

Julie Sande
Commissioner

www.Commerce.Alaska.Gov



Department of Commerce,
Community, and
Economic Development

Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

22-015

Statewide CEDS Public Comment Period Opens

Wednesday, July 27, 2022 (ANCHORAGE) – Today, the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED) announced the start of a 30-day public comment period for the draft 2022-2027 Statewide Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

DCCED partnered with the University of Alaska Center for Economic Development (UACED) to help develop this document that will guide statewide economic development efforts through 2027. This new 5-year plan provides a roadmap for growth – to expand existing economic sectors, support high-potential new growth sectors, cultivate a strong business and entrepreneurial ecosystem, strengthen critical infrastructure, foster workforce development and educational opportunities, and improve economic resiliency. The report was developed under guidance from the Economic Development Administration. It replaces the existing 2017-2022 Statewide CEDS, which expires in September.

“The first step towards success starts with a solid plan,” said **Governor Mike Dunleavy**. “Alaska’s resources and people have so much to offer the rest of the country and the world. I urge all Alaskans to share their knowledge, experience, and ideas on how to capitalize on opportunities to nurture and grow our economy from now through the end of the decade.”

The UACED team and staff from DCCED and the Office of the Governor have been engaged in extensive public outreach for the past six months to gather input on the CEDS from a wide range of stakeholders – regional economic development organizations, local and regional leadership, industry representatives, small business owners, Tribal representatives, and educational institutions.

“I am so impressed with the amount of collaboration and idea-sharing that has occurred throughout this re-write of the state’s economic development strategy thus far,” said **DCCED Commissioner, Julie Sande**. “This next step in solidifying the Statewide CEDS is an exciting one. The 30-day comment period is a great opportunity for Alaskans to get involved and provide their input on something that will directly impact the future of our state.”

The 30-day public comment period will close on Friday, August 26. After incorporating public comments, the final Statewide CEDS will be published in September. Feedback is welcomed – to review the draft CEDS and submit a comment, visit the UACED website at ua-ced.org/statewide-ceds.

###

Media Contact: Victoria Caltagirone, DCCED, (907) 269-7396, victoria.caltagirone@alaska.gov