**Bent County Projects Summary**

**Access To Capital**

The region has moderate to strong capacity in the availability of debt capital, though the lack of a regional SBA 504 packager is a need to be addressed. There is a need to strengthen existing Revolving loan funds to increase capacity and perhaps to offer niche products. Within Pueblo County, there are strong incentive programs for specific types of industries and job creations. The region, however, is an equity desert, with little access to capital for startups, follow on funding, or private equity funds to help existing businesses to pivot or grow. The strategy is to increase access to equity capital in the region and develop an entrepreneurial ecosystem that supports startups in the tech sector and the intellectual property sector.

**SCEDD Regional Programs**

Program- **SoCo Angels Support**. Provide three years of operational support to develop an early Angel startup network of Accredited Investors to fund the seed stage for tech and intellectual property startups

Status of Program- Development

Lead- SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels,

Program Cost Estimate--$300k per annum

Funding Options- EDA technical assistance grant, Foundation grants

Program: **Angel fund.** Adjunctive to SoCo Angels, the development of a separate fund can support individual angel investments with an institutional investment or a “sidecar” fund created by accredited investors who want to supplement individual investments with group efforts.

Status of Program—Conceptual

Lead: SCEDD, SCIL, SoCo Angels

Program Cost Estimate: Institutional fund--$500k; Sidecar fund $500k

Funding options: Institutional: Foundations; Sidecar: Accredited investors of SoCo Angels

Program: **SBA 504 Packaging.** Re-enter this SBA program with either a stand-alone entity or in partnership with adjoining packagers. This product is a critical credit enhancer for collateral-oriented commercial banks considering startups of between $1 million and $5 million that have commercial real estate for collateral.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD

Program cost estimate: Approximately $100k per annum at start, with additional costs dependent on deal flow and generation of fees.

Funding Options—Startup loans, Foundation grants, Commercial bank support

Program: **Rural** **Downtown Mixed-Use Revitalization Program.** A revolving low interest loan fund for mixed-use properties in the 8 counties in the southeastern plains that offer low interest loans for both the downstairs commercial and upstairs residential units.

Status of Program—Early Development

Lead: SCEDD and SECED

Program cost estimate: $1million

Funding Options- Grant $800 DOLA/OEDIT and $200K County match

**Agriculture/ Ranching**

Project- **Bent County. Grain Elevator?**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options –

Project- **Value Added Agriculture?**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate –

Funding Options –

**Broadband Development**

SCEDD Regional Programs

Program—**Broadband Support Office**. SCEDD will create a two to three person office to take the lead in implementing broadband with a regional approach. Local projects need to be rolled up into regional and sub-region initiatives to secure adequate funding and to manage fewer, but larger projects. Part of that effort will be to create a region-wide grant match gap funds to assist with securing funds.

Status of Program—In development

Lead—SCEDD

Project Cost Estimate--$250k per annum in operational support; $1M per annum in grant match gap fund

Funding options—EDA technical assistance grant, DOLA, Electricity providers, County government, Foundation grants

**Business Development**

Project- **Fort Lyon SE Colorado Small Business Incubator**. Description.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Department of Local Affairs (DOLA)

Project Cost Estimate - $5,000,000

Funding Options – none listed

Project- **City of Las Animas Industrial Park.** Develop city 40-acre tract for industrial, manufacturing, housing or other uses.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of Las Animas, Public Works

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – I & I Reserves and grants through EDA, DOLA and others

Project- **Bent County Historic High School Incubator?** Description.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Bent County

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

**Critical Infrastructure**

Project- **City of Las Animas Flood Mitigation.** Improvements to city’s storm water facilities including piping, inlets and construction of new surface conveyance facilities, piping and channels.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of Las Animas, Public Works

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – I & I reserves, Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, and grants through DOLA, CDPHE, CWCB and USDA-RD

Project - **City of Las Animas Electric Main Feed.** Rebuild main feed, built in 1960 into City of Las Animas

Status of Project – Preliminary engineering

Lead – Las Animas Municipal Light & Power

Project Cost Estimate – $5 Million

Funding Options – EDA Match and Capital, County Road and Bridge could blade roads into the work area off of Hwy 50 and Light and Power could provide labor with the demolition of the old structure.

