

**Erie County Industrial Development Agency (ECIDA)
Buffalo & Erie County Industrial Land Development Corp. (ILDC)
Buffalo & Erie County Regional Development Corporation (RDC)**

2024 Mission Statement and Performance Measurements

Approval Date of Goals: March 27, 2024

Approval Date of Results: Anticipated March 2025

Purpose:

The Public Authorities Law requires public authorities to develop and adopt a mission statement and to develop performance measures to assist them in determining how well they are carrying out their mission. The Authorities Budget Office (ABO) requires that all public authorities utilize the following format to annually review their mission statement and performance measures and publish a measurement report. This report is designed to satisfy these requirements.

Please note: The ECIDA publishes an annual report outlining detailed project information and accomplishments called “Year in Review.” The Year in Review is on the ECIDA’s website at <https://www.ecidany.com> under “About Us” then “Annual Reports”.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Erie County IDA and its affiliates is to provide the resources that encourage investment, innovation, workforce development and international trade resulting in a successful business climate focused on growth, economic stability, job creation and retention for businesses and individuals which improves the quality of life for the residents of the region.

Performance Goals, Measures & Results:

Goal 1: To promote private investment & innovation:

Objective 1A: ECIDA: Encourage private sector investment by providing incentives and other economic development services to spur eligible development projects.

Measurement: Value of new private investments from tax incentives

Metric: \$ 275 - \$ 300 M in private investment from approved tax incentives.
* Adjusted metric.

Results:

Objective 1B: RDC: Provide “gap financing” to spur the creation of new businesses and private-sector investment in working capital, machinery and equipment.

Measurement: Number of loans, \$ amount of loans and amount of private investment for loans approved

Metric: 8 - 10 business loans totaling \$ 3 M with private investment = \$6 M. Currently, the RDC has limited lending capacity (majority of funds have been deployed). *Adjusted metric.

Results:

Objective 1C: ECIDA & ILDC: Assist non-profit and other eligible borrowers to obtain low-interest, tax-exempt bond financing.

Measurement: Value of private investments from low-interest financing provided to non-profit organizations and qualified private activity bond projects.

Metric: 1 -2 tax exempt bonds totaling \$30 M– \$35 M. Starting January 1st, NYS Housing and Community Renewal adopted new regulations for affordable housing projects that utilize 4% state and federal Low Income Housing Tax Credits(LIHTC). ECIDA receives an annual allowance of bond cap to finance affordable housing projects, which typically utilize the 4% LIHTC. Under the new regulations projects which utilize IDA bonding and the 4% LIHTC will be restricted to new construction only. Historically, most of the projects ECIDA assists with bond cap allocation are affordable housing rehabilitation projects. The result of

these new regulations could limit the agency's ability to finance these projects and meet our performance goal. Our statewide organization is working on amending the new regulations to allow for rehabilitation projects to receive both IDA bonds and 4% LIHTC allocations.

Results:

Objective 1D: ECIDA & ILDC: Pursue state, federal and private (grant) funding opportunities to support priority projects and leverage private investment. Administer projects that have received grant funding.

Measurement: Number and \$ amount of grant applications submitted. Number and \$ amount of grant funds under administration.

Metric: 4-5 grants submitted for \$2-2.5 M. 4-6 grants totaling \$7 M under administration. * Adjusted metric.

Results:

Goal 2: To support business formation, job growth, and economic expansion targeting economically challenged and disadvantaged communities:

Objective 2A: ECIDA & ILDC: Support the re-investment in vacant, abandoned, and underutilized buildings.

Measurement: Number and investment value of adaptive re-use building projects

Metric: 4 - 5 adaptive reuse projects approved totaling \$75 - \$100 M. * Adjusted metric.

Result:

Objective 2B: ECIDA ILDC & RDC: Support the creation and growth of small business and minority & women-owned businesses (MWBE).

Measurement: Number and \$ amount of direct assistance through Agency product offerings to MWBEs (i.e. business loans, tax incentives). Procurement goal \$ amount and % spent with MWBE vendors for both operational and other purchases.

Metric: \$400,000 in direct assistance to 5 – 7 MWBEs. * Adjusted metric.

Vendor Operational Purchases of \$18,000 / 30% MWBE (i.e. office supplies, catering, equipment leasing).

Other Purchases: Meet 100% of the following: 1) Professional services including 30% MWBE for engineering/design, 2) Construction service that includes 30% MWBE for contract utilization and 3) RFPs and/or bids scoring – that includes MWBE utilization and/or D&I initiatives valued at 10% of the scoring index

Results:

Objective 2C: ECIDA, ILDC & RDC: Support diversity, equity & inclusion with a focus on staff development

Measurement: Provide training opportunities re: Racial Equity

Metric: Provide two or more continued educational / training opportunities for staff on DEI

Results:

Objective 2D: ECIDA: Increase opportunities for minorities and women to experience economic progress through tax incentive programs.

Measurement: Implementation of ECIDA Economic Inclusion PILOT

Metric: 1 – 2 eligible projects (project includes property tax benefit, location reasonably accessible to minority workforce) opt into the program.

* Adjusted metric.

Results:

Objective 2E: ECIDA: Support the creation and retention of jobs at all salary levels.

