

CEDS Committee meeting 10/28 notes

in person BDCC: Meg Streeter, John Doty, Laura Sibilia, Meg Staloff, Adam Grinold, Chloe Learey, Gretchen Havreluk

Jim T., Gordon Black, Jonathan Cooper, Keith Marks, Dimitri Gardner, Matt Harrington, Lilli West Williams, Tom Cain, Gary Fox, Zak Hale, Samba Diallo (joined 3:42)

Currently there are comments from BCRC/BDCC, additional Biz team edits, Copy edits/questions directly on the slides, and some 'higher level' ideas and edits – these were emailed to the committee just ahead of the meeting so everyone has them.

Are there any additional higher level comments?
(strategies missing, etc.)

Timeline: Orig plan was to have a draft out for pub comment 11/1 – we are thinking now 11/4 (Monday)

We can potentially take more time but do want to wrap by end of 2024

If we post on 11/4, December 9 would be the date for committee vote on sending to EDA on 'fast track'

Rachel S says we are close and in good shape for 11/4 posting.

Comments on draft:

Meg Streeter – feels good

Chloe – how to make it accessible to people – Is there a way to make it more easily digestible and how do we make it clear who the 'we' is who will do those things – how to capture and stress collective impact? Can we take that opportunity?

Question: is the framing/language/tone in line or should we change the framing?

- Giving people a way in – like who IS going to convene the school districts?

In the previous CEDS some of the tactics were more broad

Are we making it more about the work the economic development orgs are going to do?

Adam: we need to make the point that the economy doesn't just happen 'to' us

Jim – likes tone – don't worry about getting too bogged down in the details
BUT CEDS committee needs to scrutinize the executive summary

Dimitri: We need to open with a very succinct statement – what is that statement that will encapsulate the meaning?

Implementation matrix:

Idea was to have a grid that will help implementation:

- Slide 25: are there organizations or entities that are missing? For example:
 - Community organizations
 - Combine business/non profits? Or separate them
 - Schools – where do we include them
 - Utility providers

Crosswalk/index for key words (ie housing)

Can we use some sort of graphic representation to make sure this feels inclusive.

Crosswalk ideas for themes – are there templates – is this covered in the performance measures? Can we amplify the performance metrics by making them bigger

(Jim Trimarchi sent an example from SVMH (community Health Assessment) which was shared with Rachel Selsky)

Jim Trimarchi – compare ourselves to regions outside of New England (which are succeeding)? What do those numbers look like?

Are there communities around the country that would be comparable (Keith?) Adam answers, 'no.' We have not yet found a region (rural without an adjoining metro area) that we can easily compare ourselves to. It's hard to find that. Climate and culture are hard to separate (in addition to other concerns)

Matt Dunne might be a good resource?

Idea of comparing ourselves 'to a winner.'

Housing is at the root of what might make a difference.

Rachel responds – we can't change the data at this point but can look for success stories to add to our side bars.

Group read through [CED draft review comments outside document.docx](#)

Laura highlighted the need for emphasizing adaptability due to the pace of change

Dimitri: question about population: do we want to react to or reference the Wyman Health Care report? That showed dire population decline statistics – are our statistics showing the opposite? Is it worth noting this contrast vs findings we are presenting.(will pull up the report and link)

Further question about data – data modeling skewed by Covid blip? (3 year numbers vs 10 year numbers) – so we may need to look at that again in our modeling.

Rachel – do we not want to talk about population?

Dimitri suggests that we note that assumptions about maintaining population or growing population may need to be contextualized.

Rachel will aim for the Executive Summary by tomorrow
Incorporate edits aiming for Friday by 10 am and then distribute to the committee..

Timeline: Do we want committee members to see the full draft again before sending out, or do we automatically authorize edits and then allow committee to add comments during the public comment period?

Jim Trimarchi says we absolutely need to review the executive summary by committee

Rachel will share as a google doc or pdf for those that need.

Opportunity to make comments and then review final by Friday and have the option to oppose release if you feel it is not ready for public comment. .

Trajectory therefore remains to open public comment 11/4 and allow committee members to add comments to the document during that period.

Meeting will be changed to 12/9