

Project Overview

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

KPEDD, with funding provided by the Kenai Borough and EDA, compiled and published the Kenai Peninsula Borough Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) in FY2021 through broad regional representation. The three years preceding its development focused on the implantation of the identified goals and strategies outlined in the plan. Goal priorities are as follows;

1. **Technology and Telecommunications**
2. **Workforce and Human Capital**
3. **Infrastructure and Land Use**
4. **Business Climate and Entrepreneurship**
5. **Regional Partnerships**

Efforts to implement these strategies were presented throughout the period in the region, including borough assembly meetings, city council meetings, chambers of commerce, Industry Outlook Forums, Tribal board discussions, and local working groups. Meeting locations and dates are outlined in the annual CEDS updates, with public comment welcomed throughout the year and incorporated into the drafts.

Although KPEDD has utilized its diverse board of 16 members as a CEDS Strategy Committee in the past, a separate committee formed specifically for the guidance of plan implementation and updates has been established. Leaders were selected based on their connection to main economic sectors to represent the interests of the region, contributing to and benefiting from improved economic development in the Kenai Peninsula. This committee will undertake a collaborative and effective planning process to meet the goals and directions outlined by regional stakeholders in the initial 2021 plan.

Each member represents at least one of the following economic interests of the region; including Tribes, private sector, state and other public officials, community leaders, private individuals, representatives of workforce development boards, institutions of higher education, minority and labor groups, and others who can contribute to capacity building for the organization.

Each page of the proceeding report documents the efforts made during the project period to implement the goals and strategies outlined in the original 2021 CEDS plan.

