

## Development Strategy

### Specific Programs

A total of fourteen economic concerns were identified and agreed upon during the planning process. Although each county has unique, separate goals for within the District, these 14 areas of concern were determined to best represent the problems for the District as a whole. The concerns are listed below.

- Basic and advanced infrastructure
- Comprehensive planning
- Health care services and facilities
- Housing and quality of life
- Industrial development
- Leadership and volunteerism
- Logistics
- Marketing
- Population growth
- Public safety
- Public Transportation
- Small business development
- Tourism and recreation
- Workforce

The main economic distress of the District is agreed to be most critical in the areas of industrial development, housing, infrastructure, tourism, logistics and workforce. Although each county had additional expressed problems, the CEDES Committee identified six main areas of concern for which district-wide planning, technical assistance, and funding efforts should be concentrated within the EDA District. Thus, the ten concerns above are condensed into the following list of main areas of concern:

- Basic and advanced infrastructure
- Housing and associated quality of life amenities
- Industrial development
- Logistics
- Small business and retail development
- Tourism
- Workforce Development

In the area of *industrial development*, committee members noted that the main focus is to retain existing industrial jobs within the District. Formation of a professional business retention and expansion team could help skilled industrial workers remain in the area. The next focus was to offer local incentives to attract new development and enterprises into the district through special programs such as enterprise zones, revolving loan funds, Community Development Corporations (CDC's), or Tax-Increment Financing (TIF) Districts. Planned marketing schemes and regional coordinating could also be used to attract relocating industries. Community officials should keep an inventory of available space for development and pay special attention to industrial attractions such as rivers, rail spurs, and highways.

*Small business and retail development* refers to maintaining existing businesses within localities. Small retail businesses make up a large percentage of a community's image and charm. These businesses are also responsible for attracting a large amount of tourism to an area. Some of the main attractions to the North Central District are: recreation (such as the I&M Canal trail), community historical attractions, and Main Street businesses.

*Basic and advanced infrastructure* refers to the aging and insufficient infrastructure within communities. It also refers to facilities and services, such as 911 systems and communications. Solid infrastructure and facilities attracts new development, and careful planning can utilize these systems to their full potential.

*Logistics* is becoming a big part of District's economy as companies move out of the congested city and suburbs for their distribution systems they are finding the District an ideal location with I-39 and I-80 intersecting in the Region. The community college has even started offering classes relating to logistics.

*Housing and associated quality of life amenities* encompasses all aspects of increasing local housing stocks through increases in type mixtures and subdivision planning. Public safety, recreation, education, community services, and health care are included in this area as well.

*Tourism* refers to the attraction of visitors into the North Central District. It is viewed as being a major component in the economic development process. Tourism plays a vital role in providing and supporting the District's capital, commerce, and economic stature. It also can increase a community's housing, population, and retail supply significantly. Counties and communities in the District must identify features that are unique to the area and provide an attraction to tourists. These features should then be promoted through special advertising, universal themes, and planning.

*Workforce* refers to the workers in the region whether or not they are currently employed or unemployed. A plentiful and trained workforce is important for retaining and attracting businesses to the District. Training programs at the community colleges and workforce development boards could train the local workforce to be more adaptable to incoming industries. Localities should attempt to keep the workforce trained in order to retain and expand the existing industries.

The primary focus of economic development efforts must be to stabilize the number of jobs in the area through a series of different efforts. Each county has separate, unique goals to meet, but if job stabilization can be attained, the six main concerns listed below will be improved. People will stay within the District and new residents will be attracted. Specific goals can then be addressed locally as situations improve.

The Committee will focus on the following six topics. Implementation of the CEDS for these topics may be completed by collaborating with existing committees in the District on a certain topic. If deemed necessary because there is not already an existing committee working on a particular topic, the Committee will implement a subcommittee of its own. The main topic areas are:

- Industrial Development
- Logistics
- Small Business
- Quality of Life
- Tourism
- Workforce

Once the goals have been set, it is time to devise objectives, strategies, and specific actions to use achieve the goals. There is a definite progression here from the general to the specific. Goals are broad, sweeping statements about things the committee would like; policies are general principals to be followed in pursuit of the goals; strategies are more specific methods; specific actions are initial steps to take.

