

Schedule of Goals for 2017 and Program of Activities

2017 Goals and Objectives

The following Goals and Objectives have been reviewed and approved by NEFCO.

Support programs that diversify local and regional economies and which build a strong regional economy capable of recovering from natural disasters and economic setbacks.

Objectives:

- Encourage programs and projects that create and retain jobs
- Support technology and entrepreneurial development by attending pertinent meetings
- Support efforts that will make the region more globally competitive

Encourage the development of industries that support Northeast Ohio's economic clusters.

Objectives:

- Support projects that contribute toward strengthening the region's targeted industries adopted by the NEFCO General Policy Board
- Support activities that complement targeted as well as other existing industries in the region
- Whenever possible, efforts of the Summit Brownfields Revitalization Program will complement those of JobsOhio to create opportunities for businesses in targeted industries

Build intergovernmental and public-private partnerships that place a high value on working cooperatively to address the region's needs.

Objectives:

- Support projects that are consistent with a general plan of the appropriate unit of government
- Support collaborative efforts in order to reduce duplication in services and resources
- Seek opportunities to collaborate and pool organizational resources.

Promote the redevelopment of blighted, underused, or vacant and environmentally-challenged sites with high market potential.

Objectives:

- Hold public meetings in 2017 to inform communities and individuals of the Summit Brownfields Revitalization Program
- Continue to refine the brownfields assessment program and participate in training and education related to brownfields assessment
- Work with entities experienced in brownfields clean-up to better serve recipients of U.S. EPA assessment program
- Explore the possibility of applying for a U.S. EPA brownfields revolving loan fund to better assist communities with redevelopment of brownfields
- Support projects that preserve greenspace, either through innovative design or through measures taken to ensure more compact development
- Consider public health outcomes of brownfields redevelopment and work toward the assessment of properties to improve public health

Support existing programs that build human capital.

Objectives:

- Continue as a board member of the Great Lakes Regional Training Initiative in order to identify gaps in economic development training and to provide opportunities for University Centers and Economic Development Districts to more effectively serve Region 5.
- Promote projects that create and retain living wage jobs
- Gain an understanding of the region's programs and resources for workforce development by attending a minimum of one meeting per calendar year
- Support the continued growth and success of programs that train or develop workers and entrepreneurs
- Support programs that address the lack of job opportunities in Northeast Ohio
- Consider activities that will implement recommendations of the shale strategy to improve communities heavily involved in the oil and gas industry

Promote programs that support sustainability and quality of life for the region.

Objectives:

- Support economic development possibilities tied to the local food industry and activities that improve the local food infrastructure
- Assist with efforts to structure next steps for the Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium (NEOSCC); help to move toward implementation of measures recommended by the NEOSCC to create a sustainable region.

The goals listed above provide a structure for NEFCO's economic development activities. The following table portrays NEFCO's anticipated schedule for meeting these goals. Progress toward meeting performance objectives outlined in the *2016 CEDS* is ongoing. To obtain information needed to meet objectives, staff contacts appropriate local entities for these data, which are then reported to EDA in the Government Performance and Results Act report.