

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS

GUIDELINES

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

- » Regions must establish a regional development authority (applicant)
- » The IEDC will review Regional Development Plans (RDP) beginning July 1 of each year. RDPs not selected in one year may re-apply in subsequent years
- » The RDP must encompass a geographic area consisting of a minimum of 200,000 in population
- » Stakeholders, including elected officials, representing this geographic area must participate in the planning and must endorse the RDP with their signature
- » The regional development authority must commit to match, with local public funds, state funds over eight years

A REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN SHOULD ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING

- » Current state of the region
- » Anticipated impact of the RDP on the region
- » Talent and investment attraction
- » Stakeholder engagement, community and leadership support
- » Level of participation in state/federal community development programs
- » Long term viability of all elements of the RDP
- » The nature and purpose of governmental and non-governmental partnerships throughout the duration of the plan term
- » Distinct, feasible projects with realistic budgets, return on investment calculations for each project, and clear timelines
- » Other issues of consequence to the region
- » Commitment to executing the plan without a state partnership

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EACH REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING

Section 1. Current State of the Region

- (a) Geographic boundaries - List all counties, cities and towns that are actively a part of the RDP.
- (b) Demographic information for the region and for each member actively participating in the RDP, including sources for each data point (population, per capita income, educational attainment, etc.).
- (c) Economic statistics for the region and for each member actively participating in the RDP, including sources for each data point (GDP, unemployment, current tax rates, etc.).
- (d) Sources of local public funding that will be used to match state funds and evidence indicating the timeline under which the funding will be accessible.
- (e) List of any major issues and opportunities identified by the stakeholder group that are currently inhibiting or advancing growth.
- (f) Discuss previous planning efforts and if/how that work will be incorporated.
- (g) Detail current regional assets which provide the platform for future development.

Section 2. Community Engagement

Describe how the stakeholder group has engaged and will continue to communicate and engage with the public in the development and execution of this plan.

Section 3. Stakeholders and Execution

- (a) List of participating stakeholders and their role in planning and executing the plan.
- (b) Identify the organization or individuals responsible for updating of the plan, its budget and its execution. Will the regional development authority be responsible for this, or some other entity?
- (c) [Stakeholder group may include individuals representing various elements of the community such as: private business, commercial lending, local non-profit, philanthropic organization, local public sector, K-12, higher education, and others. A broader stakeholder group represents a greater degree of local commitment to the plan, thus enhancing the ability to execute.]

Section 4. Vision

Explain the regional vision, describing how the region wants to economically and nationally position itself in terms of reputation and talent attraction over the next 8-10 years. Include three cities outside Indiana – preferably in areas of the nation experiencing growth – that you intend to use as long-term benchmarks for competition and success.

Section 5. Quality of Place

Describe quality of place as defined by stakeholders, including strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats for the area. Include relevant data to support this section.

Section 6. Trends

Identify long term, future-facing economic, industry, cultural or other trends for which you intend to leverage and align your region to take advantage of over time. Include relevant data to support this section.

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EACH REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING: CONT.

Section 7. Projects

List of anticipated projects and programs to achieve the vision. **Clearly indicate which projects you intend to complete, and in what timeframe, if your plan is not selected by the IEDC.**

- (a) Projects and programs may fall in these major areas (while programming may be a critical element of the plan, the IEDC's matching funds will be focused on brick and mortar projects):
 - i. Infrastructure
 - ii. Redevelopment of physical assets (particularly blighted assets)
 - iii. Cultural amenities
 - iv. Quality of place
 - v. Industry-specific development, including any targeted sectors
 - vi. Education and incumbent workforce
 - vii. Innovation and Technology
 - viii. Talent attraction
- (b) Describe each project or program's role in enhancing the community to improve the economy and quality of place
- (c) Prioritize projects and programs, including the criteria used
- (d) Specifics for **each project**:
 - i. Estimated timeline for start and finish for each project
 - ii. Budget detailing capital expenditures, ongoing expenditures required for long term success, anticipated return on investment and/or revenue generated a result of project

- iii. Anticipated funding sources (this may not be final)
- iv. Industry (e.g. retail, industrial, warehousing, office, etc.)—*if applicable*
- v. Location (e.g. address, city, county)
- vi. Number of jobs to be created—*if applicable*

Section 8. Measurement

Outline how the region intends to establish its baseline relative to the three benchmark cities (Section 4) and also how it intends to monitor and measure success during the course of its plan. Progress reports submitted to the IEDC will be required annually.

- (a) Objective metrics should be employed such as the Quality of Place Indicators used in the Peer Cities Study (located on the website).
 - i. Information sources should be identified for each measurement such that the information can be updated at frequent and set intervals in time.

Section 9. Structural Changes

Identify any public or private sector organizational structure changes needed to efficiently execute this plan.

Section 10. Additional Support

Please list any additional support your region has committed to in order to execute this plan, including philanthropic and private sector resources.