



MEMORANDUM

To: Economic Development Committee

From: Annie Byrne, Associate Regional Planner

Date: May 17, 2011

Re: Implementation Table Exercise: Outcomes and Next Steps

The Economic Development Committee was asked to complete an Implementation Table which included four questions for implementation actions in the Human Capital chapter of GO TO 2040. Ten committee members completed this exercise (Jason Tyszko, Peter Creticos, Matt Summy, Carrie Thomas, Emily Harris, MaryBeth Marshall, JoAnn Eckmann, Reggie Greenwood, Bret Johnson, and Jerry Weber). The goal of this exercise was to collect information to help determine what actions the committee should focus its discussions on, how the committee can help support and advance implementation, and who on the committee can lead the discussion on particular activities. The committee examined two implementation action areas. This document summarizes the outcomes of this exercise.

Implementation Action Area: Improve Coordination between Education, Workforce Development, and Economic Development

Summary

There were many existing initiatives listed for the four specific actions in this action area, several of which were listed by numerous committee members. Many of the existing initiatives overlap with multiple actions and in some cases, a discussion is necessary to clarify the connection to the implementation action. Most committee members identified the actions in this area as a priority. Most of the next steps require resources and leadership; committee discussions and external presentations are an immediate next step to begin the discussion on resources and leadership.

- **Assessment Reports on cross-system coordination**

Several past, ongoing, and emerging initiatives include a research or information component on cross-system coordination. This research and information and its outcomes should be shared so that it can be built upon as appropriate. Committee members should discuss the opportunities and needs to share this information and facilitate connections as needed.

Related Current Initiatives:

- CMAP/CWIC cluster research
- DCEO sector-based task forces for health care, manufacturing, TDL, Information Technology, and Agriculture
- Choose DuPage and DuPage Workforce Board Cluster Report
- Research from the SBA funded Smart Grid Cluster
- World Business Chicago economic development organization gap analysis
- OECD Tri-State Territory Review
- Metropolis Strategies Regional Economy Research

- **Expand on successful workforce development coordination programs**

Many partnerships and collaborative initiatives show examples of how cross-system coordination is occurring. The “success” of some of the initiatives remains to be determined. The committee can support and advance this action by hearing presentations on existing initiatives, identifying needs and resources for program evaluation to identify successes, and examining opportunities to support expansion of successful models and programs.

Related Current Initiatives:

- DCEO P-20 STEM Programs of Study and Learning Exchanges
- DCEO training aligned with Critical Skills Shortage Initiatives
- CWIC and Community College alliance: Northern Illinois Workforce Council (NIWC)
- Numerous community and sector based initiatives show examples of coordination, including: 741 Collaborative, Employment Services Action Team, Steelworker for the Future certificate, Chicagoland Green Collar Jobs Initiative, Green Time Zone, Aurora Area Jobs Council, West Suburban Jobs Council, Navistar partnership with Southland High School, Community College-National Institute of Manufacturers partnership, Chicago Career Tech

- **Strengthen workforce intermediaries**

Many different types of workforce intermediaries or interpretations of workforce intermediaries were listed, some of which are linked to the coordination programs described. The role of an intermediary and the different models and approaches of existing intermediaries should be discussed. Specific needs for strengthening existing intermediaries and developing new intermediaries should be explored.

Related Current Initiatives:

- DCEO partnership with Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council (MCHC) and connectSI
- Global Midwest Alliance emerging initiative for logistics
- CRIBB Intermediary for building retrofit sector
- Chicago Southland Economic Development Corporation partnerships and initiatives may have intermediary aspects, including the Logistics Park Calumet, Green Manufacturing Initiative, and Community Wind Program
- Smart Grid Regional Innovation Cluster and the Smart Grid Education and Training Center

- **Collect, Compile, and Publicize Career Pathways**

Numerous career pathways efforts were listed, some of which include an environmental scan or inventory of a particular part of the pathway; a comprehensive scan is still required.