## Action/Implementation Plan

This Action Plan is divided into;

Goals,  
Objectives,  
Strategies, and  
Specific Actions

The “Specific Actions” are the means by which the strategies will be implemented. The North Central IL Council of Governments (NCICG) is acting as the District Administrator. Communities and Counties in the District are at different levels of implementing local economic development programs. Thus each community is different and will need different levels of assistance from the District Administrator.

### **Industrial Development Goal**

**To promote diversity and improve industrial employment opportunities at good wages for local residents while retaining and expanding the existing industrial base within the District.**

*Objective # 1: Have land and buildings that are available (i.e. willing sellers) for interested prospects.*

***Strategy:***

Utilize existing effective local organizations and economic development coordinators to handle inquiries from new or expanding businesses.

***Specific Actions:***

1. The District Administrator will contact economic development coordinators and become familiar with specific inquiry response actions.
2. The District Administrator will prepare a summary of what they find as a result of Specific Action #1 and as necessary disseminate it to municipal and county officials. Therefore, officials will know, if they are not already informed, what is being done if an inquiry is made from a business about available land and be able to direct individuals to contact people if they themselves receive an inquiry. Sometimes, businesses may try to avoid the traditional economic development offices and may contact a Mayor or other elected officials. There is also a frequent turnover of elected officials and they may not know how the process is handled.
3. The District Administrator will assist communities in District in utilizing the LocationOne Information System with training and putting information for counties, communities, sites and buildings on the Internet and link to appropriate websites.

*Objective #2: Establish industrial parks and other development-ready site plans for industries to locate.*

***Strategy:***

The District Administrator will determine potential industrial park sites and large lot locations (working with local economic development coordinators and the committee).

***Specific Action:***

1. Prioritize the potential industrial park sites.
2. Determine what public infrastructures needs are for the sites with the highest priority.
3. Determine what sites are eligible for funding from the Economic Development Administration.
4. Communities that wish to pursue funding will work directly with District Administrator to do so.
5. Identify locations of large development sites available in the region and obtain information on the sites and availability for development.
6. The District will look into the development of an incubator in the region to help grow small up and coming businesses in the region. If feasible the administrator will work with interested organizations in starting an incubator in the District.

***Objective #3:*** *Encourage clean up and rehabilitation of Brownfields, contaminated sites, or abandoned industrial sites.*

***Strategy:***

Link communities that have such sites to agencies and programs that will help with clean up and complete remediation of the sites.

***Specific Actions:***

1. The District Administrator with the assistance of the Committee and communities will develop a list of sites. The list will include potential Brownfields, contaminated sites; sites with possible contamination and presumably “clean” sites that contain abandoned industrial buildings.
2. The Committee will prioritize the list with the information that is available.
3. The District communities with sites on the list will be contacted to see if they are interested in receiving information on assistance. The District Administrator will follow up on requests as needed.
4. Coordinate access to funding assistance programs for Brownfield site assessment and remediation
5. Identify what tools are available to assist and educate local government officials.
6. Provide support to local planning efforts that address security at hazardous chemical sites.
7. Implement flood damage mitigation projects

***Objective #4:*** *Encourage links of industrial businesses with community colleges, workforce organizations, SBDC's and entrepreneurship organizations.*

**Strategy:**

Similar to what the Small Business Committee is doing with this goal, the District Administrator and the Industrial Development Committee will act as a useful liaison between local community colleges and existing and new industrial businesses.

**Specific Actions:**

1. The District will collaborate with the community colleges, workforce development boards and other resources that have services and programs that would be of use to industrial businesses and assist in disseminating this information.
2. Identify other resources that assist in linking the community colleges and businesses so as not to duplicate efforts.
3. Collaborate with community colleges, workforce development boards and other resources to improve on the overall capabilities of the District's labor force in order to accommodate the vocational requirements of existing and prospective private sector employers.
4. Assist in matching present vocational skills with existing and projected employment opportunities within the District.
5. Assist in determining if local products have international trade potential. Support and encourage use of export assistance centers at the community colleges.
6. Work with local businesses and organizations to identify linked businesses and collaborate to attract them to locate in the District.

**Objective #5:** *Support and encourage the establishment and updating of planning documents such as comprehensive plans, zoning and subdivision ordinances, capital improvements plans, transportation, tourisms and park and recreation plans in the District.*

**Strategy:**

The District Administrator will encourage municipalities to conduct inventories and assessments of their road, water, storm drainage and sanitary sewer systems. The information should then be used to develop five to ten-year plans for improving those systems and to plan for extensions to serve areas that are planned for industrial or other business development.

