

**SECTION I  
ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW AND  
DEVELOPMENT OF THE  
COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

The Southern Tier Central Regional Planning and Development Board (STC) is a public organization that was established in 1969 by Chemung, Schuyler and Steuben Counties under Articles 12-B and 5-G of the New York State General Municipal Law. As a regional council, STC seeks to promote coordination among the neighboring counties and to provide a regional approach to those concerns crossing geographic and political boundaries.

STC has been designated as the region's Economic Development District since 1975 and has been a Local Development District for the Appalachian Regional Commission since 1970.

The Southern Tier Central Regional Planning and Development Board has prepared this Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy according to the guidelines established by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration pursuant to 13 C.F.R. part 303.

The Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) has been developed through the active input of the STC Board of Directors, which has been designated as the official CEDS Committee. The Board has also designated the Economic Development Policy Committee as a working CEDS subcommittee. Thus, the CEDS has been prepared with broad-based representation from the public, economic/business, employment/training, and special interest sectors.

As an Economic Development District, STC is in compliance with all applicable Civil Rights Regulations and Guidelines. Since the Region's minority population is slightly more than 5%, a minimum of one member of the Board must be a minority. STC conducts a recruiting process to fill the minority representative position. The process involves the submission of letters to appropriate minority/disadvantaged agencies in the Region inviting those organizations to submit names of proposed representatives. Since Chemung County has by far the largest minority population in the Region, proposed names are submitted to the Chemung County Executive, who makes the minority appointment to the STC Board. STC's Statement of Compliance is found in Attachment B.

STC fully supports the EDA Investment Policy Guidelines for evaluating proposed EDA investments. Regional investments will meet or exceed the following guidelines:

- Be market-based and results-driven.
- Have strong organizational leadership.
- Advance productivity, innovation, and entrepreneurship.
- Look beyond the immediate economic horizon, anticipate economic changes, and diversify the local and regional economy.

- Demonstrate a high degree of commitment by exhibiting:
  - High levels of local-government or nonprofit matching funds and private sector leverage
  - Clear and unified leadership and support by local elected officials
  - Strong cooperation between the business sector, relevant regional partners, and local, state, and federal governments.

### **Board of Directors**

The STC Board of Directors is comprised of 24 publicly elected officials and special interest representatives. The Board serves as the overall CEDS committee. Since matching funds for the federal grants supporting STC come from county government, the charter requires a 52 percent majority be filled by locally elected officials. Each county legislative body elects its own membership to fill the "elected official" slots on the Board. The balance of the Board's membership is comprised of regional special interest representatives confirmed by the Board upon recommendation of the Chair.

### **Representing STC Board**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Race/Gender</u>
Mark Alger	Administrator	Steuben County	C/M
DeWitt Baker	Legislator	Steuben County	C/M
Theodore Bennett	Legislator	Chemung County	C/M
John Burin	Municipal Representative	Chemung County	C/M
Daniel Cleveland	Labor Representative	Chemung County	C/M
Donald Creath	Legislator	Steuben County	C/M
James Curatolo	Environmental Representative	Schuyler County	C/M
Thomas Gifford	Chair, Legislature	Schuyler County	C/M
James Goodling	Municipal Representative	Steuben County	C/M
James Griffin	Commerce-Business Representative	Steuben County	C/M
Richard Gunderman	Legislator	Chemung County	C/M
Danielle Hautaniemi	Planning Department	Schuyler County	C/F
Gregory Heffner	Planning Department	Steuben County	C/M
Shawn Hogan	Municipal Elected Official	Steuben County	C/M
Diana Hughes	Planning Board	Chemung County	C/F
Kelsey Jones	Member-at-Large	Schuyler County	C/M
Paul Marcellus	Legislator	Schuyler County	C/M
Robert Nichols	Regional Ag Representative	Steuben County	C/M
Timothy O'Hearn	Administrator	Schuyler County	C/M
Philip Roche	Chair, Legislature	Steuben County	C/M
Thomas Santulli	County Executive	Chemung County	C/M
G. Thomas Tranter	Industrial Representative	Chemung County	C/M

Codes:

C=Caucasian

F=Female

M=Male

### **Economic Development Policy Committee**

The Economic Development Policy Committee (EDPC) is a Standing Committee of the Board and serves as a sub committee for the preparation, monitoring, and updating of the CEDS. The committee also prioritizes projects submitted for funding through the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Economic Development Administration and assists with the design and implementation of the STC economic development program.

