

Regionalism Task Force Meeting Notes

Thursday, October 16, 2014 3:48 PM

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Tom gave an overview of what the law says about regionalism: WIOA has regionalism ahead of all the detail on local areas and boards. The State in consultation with boards and LEOs can designate regional planning areas. It doesn't prescribe a structure or number. A region can be one local area, two or more, or an interstate area. Then the law is "quiet" on the details. To whom are regional plans submitted? Assume state level?

DOLETA Regional Administrator Virginia Hamilton made it clear at a recent meeting: regionalism is not driving toward LWIA consolidation. It is just intended to give a focus on how areas can plan and analyze regional LMI and industry sectors. A lot of what of we're doing with sector strategies, SESP, and different collaborations going on could be reflected in regional plans.

Participants discussed recommendations and possible questions. Since the law allows for single workforce areas to be also designated as planning regions, we need to know what benefits or incentives there might be for local areas to team up would be.

Even if the current intent is not to threaten local areas, the committee should develop recommendations to keep the regional expectations flexible and keep local authority in place.

More information is needed on the requirements for regional plans. There are unlikely to be any resources to support regional planning.

These plans are expensive! What will the reporting burden be for regions? Is it possible to merge parts of the local and regional plans so we don't have to duplicate effort at the regional and local level? Or leverage the processes already being carried out by the COGs throughout the state?

Participants on the call each talked about what different parts of the state are doing:

Terry D - Northern Arizona coordinates planning already across LWIAs. Comprehensive economic development strategies engage cities, counties, and tribes. The plan is submitted to the US Commerce Dept. for approval. It encompasses Verde Valley development activities, initiatives in healthcare, tourism, etc., and details collaboration and coordination activities.

Susie - Mohave is already part of a regional consortium of Mohave-La Paz. It is part of a Western AZ Economic Development district that extends to Yuma, but the ED districts are not very active any more. Mohave also works with Yavapai and Coconino. A mutual service agreement is used to allow "Strip" area that is closer to Coconino than Kingman to be served by Coconino.

Janetta – they work in the Strip send students to MCC. Some get picked up in Colorado City which can create issues. Worked with Yavapai on an Incentive Grant that was successful and worked well. Through NACOG they work together on ETA and EDA proposals. Recently they collaborated on the IMCP application, which, though not successful, resulted in useful plans and data. The SESP grant was another example of regional collaboration.

Vada – Southeastern Arizona Workforce is already a regional consortium with Cochise, Graham and Greenlee. They work closely with SEAGO – which also includes Santa Cruz. Through Innovation Frontier AZ they also collaborate with Pima, Santa Cruz and Yuma. They have worked with Deming New Mexico on some activities and have a mining sector strategy going on across the region.

Krista - City of Phoenix is working with numerous sector strategies that are business led. They collaborate regionally through the Maricopa

Human Capital Initiative. They have worked together to develop MOUs, Access Points, registered apprenticeships and technical training. They work closely with Maricopa LWIA.

Dorothee – Innovation Frontier AZ – through a WIRED grant southern AZ counties developed a regional plan for Talent, E-ship and Regional collaboration. The partnership has collaborated on many grants, but has kept the structure informal. A current EDA planning grant includes Las Cruces in the region.

Terry F – regional collaboration and planning through Maricopa Human Capital Initiative, also grant opportunities and sector strategies plus apprenticeships with City of Phoenix. Joint City-County WIB meetings are planned in the future.

Karen – College is engaged in TAA planning with Phoenix and Maricopa, and collaborates on Access points. Working with COP to implement Maricopa career planning system tool.

Jennifer – there is a “buzz” in the region about the success of Healthcare Sector Strategy. Partners will use that as a model to encourage more regionalism. They are partners with GPEC – providing labor market and training information. Partnering with City of Phoenix to provide LMI on target sectors.

Kelly – ADE is focused on encouraging Title II recipients to be talking to Title I counterparts. Kick-off meeting with Paul and John is being held next week.

Next Task Force meeting is October 30 at 2. Homework – write down one or more burning questions or concerns about WIOA regional planning and send to Sheila by COB on 10/24. Sheila to send back out on 10/29/14.



WIOA Task Force - Regionalism

Thursday, November 13, 2014, 2pm - 3pm

Agenda

- I. Welcome**
- II. Tools for WIOA Task Forces**
 - a. WIOA Sections
We did this at the end. Agreement to add Regionalism TF to Governance under Section 106 and 107
 - b. Regionalism Task Force Recommendations
We reviewed and discussed the recommendations in the Draft Regionalism Priorities Document. All agreed to send any edits in the document to DH by COB on 11/14 and she will consolidate and submit to Jutta Ulrich by COB on 11/17.
- III. Key Recommendations**
Be as proactive as possible with recommendations that support our priorities.
- IV. Next Meeting**
Group agreed there is no further need to meet until draft regulations come out, or some other need arises to convene.
- VII. Adjournment**

Task Force Expectations

- *Recommendations to be submitted to US DOL*
- *WIOA Section Reviews*
- *Action Steps for each Local Area*
- *Identification of Additional Partners*

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