

Three Rivers Development Strategic Action Plan 2025-2027

I. 2025-2027 STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN WORKGROUP

Millicent Ruffin, Chair, Senior Director, Corning Community Impact & Investment Peter Dugo, President, Arnot Realty Kamala Keeley, President, Three Rivers Development **Carly Norton**, Government & Community Relations Program Manager, NYSEG/RG&E **George Welch**, Partner, Welch Firm LLP

II. STRATEGY STATEMENT, MISSION, AND OPERATING PRINCIPLES

Strategy Statement: We pursue growth opportunities that make people want to live and work in the Southern Finger Lakes Region. By serving as a thought leader and collaborator, we convene the subject matter experts in quality-of-life assets like Outdoor Recreation, Housing, Workforce, and Healthcare, needed to bring projects to completion. As a private organization with fewer restrictions, we have greater flexibility to serve the region.

Mission: To facilitate and drive community and economic initiatives and collaborations that grow the regional economy and enhance the overall quality of life.

Operating Principles:

1. Play the role of convener and thought leader around issues impacting the region's long-term economic sustainability such as innovation, workforce, and quality of life factors important to talent recruitment and retention.

2. Maintain strong working relationships with regional partners and organizations to foster collaboration and encourage new ideas and strategic opportunities.

3. Focus on delivering measurable impact against the strategic priorities to achieve long-term economic sustainability for the region.

III. 2025-2027 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

| Priority 1: Provide the leadership necessary to support the regional workforce environment. | How | Performance Indicators |
|--|--|--|
| Proliferate workforce readiness and upskilling/reskilling opportunities. | -Convene leaders from key agencies, local/regional businesses, education, and non-profits. | Participation and collaboration by key agencies, local/regional businesses, education, non-profits. |
| Identify resources to help drive workforce opportunities and host data that informs actions. | -Leverage existing relationships and forge new relationships to identify opportunities and resources | Greater regional collaboration in workforce arena. |
| Actively pursue initiatives to attract and retain workforce talent. | -Formalize Career Concierge program. -Use social media to connect with potential candidates. -Targeted outreach. -SoFLX website enhancements. | Formalize Career Concierge program with at least one company. Incorporate job search functionality into SoFLX.com. Tracked engagement with potential candidates. Create database of candidates. Track website and social media engagement and conversion stats. Partner and employer use and promotion of SoFLX.com. Post sharing on social media by partners. |

| Priority 2: Strengthen and actively promote the region's quality of life ecosystem. | How | Performance Indicators |
|--|---|---|
| Continue to grow SoFLX into a go-to regional resource. | -Increase SoFLX brand visibility through marketing, social media outreach, and partner organizations. -Continue to curate content and promote via social media. -Enhance website to improve user experience and gather data. | Increased visits and usage. More engagement and promotion by partners. More use by employers. Relevant content creation driven by engagement. |
| Attract investment to grow assets, build infrastructure, and foster community development projects in the region. | -Work with new and established developers. -Utilize grant resources on state and federal levels. -Collaborate with partners like FLWC to market region. | Projects underway to enhance region. Potential project pitches developed proactively. Grant resources applied for and received. |
| Develop strategies to enhance Livability, Lovability, and Prosperity in the region. | -Use methodologies outlined in <u>America's Best</u> <u>Cities Report 2024</u> to concentrate on quality of place, regional vibrancy, and human capital. | Develop at least one strategy to improve region. Improved scoring for LLP metrics including: Walkscore, Tripadvisor, Bikescore, Lightcast, Chmura, etc. |

| Priority 3: Actively support the retention, growth, and attraction of businesses. | How | Performance Indicators |
|--|---|--|
| Collaborate on business attraction initiatives with regional partners. | -Identify and promote shovel-ready sites. -Continue to share information and ideas with STEG, CCIDA, SCOPED, SCIDA, and ESD. | More partner engagement with SoFLX.com. Increase in partner driven initiatives. |
| Work with existing businesses to overcome obstacles to success. | -Provide information on NYS programs, grants, etc. -Share resources, build relationships, and facilitate opportunities. | Track sharing and engagement. |
| Identify gaps in infrastructure to inform regional development goals. | -Initiate and participate in studies and analysis to help assess regional needs and develop strategies. -Work with municipalities to understand development needs. | Set baseline for target number of studies. Review partnership with municipalities and others. Distribute survey to help rate effectiveness of engagement with municipalities and partners. Use of studies and analysis by municipalities. Projects identified by municipalities. |
| Advocate for, explore, and communicate about opportunities to improve the business environment. | -Act as a conduit for information and concerns between the business community and government agencies. -Support partners, organizations, and businesses in securing funding for projects and programs. | Track advocacy efforts and engagement by members. Track communications sent to members with opportunities. |
| Assist new company startups and existing businesses to meet the demands for the growing cleantech industry. | -Collaborate regionally to develop cleantech corridor. -Continue relationship with New Energy NY. | |

| Priority 4: Take action to ensure Three Rivers Development's long-term viability and regional impact. | How | Performance Indicators |
|--|---|--|
| Focus on organizational stability. | -Refresh organizational true value proposition and performance indicators every 3 years. -Recruit new members and retain existing. -Explore additional funding opportunities. | Current Strategic Plan. Identify sectors for representation in membership. Set target for number of new members annually. Member retention rates. |
| | | Studies and projects supported by grant funding. |
| Continue to cultivate member activities and events. | -Create opportunities for members to bring junior members, increased exposure to organization | |
| Identify membership development needs and assets. | -Recruit members including those who are historically underrepresented in business. | Identify potential members and track outreach. Board engagement in new member outreach. |

-/-/-