

REX

DEVELOPMENT

August 18, 2021

Dear Chief Elected Officials of SCRCOG,

Over the past several weeks, we have been collaborating with partners at the local, regional, and national levels to establish the priorities of South Central Connecticut for our recovery. We have participated in multiple planning and information sessions with the US EDA, SBA, CT Communities and AdvanceCT. As the regional Economic Development District, all requests for EDA funding must be submitted to REX for review prior to submission to the US EDA.

We have indicated to CT DECD that REX is vetting the applications for American Rescue Plan Act funding in the following areas (NOFOs included):

- Build Back Better
- Tourism & Outdoor Rec
- Econ Adj Assistance
- Good Job Challenge

Applications are reviewed in relation to the region's 5-Year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (2018-2023). As the pandemic exacerbated many of our existing concerns detailed in the CEDS, this is an opportunity to address pressing regional issues. As we move forward in this process, we will be seeking input from our municipalities as well as our community partners.

While we move forward on these systemic issues, we will continue to re-enforce public health protocols for the benefit of our residents and business owners.

Graphs of regional unemployment claims are attached. If you would like the spreadsheet by town, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Ginny Kozlowski
Executive Director

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