Project – **City of Las Animas Electric Generation Replacement.** A 6.23 MW system that consists of three(3) Caterpillar 2100 Kw, 13.8 Kv G520s

Natural Gas Standby Generator Sets, installed in a pre-fab steel building.

Status of Project – Preliminary engineering

Lead – Las Animas Municipal Light Power

Project Cost Estimate - $5,846,300

Funding Options – EDA Match and Capital

Project- **City of Las Animas Wastewater Plant.** Undertaking necessary improvements to city wastewater treatment facility to meet current and upcoming water quality parameter restrictions within city’s discharge permit.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Las Animas, Public Works

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Sewer Fund reserves, Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, and grants through DOLA, CDPHE, CWCB and USDA-RD

Project- **Lower Arkansas River Water Authority (Mike Weber – Rocky Ford)**. Undertaking best management practice (BMP) improvements to irrigated fields in Bent and Otero Counties upstream of city wastewater treatment facility to reduce nitrogen, phosphorus, sulfate, selenium and manganese to meet city’s current and upcoming discharge requirements. BMP may consist of changing a field from flood irrigation to center pivot, lining irrigation ponds, enhancing soil matrix, installation of riparian buffer zones, etc.

Status of Project – Planning

Lead – City of Las Animas, Public Works

Project Cost Estimate N/A

Funding Options – Sewer Fund reserves, Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, and grants through DOLA, CDPHE, CWCB and USDA-RD.

Project- **City of Las Animas Water.** Replacement of water mains, water service lines and appurtenances throughout city distribution system. (lead service lines)

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – City of Las Animas, Public Works

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Water Fund reserves, Drinking Water Revolving Fund, Grants through DOLA, CDPHE, CWCB, RD

Project- **Arkansas Valley Conduit**. Connection to existing water system, water treatment plant improvements to accommodate new water source, and additional treatment requirements.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Southeast Water Conservancy District (Bill Long, Board of Directors)

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Water Fund reserves, Drinking Water Revolving Fund, Grants through DOLA, CDPHE, CWCB, RD

Project **- Fort Lyon Canal Co. Infrastructure.** Enlargement of Adobe Creek Reservoir to maximum operation water surface 4138

Status of Project – Planned – Site Studies, Hydraulic Modeling and Alternatives. Evaluation Complete.

Lead – Fort Lyon Canal Company

Project Cost Estimate – $10,871,000

Funding Options –

Project - **Fort Lyon Canal Co. Infrastructure.** Earth removal (phase 2) for left bank expansion.

Status of Project – Planned – Site Studies, Hydraulic Modeling and Alternatives. Evaluation Complete.

Lead – Fort Lyon Canal Company

Project Cost Estimate – $4,397,000

Funding Options –

Project - **Fort Lyon Canal Co. Infrastructure.** Lower Diversion Dam Replacement Install overshot gates and a skimming weir.

Status of Project – Planned – Site Studies, Hydraulic Modeling and Alternatives. Evaluation Complete.

Lead – Fort Lyon Canal Company

Project Cost Estimate – $2,945,000

Funding Options –

Project - **Fort Lyon Canal Co. Infrastructure.** Upper-Diversion Dam Replacement. Replacement two radial gates and provide bypass flow measurements.

Status of Project – Planned - Site Studies, Hydraulic Modeling and Alternatives. Evaluation Complete.

Lead – Fort Lyon Canal Company

Project Cost Estimate – $7,371,300

Funding Options –

**Workforce Housing Strategies**

Project – **Regional (Bent, Crowley, Otero) Single Family rehabilitation for LMI**. 20 units per year of single-family, owner-occupied rehabilitation for LMI, expected to be modified to 120% AMI.

