

Final: September 2014

RPC CEDS - 2014 Regional Priority Projects

Workforce Development	
All	Workforce needs from energy-catalyzed investments in petro-chemicals, advanced manufacturing, and the energy industry - we need support for training up the local workforce to be able to fill the 42,000 openings for middle-skilled labor in the new "energy boom"
All	Workforce gap analysis - to assess the needs of employers in target industry clusters to determine the number and type of jobs they will be hiring in the next 5 years and to understand the current landscape of training and identify gaps.
All	Promotion of WIB activity - raise awareness of the activities, services and opportunities provided through the local Workforce Investment Boards
All	Certification programs - support for industry-based certification programs
All	Dual Enrollment - support for programs such as JumpStart and other dual enrollment (high school and community college programs) programs and articulation agreements (2+2 community college leading to a four year degree) which enable students to see job opportunities and the sequence of education necessary to obtain those jobs
All	Communication enhancements - outreach like the recent upgrades to the LAworks.net, STAR jobs, and Build Your Future Louisiana (craft trades) to/in communities to make individuals aware of jobs and training programs, awareness of employers about graduates of training programs, and collaboration and awareness between workforce development and economic development professionals about the work of one another
All	Incumbent worker training - to promote industries with career ladders where entry level employees can attain higher positions and earnings with additional training
All	Earn-and-Learn - support programs that enable individuals who cannot afford too only be a student and earn an income later find ways to receive on the job training and earn while learning.
All	Employee Sponsored Training - to engage employers in the workforce training process and remove barriers to employment presented by the cost of obtaining training
All	Skills training - incorporating basic literacy, numeracy and soft skills
All	Community based workforce training programs - especially those focused on "opportunity youth" such as Limitless Vistas, a job training program in environmental sciences for graduates to have a viable opportunity to participate in the on-going the Gulf Coast Restoration
Orleans	NOLA For Life - an initiative of the Mayor of New Orleans to reduce the murder rate in New Orleans. Working together to promote jobs and opportunities is one of the key cornerstones of NOLA FOR LIFE, to create opportunities for young, African-American men. The Mayor has encouraged every business in the city to create new jobs, hire a young person during the summer, mentor young men, or support returning citizens.
Tourism	
St Bernard	Ecotourism - Support and enhancements to the infrastructure needed to expand the eco-tourism industry in St Bernard Parish
Jefferson	Enhancement of Rivertown - enhancements to the Rivertown district in the City of Kenner, including LaSalle's Landing pier and venue for outdoor retail events, to attract tourists and adjacent properties such as the Old Kenner High School
Jefferson	Development of Laketown - enhancements to the existing conference center and surrounding properties and the addition of mixed-use developments to enhance the conference center as a tourism destination.
St Tammany	Regional Performing Arts Center and Cultural District - establish a district to house an arts center, children's museum, educational facilities and interpretive nature trails on a campus in St Tammany parish to enhance the Parish as a tourism destination.
Jefferson	Westwego Riverboat Landing - improvements to the landing and/or adjacent infrastructure to support use the landing for a river boat cruise line
All	Expansion of infrastructure to support and expand the cruise industry

