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New Hampshire Department of  
BUSINESS AND  
ECONOMIC AFFAIRS



June 1, 2023

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

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Authorize the Department of Business and Economic Affairs (BEA) to plan and hold a statewide economic development conference on November 3, 2023, at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord for a total conference cost not to exceed \$125,000 for the purpose of convening members and stakeholders of the Collaborative Economic Development Regions (CEDRs) and partners in the first statewide event since 2016, effective upon Governor and Council approval through December 30, 2023. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds are available in the following accounts:

	<u>FY 2023</u>
03-22-22-220510-26290000, <u>Statewide Plan, Research &amp; Network</u> 102-500731-Contracts for Program Services	\$120,000
03-22-22-220510-14530000, <u>Office of Workforce Opportunity</u> 102-500731-Contracts for Program Services	\$ 5,000

**EXPLANATION**

BEA received a Planning, Research, and Networks grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA). The goal of the grant, funded by the American Rescue Plan, is to invest in economic development planning activities supporting the economic recovery and resiliency of states. To date, these funds have been used to develop a business recruitment and expansion strategy and a life sciences industry strategy. These strategies look at high-growth industry sectors and relative strengths that regions of the state have in attracting and supporting business growth and development in sectors included in the state's Economic Recovery and Expansion Strategy (ERES).

Complementing these studies is the proposed statewide economic development conference, a first since 2016. This event will bring together economic development professionals from across New Hampshire to apprise them on national trends and the strategies for enhancing and supporting targeted industry sectors and increasing talent attraction. Participants will engage in facilitated discussions regarding the strategies commissioned by BEA and discuss how to best implement the strategies collaboratively with the state and within each unique CEDR

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
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June 1, 2023

region. BEA will host this one-day event for CEDRs leadership, economic development professionals, and other stakeholders.

The full costs for the event will include rental fees for the one-day conference and the creation and facilitation of the event. All funds being used are federal funds.

Respectfully submitted by,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Caswell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "T" and "C".

Taylor Caswell  
Commissioner

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
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June 1, 2023

**Cost Estimate**

<b>Key Events, Activity, Deliverable or Milestone</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Grappone Conference Center (venue space,, audio visual)	\$5,000
Catering	\$20,000
Program preparation, facilitation, materials, and event support	\$50,000
Keynote speaker logistics and participation	\$50,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>

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## **BEA Fall Economic Conference DRAFT Agenda**

### **Grappone Conference Center**

**November 3, 2023**

<b>8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Registration; continental breakfast</b>	<b>Location: Lobby/Grand Ballroom</b>
<b>9:00a.m. – 9:15 a.m.</b>	<b>Welcome; review schedule</b>	<b>Location: Grand Ballroom</b>
<b>9:15a.m. – 10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Presentation by Commissioner and guest</b>	<b>Location: Grand Ballroom</b>
<b>10:00 a.m -10:15 a.m.</b>	<b>Collaboration break</b>	<b>Facility</b>
<b>10:15 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Keynote speaker</b>	<b>Location: Grand Ballroom</b>
<b>11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>CEDRs breakout sessions</b>	<b>Location: 4 Breakout Rooms</b>
<b>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Working lunch with speaker</b>	<b>Location: Grand Ballroom</b>
<b>1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Summary, closing remarks</b>	<b>Location: Grand Ballroom</b>