



## Press Release

### For Immediate Release

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## Region 1 Planning Receives \$70,000 Grant from Economic Development Administration for Long-Term Economic Plan

**ROCKFORD, IL** – Region 1 Planning Council (R1) received a \$70,000 Partnership Planning grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to plan for infrastructure, workforce development, sector expansion, and business development investments to create shovel-ready sites for business attraction and job creation in Northern Illinois.

“The EDA’s Partnership Planning grant allows us to help public and private sector partners in Northern Illinois amplify private investment and job creation through collaborative research and infrastructure planning,” said Michael Dunn Jr., R1 Executive Director.

“Ultimately, the EDA’s partnership is a force multiplier. Regional planning yields infrastructure improvements that, in turn, attract further investments in our regional manufacturing, logistics, medical services, and agriculture clusters that remain vital to the Northern Illinois economy.”

The Partnership Planning grant supports R1’s development of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) – a five-year economic development roadmap for Northern Illinois. R1 is an EDA-designated Economic Development District (EDD) covering Winnebago, Boone, and McHenry Counties. As an EDD, R1 is required to create and maintain a CEDS in collaboration with public and private stakeholders, who are responsible for plan implementation. The EDD designation also means that initiatives included in the CEDS may be eligible for additional EDA funding.

“EDA’s latest investment allows R1 to partner with the public and private sectors to obtain additional state and federal support to implement the CEDS and bring economic prosperity to the three-county region,” said Isaac Guerrero, R1 Director of Economic Development and Policy. “R1 is grateful for EDA’s partnership and excited to advance the regional economic development strategies outlined in the CEDS.”

For more information about R1 and the Northern Illinois CEDS, see [www.r1planning.org](http://www.r1planning.org)

For more about the U.S. EDA, visit <https://www.eda.gov/>.

**ABOUT R1** – [Region 1 Planning Council](http://www.r1planning.org) is a special-purpose, regional government agency providing cross-jurisdictional, government-to-government collaborative planning for Northern Illinois. The regional planning model provides an efficient means to promoting a well-informed, comprehensive dialogue that holistically addresses regional issues by fulfilling the needs of government entities for long-range planning, securing funding, and analyzing and providing data in support of regional projects and initiatives.

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