

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

PROPOSED COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

1. COMMITTEE ON GLOBAL ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS:

The economy of North Carolina is in transition and in order for the state to remain economically viable, it is necessary to ensure our competitiveness with neighboring jurisdictions and internationally. This committee will focus, at a minimum, on the following:

- Assess North Carolina's competitive recruitment and retention tools and analyze how the system works from the beginning of a project to its eventual conclusion. The incentive programs, business climate and any needed regulatory reform will be reviewed.
- Review the state's organization of state, regional and local entities in comparison to other states. Is this the best way to market the state and generate leads?
- Evaluate the impact of the transitioning economy and globalization on North Carolina and determine if changes are needed in the state's Economic Development Strategic Plan.
- Evaluate North Carolina's ability to track trends in economic opportunities (i.e. new industries, new ways of production, etc.).
- Evaluate whether the state should consider adopting statutory preferences for its purchasing and contracting process for North Carolina goods or contractors.
- Review other aspects of economic development for the Economic Development Strategic Plan including tourism, retention, entrepreneurship, film, and trade.

2. COMMITTEE ON INNOVATION, TECHNOLOGY, WORKFORCE AND EDUCATION:

The creation and production of new products, services and business models are fundamental drivers of North Carolina's continued transition to a knowledge based economy. It is also essential that the state have a highly-skilled and trained workforce. This committee will be charged with the overseeing and developing recommendations in areas related to:

- Assess the feasibility of creating a Defense and Military Business Institute to coordinate various components of the military economy.
- Develop a Green Economy Initiative strategy.
- Evaluate the state's level of support for biotechnology and other emerging innovation-driven industries and in cooperation with the Biotechnology Center and others make recommendations for enhancements as appropriate and incorporate into the state's Economic Development Strategic Plan.
- Evaluate the state's workforce preparedness programs and make recommendations for improvements as appropriate to the state's Economic Development Strategic Plan.
- Determine the skills and concentrations required in public school programs to best prepare students for knowledge based jobs.

3. COMMITTEE ON WIDELY SHARED PROSPERITY:

The many successes enjoyed by North Carolina in new jobs and opportunities have not necessarily been widely-shared evenly across the state. As the state continues its economic transition, there must be continued focus on expanding high-wage industries through out the state. This committee will be tasked with issues related to:

- Analyze the state's Main Street, rural, and small town development programs and develop recommendations to improve as necessary. Review the urban-rural integration efforts and incorporate in the state's Economic Development Strategic Plan.
- Evaluate the need for new state programs such as site development or infrastructure development (including water, sewer, broadband, and transportation).

- Evaluate North Carolina's Statewide Logistics Plan and in cooperation with the Departments of Transportation, Commerce, and Environment and Natural Resources and the Lt. Governor's Office make recommendations for enhancements as appropriate and incorporate into the state's Economic Development Strategic Plan.
- Evaluate the state's community development programs and make recommendations for improvements as appropriate.
- Determine if sustainable development programs can benefit rural and small town economies.

4. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

An Executive Committee will be created and comprised of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Committee Chairs, the Secretary and five other members. This committee will be charged with providing general oversight and developing the priorities. It would also be responsible for intergovernmental outreach and would have a policy and strategic planning component in developing a draft strategic plan. The plan formulation would incorporate input from the three operating committees and any ad hoc committees created to review short term issues. Other duties will include drafting a legislative agenda and an economic development budget.