Governor's Economic Recovery Subcommittee
Infrastructure
(Transportation, Construction, Broadband, and Banking)

AGENDA Wednesday, 8/12/20

• Introductions

Susan Corbett, Founder and Director of the National Digital Equity Center
Carol Woodcock, U.S. Sen. Susan Collins Designee
Kevin Raye, Realtor and Former Senate President
Senator Lisa Keim, R-Oxford
Jessica Masse, Partner, Design Lab
Lee Umphrey, President & CEO of Eastern Maine Development Corporation
Lincoln Jeffers, Economic Development Director for the City of Lewiston
Phoenix McLaughlin, Department of Economic and Community Development
Brian Ambrette, Governor’s Office of Policy Innovation and Future
Taylor Cray, Intern, Governor’s Office of Policy Innovation and Future

• Phase II Tasks – Task 1 Each subcommittee will validate the action items identified in the 10-year Economic Development Strategy and consider:

  o Given COVID-19, what key assumptions in the 10-year Strategy are no longer relevant?
    - This is a different phase in terms of the “ask” of the subcommittee – we have moved into a less funding-oriented portion of our work, and into a more policy-oriented portion.

  o What key assumptions are correct and increasingly important?

Speaking with ports to identify the needs of shipping communities in Maine;
  - Maine Port Authority – could they help identify larger challenges?
  - Along with Port Authorities, it will be equally important to hear from those “on the ground”, i.e. working in ports and experiencing challenges firsthand.

Maintain Stable Business Rules – streamlining regulatory processes to assist with business infrastructure, permitting, etc.

Attract New Talent – real estate market in Maine has changed greatly during this time, working-class and younger individuals are moving to Maine and/or moving out of Maine cities into more rural areas
  - Internet is a huge concern among this population; often people can connect their homes to a stable connection without much difficulty, but there are concerns that we will fall behind if we are not able to keep up with emerging technology.

  o What new opportunities and challenges exist that were not envisioned in the Economic Development Strategy?
- Specific to this committee; the work that we have been doing thus far has left some gaps in the discussion around the transportation sector.

  o Where are the gaps? How can those gaps be filled?

  • Energy Infrastructure

  o Schedule joint meeting with Innovation and Manufacturing and Natural Resources subcommittees?

    - Logical to discuss this issue with other subcommittees (group consensus). Innovation subcommittee meets on Thursday mornings – plan to schedule a joint meeting/discussion during this time.