Project Status – Active; re-contracting for 2022

Lead – Total Concept

Project Cost Estimate - $1,033,008

Funding Options – CDBG, NPO RLF, Section 4, Intermediary Funders

Project- **Housing Rehabilitation and Energy Efficiency Office?**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Program- **Regional Development Incentives?**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Program- **Mobile Home Replacement?**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Program- **Downton Mixed-Use Living?**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

**Education/Work Force Development**

Project- **Early Childhood Center Expansion?**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Elsie Goines; Leana Gardner

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Program- **Fort Lyon CDL Training**?

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

Project **– Southeast Colorado Region Entrepreneurship programming for 5th – 12th grade** public school, private school and home school students in the seven-county area of SE Colorado

Status of Program – Implemented w/continuing programming

Lead – SEBREA Fiscal Agent

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Possible grant funding from the Rawlings Foundation, El Pomar, Daniels Fund, and other regional foundations.

Project/Program – **Fort Lyon Hazardous Materials Testing Lab**. Capital improvement and program funding to develop a regional hazardous

material testing lab located at Fort Lyon that will partner with the SECO SBI in workforce development.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Bent County/BCDF

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local matching funds, STEM grant funds, other grant funding, EDA funds

Project – **Las Animas - Redevelop Current Building Into Community Co-working space**. Redevelop the current building located at

1214 Ambassador Thompson Blvd. into a community co-working space, children’s learning museum, and potentially an office location for

remote work (example: Pax8).

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Bent County/BCDF

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Private investment, local matching funds, grant funds, historical tax credits, History Colorado, Brownfield Tax Credits.

**Renewable Energy**

Project- **Fort Lyon Energy Solar.** Installation of smaller solar field onsite at Fort Lyon Campus

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Department of Local Affairs (DOLA)

Project Cost Estimate - $150,000

Funding Options – DOLA funds

Project- **Fort Lyon Energy Solar mega Watt**- Installation of large solar field onsite at the Fort Lyon Campus that would connect to the larger power grid in the Lower Arkansas Valley.

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Department of Local Affairs (DOLA)

Project Cost Estimate – N/A Wendy Hawthorne

Funding Options - These projects can be financed through private entities if they are owned by those entities.

Project- **City of Las Animas Electric.** Replace generators at LA Power Plant and solar.

Status of Project – Not Given

Lead – Not Given (LA Light and Power?)

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options –

**Recreation and Tourism**

Project-**Southeastern Plains Arkansas River Trail.** Fort Lyon to John Martin and Municipalities. Lower Arkansas River Valley.

Status of Project- Concept/Planning

Lead- Bent County and DOLA

Potential Match- GOCO

Project Cost – N/A

Funding Options-

Project – **Colorado Parks and Wildlife Infrastructure.** – Installation and maintenance of fish screen on Adobe Creek Reservoir -Blue Lake.

Status of Project – Engineering Designs ready for submittal to State Dam Safety Division.

Lead – Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Project Cost Estimate – $847,600

Funding Options – CPW

Project- **LA Rec Area?**

Status of Project- Concept/Planning

Lead- City of LA

Project Cost – N/A

Funding Options-

Project- **John Martin Boat Ramp?**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead – Need project sheet

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Project- **Las Animas** **Fairgrounds?**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –

Project – **Las Animas to Boggsville Bike Path**. Install a paved bike path from the Bent County Courthouse in Las Animas along Hwy 101

to Boggsville.

Status of Project – Concept

Lead – Bent County/BCDF

Project Cost Estimate – N/A

Funding Options – Local matching funds, SECED Mini grant funds, GOCO grant funds, Colorado Health Foundation grant funds.

**Health Care/Public Health/ Mental Health**

Project- **Bent County Urgent Care?**

Status of Project – Concept and Planning

Lead –

Project Cost Estimate -

Funding Options –