



MAYOR AND COUNCIL

COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2021-23

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO THE U.S. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (EDA) PURSUANT TO THE BUILD BACK BETTER REGIONAL CHALLENGE

WHEREAS, the U.S. Economic Development Administration, through the American Rescue Plan, has made available competitive funding to help regions achieve economic recovery through the Build Back Better Regional Challenge by supporting “economic development focused on advancing equity, creating good-paying jobs, helping workers to develop in-demand skills, building economic resilience, and accelerating the economic recovery”; and

WHEREAS, the Build Back Better Regional Challenge funding can be used for creating goals, developing regional partnerships and planning for the future, and for infrastructure that will enable communities to thrive; and

WHEREAS, through their respective Comprehensive Planning processes, the City of Dover and Kent County have adopted Comprehensive Plans (2020 and 2018 respectively), both being certified by Governor John Carney; and

WHEREAS, in cooperation and coordination, both plans designate an area southeast of Dover adjacent to Dover Air Force Base, the Central Delaware Aviation Complex, Kent County Aeropark and other lands identified for present and future industrial uses, for the creation of a new employment center; and

WHEREAS, various other studies have concluded that this area is best targeted for light manufacturing; distribution; warehousing and logistics; aviation-related business; and similar uses, and have documented the need for infrastructure, including transportation capacity for freight and business purposes; and

WHEREAS, while recognizing steady economic growth, Dover and Central Delaware have long-standing social and economic deficiencies that can be addressed by the creation and development of the Southeast Dover Employment Complex, the Garrison Oak Business and Technology Center Business-to-Business Corridor, and associated infrastructure projects, which further the City and County commitments to supporting investments that foster economic development, equity, recovery and resiliency, workforce development, manufacturing, environmentally sustainable environment, and foreign direct investment by targeting industry opportunities that support the implementation of local comprehensive plans that result in economic opportunities and strengthen our local economy; and


WHEREAS, the EDA proposes to award 50-60 technical assistance grants to help regions prepare for substantial growth in regional growth clusters (Phase I) and to award 20-30 implementation grants to implement strategies and projects to grow new regional clusters revitalizing local economies (Phase II); and

WHEREAS, the deadline for Phase I of this highly competitive grant application process is October 19, 2021, thereby requiring dedicated and expeditious completion of a Phase I application;


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Dover, that the City Planner or his designee be authorized to develop an application for Phase I of the Economic Development Administration's Build Back Better Regional Challenge for consideration by the City Council pursuant to the program deadlines and requirements.

ADOPTED: SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

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ROBIN R. CHRISTIANSEN
MAYOR



ROY SUDLER, JR.
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Actions History

09/13/2021 - Introduction - City Council