

**WESTERN NEVADA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
ECONOMIC RECOVERY & RESILIENCY PROJECT  
SUMMARY OF ISSUES AND DESIRED OUTCOMES FROM ALL RECOVERY TEAMS  
MARCH 31, 2021**

ISSUES	DESIRED OUTCOMES
<p><b>1. BROADBAND AND CONNECTIVITY</b></p> <p>Inadequate connectivity especially in rural communities; absence of adequate technology especially for school children and remote trainees; heightened cybersecurity concerns</p>	<p>1.Affordable, sustainable, equitable and stable internet connectivity is available (200Mb/s download and 30Mb/s upload) to every home, business, the medical communities, school and public institutions throughout the region, especially in vulnerable and disadvantaged communities by 2029 or earlier.</p> <p>2.Agencies (public and private) collaborate to plan, fund and incentivize, and efficiently implement improved connectivity in the region based on newest of technologies.</p> <p>3.A cyber-secure network that can meet Cyber Security Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Level 3 certification.</p> <p>4.Free accessible computer literacy training is available.</p> <p>5.There are subsidies available to eligible participants to receive equipment and devices.</p>
<p><b>2. WORKFORCE</b></p> <p>Employees unable to go to work or out of work; not equipped or trained to work from home <b>and</b> take care of children; child care facilities inadequate; businesses unable to stay open due to limited workforce so jobs lost; no incentive to hold or look for a job while UI lasts; need for more extensive and diversified workforce training – should match economic diversification initiatives; training should be for more than service, manual workers; need a vision for future training of workforce; currently little to attract out-of-state workforce; wages need to be higher and sustainable</p>	<p>1.The majority of workforce training is targeted in sectors that support economic recovery and diversification.</p> <p>2.Workforce training programs are aligned with business/industry needs and are developed, funded and provided through close collaboration between businesses, educators and government.</p> <p>3.Workforce training is available before and after hiring, it is available for entry-level workers and the more experienced, and, where appropriate, includes training in how to work virtually.</p> <p>4.Training in the trades is consistent across the region.</p> <p>5.Out-of-state trained, certified, and licensed workers (artisans and professionals) are moving to the region, augmenting an already large pool of well-trained workers.</p> <p>6.Workforce lives in attractive, affordable, communities that include affordable and accessible services that include child care, health services, and education.</p> <p>7.Workforce is properly remunerated, secure, willing to accept training and move between sectors, remaining in the region.</p> <p>8.Resources for job seekers and for upskilling, and post-disaster emergency resources (UI, special training and job information) are available quickly and efficiently.</p> <p>9.As a part of an Economic Recovery Emergency Response System, resources for workers, including UI, job information and training, are quickly and efficiently mobilized.</p>

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	<p>10. Public institutions are sufficiently funded: k – 12, community colleges, universities, workforce development organizations.</p>
<p><b>3. HEALTH AND WELLNESS</b></p> <p>Reduced medical resources and limited access to normal care due to emphasis on Covid-19 care; increased mental illness, suicides, homicides, community violence, domestic and child abuse, addiction issues; health risks to front-line workers; access to vaccines unclear and inconsistent; need for protocols for future pandemics</p>	<p>1. Employee health and well-being are important to employers and training programs have been introduced that focus on maintaining employee wellness.</p> <p>2. Effective and high-quality health and wellness services, including behavioral health care, are widely accessible (well-funded and affordable).</p> <p>3. Emergency related mandates (i.e. masks, deep cleaning etc.) are funded through public and private funding.</p> <p>4. The workforce is widely vaccinated and is not distracted by health issues due to widely available, affordable health care.</p> <p>5. Access to health data and monitoring systems are widely available and accessible – devices are available for individuals to monitor and data is available to medical professionals to analyze.</p> <p>6. Nevada consistently produces high-quality health and wellness professionals who stay in the region.</p> <p>7. Technology industries, organizations and communities in Nevada are addressing environmental issues that impact health and wellness (poor air quality, climate issues, growing food, drought)??</p>
<p><b>4. HOUSING</b></p> <p>Inadequate supply especially of affordable/workforce housing, near to work locations; service workers especially hard hit; mobile home parks, and alternative housing regulations need to be revisited; zoning and permitting need to be revisited</p>	<p>1. There are increased housing developments at all price points in the region that are near places of work or with improved public transportation connecting residential areas and places of work.</p> <p>2. Established communities understand the value of new, affordable housing developments, there are clear examples of balanced growth models across the region, and many housing developers and builders are taking initiatives and risks to increase the stock of all types of housing.</p> <p>3. Employers, employees and local governments are all aware of the programs and resources that are available for the development of affordable housing.</p> <p>4. Appropriate regulations, processes and policies exist to ensure builders, regulators and educational institutions work collaboratively to expand housing.</p> <p>5. There is adequate transitional housing (group homes, supported housing, temporary shelters) available to those facing homelessness and in dire need.</p>