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Creative Media, Design & Film	
All	Specialized training - training in industry-specific software, especially for film editing and post production activities. Programs like Delgado's Digital Media Education Center
All	Growth of the film and digital media industry - infrastructure needed to help support and grow a Hollywood South industry
Orleans	Catalog of programs - Conduct a survey of high schools and higher education institutions in order to document and better understand existing programs around Creative Digital Media
Food Manufacturing, Food Processing and Fishing	
Orleans	New Orleans Culinary and Hospitality Institute (NOCHI) - reposition the Louisiana Artworks asset from the creative industry into a New Orleans Culinary and Hospitality Institute (NOCHI) for a food business incubator and co-location of hospitality, entrepreneurship and culinary training programs at Delgado Community College, University of New Orleans, and Tulane University. The facility will house the NOCHI Culinary and Hospitality School, a Delgado Facilities with a Purpose project) which will educate the hospitality industry workforce of the Greater New Orleans region in entry-level positions for careers in the culinary arts; food service management; and hotel management, in the heart of the city's tourist district.
All	Local Food Hub - infrastructure association with promotion of local food production, processing, and procurement
St Bernard & Plaquemines	Commercial Fishing - provide support and infrastructure to support commercial fishing
Resiliency & Development	
Orleans	International Resiliency Center - Redevelopment of the BRAC property on Poland Ave in New Orleans as a Disaster Response headquarters
St Tammany	Disaster Response Center - establishment of a campus north of I12 for a regional "safe house" campus for transportation and communication services, emergency preparedness education, disaster response coordination
All	Disaster Response Expertise - increase private sector capacity to respond to local, national and international disasters
St Tammany	Regional Livestock Emergency Shelter - to protect our region's livestock during emergency situations including livestock at the Louisiana State University agricultural education and veterinary sciences departments.
St Bernard	Safe Harbor / Working Waterfront Project - in St Bernard Parish
All	Business Continuity Planning - increase planning capacity for new and existing businesses
All	LA Coastal Master Plan - support the implementation of the State of Louisiana's Master Plan for Coastal Restoration
Green and Environmental Technology	
All	Coastal Restoration Workforce Training - A number of large coastal restoration projects will be underway in the coming years and employers need workers with specific training to service these contracts
St Tammany, Jefferson	Establishment of a Wetlands Mitigation Bank(s) - Wetlands mitigation and drainage solutions are critical to the sustainability of our coastal region.
All	Innovation and Technology Commercialization - support activities that help innovations reach and achieve commercialization
All	Urban Water Plan - projects and initiatives that enable the region to "live with water" in a responsible, resilient and life enhancing way

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Energy Production, Petrochemicals & Plastics	
All	Industrial Arts and Construction Workforce training - Workforce needs from energy-catalyzed investments in petro-chemicals, advanced manufacturing, and the energy industry - we need support for training up the local workforce to be able to fill the 42,000 openings for middle-skilled labor in the new "energy boom"
Jefferson	Delgado Community College, Advanced Technology - One "Facilities with a Purpose" building , the Advanced Technology Building and campus expansion will serve the needs of the oil, gas and chemical industry workforce needs with instrumentation, chemical technician, engineering and deep water oil production programs
All	Energy Boom support - Explore regional approaches to satisfy the energy boom upriver, with particular emphasis on training the local workforce in skills that are transferrable to forecasted coastal restoration jobs in the near future, as well as on regional transportation solutions and other initiatives that meet the needs of the workforce. Anticipated needs are transportation, housing, child care/education, displacement and migration, and access to medical services.
All	Environmental Impact Assessments & Planning - support and advocate for
All	Transportation Infrastructure to support the energy boom
All	Small business outreach - to suppliers of the Oil & Gas industry to ensure their participation in the Energy Boom
Aerospace & Advanced Manufacturing	
Orleans	NASA / Michoud Front Door Project - physical improvements to Old Gentilly, the entrance to Michoud
Orleans	NASA/ Michoud Assembly Facility - continued upgrade to the facility and surrounding infrastructure, promote the facility and attract tenants to leasable space for Advanced Manufacturing
Orleans	NCAM - support the region's National Center for Advanced Manufacturing at the Michoud Assembly Facility
Jefferson	Delgado Community College, Avondale Campus - Part of "Facilities with a Purpose" To create an Advanced Manufacturing Center of Excellence by renovating and expanding an existing facility which will respond to the demands of business and industry for a skilled workforce. The Center will create a sustainable long term solution to critical workforce shortages and provide a pipeline of skilled workers
All	Supply chain studies - to identify opportunities to expand local manufacturing activity by identify value-added manufacturing or processing possibilities on commodities importing and exporting through the region's ports
All	Workforce supply chain studies - to understand the skills and experience requirements for positions within Advanced Manufacturing
International Trade & Logistics	
All	New Terminal at and Airport Buy-Out properties around Louis Armstrong International Airport (MSY) - the new terminal will house two concourses and 30 gates. site and airport entrance relocation will shift traffic patterns, affect businesses and present opportunities for increased capacity for cargo facilities
All	Rail Gateway Project and extension to Middle Belt - a massive rail relocation project on the Westbank of Jefferson parish that may impact and expand transportation and logistics operations in the region
Jefferson	Delgado Community College, River City Campus - One "Facilities with a Purpose" building, the River City Campus, will be located in the Churchill Technology & Business Park . The campus will accommodate training programs to support commerce along the Mississippi River to include transportation/logistics, maritime, marine engine, engineering and automotive technology in the growth area of West Jefferson parish.
Orleans-St Bernard	Florida Avenue Extension - To provide for accessibility to port-related industrial site - is this Almonaster Bridge
Plaquemines	Lower Mississippi River Port Complex / Plaquemines Port Initiative - Deep water port offering access to the Gulf of Mexico in Plaquemines Parish
All	Maintenance and deepening of the Mississippi River

