

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy 2018-2022



Tri County Council
For Western Maryland

Economic Development District
serving Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties, Maryland

What is a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy?

Tri-County Council for Western Maryland is designated by the US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) as the Economic Development District (EDD) and regional planning organization. The Western Maryland region is comprised of Garrett, Allegany and Washington Counties and their twenty-four municipalities. As an EDD, The Council is required to prepare a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) every five years. Annual updates to the document are required for EDA funding of economic development projects.

The CEDS is a strategy-driven plan for regional economic development. These economic development programs create or retain full-time permanent jobs and improve income characteristics, particularly for the unemployed and under-employed citizens of the region. Established by local representatives from public, private and non-profit sectors of the three Western Maryland counties, the document follows the CEDS Content Guidelines released by the Economic Development Administration.

CEDS Committee Develops Online Survey

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) will serve as the fundamental plan for the agency's economic development efforts for the communities it serves for the next five years. As part of this process, CEDS committee members have developed an online survey. The survey seeks to understand the views of community members on the opportunities and threats associated with the region's economic growth and development. Tri-County Council wants the regional community to have strong and substantive input in the process. Specifically, TCCWMD asks the region to guide its economic development efforts by helping to prioritize issues that affect Western Maryland.

CEDS Survey Categories Include:

Business and Economic Development

Education

Healthcare

Infrastructure

Local/State Government

Real Estate

Workforce

Previous Survey Results from Survey Question:

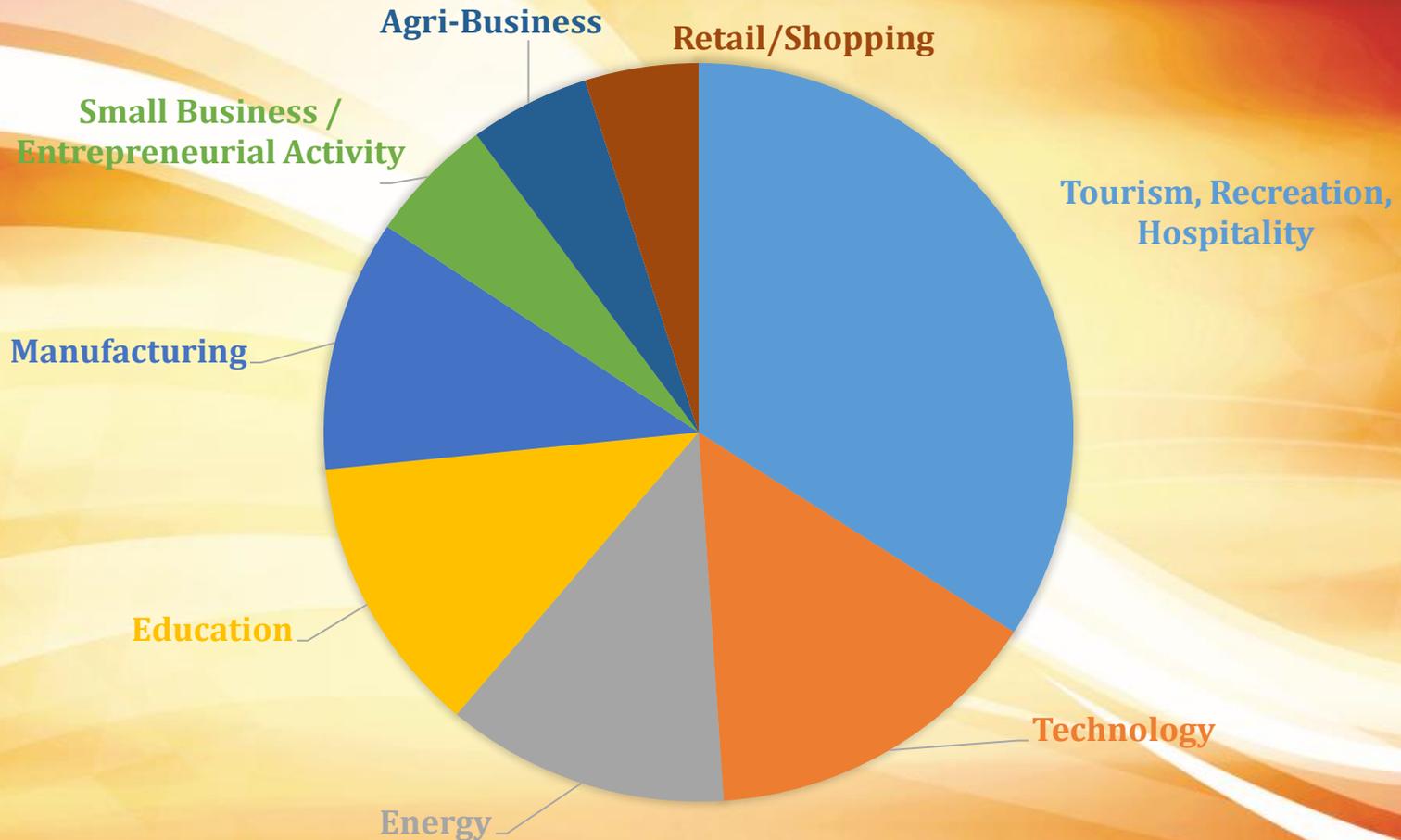
Question: Think about the variety of potential business activities in the region and which of these activities present economic development opportunity.

The following were listed with options from Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree



Previous Survey Results from Survey Question:

Free Form Response: In your opinion, what is the biggest opportunity in the region for productive economic development?



Online CEDS Survey

Tri-County Council asks the region to guide its economic development efforts by helping to prioritize issues that affect Western Maryland and will provide access to the Survey on its website at www.tccwmd.org. The region is invited to participate in the survey beginning Thursday, June 22, 2017.

Participation in the survey is voluntary and answers will remain completely anonymous. All participants who complete the survey will be entered in a drawing to receive one of five \$100 VISA gift cards. Participants must be 18 years or older.

Results of the survey will be available online in Fall 2017.



Tri County Council for Western Maryland, Inc. (TCCWMD) is a local Development District serving a three-county region in Appalachian Maryland. TCCWMD is owned by its member governments of Allegany, Garrett and Washington Counties and has provided economic and community development assistance to its partners since its inception in 1971. TCCWMD encourages and facilitates government cooperation by addressing issues of greater than local significance on a regional basis.

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