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	6. More use of multi-story, apartment-style living (with less stress on infrastructure).
<p><b>5. ORGANIZATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE &amp; GOVERNMENT-RELATED</b></p> <p>Government agencies lacked staffing, systems and resources to cope with pandemic in a timely fashion; lacked capacity to give accurate and useful advice and services (e.g. UI/DETR); reliable public information was challenged throughout pandemic. People not clear on CARES Act resources, programs and projects, on new policies introduced by government, and on what is real information and what is misinformation; Government staff, projects and programs (federal/state/local) all slow in reacting to and supporting individuals and businesses, e.g. DETR UI issue; Government needs to be able to fast track applications for support; need for better inter-government coordination; too much regulatory uncertainty; regulations out of touch; problem of defining what are essential and non-essential businesses</p>	<p>1. Revenues for local government promote, support and sustain quality education and workforce training, and health and wellness systems and programs.</p> <p>2. Government has a communications strategy that is effective and efficient in advising the public what to do post-disaster. There exists a one-stop, intergovernmental, streamlined resource center for information on services and programs, that also facilitates connections to those resources.</p> <p>3. Government services, with much more emphasis on online, virtual services, are streamlined, accountable, technologically up-to-date, efficient and effective, and can facilitate a speedy recovery from a disaster.</p> <p>4. There is an established, tested and ready Economic Response and Recovery Emergency program that includes intergovernmental and agency coordination to readily mobilize reserve forces/resources according to economic shock and needs in systematic and cooperative manner.</p> <p>5. Government agencies have well-trained, motivated, accountable, knowledgeable and competent staff who understand and respect business operations and economic development.</p> <p>6. The government provides the public with disaster-related and recovery information which is reliable, consistent and easy to understand, resulting in a well-informed and knowledgeable public.</p>
<p><b>6. ECONOMIC DIVERSITY</b></p> <p>Efforts to diversify the NV economy jeopardized by</p>	<p>1. The retention and expansion of local businesses receive the same emphasis and attention as attracting new businesses to the region. Emphasis is also given to essential industries (e.g. health and wellness sector), resulting in a diversified, robust and resilient economy.</p>

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<p>pandemic; efforts slowed down or stopped due to lack of emergency funds (especially to small business), lack of ongoing, inward investment in business and technology; need for more industry targeting and cluster development</p>	<p>2.A talented workforce, suitable infrastructure, adequate housing and innovative freight handling facilities all encourage businesses to relocate to Nevada and expand locally.</p> <p>3.Small businesses are clearly defined – and include start-ups and innovators - and programs are in place to assist them in the face of a disaster (e.g. capital, investors, training, incubators to support entrepreneurship etc.).</p> <p>4. State, local government, and the business community recognize the state’s resources and promote them, giving rise to increased reliance on local and national supply chains.</p> <p>5.Companies moving to or growing within the state and region, are addressing environmental issues that impact health and wellness, and have a reduced carbon footprint.</p>
<p><b>7. FUNDING PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS</b></p> <p>Reduction in government financial support for public infrastructure, transportation and education; slow and inadequate (emergency) funding to public institutions and agencies</p>	<p>1.Public institutions (e.g. education, libraries, infrastructure, UI etc.) are prioritized, and funded adequately and reliably with traditional (e.g. taxes) and innovative sources of funding (e.g. employer participation) - even in a crisis situation.</p> <p>2.An economy built on a sound, modern tax structure which is diverse, resilient and promotes growth.</p> <p>3.Public institutions are funded in such a way that staff salaries and hiring practices are not adversely impacted when a crisis strikes.</p>
<p><b>8. IMPACTS FROM UNEMPLOYMENT</b></p> <p>Loss of jobs and reduced hours of work resulted in loss of wages which impacted ability to stay current with rent, utilities and other basic necessities; impact of removing eviction moratoriums; finding a balance that helps landlords as well as tenants; need for rent controls</p>	<p>1.Industries hit hardest in the pandemic have recovered and re-tooled their workforce needs and systems.</p> <p>2.A housing ecosystem where renters and landlords are both taken care of, and the needs of both are heard and addressed.</p> <p>3.Post pandemic, damaged credit ratings and repayment defaults do not limit individuals from being considered for housing and other loans on a personal one-on-one basis.</p> <p>4.Businesses and individuals are more financial literate and better prepared for a pandemic or other disaster.</p>
<p><b>9. TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS</b></p> <p>Pandemic-mandated travel restrictions adversely impacted many businesses, e.g. tourism, entertainment</p>	<p>1.Travel restrictions have given rise to an increase in travel options, less pollution and the development of innovative safety measures for air travel.</p> <p>2.Travel restrictions, which may be needed in a future disaster, are discussed, understood and accepted well in advance.</p>

