

The Regional Development Initiative is well suited to reflect the new era of economic development. Nebraskans need to identify each region's assets & economic resources and develop action plans that will benefit their unique region of the state.

With 50,000-80,000 jobs open in Nebraska, we need to focus on workforce strategies that are sustainable and innovative. We need to work strategically to provide career opportunities and communities that will attract and retain talented residents.

The Regional Development Initiative will allow each region to make focused, data-driven decisions to select a project that will positively impact their future.

Economic development, workforce development, and community development have become one and the same in today's world. That means we need new partners in a broader coalition than ever before to be successful in growing our state's economy.

We're shifting our strategic focus to match the new realities of economic development. This means investing in our kids, making our communities magnets for talent, and targeting our business development efforts to our strengths—such as Nebraska's innovators, abundant natural resources and sustainable ag production.











The Governor's Office, Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry, and Nebraska Department of Economic Development are dedicated to the success of the Regional Development Initiative and actively looking to enlist partners in the venture.

DUNDY

HITCHCOCK

RED WILLOW

FURNAS

HARLAN

FRANKLIN

The State is seeking a 3-year financial investment, matched by private dollars, to establish each regional team. The investment could fund the salary of a full-time Regional Navigator in each region who will work alongside Co-Chairs to engage area partners. The investment could also provide financial incentive for initial regional projects in one of the following areas:

- Resident Recruitment
- Youth Engagement
- Entrepreneurship
- Technology
- Infrastructure
- Selected Regional Project

Governor Jim Pillen will meet with the work team of each region twice annually for work sessions. Each session will include a presentation of data to inform regional decision-making. Each region will also conduct asset mapping to identify the strengths it can draw on to drive growth. The goal of the Regional Development Initiative is to catalyze cooperation among communities so that regional partnerships become the norm for how Nebraska pursues economic development.