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	Improving capacity, efficiency & safety of the metro rail resources
All	International Flights from Louis Armstrong International Airport (MSY) - the addition of international flight(s) to service at MSY will increase the region's ability to attract businesses and industries
Jefferson	Expansion of Warehousing and Distribution - the Huey P Long Bridge improvements have opened up portions of the West Bank of Jefferson Parish as ideal locations for warehousing and distribution uses, leveraging and expanding the predominately developed Elmwood area which is already a warehousing and distribution hub
All	Passenger Rail between New Orleans and Baton Rouge - these two cities are operating in closer partnership in growing recognition of the power of combined efforts in a "Super Region." The line would connect with Louis Armstrong International Airport. Passenger rail between the two cities would strengthen economic synergies, improve access for the regional workforce, and directly effect several specific cities and towns where rail stations could be located.
All	International Commerce Master Plan - the State chartered entity the Internal Board of Commerce is developing a Master Plan to increase international commerce in the State, a regional understanding of how to implement this plan is also needed
All	Value Added Manufacturing Trade Strategy - analyze the commodities brought into the region through trade and identify opportunities to add value to those products while in the region
All	Mississippi River Dredging - to ensure the viability of Mississippi river navigation
Higher Education	
All	New Orleans Regional Innovation Alliance (NORIA) - Continued formation this consortium of higher education, industry and economic development organizations established to carry out or coordinate collaborative functions in industries of interest - it is a permanent, systematic, and staffed structure through which to facilitate any number of ongoing or one-time initiatives that, collectively, advance several key economic development and workforce outcomes.
All	Delgado Community College, Facilities with a Purpose: support the expansion of training facilities and capacity. Created by the State Legislature (Act 391) with the objective "Solving Louisiana's Workforce Problems" Facilities with a Purpose commits the state to providing \$251M through a series of three bond issues to build or renovate 1,067,245 sf of space in 29 campuses in the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS)
Jefferson	Delgado Community College Blair Campus - a campus renovation and expansion will provide a state-of-the-art classroom and laboratory facility in Metairie
Orleans	Tulane Riverfront Campus - a multi-stage project incorporating office space to co-locate a variety of public, private, non-profit and research oriented tenants focused on Coastal Restoration
St Tammany	Regional Learning Center - Establishment of a regional learning center in St Tammany Parish where several educational institutions in the region would co-locate facilities to focus on workforce development and transition programs with an emphasis on trade skills.
St Tammany	North Shore Technical Community College, Lacombe Campus - Part of "Facilities with a Purpose" will replace previous St Tammany Campus destroyed by Hurricane Katrina with a campus offering programs in health sciences, business and industrial technology and for academic transfer.
St Bernard	Nunez Community College Administrative Building - construction of the facility to enhance the operations of this expanding educational resource
All	Career Fairs - Creation of career fairs around target clusters for high schools and community colleges

