



## *What It Is & What It Means for South Florida*

In today's competitive global market, regions need to have a long-term economic development strategy that can serve as a roadmap to progress and prosperity. The **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)** for South Florida does just that. The development of the CEDS is a locally based, regionally driven economic development planning process that successfully engages community leaders, private sector partners, Economic Development Districts (EDDs), and other stakeholders in planning for our region's future.

The CEDS planning process creates the space for the region's leaders to identify its economic and resilience strengths and weaknesses. The Council convenes a diverse set of partners to create the roadmap of priority strategies and investments that will lead to good jobs, economic diversification, and economic growth across our region's communities. The CEDS is a pre-requisite for federal designation as an Economic Development District and must be updated at least every five years. An effective CEDS allows a region to maximize its economic development potential and engage with the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) and other federal partners to receive infrastructure and technical assistance grants, including EDA's Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance programs. A robust CEDS planning process will lead to locally grown strategies that will guide regional economic development, encourage partnerships and collaboration, and improve economic outcomes and overall quality of life in South Florida.



The South Florida Regional Planning Council's mission is to identify the long-term challenges and opportunities facing South Florida and assist the Region's leaders in developing and implementing creative strategies that result in more prosperous and equitable communities, a healthier and cleaner environment, and a more vibrant economy. The Council has served Monroe, Miami-Dade, and Broward counties since 1974 through regional, collaborative planning, and was designated an Economic Development District by EDA in 1993. The Council offers a robust economic development program which includes planning, technical assistance, and revolving loan fund programs for small businesses, COVID-impacted businesses, and other critical needs.

# The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

## The CEDS at a Glance:

- ∴ The CEDS helps to build on the strengths of the region, as well as identify gaps in resources or expertise that need to be addressed
- ∴ The CEDS planning process can facilitate regional collaboration, expand supply chains, and grow and support new industry clusters
- ∴ With a CEDS in place, regions are more likely to attract federal funds and technical assistance by demonstrating resources are used efficiently and effectively
- ∴ The CEDS process will make the region more resilient and better positioned to plan for, respond to, and recover from natural disasters and economic shocks
- ∴ The CEDS can provide an engaging platform that generates region-wide discussions and serves as a call to action for economic development

## An Effective CEDS:

- ✓ Identifies a region's competitive advantages, challenges, and key trends
- ✓ Promotes cross-sector collaboration to leverage opportunities and address challenges
- ✓ Commits to measurable success
- ✓ Tells a compelling story about the region's past, present and future
- ✓ Motivates action and implementation



## South Florida CEDS

The CEDS will focus on regional trends, issues, systems, connections, and gaps that must be addressed to guide EDA investments in South Florida to address the focus areas of:

- Economic Diversification
- Business Attraction / Workforce Development
- Transit Oriented Development
- Environment and Resilient Infrastructure Workgroup

## CEDS Timeline

- The last major CEDS update was completed in 2017
- The next update is due September 2022
- First meeting will be September 13, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Quarterly meetings (dates TBD)
- Focus area work group meetings

## Projects and Initiatives

The CEDS final product will outline the projects and initiatives identified by the Committee to address South Florida's economic development focus areas. The CEDS will include information about funding, partners, and the quantifiable impacts of these efforts.

## For More Information:

- Please contact Mark Cassidy [mcassidy@sfrpc.com](mailto:mcassidy@sfrpc.com)
- 2017-2022 SFRPC CEDS Document:
- [https://sfrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/CEDS-Guidance-Document\\_112317.pdf](https://sfrpc.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/CEDS-Guidance-Document_112317.pdf)



**2022-2027  
Draft CEDS Framework**

**FOCUS ON REGIONAL TRENDS,  
ISSUES, SYSTEMS, CONNECTIONS,  
AND GAPS**

**Goals: Regional Economic Growth & Resiliency / Enhanced Access to Opportunity / Disaster Prevention & Recovery / Affordability**

**Chair Steve Geller  
CEDS Strategy Committee**

**Economic Disaster  
Recovery and COVID-  
19 Resiliency  
Response**

