



ANDOVER, AUGUSTA, BEL AIRE, BENTLEY, BENTON, BUTLER COUNTY, CHENEY, CLEARWATER, COLWICH, CONWAY SPRINGS, DERBY, EL DORADO, GARDEN PLAIN, GODDARD, HALSTEAD, HARVEY COUNTY, HAYSVILLE, HESSTON, HUTCHINSON, KECHI, KINGMAN COUNTY, MAIZE, MCPHERSON, MCPHERSON COUNTY, MOUNT HOPE, MULVANE, NEWTON, PARK CITY, RENO COUNTY, ROSE HILL, SEDGWICK, SEDGWICK COUNTY, SUMNER COUNTY, VALLEY CENTER, WELLINGTON, WICHITA

REAP 2012 Work Plan

Adopted December 8, 2011

The Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP) is comprised of thirty-six city and county governments in nine counties of South Central Kansas, which include Butler, Cowley, Harper, Harvey, Kingman, McPherson, Reno, Sedgwick and Sumner counties. Since its inception, REAP has been guided by the following mission:

To guide state and national actions that affect economic development in the region, and to adopt joint actions among member governments that enhance the regional economy.

The following is the REAP adopted work plan for 2012, it assigns elements of the plan to the four standing committees: Executive, Economic Development, Legislative, and Water Resources.

Executive Committee

- Administer the Kansas Affordable Airfares Program and assure that all statutory requirements for programming, evaluation, accounting and auditing, financial management, and reporting are met.
- Administer the Fiscal Year 2011 HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant program and assure that all requirements for programming, evaluation, accounting and auditing, financial management, and reporting are met.
- Serve as the treasury for REAP, collect all REAP revenues, make disbursements in accord with the budget adopted by REAP, and conduct financial management of REAP assets in accord with REAP fiscal procedures.
- Determine the organizational capacity to support the future structure and needs of REAP.
- Examine available resources for REAP and recommend sustainable funding sources to provide REAP necessary operating resources for the future.
- Carry out public relations and communication strategies about REAP activities to local governments and citizens in South Central Kansas.
- Engage Topeka-based representation.
- Assure representation by REAP in regional organizations concerned with economic development, including:
 - Greater Wichita Economic Development Coalition;
 - Mid-Continent Airport Advisory Board;
 - KansasBio;
 - Visioneering Wichita;
 - Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization; and
 - Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas.

Economic Development Committee

- Perform duties as Chief Elected Officials Board under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998.

Strengthening the economy of South Central Kansas through joint action of cities and counties.

REAP 2012 Work Plan

- Review the current purpose of the REAP Economic Development Committee and develop a Committee mission/purpose statement.
- Evaluate the role of the REAP Economic Development Committee to serve as the Chief Elected Officials Board.
- Compile and evaluate the impact of local, state, and federal incentives and regulations on the region.
- Conduct education for local officials on economic and community development through promotion of existing opportunities and guidelines.
- Create an alternative energy taskforce with a clear purpose and objectives.

Legislative Committee

- Expand the composition of the Legislative Committee to include representation from various industries and groups.
- Evaluate process for determining legislative priorities to increase participation.
- Conduct an annual regional legislative policy summit that includes relevant speakers and topics.
- Conduct a “Listening” Tour to identify issues of importance.
- Conduct on-going community visitations to provide updates to councils and commissions on the purpose, goals, and status of REAP.
- Identify and make REAP members aware of legislative issues of significance to South Central Kansas and promote engagement.
- Monitor progress on legislative priorities for 2012 and give guidance to legislative liaison as issues arise.
- Recommend legislative priorities to REAP for the 2013 legislative session.

Water Resources Committee

- Utilize the Water Resources Technical Sub-Committee to begin working through the "Regional Water Planning Research Guide."
- Research water, wastewater, and stormwater rate information in the region
- Provide other research as requested by WRC member communities
- Expand the composition of the Water Resources Committee membership on special assignments to include representation from various public water supplies and interest groups.
- Evaluate process for determining legislative priorities to increase participation.
- Conduct an annual Regional Water Conference that includes relevant speakers and topics.
- Assist in the REAP “Listening” Tour to identify water issues of importance.
- Conduct on-going community visitations to provide updates to councils and commissions on the purpose, goals, and status the REAP WRC.
- Identify and make WRC members aware of legislative issues affecting public water supplies in South Central Kansas and recommend legislative priorities to the REAP Legislative Committee.
- Monitor progress on water related legislative priorities for 2012 and give guidance to legislative liaison as issues arise.