The EDPC is comprised of 19 members. Thirteen of those members are STC Board Members. The remaining membership is filled by representatives from County Industrial Development Agencies, County Planning Boards, and private and local development organizations.

### **Representing STC Board**

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Race/Gender</u>
Mark Alger	Steuben County	C/M
Theodore Bennett	Chemung County	C/M
Daniel Cleveland	Chemung County	C/M
Thomas Gifford	Schuyler County	C/M
James Goodling	Steuben County	C/M
James Griffin	Steuben County	C/M
Danielle Hautaniemi	Schuyler County	C/F
Gregory Heffner	Steuben County	C/M
Kelsey Jones	Schuyler County	C/M
Timothy O'Hearn	Schuyler County	C/M
Robert Nichols	Steuben County	C/M
G. Thomas Tranter	Chemung County	C/M

### **Representing County Industrial Development Agencies/Development Organizations/Planning Boards**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency/Organization</u>	<u>Race/Gender</u>
Jack Benjamin	Three Rivers Development Foundation	C/M
Danielle Hautaniemi	Schuyler County Planning Department	C/F
Gregory Heffner	Steuben County Planning Department	C/M
Kelsey Jones	SCOPEd, Inc.	C/M
Diane Lantz	REDEC	C/F
George Miner	Southern Tier Economic Growth (STEG)	C/M
Randy Olthof	Chemung County Planning Department	C/M
Joseph Roman	Empire State Development Corporation	C/M
James Sherron	Steuben County IDA	C/M

## **STC Regional Programs and Activities**

STC provides a comprehensive variety of programs, activities and services including:

### **Economic Development Planning**

Economic development programs and services include strategic planning, technical assistance to communities and agencies for ARC and EDA economic development grants, an Entrepreneurial Loan Program, preparation of county and regional economic profiles and coordination with economic development agencies and organizations within each of the three counties.

### **Community Planning**

Community planning services include assistance with site planning, housing and subdivision reviews, industrial site development, master plan updates, flood plain management, zoning updates and environmental reviews.

### **Flood Hazard and Mitigation Planning**

STC provides direct assistance and support to communities with flood prevention and mitigation, environmental concerns, and storm water and drainage problems.

### **Transportation Planning**

Transportation services include coordination of regional highway, transit, aviation, water and rail transportation planning. STC works closely with the Elmira Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Schuyler-Steuben Transportation Committee.

### **Human Resource Planning**

STC provides planning and technical assistance to communities, agencies and industries in the areas of workforce support, child care, health care, and the development of workforce skills and training. STC prepares an annual human service needs assessment, provides grant assistance for Appalachian Regional Commission human service proposals and serves as a clearinghouse for human services information.

### **Environmental Planning**

The focus of the environmental planning program is water resources protection. STC works with local communities and coordinates with the Seneca Lake Partners in Fiver Counties (SLAP-5), the Upper Susquehanna Coalition and County Water Quality Coordination Committees.

### **Telecommunications**

Services include planning, coordination of telecommunications infrastructure throughout the region. STC completed a recent telecommunications study and will continue to support the implementation of the recommendations.

### **Technical Assistance to Communities**

STC provides services to local communities including shared service studies, community surveys, grant development, locally developed projects and downtown revitalization.

### **Wind Energy Assistance to Communities and Businesses**

STC provides direct assistance and training for communities and businesses in cooperation with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA).

### **Local Government Assistance and Training**

Services include targeted information, assistance and training for local government officials and community leaders. An annual Regional Leadership Conference is held each year and offers training, information and resources for the region's local government officials.

### **Information Technology Services**

STC offers information technology services to local governments and non profit organizations including computer assistance, training, networking, industrial site finder, mapping and GIS services.

### **Research and Data Services**

STC maintains current information on federal and state grant programs, researches specified subjects and issues, and acts as a regional clearinghouse and NYS Affiliated Data Center for Census information, labor and industry information, and demographic data.