**Specific Actions:**

1. The District Administrator will invite municipal officials, system operators, and engineers to a public forum to discuss capital improvements planning and other topics and resources available to assist local governments with the planning.
2. The importance of updating comprehensive plans, zoning and subdivision regulations will also be emphasized at the forum.
3. The District Administrator will work directly with individual communities as requested to assist

with financing of plans, follow-up on requests for information and other needs.

4. Encourage the location of future physical development within the District in a manner which is compatible with identifiable soil capabilities as well as protective of existing water resources.
5. Collaborate with communities to identify areas for redevelopment and sources of funding assistance.
6. Encourage communities to develop long range plans and sequential permitting to avoid complicated, lengthy political and regulatory approval processes Work with local, state and federal agencies to find a way to streamline their procedures.

**Objective #6:** *Work as an economic development information center to serve as a resource to local elected officials and economic development organizations and coordinators in the District and promote the region for development.*

**Strategy:**

The District Administrator will respond to requests for information or assistance from communities, organizations and individuals in the District working in the broad realm of economic development.

**Specific Actions:**

1. Keep an updated library on financial incentives and tools to assist and attract industries and businesses in the District. These will be local, regional, state, federal and other resources.
2. The District will explore the development of a regional marketing plan and identify funding for the plan.
3. The District will explore the possibility of developing an integrated website for marketing and providing information on the region in the District. If a website is deemed feasible the district will proceed with development of a website and identify funding to do so.

**Objective #7:** *Strive to attract, expand and retain agricultural businesses and farming in the District.*

**Strategy:**

Try to develop and encourage links between traditional agricultural organizations, agri-tourism organizations and economic development organizations.

**Specific Actions:**

1. Input from the agri-business or farming community is important because of the economy of the region. Representatives from the agri-business or farming community will be asked to participate on the Committee. These members will be asked to provide insight and about the needs of the agricultural community.

2. Encourage and plan for development in areas served by municipal utilities and located adjacent to municipalities. This eliminates leapfrog development in open country and allocates the concentration of development in urbanizing areas.
3. Identify value added agricultural businesses and work to improve existing and attract them to the region that would help the agricultural industry in the region prosper, including alternative fuels.
4. Support those in the region that are looking to expand or begin an agri-tourism business in the region.

***Objective #8 Effectively foster expansion of existing business operations and attract new industrial investments***

1. Continue to strengthen the capabilities of local governments and development organizations within the District and their efforts to solicit desirable firms interested in starting operations within the multi county area.
2. Continue to cooperate with local governments and developments in an effort to strengthen their capability for providing financial aid and other forms of assistance to existing local businesses interested in expanding their current operation in the region.
3. Identify linked business to existing industries in the District to attract new business and enhance existing businesses. Once identified these linked industries should be marketed to for attracting to the District.

## **Small Business and Retail Development**

**To continue to diversify small business and retail sectors through retention and expansion in order to provide a mix of basic goods and services at the local level and within the District.**

***Objective #1: Encourage links between community colleges, workforce development boards, small business development centers, entrepreneurship center, other resources and local businesses.***

***Strategy:***

Existing, new and expanding businesses in the District will be given information about the community college, workforce development boards, small business development centers, and entrepreneurship centers that would be able to provide services to their businesses. Often, industrial/manufacturing businesses link up to the local community colleges on their own. Small businesses and retail/commercial business owners may not think of these organizations as valuable resource.

***Specific Actions:***

1. The District Administrator will contact representatives of the IL Valley Community College in Oglesby, IL; Sauk Valley Community College in Dixon, IL; Illinois Central College, in Peoria, IL and Black Hawk Community College in East Moline, IL to identify resources the community

colleges have for existing and new small and retail businesses.

2. The District Administrator will collaborate with the community colleges, workforce development boards, small business development centers, entrepreneurship centers in distributing information to the committee, Chambers of Commerce, business organizations and business owners that will be of use to local small and retail businesses such as:
  - a. Training available that may enhance employee performance and broaden skills;
  - b. Services available that may assist small businesses (e.g. library research, Small Business Development Centers, seminars, and mentoring/internship programs).