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Entrepreneurial & Small Business Support	
All	Entrepreneur Eco-system - continued support for the entrepreneurship ecosystem as it continues to evolve and advance through programmatic efforts, access to capital, and assistance with procurement opportunities for small and emerging businesses.
All	Business Incubators - Increased capacity to grow businesses
Jefferson	Churchill Technology & Business Park - expansion of entrepreneurial support activities
Orleans	Power Moves NOLA - a fellowship and pitch contest supporting the development of a minority entrepreneur ecosystem will launch in 2014
Orleans	Livable Claiborne Communities - a continuation of a HUD-DOT Sustainable Communities grant into an ongoing district-based anchor institution strategy to promote workforce training, local hiring, and purchasing and procurement access for small, local, minority and women owned businesses.
Orleans	Tulane Technology Incubator - The Tulane Center for Technology Development will develop new proof-of-concept and prototyping facilities in New Orleans which will provide resources to members of the local community to pursue the development of technology-based innovations. This incubator seeks to grow the ecosystem for technology development and new business support, which will lead to more high-technology businesses in New Orleans and more jobs in high-growth, high-wage sectors.
All	Delta ConnectWorks - Good Work Network's program to build small business capacity to seize procurement opportunities with anchor institutions and established larger mainstream businesses that do not currently have supplier diversity programs.
Orleans	BioInnovation Center - continued support for this small business incubator and commercialization counselor program for life and bio science related start ups
Healthcare Delivery & Biosciences	
Orleans	Healthcare Sector Workforce Programs - assistance in training up then recruiting talent for the large number of permanent jobs that will occur after numerous hospital expansions in the region complete and the facilities come on line.
Orleans	Delgado Community College Allied Health Programs - One "Facilities with a Purpose" building will consolidate allied health programs into a single facility adjacent to the new LSUHSC, VA Hospital and BioInnovation District with state-of-the-art classrooms and laboratories and allow for space for expanded general education offerings downtown.
Orleans	LSU University Medical Center - a \$1.2 billion medical complex
All	MediFund - created by 2013 State Legislative Session (HB549) established a state-wide MediFund to spur biomedical economic development. MediFund will help create biomedical centers of excellence to drive destination healthcare and research commercialization.
Orleans	Methodist Hospital in New Orleans East , \$110M redevelopment of the old Methodist Hospital campus destroyed by Katrina into an 80 bed facility. The New facility will open for services in 2014
Orleans	St Margaret's at Mercy , a senior living facility and nursing home on a former Brownfield in the Mid-City neighborhood of New Orleans, \$47M renovation creating 350 permanent jobs
All	Additional office and research infrastructure for biomedical industry
All	Messaging & Capital Attraction - branding of New Orleans for brains, knowledge and innovation and attraction activities to encourage capital sources for innovation identify potential in New Orleans

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Capacity Building	
All	LED Competitive Communities Initiative - work with and support Louisiana Economic Development (LED) in implementing the Competitive Communities Initiative (CCI) to improve economic development capacity of parishes to compete in a global marketplace.
St Tammany	Economic Development Strategic Plan for St Tammany Parish.
Jefferson	Cluster analysis for City of Kenner - to examine potential to build strengths in particular industry(ies)
All	Asset mapping for industry clusters - especially for advanced manufacturing and digital media
All	Supply chain studies - to identify opportunities to expand local businesses
All	Gap Analysis - to better understand where these particular clusters need support: Advanced Manufacturing, Creative Digital, BioInnovation, Sustainable Industries, and Transportation, Trade & Logistics
Regional Economic Development Facilities	
Jefferson	Churchill Technology & Business Park - Infrastructure Improvements to enable the Phase II expansion of the Business Park
St Tammany	Establishment of Economic Development Districts along the I12 Corridor in St Tammany Parish, to position properties for business attraction and retention efforts and to enable the Parish to achieve smart growth objectives for the location of jobs and accessibility to the workforce while protecting quality of life for existing residents
St Tammany	Regional Research Park - development of a regional research park to meet the current and future needs of the southeastern Louisiana super region. Similar to the North Carolina Research Triangle a location in St Tammany Parish would connect New Orleans and Baton Rouge.
Enhancing Quality of Life	
St Bernard	Old Arabi Revitalization Project - rebuilding of the government center, commercial district, fishing village
St Bernard	40 Arpent Canal - Audubon Institute Project in partnership with St Bernard Parish
Jefferson	Redeveloping Fat City in Jefferson Parish
Jefferson	Fairfield - Planning & Development of the Fairfield area of the Westbank of the Mississippi River in Jefferson Parish
Jefferson	Industrial Corridor Revitalization - Reuse/Redevelopment of industrial corridors including the Harvey Canal and Huntington-Ingalls shipyard and in Old Jefferson
All	Commercial Corridor Revitalization - Streetscaping, beautification and other infrastructure efforts along commercial corridors throughout the region will improve the region's competitiveness and ability to attract and retain businesses especially in technology related fields where the attractiveness of the office setting effects employee recruiting and retention
All	Improve Broadband Internet Access - to enable more digital media and technology business development
St Tammany	Environmental Corridors - preservation, conversion and development of properties to be resources for eco-tourism and cultural development
Orleans	Redeveloping the Riverfront as envisioned in Reinventing the Crescent
Orleans	Redevelopment of Federal City
Orleans	Targeted Area Revitalization - Revitalizing commercial nodes referred to as the 18 target recovery areas in the City of New Orleans
Orleans	Federal City - several phases of the redevelopment Federal City, a military installation on the West Bank of Orleans Parish, are now complete