



Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council

2012 Public Forum Comments



2012 Community Forums

As the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council began to implement its strategic plan in 2012, the council held a series of public meetings to provide an update for area residents on the council's efforts and to continue gathering input on the council's strategies for economic development.

Specifically, participants first were asked their opinion on the most important strategies to implement. Secondly, participants were asked for any suggested changes or additions to the strategies described in the regional plan. The results of these public sessions are found below.



Public Forums

May 30 – Batavia

June 6 – Geneva

June 7 - Brighton



Public Forum Results

High Priority Regional Strategies:

- Strengthen and develop education and training programs
- Address local and statewide barriers to growth and competitiveness
- Develop systems that monitor and identify firms and sectors with high growth potential
- Expand access to capital
- Develop programs and shared resources that allow closer collaboration between academia & industry scientists
- Address regional workforce shortages in key industries

Public Forum Results

Top Suggested Changes to Regional Strategies

- Expand on Community Development with specific actions/projects
- More collaboration on and coordination of workforce development programs
- Focus on start-ups and small businesses
- Add development of rural broadband infrastructure to the plan
- Address brain drain of young talent
- Advocate for additional focus on career pipeline in K-12 education