**Objective #2:** *Communities should try to continue to diversify and broaden their retail sectors in order to provide a vital mix of basic goods and services at the local level.*

**Strategy:**

Promote waterway and tourism related retail development along the Illinois River, other rivers and the Canals in the Region.

**Specific Action:**

1. The District Administrator will work with the Committee to develop a list of communities in the District that are located on the Illinois River. From that, a list of individual contacts for each community will be developed. These contact people will then be given information about available incentives and programs in Illinois that they can use in their efforts to promote riverfront enhancement and development.
2. The District Administrator will work with existing fine arts organizations and groups to identify associated retail needs and opportunities in the District.

**Objective #3:** *Develop an organized approach for retaining and expanding small businesses within District communities.*

**Strategy:**

Utilize existing effective local organizations and economic development coordinators to focus on the needs of small business (i.e. don't spend time reinventing the wheel, find and use available resources).

**Specific Action:**

1. The District Administrator will contact economic development coordinators and become familiar with specific inquiry response actions and business retention programs.
2. The District Administrator will disseminate information about available incentives and programs to economic development coordinators.
3. The District Administrator will provide research assistance to the coordinators for specific business needs or projects.
4. The District will collaborate with other organizations in the District on the development of an

incubator in the region to help grow small up and coming businesses in the region. If feasible the administrator will partner with interested organizations in starting an incubator in the District.

5. Expand use of revolving loan fund programs and encourage economic opportunities especially for minority and women-owned businesses.
6. Identify opportunities of new funding and investments sources, such as venture capital to enhance financing opportunities. Work with state to ensure legislation that preserves and enhances local government financing capabilities.

**Objective #4:** *Aggressively support small business development activities by emphasizing complementary business enterprises that will contribute toward the further development of the North Central District's economy.*

**Strategy:**

Survey existing businesses to determine what programs and services they consider necessary to grow and prosper within the community.

**Specific Action:**

1. The District Administrator will develop the survey with the assistance of the Committee, the local SBDC, workforce development and other organizations.
2. The District Administrator will tabulate the survey responses. The Committee, local SBDC and workforce development organizations will then study and interpret the results.
3. The survey responses will be used to directly link individual businesses up with available resources. For example, a tourist-oriented business may respond that they would like some assistance in helping their employees in providing service training and connecting the business with available training resources.
4. The results of the survey will very likely indicate needs that are shared by many businesses. The committee and the District administer will study these and determine if District-wide training or information dissemination would be useful.

## **Quality of Life Goal**

**To highlight the unique qualities of the North Central EDD District. Work to improve schools, parks, recreation, infrastructure, housing healthcare, cultural programs and transportation.**

**Objective # 1:** *Maintain and improve infrastructure (e.g. sewer, water, roads, telecommunications, public transportation services) in the North Central EDA District.*

**Strategy:**

Encourage communities in the North Central District to update or establish comprehensive plans, zoning ordinances, subdivision regulations and capital improvements programming ( i.e. assessment of existing water facilities, storm and sanitary sewer, roads and plans for upgrading).

***Specific Actions:***

1. The District Administrator will work to develop a matrix of the communities in the North Central EDA District that will illustrate the existence of or adoption date of the above- mentioned plans and regulations.
2. Communities will be notified of available resources to assist them in updating their plans and regulations. Information about financing improvements and planning activities will also be provided. The appropriate avenue for doing this will be determined by the Committee. Possibilities include workshops/public meetings, mailings, internet posting, personal contacts or traditional media outlets.

***Objective # 2: Support and enhance existing parks and public lands. Encourage acquisition of open space for use as parks or natural areas.***

***Strategy:***

Disseminate information on programs available to assist with this objective.

***Specific Actions:***

1. The District Administrator will keep up-to-date on available funding programs to assist with parkland acquisition and development and open space acquisition. The District Administrator will report to the committee on these programs.
2. The Committee will also discuss areas that they feel may have potential to become public recreation areas. With the approve all of the CEDS Committee active pursuit of some areas may be initiated by the District Administrator. This will be done via direct contact of the local elected officials that would be involved.
3. In keeping with the State of Illinois “Statewide Outdoor Recreation Partnership Plan”, communities in the District will be encouraged to develop recreation plans prior to seeking state funding for projects.

***Objective #3: Monitor changes and issues of the North Central EDA District’s educational institutions. Support and promote improvements that will benefit students and area businesses and allow for growth.***

***Strategy:***

This is a broad objective to try to strategize for. With that in mind, the Committee will work to be informed about important issues facing educational institutions in the District and discuss ways to be involved.