Measurement: Average \$ of jobs to be retained & created. For informational purposes include salary info re: management, professional, administrative, production, independent contractor and other

Metric: Average salary for retained and created jobs at \$ 50K - \$55K

Results:

*average salary metric is based on historical data with consideration given to market adjustments (i.e. inflation, cost of living) and comparisons to County/ City of Buffalo living wage data. (note: include avg salaries in job categories and the total payroll amount).

Objective 2F: ECIDA, RDC & ILDC: Reach out to Erie County businesses to inform them of ECIDA and other business support services available.

Measurement: Number of business outreach attempts (including marketing communication efforts)

Metric: 290 business outreach contacts, 900,000 marketing impressions through paid advertising. * Adjusted metric. Increase and report on targeted business outreach efforts (i.e. through Chambers of Commerce) to reach small and medium-sized businesses seeking financing when traditional options become less available.

Results:

Objective 2G: ILDC: Support reinvestment in vacant and abandoned brownfield properties for the purpose of creating shovel-ready sites, new investment, and jobs.

Measurement: Number of acres of land redeveloped / in the process of redevelopment and public/private investment amounts

Metric: 350 acres of land under management

Results:

Goal 3: To encourage international trade:

Objective 3A: ECIDA: Promote & support the use of Erie County's foreign trade zone (FTZ) to assist businesses in remaining globally competitive by reducing, eliminating, or deferring import duties.

Measurement: Value of goods moving through FTZ #23 and # of FTZ activated sites

Metric: A total of 6 FTZ sites with goods valued at \$92 M moving through the zone.

Results:

*(note: due to the timing of the Annual Federal FTZ Reporting (June) – the prior year's results are listed)

Goal 4: Regional & Business Resiliency:

Objective 4A: ECIDA, RDC, ILDC: Assist businesses throughout Erie County.

Measurement: Provide a roadmap for business resiliency.

Metric: Prepare an annual CEDS Performance Report for submission to U.S. EDA to communicate Erie County's major accomplishments in economic and community development. Convene CEDS Implementation Committee (public and private partners) 3x per year to share and collect data and information regarding implementation of regional goals.

Results:

Objective 4B: ECIDA RDC, ILDC: Support Small Businesses in Erie County Consortium Communities whose owners have low to moderate household incomes.

Measurement: Provide administrative support for the Erie County Microenterprise Loan and other programs funded by Community Development Block Grant funds

Metric: Approve 6-8 loans for \$200,000, which represents the funds available for lending from the Erie County Microenterprise Loan program. The ECIDA will continue to service, support and market the lending program to the eligible consortium communities. * Adjusted metric.

Results:

Goal 5: To safeguard the public's investment by ensuring compliance and transparency with ECIDA Policies & Procedures, NYS Tax, EDA and ABO requirements:

Objective 5A: ECIDA: Client compliance with material terms including local labor, employment retention & creation, investment, pay equity and unpaid real property tax policies.

Measurement: Collection and analysis of quarterly employment & local labor reports for all active projects, review of investment verifications, facilitate completion of pay equity audits by Erie County Department of Public Advocacy payments through the Erie County Commissioner of Real Property Services

Metric: 100% compliance

Results:

Objective 5B: ECIDA: Client compliance with the NYS Sales and Use Tax program.

Measurement: Monitor and review of clients' ST-340 reporting forms against the amount of the sales tax savings approved by the Board of Directors to ensure that the amount of the sales tax savings that clients report does not exceed the board approved amounts.

Metric: 100% client compliance

Results:

Objective 5C: ECIDA, RDC & ILDC: Compliance with ABO's deadlines and regulatory requirements.

Measurement: Timely and accurate filing of the annual PARIS reports, budgets and financial audits

Metric: 100% compliance

Results:

Objective 5D: ECIDA, RDC & ILDC: Board Member compliance with ABO regulatory requirements.

Measurement: Board completion of the annual Board of Directors Self Evaluation, execution of the Acknowledgement of Fiduciary Duties & Responsibilities forms, and completion of the required ABO board member training

Metric: 100% compliance

Results:

Objective 5E: ECIDA, ILDC & RDC: Ensure proper controls and safeguards over the financial reporting and assets of the organizations.

Measurement: Annual independent audit reports of all entities.

Metric: Audit opinions and management letter.

Results:

Objective 5F: RDC: Ensure proper controls and safeguards over the administration of the CARES Act revolving loan fund (RLF).

Measurement: Obtain the highest rating from the U.S. Dept of Commerce: Economic Development Administration (EDA) on the quality / health of the RLF administered by the RDC

Metric: Receive an "A" rating from the EDA.

Results:

Governance Certification

1. Have the board members acknowledged that they have read and understood the mission of the public authority?

Board of Directors response: Yes

2. Who has the power to appoint the management of the public authority?

Board of Directors response: The Board of Directors

3. If the Board appoints management, do you have a policy you follow when appointing the management of the public authority?

Board of Directors response: The Board has not adopted a written policy. However, the Board follows prudent and reasonable practices to appoint responsible individuals.

4. Briefly describe the role of the Board and the role of management in the implementation of the mission.

Board of Directors response: The role of the Board regarding the implementation of the public authority's mission is to provide strategic guidance, oversight, mission authorization, policy setting and validation of the authority's mission, performance measurements and results. The role of management is to collaborate with the Board in strategy development and to implement established programs, processes, activities and policies to achieve the public authority's mission.

5. Has the Board acknowledged that they have read and understood the responses to each of these questions?

Board of Directors response: Yes