Related Current Initiatives:

- STEM Programs of Study led by DCEO
- Office of Community College Research and Leadership inventory of Bridge programs
- CWIC Literacy Committee is conducting an inventory
- Many independent career pathways analyses exist

Implementation Action Area: Improve Data and Information Systems

Summary

Many of the implementation actions related to data and information is a priority for most of the respondents. CMAP is closely involved with many of the actions in this implementation action area. The State of Illinois is leading several other actions. Many committee members are involved both regional and state initiatives. A primary role for the committee is to provide feedback to the entities leading these initiatives and discuss specific opportunities to be supportive.

- **Evaluate success of state innovation programs and incentives**

DCEO administers the state's programs to support businesses. There is a need to compare existing models and establish best practices to help strategically target state, federal, and other investments.

Related Current Initiatives:

- The Illinois Innovation Council is reviewing and realigning many of these programs.

- **Collect data relevant to innovative business starts and closures**

Several committee members are leading an initiative to collect this data. The Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, the Illinois Science and Technology Institute, World Business Chicago, CMAP, and DCEO have partnered to form the Innovation Metrics Group; the group is collecting this and other innovation data. The committee will receive regular updates from this group and provide input and guidance when necessary. Metropolis Strategies also examines business births and deaths; this research should be leveraged as appropriate.

- **Collect and analyze data related to innovation outcomes**

The Innovation Metrics Group is developing several products related to innovation data. This work is being coordinated with the State's Innovation Council. The committee will receive regular updates from this group and provide input and guidance when necessary.

- **Research and redesign technology transfer evaluation criteria**

Committee members are not currently involved in efforts to do this however a few initiatives may include examination of technology transfer evaluation criteria. This could be integrated in discussions regarding the work of the Innovation Metrics Group and measuring innovation.

Related Current Initiatives:

- The Innovation Council is developing an Innovation Road Mapping process.
- Sector specific initiatives, including iBio and the NanoTech Institute, may be looking at this.
- **Launch and continually improve the Regional Indicators Website, MetroPulse**

MetroPulse was launched in November 2010 and plans to enhance workforce and innovation data are underway. MetroPulse will include an Innovation area with new data identified by the Innovation Metrics Group. A new workforce themed portal on MetroPulse is in development (details described below). CMAP is leading efforts to continuously improve MetroPulse and will provide the committee with regular updates and seek input and guidance when necessary.

- **Identify additional data concerning education and workforce**

There are numerous initiatives geared towards developing data and data systems concerning education and workforce. To help ensure these initiatives meet the needs of data-users and to facilitate information sharing on data developments, several organizations have established the Workforce Data Partners group. CMAP and other committee members are closely involved with this group and will provide the committee with updates and seek input and guidance when necessary. The committee should also hear presentations on specific initiatives and discuss opportunities to provide support as needed.

- **Expand the CWICstats system to cover the region**

Opportunities to expand the CWICstats system (which is being developed by Chapin Hall and CWIC) is a discussion topic of the Workforce Data Partners. CMAP and other committee members are closely involved with activities related to this action; the committee will receive regular updates, provide input and guidance, and discuss opportunities to provide support.

- **Expand the Student Information System beyond K-12 education**

The State of Illinois is leading several initiatives to link data from multiple systems so outcomes and student performance can be better understood, including the State Longitudinal Data System and the Learning and Performance Management System. Additional opportunities will be pursued, including the Workforce Data Quality Initiative. The committee should hear updates on these initiatives and discuss opportunities to support efforts. These discussions could be integrated with the discussions regarding the expansion of CWICstats.

- **Create measures of school readiness to improve early childhood education programs**

The state's Early Learning Council is focused on improving early childhood education and P-20 council also looks at early childhood education. This does not appear to be a priority for any Economic Development Committee members.

Next Steps

Staff asks the committee to review and discuss these outcomes at its May meeting and complete the exercise for the remaining four implementation action areas by June 15. The remaining outcomes will be presented at the June meeting with a proposed schedule for committee discussions and external presentations that aligns with the priorities and opportunities identified from this exercise.

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion

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