***Specific Actions:***

1. Education will be an item of discussion on the meeting agenda for the Committee. Members will be asked to contribute information and news from their communities that may impact the North District. (eg. Pilot curriculum program at LaSalle-Peru High School). The District Administrator will collaborate with workforce development organizations on education

2. Consider surveying school officials about their plans for expansions and their concerns relating to economic development and growth in the region.

**Objective #4:** *Encourage development of quality and affordable housing for people of various income levels and abilities. Residential development should be consistent with soil types, terrain and infrastructure capacity.*

**Strategy:**

Each municipality must address the housing problems within its own boundaries and must be encouraged to work together with the District's other municipalities to reach shared solutions to the region's housing needs.

**Specific Actions:**

1. Educate elected officials about housing issues and alternatives. Provide information on how they can be actively involved in how housing expands in their community.
2. Provide information on available financial assistance for housing programs for housing rehab and senior housing. This will include but not limited to the State's Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP) Housing Rehabilitation component, IL Housing Development Authority programs and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development programs.

**Objective #5:** *Support expansion and integration of health care providers in the North Central District.*

**Strategy:**

Assist elected officials and economic development coordinators with establishment of linkages to health care facilities and organizations.

**Specific Actions:**

1. The District Administrator will become informed about existing relationships between area hospitals and health care facilities and economic development coordinators. This can be accomplished via conversations with the directors and administrators of the institutions involved.
2. Incorporate information learned as a result of "Specific Action #1" into community and regional economic development marketing materials (i.e. emphasize the quality and breadth of local health care services as a valuable quality).
3. Assist health care providers and institutions with grant efforts and support their expansion and growth

**Objective #6:** *Promote maintenance and improvement of existing transportation networks.*

**Strategy:**

Study and react to proposed expansions or additions to the transportation network (e.g. Peoria to

Chicago Highway, Prairie Parkway and Peru-Joliet passenger rail). Support development and improvement of additional transportation options - rail and water as well as pedestrian and bicycle.

***Specific Actions:***

1. The District Administrator will monitor the IL Department of Transportation's projects that could greatly impact the region such as the proposed "Heart of Illinois" highway from Peoria to Chicago freeway and the "Prairie Parkway" that connects I-80 to I-88. The Committee should make a recommendation to the overall committee about which route would best benefit the North Central EDA District. The overall committee will then consider appropriate actions to support the recommendation (e.g. attend statewide public hearings, contact legislators etc.).
2. Continue to support and seek funding for the Illinois Valley Commuter Rail Project that will provide passenger trains from LaSalle/Peru to Joliet.
3. Integrate transportation improvements with redevelopment projects.
4. Notify elected officials about the ISTEA and TEA-21 Transportation Enhancement program and the broader range of eligible activities under that program.
5. Work with and support Scenic Byways committee for the Scenic Byway that travels both sides of the Illinois River through the Region.
6. Support efforts that promote the aesthetic attractiveness of the Region to all visitors and showcase quality of life opportunities including the Illinois River, the trail system, cultural, downtown redevelopment etc.
7. Collaborate efforts with the Human Services Transportation Program and other groups such as the LaSalle County Transportation Task Force to improve public transportation in the District.

## **Tourism Development Goal**

**Stress tourism's potential to the existing economic base and lifestyles of the District.**

***Objective #1:*** *Support and encourage integrated tourism marketing and planning efforts in the North Central EDA District.*

***Strategy:***

Explore county, regional and state tourism efforts. Assist in promotional activities

***Specific Actions:***

1. Contact the State Bureau of Tourism at the IL Department of Commerce and Community Affairs. The District Administrator will ask for information on the State's programs and priorities for tourism.
2. Inquire with DCEO and other organizations about projects that have been funded in the region. Inquire about the existence of tourism development offices (i.e. does DCEO still have them

throughout the State?).

3. Develop a list of community members and organizations with tourism interests and offer to assist them rather than creating another tourism organization.
4. The District Administrator will contact local tourism groups and convention and visitor bureau that cover the region to keep up to date with existing and future activities and report back to the committee.
5. Initiate creation of a regional tourism/marketing plan as a supplement to the CEDS to develop and promote tourism throughout the region.

