



No Boundaries

Controlling the cost of government, creating jobs and improving the quality of life.

CEDC Applies for Federal Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnerships Grant Program

The [Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership](#) (IMCP) is a new Administration-wide initiative that will accelerate the resurgence of manufacturing and help cultivate an environment for businesses to create well-paying manufacturing jobs in regions across the country. The IMCP is designed to reward communities that demonstrate best practices in attracting and expanding manufacturing by using long-term planning that integrates targeted investments in workforce training, infrastructure, research, and other key assets.

The IMCP is being initiated as the Economic Development Administration (EDA), Department of Agriculture, Small Business Administration and Environmental Protection Agency each provide funding for regional implementation-ready strategy grants. Strategies developed by these grants, will enhance regions' efforts to compete for future proposed large scale IMCP grants (50 to 100 times the size of the implementation strategy grants). These grants will be given to communities with the best strategies for attracting and expanding private investment in the manufacturing sector and increasing international trade and exports.

The proposed project will develop implementation-ready strategies to support and extend the Centralina region's primary core competitive competency in Advanced Manufacturing. Advanced Manufacturing has been identified in [2012-2017 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy](#) as a key regional strength and competency, comprised of an aggregate mix of industry sector densities, workforce skill sets, and key knowledge-based assets that provide cross-cluster support to five of the region's six primary target industry clusters: Aerospace/Defense, Automotive, Biomedical, Energy, and Logistics. The CEDC has assembled a Project Team that includes 10 partnering organizations, each bringing a specific set of expertise, networks, and knowledge base to the project.

This proposed project builds upon prior and ongoing work of the CEDC and includes the following activities:

1. Develop a Regional Advanced Manufacturing Coalition;
2. Advanced Manufacturing Ecosystem Assessment;
3. Identify processes and resources to enhance training collaborations, job placement, and sector partnerships;
4. Identify techniques to better connect the R&D assets and entrepreneurial innovation efforts; and
5. Develop regional Advanced Manufacturing marketing strategies.

If funded the project will take place over an 18 month period, beginning in the Fall of 2013, based upon EDA grant announcements anticipated for September, 2013. The CEDC applied for \$200,000 in EDA funding and has secured an equal amount in cost match from project partners to reach an estimated project cost of \$400,000. To read the full application for funding or for more information contact the CEDC at cedc@centralina.org.

CEDC Receives Innovation Award from NADO

The Centralina Economic Development Commission in partnership with the *CONNECT Out Future* initiative has been recognized by the [National Association of Development Organizations](#) for the creative and innovative approach to the 2012 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and Prosperity for Greater Charlotte reports.

This planning process was vetted through our local government partners, education, business and community leaders, and the general public in order to gain their input on the project. Designed in such a way with innovative partnerships and collaboration, this project was a truly unique conception of alignment of varied jurisdictional planning processes that would support optimum community and economic viability with effective regional impacts. This process model will support long term regional sustainable planning and has the ability to be replicated in other regions.

Key outcomes from this collaborative process will ensure that the regional economy can boost job growth rates by linking the region's workforce skills and strengths, education assets, and infrastructure to the needs of high-growth and emerging industries to enhance the region's overall business environment and maximize target cluster development.

Award recipients will be recognized during NADO's 2013 Annual Training Conference, to be held August 24-27 in San Francisco, California.

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Vibrant Communities – Robust Region

Invest two hours and make a difference in your region for the next 40 years!

At *Connect Our Future*
Community Growth Workshops

Simply sign up to participate in one of three identical workshops in your county. Each workshop needs about 2 hours of your time. You will participate at one of several tables of 10 people, with your neighbors, to show the way that your county might grow over the next 40 years.

You will have information from people who have already participated in **CONNECT Our Future** to consider along with your own sense of your community. You'll have the chance to actually map out the growth for your county at your table, thinking about where people will need to work, live, and play and how you can enhance and protect your quality of life as the area grows.

Your group will be led by a table guide who will help you understand and work on your task. It is a great chance to meet and work with people from across your county and to think about the future you want to see.

Why is my participation so important?

Our two-state, 14-county region is expected to grow by another 1.8 million people and 860,000 jobs by 2050. Regional leaders are working to ensure that the area is ready. The goal is to plan and change by local choice – not by chance.

The map you develop at your Community Growth Workshop—along with all the other maps from the other 13 counties—will be combined with the input already gathered across the region. From all the ideas shared, four or five possible scenarios for the growth of our region will be created. These scenarios will reflect the different perspectives that people have shared across the region.

In the spring and summer of 2014, residents from the region will again be asked for their input—this time about which of the alternative growth scenarios they prefer.

You have a special and unique voice to bring to this phase.

1. Register now and attend yourself!
2. Share your commitment and encourage other people to attend. Involve people at work, in your neighborhood, at your place of worship. Encourage others who share your interests to join you!
3. Tell us who else we need to involve in your county.

To view the schedule of workshops or to register visit: <http://connectourfuture.org/get-involved/>

What is the CEDC & How Can We Help?

The Centralina Economic Development Commission (CEDC) was established in 2005 by Centralina Council of Governments to promote the retention of jobs, a diversified economic base, development, expansion and retention of business and industry within Centralina's nine county region. The CEDC brings together private and public sectors in partnership to provide a coordinated strategy and ongoing economic development advocacy. With financial assistance from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), the CEDC brings together these diverse sectors into a comprehensive economic development and planning process; otherwise known as a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy "CEDS".

To view the 2012-2017 CEDS go to:

www.ProspertyForGreaterCharlotte.com

The CEDC's mission is to implement regional priorities identified in the CEDS by conducting research, providing technical assistance and facilitating access to program funding for our member governments.

Contact the CEDC to find out how our services can benefit your community.
CEDC@centralina.org



National Manufacturing Day

After a successful initial celebration last year, the next Manufacturing Day has been scheduled for Fri., Oct. 4, 2013. Manufacturers, educational institutions and others are encouraged to host events that will highlight the importance of manufacturing to the nation's economy and draw attention to the many rewarding high-skill jobs in manufacturing fields. The success of MFG DAY depends on everyone involved. We're all in this together —

whether you're hosting or attending an event, sponsoring the initiative, or just sharing your experience with the manufacturing community. To find out more about this event and how you can get involved please visit: <http://www.mfgday.com/>

www.4noboundaries.org