBERT MTN WATER
119	MCDOWELL CO	COUNTYWIDE DEMOLITION
120	BLUEFIELD	PROJECT GAMECHANGER
121	BECKLEY	BECKLEY DUMP REHABILITATION
122	SUMMERS CO	REGIONAL BROADBAND
123	MONROE CO	LAW ENFORCEMENT
124	MCDOWELL CO	CARETTA/YUKON SEWER
125	PRINCETON	BUS STOP SHELTERS FOR BAT TRANSIT RIDERS
126	BLUEFIELD	PROJECT CYBER
127	WELCH	INCREASE CAPACITY OF CLEAR WELL AT WATER PLANT
128	MONROE CO	KEENAN TO DOSS SHAVER RD BROADBAND
129	RALEIGH CO	COAL CITY SEWER
130	RALEIGH CO	AMIGO SEWER
131	MERCER CO	ORPSD MISC. SEWER
132	SUMMERS CO	COMMUNITY REHAB/DEMO OF DILAPIDATED STRUCTURE
133	MONROE CO	COURTHOUSE
134	MERCER CO	BLUESTONE RIVER TRAILS
135	WYOMING CO	EWPSD REEDTOWN WATER EXT
136	MONROE CO	AUDRINA MILLS WATER
137	WELCH	COMMUNITY CENTER
138	RALEIGH CO	RHODELL SEWER
139	SUMMERS CO	RIVER RIDGE WATER
140	SUMMERS CO	MEADOW CREEK PSD ELTON WATERLINE EXT

RANK	COMMUNITY	PROJECT
141	MCDOWELL CO	COALWOOD SEWER PH. 2
142	MCDOWELL CO	CAPELS SEWER
143	MCDOWELL CO	COUNTYWIDE SEWER
144	WYOMING CO	REGIONAL BROADBAND
145	WYOMING CO	PINEVILLE PH. IIA SKIN FORK WATER EXT
146	WYOMING CO	PINEVILLE PH. IIB RIGHT FORK WATER
147	WYOMING CO	PINEVILLE PH. IIC SHANNON MILLS BRANCH WATER
148	WYOMING CO	PINEVILLE PH. III FANROCK WATER EXT
149	WYOMING CO	PINEVILLE INDIAN CREEK WATER EXPANSION
150	WYOMING CO	LONG BRANCH WATERLINE EXT
151	WYOMING CO	MINGO PSD - NORTH SPRING WATERLINE EXT
152	WYOMING CO	MINGO CO PSD - IKES FORK WATER EXT
153	WYOMING CO	MINGO PSD - LITTLE HUFF CREEK WATER EXT
154	WYOMING CO	MINGO PSD - ROCKHOUSE BRANCH WATER EXT
155	WYOMING CO	CRANY WATERLINE EXT
156	MERCER CO	ORPSD MERCER/SUMMERS PH. IV-C WATER
157	MERCER CO	ORPSD MERCER/SUMMERS PH. IV-D WATER
158	MCDOWELL CO	BULL CREEK ISABAN PANTHER WATER
159	MONROE CO	ROCK CAMP WATER
160	WELCH	SIDEWALKS
161	MCDOWELL CO	REGIONAL BROADBAND
162	SUMMERS CO	ESTABLISH PARK AND RIDE AREAS
163	RALEIGH CO	RALEIGH CO AIRPORT INDUSTRIAL PARK BROADBAND
164	SUMMERS CO	TALCOTT AREA BROADBAND
165	MCDOWELL CO	JOLO AREA BROADBAND
166	WYOMING CO	CORINNE AREA BROADBAND
167	WYOMING CO	EWPSD WTP UPGRADE
168	RALEIGH CO	GRANDVIEW AREA SEWER
169	MCDOWELL CO	BERWIND AREA BROADBAND
170	WYOMING CO	CLEAR FORK WATERLINE EXT
171	WYOMING CO	MULLENS - CORRINE/BLACK EAGLE SEWER EXT
172	BLUEFIELD	GRANT STREET BRIDGE
173	SUMMERS CO	COUNTY INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNOLOGY PARK
174	MCDOWELL CO	BERWIND LAKE DEVELOPMENT
175	WYOMING CO	RMS PSD GLEN ROGERS WATER UPGRADES
176	MERCER CO	EXIT 14 ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

<b>RANK</b>	<b>COMMUNITY</b>	<b>PROJECT</b>
177	WELCH	PARKS AND TOURISM
178	BLUEFIELD	FIT/REC UPGRADES
179	RALEIGH CO	NBPSD WWTP UPGRADE
180	WYOMING CO	PINEVILLE WATER UPGRADES
181	RALEIGH CO	NBPSD PH. III-B PINEY VIEW SEWER EXT
182	SUMMERS CO	JBNPSD FREEZLELAND MTN WATERLINE EXT
183	BLUEFIELD	CUMBERLAND/JOHN NASH DEVELOPMENT
184	BECKLEY	TRANSPORTATION UPGRADES
185	SUMMERS CO	VETERAN'S FACILITY
186	SUMMERS CO	POWER GENERATION AT BLUESTONE DAM
187	SUMMERS CO	NEW RIVER PARKWAY AUTHORITY CONSTRUCTION
188	WYOMING CO	COALFIELDS EXPRESSWAY