

Community Development News
By Christy Hopkins

It's been a beautiful, if breath-taking, cold around here the last day or two. It sounds like the rest of this week will be more of the same, if not colder. Please stay warm and safe and send warm thoughts to all those - from ranchers to linemen to utility workers, truck drivers, and more - who can't avoid being out in these frigid conditions.

Like many of you, I watched the Super Bowl Sunday evening. It will likely come as no surprise that I was taken by the Bruce Springsteen Jeep commercial, which was filmed in an around Lebanon, Kansas, at the center of

the contiguous U.S. As a Jeep girl and a Kansan, the message of common ground resonated, though I'll admit that The Boss is tougher than I am - I usually leave the top on my jeep when there's snow!

We've begun making plans for this year's June Jaunt, which is scheduled for June 4-6, 2021. Please get in touch if you'd like to brainstorm or make plans for an event as the time to set the schedule will be here before we know it!

Have a great Valentine's Day weekend ahead. It's a great time to tell people and businesses that you love and appreciate them!

Greeley County Health Department Update

For the second week in a row, through the combined efforts of the Greeley County Health Department and Greeley County Services and several volunteers, another 100 people who live and work in Greeley County were vaccinated with their first dose of Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. Through the health department, 30 people have completed both doses of the vaccine series and 200 others have gotten their first dose. We continue to receive a weekly allocation of vaccine and are keeping a list of those who are interested in receiving the vaccine. If you are wanting to receive the vaccine at some point in the future, please call the health department at 620-376-4200. We have a list broken down into KDHE's phases and priority groups and have the ability to add notes, such as health conditions or an occupation that makes someone high risk or an essential worker. We will contact you when we have reached your phase, priority group, and name on our list.

COVID has given public health the opportunity to set up mass vaccination clinics, or PODs (Points of Dispensing). We have been practicing PODs since I started working at the health department, but we initially thought it would be to hand out oral medications in response to a biological terrorist attack (i.e. anthrax). One of the last practice PODs we held was in two junior high classrooms during a high school

basketball game, where we gave Tdap (tetanus) shots. If you attended that game, you might remember that we played on a loop the audio of an infant with pertussis having a coughing fit, which caused many people to come into the classroom to find out why someone wasn't helping the sick baby, which gave us the chance to look up the date of the concerned citizen's last tetanus shot and give them a booster, if needed. During the H1N1 pandemic, we did not receive enough H1N1 vaccine to set up a POD—at the start of the vaccination campaign, there were weeks we would only get one or two doses and we were able to handle scheduling them in the office. Being able to vaccinate almost 17% of our county population in 2 weeks time is truly amazing. I want to thank Melissa Miller, Amy Dinkel, Janie Schmidt, Trice Watts, Katy Reynolds, Jessica Alexander, Linda Peterson, Dondi Doty, and Sheryl Crotinger for all the work that has gone into setting up PODs the past two weeks.

We have 100 doses for "prime" or first doses available. If we are able to give those to residents of our county, we will have over 25% of the population covered. Please, contact our office if you have any interest in receiving the vaccine. If you have questions or are hesitant and would like more information, please contact us.

Governor Kelly Announces Comprehensive 'Framework for Growth' Economic Development Strategy

~Framework for Growth is the first comprehensive economic development strategy produced by the State of Kansas in over 30 years~

TOPEKA - Governor Laura Kelly today unveiled Kansas' new, comprehensive economic development strategic plan, the first of its kind in more than 30 years. The Kansas Framework for Growth is an aggressive strategy to align our state's strengths with emerging trends across the global economy, while guiding economic development at state and local levels into the future.

"Our economic development progress over the past two years has been significant, but an effective strategy does more than focus on the here and now - we must plan for the future and set the stage for sustained growth and prosperity," Governor Kelly said. "The Framework for Growth is a bold plan to address current and future trends in our state, while we continue to promote job growth and new capital investment in communities of every size all across Kansas."

The Framework for Growth was created through data analysis and with input from Kansans statewide. Business and community leaders were engaged to offer suggestions and determine priorities for the Kansas economy, and through a virtual survey and town hall meetings across the state, thousands of Kansans came together to help create the final plan.

"At the end of the day, the Framework for Growth is about keeping our kids and families in Kansas," Lieutenant Governor and Commerce Secretary David Toland said. "For too long we've exported our greatest asset - our educated young people - at a loss, sending them to states where they can find better economic opportunities. That's unacceptable, and we can and must do better. The Framework for Growth provides a path forward, leveraging our assets - high-quality workers, top-notch K-12 and higher ed, excellent infrastructure and a business-friendly climate - to dramatically accelerate our rate of economic growth in this decade. Ultimately that's how we make sure our grandchildren can grow, prosper and raise their own kids in Kansas."