**Objective #2:** *Promote tourism that is designed to complement and support local community life on a scale with local economic and institutional systems.*

**Strategy:**

Support development of tourism attractions that are cohesive with the environment, history and natural features of the area.

**Specific Actions:**

1. Create or identify a list of the natural environment attractions that exist in the area that already bring in tourists and visitors (e.g. the IL River sites, the State Parks and Natural areas, historic sites, Lake DePue, the I&M Canal National Heritage Corridor, Hennepin Canal, the Mautino Wildlife Refuge, the Coal Mine sites, etc.).
2. Make contact with individuals that operate or manage these sites and inquire about any assistance that they may need in development, acquisition of land, marketing etc. The District Administrator will circulate information to them on available funding programs and also provide research on individual matters.
3. Use local resources, organizations and people to promote tourism, thereby generating increased amenities and income for the region.
4. Collaborate with organizations to educate and promote agri-tourism to farmers and small businesses in the District to add to the tourism sector in the District.

## **Workforce Development Goal**

**Encourage greater understanding of the relationship between human capital job attractions**

**Objective # 1: Improve the preparedness of the District's workforce.**

**Strategy:**

Collaborate with workforce development organizations, community colleges and other organizations to improve the workforce in the District.

***Specific Actions:***

1. Promote education as an economic infrastructure and a quality of life opportunity
2. Support programs that invest in early childhood development
3. Promote and strengthen links and interaction between educators and the business community to address the need for soft skill requirements of modern industry, including basic math and reading, communication, and personal interaction skills
4. Promote the coordination between education, training and career preparation with economic clusters.
5. Coordinate with NCI Works to implement the goals in the State of the Workforce Report and other workforce organizations in implementing their goals.
6. Collaborate with economic development, workforce and educational organizations to finance and administer job training and other forms of assistance to businesses locating in the District.
7. Assist various groups involved in ED in accessing workforce information and in the design of effective programs for improving the District's workforce.
8. Support initiatives and programs that train, retrain and upgrade skills of the District's labor force such as training programs through community colleges.
9. Support and collaborate on existing efforts and projects of the LWIB to link business and education.
10. Acknowledge the role of Young Professionals (YPs) play in attracting and retaining highly desirable businesses to the District and support local YP organizations to help assist in stopping the "Brain Drain"

## **Logistics Development Goal**

**To promote logistics and improve conditions for increasing opportunities for this growing sector in the District.**

***Objective # 1: Take advantage of the location of the District for the development of the logistics industry.***

***Strategy:***

Prepare the communities, workforce and industry for continued growth of the logistics industry in the District.

***Specific Actions:***

1. Identify locations that could be utilized as an intermodal facility. Include identifying facilities that could utilize the Illinois River as a mode of transportation.

2. Collaborate with community colleges and other agencies in providing additional specific educational opportunities for improving the preparedness of the workforce in the logistics industry.
3. Work with local, state and federal agencies on making sure the transportation systems used by the logistics industry are well maintained, updated and if necessary added to keep the logistics industry a growing sector in the District.

## **Utilities and Infrastructure Goal**

**Maintain, modernize or expand - Public Utilities and transportation facilities including state of the art technology -essential preconditions for private sector investment – whether new development or expansion of existing industry.**

*Objective # 1: Have utilities and infrastructure that are well maintained and up to date for current and future needs.*

*Strategy: Collaborate with the utility companies and local, regional, state, federal agencies and other organizations to identify needed additions and updates to the Districts infrastructure and identify funding mechanisms for improvements.*

### *Specific Actions:*

1. Inventory infrastructure to determine capabilities and limitation of business growth.
2. Pursue funding sources for construction, maintenance and expansion activities
3. Develop regional capital improvement plans and prepare a map
4. The continued development of a balance intermodal transportation system capable of providing for the safe, efficient and economical movement of people and goods.
5. Increase availability of both the area's immediate and long-rang sanitary sewer and transmission capabilities to accommodate increasing consumption demands resulting from industrial, commercial and residential growth.
6. Increase availability of both the area's immediate and long-rang water supply and transmission capabilities to accommodate increasing consumption demands resulting from industrial, commercial and residential growth.
7. Construction, modernization and/or expansion of the area's sewage collection, treatment and disposal capabilities in an effort to increase their availability and the public's accessibility to such essential services
8. Develop a regional GIS database