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New Hampshire Department of  
**BUSINESS AND  
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**



July 29, 2021

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman  
Fiscal Committee of the General Court  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a VI, authorize the Department of the Business and Economic Affairs (BEA) to accept and expend \$210,210 in American Rescue Plan (ARP) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) to fund Collaborative Economic Development Regions (CEDRs), effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2023. This is an allowable use of ARP FRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(A) to respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds are to be budgeted in FY2022 in the following new account:

03-022-022-220510 – Division of Economic Development,  
24XX0000 - ARP CEDRs as follows:

03-022-022-220510-24XX0000 <sup>1</sup> ARP CEDRs		FY2022
CLASS	DESCRIPTION	BUDGET REQUEST
040 - 501587	Indirect Cost	\$10,000
041 - 500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	\$210
072 - 500575	Grants Federal	\$200,000
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$210,210</b>
SOURCE OF FUNDS		
000 - 400338	Federal Funds	\$210,210
	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$210,210</b>

<sup>1</sup>All direct program costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH2202A and all administrative and indirect costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602PH2202Z. Accounting classifications may be subject to technical changes at the discretion of the Department of Administrative Services' Division of Accounting Services.

Funds are budgeted as follows:

- Class 040 – Indirect Costs
- Class 041 – Audit Fund Set-Aside - .001 of federal funds payable to DAS for audit fees
- Class 072 – Federal Grants for Collaborate Economic Development Regions

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### EXPLANATION

BEA is requesting to accept and expend of American Rescue Plan (ARP) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) to support the development of Collaborative Economic Development Regions (CEDR). CEDRs are defined under the state's Economic Recovery and Expansion Strategy (ERES) and serve as a hub for regional economic development work in four regions around the state. Members include stakeholders, economic development agencies, municipalities, and employers. The regions are Seacoast, Central, Southwestern, and Northern. The Seacoast CEDR is operational. Central and Southwestern CEDRs are under development and the Northern region is slated to be complete by the end of November.

Two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) in funding would be allocated to enhance functionality and delivery of business support and relief programming by providing \$50,000 in program funding for those efforts to the new state CEDRs, created as part of ERES.

The ERES is the framework for long-term economic development success, created as part of New Hampshire's plan to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

CEDRs build on existing programs and include members from local organizations who volunteer to form regionally focused groups. CEDRs are charged with collaborating with BEA to create or align existing strategies focused on regional economic development, identifying meaningful economic development initiatives and potential solutions and fostering regional and state support, ensuring information exchange on available services delivered to businesses and potential investors, and convening economic development stakeholders through meetings and events to facilitate collaboration.

This strategy and these grants will help BEA build a more coordinated approach for sharing ideas on economic development priorities, build better collaboration on high-impact initiatives, and support advocacy for needed services across the state.

In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,



Taylor Caswell, Commissioner  
Department of Business and Economic Affairs