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<p>affecting owners, employees, contractors, vendors; pandemic resulted in more people using state parks and other facilities resulting in stress at these facilities Air transport for goods and passengers disrupted due to pandemic affecting many businesses especially in tourism</p>	<p>3. Alternative means of transporting goods and passengers are available in the event of air service disruption.</p> <p>4. Reno Tahoe Airport is known for employing the most robust programs and services to ensure safe travel related to health and wellness.</p> <p>5. Number of air routes to and from Reno increased with better travel and transport opportunities between Reno and other airports.</p>
<p><b>10. SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT</b></p> <p>Pandemic showed that small businesses are vulnerable to abrupt and unexpected closings, staff lay-offs, lease payments etc. Need more emergency and recovery support – public and private investment</p>	<p>1. A state government that values all entrepreneurs and small businesses and ensures they are supported, especially when impacted by a disaster.</p> <p>2. An economy where small companies are encouraged to embrace and use technology to help protect against severe shocks.</p> <p>3. A balanced environment where small businesses are valued but are also held accountable for the support and assistance they receive.</p> <p>4. Small businesses have established links with banks, there is increased awareness and understanding of available financial programs and products that assist them in becoming bankable.</p> <p>5. Safety net programs (including public-private partnerships) are in place to support small businesses as they recover from economic shocks and ramp-up their operations to pre-disaster levels.</p>
<p><b>11. PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE</b></p> <p>Existing facilities at capacity, in some cases broken or absent. Referring here to water, sewer, utilities, broadband, landfill sites, traffic management etc.</p>	<p>1. There is a regional infrastructure plan in place, including an implementation plan with new technologies, that interfaces with local county and city plans.</p> <p>2. Physical infrastructure funding is given higher priority by federal and state government.</p> <p>3. New and innovative funding methods are being researched and used to fund infrastructure needs (e.g. State Infrastructure Bank).</p> <p>4. There is adequate infrastructure, which is regularly maintained and upgraded, which meets new and existing business and housing developments.</p>
<p><b>12. SUPPLY CHAIN</b></p> <p>Rising material costs, availability problems</p>	<p>1. State is more self-reliant with more local supply chains as a result of a highly diversified economy.</p>

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<p>experienced disproportionately by small businesses; international supplies disrupted; need for more local and regional supply chains</p>	<p>2. Supply chains (even in a pandemic or other disaster) are equitable and do not take advantage of small businesses.</p>
<p><b>13. TECHNOLOGY</b>  Inadequate in places e.g. internet access, computer literacy and understanding how to operate on the web and virtually; cybersecurity concerns; need for new equipment and programs for workforce training</p>	<p>1. The government is tech-savvy and promotes new technology, for example, education and workforce entities use technology creatively and actively prepare students and workers for a technology-driven economy.</p> <p>2. Computer technology and hardware, including internet access, are readily available, especially to school-aged youth and in disadvantaged communities.</p> <p>3. The Northern Nevada regional economy is characterized by hi-tech, advanced manufacturing.</p> <p>4. STEM education and tech-based workforce training are common and follow technology developments in industry.</p>