The Framework for Growth outlines specific approaches to help develop the state's number one asset - its people. By focusing on talent and innovation, the Framework aims to build resiliency in the Kansas workforce and unlock the potential for new ideas to cultivate and develop into

tomorrow's prosperous businesses.

Some key initiatives outlined within Framework for Growth include a renewed emphasis on the following, among many others:

Talent development and retention

Harnessing the state's colleges and universities for job and business creation

Innovation as a driver of new business opportunity

Community assets and regional approaches to economic development

Policies to support long-term growth.

"I know from my experiences as Governor, and later as Archivist of the United States - leading the National Archives Records Administration at the federal level - there is tremendous value in looking big-picture, long range, at where we are and where we want to be," former Kansas Governor John Carlin said. "With everyone pulling in the same direction, you can accomplish some amazing things. I have no doubt that, if the Framework for Growth is bought-into and implemented, it can do great things here in Kansas."

"It's time for us to build another common approach and lay out our goals to grow the state," former Kansas Governor Mike Hayden said. "This plan does not belong to one administration; it is the Kansas plan for growth. As former Governors, John and I are proud to join with the current Governor in making the case for this shared vision for our state's future."

"By emphasizing innovation across our core industries as a driver of economic development, the Framework demonstrates forward-thinking vision for Kansas," Andrew Nave, Executive Vice President of the Greater Wichita Partnership, said. "Our region fully supports the Framework and its guiding principles as the right course for Kansas."

"Reinforcing and expanding on commitments to businesses and manufacturers as catalysts for growth - while seizing opportunities to attract and retain talent as a way to bolster the workforce - is a welcome and appropriate strategy in positioning our state's economy for growth now and for years to come," Mark Chalfant, CEO of Fuller Industries, said. "We're glad to see our state taking bold action to grow and succeed well into the future."

"I'm pleased to see the Framework's people-first approach, which we very much embrace in rural Kansas, and the emphasis on building and strengthening our communities statewide,"

Director of Greeley County Community Development Christy Hopkins said. "This plan indicates that our state understands the value of quality of life in overall economic development in places rural, urban and suburban. The Framework's commitment to strengthening people and communities of all sizes is both refreshing and critical to our state's future."

"To ensure the continued strength and vitality of the Kansas economy, we need to craft policies and programs that anticipate our long-term needs," said Blake Schreck, President and CEO of the Lenexa Chamber of Commerce and President of Team Kansas. "We need to be creative and aggressive in our economic development efforts, and I believe this Framework gives us clear direction on how we can build a dynamic economy for our state that serves us not only today, but well into the future."

"I'm pleased to see our state implementing this creative new approach to economic development," Joann Knight, Economic Development Director for Dodge City, said. "Workforce and housing are major priorities in Western Kansas, and I'm glad to know that the Kelly administration sees these concerns as major priorities. I look forward to

the implementation of the Framework for Growth, and I know its lasting effects will be hugely positive for our city, our region and our state."

"Making talent retention and talent growth central to the Framework is absolutely the right and necessary move," Matt Pavarnik, CEO of the Greater Topeka Partnership, said. "We've benefitted from so many young professional minds creating new opportunities, and we understand that keeping and creating the next generation of leaders in Kansas is essential for our state's economic future. We look forward to the focus on this economic development blueprint the Framework delivers."

Creation of the Framework for Growth began in late 2019, but the new challenges brought about through the COVID-19 pandemic created an urgent need to rethink our approach resulting in a strategic plan with the flexibility to respond to our ever-changing economic conditions.

Through the Framework for Growth, Kansas will be one of the first states in the nation to take a comprehensive look at the new normal beyond COVID-19 and develop a holistic strategy to guide state-level economic development policy.

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PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AIRPORT PROJECTS

The Greeley County Unified Board of Supervisors as sponsor for the Tribune Municipal Airport hereby announces its proposed FY 2019-2021 Triennial DBE Goal for Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) airport construction projects as indicated below:

Fiscal Year 2019:
No Project Receiving AIP Funding

Fiscal Year 2020:
No Project Receiving AIP Funding

Fiscal Year 2021:
Replace Runway 17-35 Edge Lighting System, Relocate Runway 17-35 Holding Position Signs, and Replace Airport Rotating Beacon & Install Tower: 4.18%

Overall Three-Year DBE Goal FY19-FY21: 4.18%

A teleconference will be held on February 17th, 2021 from 10AM to 11AM Central Standard Time for the purpose of consulting with stakeholders to obtain information relevant to the goal setting process. If you would like to comment on the proposed DBE goal, please dial into the teleconference at (415) 464-6800 with conference code 2180581# or email lsplillers@dbeplans.com.

The airport's DBE goal methodology is based on what the airport anticipates receiving for FY 2019-2021. Significant changes to the projects as stated will require an amendment to the DBE goal.

It's your future. Let's protect it.™
Together we'll create a plan to protect what matters most to you.

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