

Territorial Review of the Tri-State Chicago Metropolitan Region to be conducted by the Organization For Economic Cooperation And Development

PROJECT OVERVIEW

In collaboration with the City of Chicago, the State of Illinois, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and the U.S. Economic Development Administration, the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce will serve as the lead partner in a groundbreaking economic analysis of the Tri-State Chicago Metropolitan Region (including geographical areas of the States of Wisconsin and Indiana) to be conducted by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). This internationally recognized study will evaluate the Tri-State Region's economic competitiveness, attractiveness and sustainability relative to other U.S. and international cities, as well as assess the effectiveness of policies that have been put in place to further these goals.

In the ever-emerging global marketplace, insights gained through an OECD Territorial Review will play an important role in developing an agenda designed to maximize the Tri-State Region's assets and overcome obstacles to maintaining and increasing our economic position within the international community. The OECD Territorial Review of the Region is the first of its kind in the United States. It will also provide a unique forum for key stakeholders to convene and advance tri-state regional collaboration on critical issues- such as economic development, transportation, education and energy- that rarely connect but increasingly must be aligned to compete successfully in the global economy.

By providing a catalyst for enhanced collaboration and synergistic strategic thinking, the OECD Territorial Review of the Tri-State Chicago Metropolitan Region will result in actionable recommendations that leverage and build upon current economic development initiatives.

ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD)

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) is an intergovernmental organization with a mission of helping governments tackle the economic, social and governance challenges of a global economy. Through the forum of the OECD, 30 member countries discuss and seek answers to common problems, identify and share best practices, and explore broad policy concerns of governments in areas such as economics, social issues, the environment, trade, education, public and corporate governance, development, science and innovation.

OECD supports urban and metropolitan development through a Territorial Review process that involves local stakeholders in an assessment of key policies, trends, resources and public-private governance initiatives that support or inhibit regional competitiveness in the global economy.

WHY AN OECD TERRITORIAL REVIEW OF THE CHICAGO REGION?

An OECD Territorial Review differs from other economic analyses of the greater Chicago metropolitan area in that it leverages the expertise, insights and best practices of the organization's 30 industrialized member nations, as well as the organization's comparative database on economic development, one of the largest in the world. The OECD's Territorial Development Policy Committee is considered the premier global forum on regional economic development. An OECD Territorial Review will:

- **Evaluate the economic competitiveness, attractiveness and sustainability of the Chicago Tri-State Region by assessing its competitive advantages in comparison with other U.S. cities, as well as other international cities OECD has reviewed.**
These comparisons would center on our Region's ability to generate value-added employment and innovation, and attract new firms, investment and workers.
- **Assess the effectiveness and sustainability of local and regional policies to strengthen the competitiveness and attractiveness of the Region.**
- **Identify and evaluate the Chicago Tri-State Region's capacity to remove potential obstacles to economic competitiveness and growth within the sphere of governance, build on its existing capacities and develop new strengths.**

To meet these objectives, OECD will work with key local stakeholders to conduct an 18-month analysis of the Region's socioeconomic trends, growth potential and untapped resources. In this capacity, they will study policies and strategies designed to enhance the Region's competitiveness, including its innovation system, the role of higher education, physical infrastructure, transportation, land use, tourism, foreign direct investment, social capital and social cohesion.

The review will also examine the vertical and horizontal institutional relationships among layers of governments, partnerships between private sector and civil society, fiscal issues, decentralization and strategic planning.

The key findings of and insights gained during the OECD Territorial Review will then be used to develop actionable recommendations to support sustainable economic growth, tackle traditional urban problems and issues, and improve quality of life, attractiveness and competitiveness for the city, its residents and businesses.

To date, OECD has conducted Territorial Reviews in more than 15 metropolitan regions worldwide, including Toronto, Athens, Melbourne, Montreal, Seoul and Madrid.

LEVERAGING THE OECD TERRITORIAL REVIEW INTO ACTION

Following the 18-month study by the OECD, the Region will be armed with an invaluable analysis that outlines our strengths and challenges, and provides a set of actionable recommendations for the future.

Previous OECD Territorial Reviews have positively influenced policy-making and strategic planning. Examples include:

- An unprecedented regional partnership in the Netherlands among the cities of Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague and Utrecht. Under the banner of the "Randstad Region," the partners undertook the OECD Territorial Review's key recommendation to create and appoint a central government minister position to coordinate economic activity in the region. They also introduced a 'congestion charge' to help alleviate urban traffic issues. Lastly, the partners created a 2040 strategic vision that aims to put the competitiveness of the Randstad Region on the top of the national agenda.
- Government leaders from five Stockholm-area counties launched a large infrastructure investment program and created the Stockholm Business Region Task Force to work in collaboration with trade and industry, nonprofits, universities and government agencies to develop a new strategy to market Stockholm as a business and tourist destination. All municipalities in the Stockholm region endorsed a common branding strategy and created shared goals to becoming the leading growth region in Europe by 2010.

- Regional leaders in Montreal developed a formal 2004-2008 metropolitan agenda and worked with Canada's National Forum on Economic Growth to propose successful legislation to obtain a share of federal tax dollars to finance urban area public transit systems and create a public transportation decentralization strategy. Local participants also implemented OECD's recommendation to create a competitiveness fund to support renewed growth strategies in the region.

CHICAGO TRI-STATE REGIONAL BENEFITS OF AN OECD TERRITORIAL REVIEW

Like many other global markets, the Chicago Tri-State Metropolitan Region is confronting both great opportunities and great challenges. These include changing demographics, limited natural resources, new regulatory policies and increased global competition.

The ability of city and state policy-makers and civic and corporate leaders to understand and strategically manage these global forces, competitive threats and opportunities will directly impact the Region's long-term economic vitality and standard of living.

An OECD Territorial Review will contribute to a wider understanding of the challenges our Region faces and provide a forum and global context in which local stakeholders can discuss emerging opportunities and explore practical strategies to maximize available resources.

Specifically, an OECD review will:

- **Elevate the Chicago Tri-State Metropolitan Region's standing within the international community and provide a broader international context from which to position the Region in a global marketplace.**
- **Provide state and city policymakers an international context in which to better understand and strategically contribute to the direction of the Region's economy.**
- **Bring added authority and legitimacy to the Region's economic development goals and strategies, while also providing both a catalyst and a roadmap for key local/state stakeholders to develop and implement policy solutions.**