



SEDB Takes the Lead.

Your financial support of SEDB fuels our ability to effectively engage our partners to implement the Strengthening Stark Plan, improve economic development outcomes and catalyze the transformation of Stark County into a growing, more prosperous community.

Target Growth.



Develop industry-specific strategies to grow key business sectors.

Improve Infrastructure Near Existing Job Hubs.

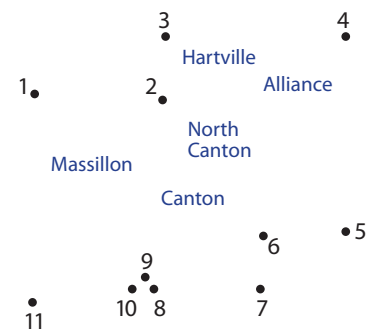


Recruit companies to sites that make jobs more accessible to all residents.

Encourage Collaboration.

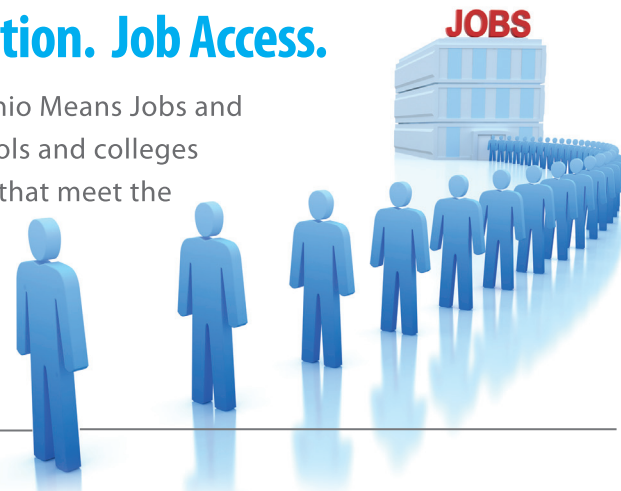
Partner with organizations, governmental entities and businesses to support the economic plan.

Connect the dots! >



Job Creation. Job Preparation. Job Access.

Join forces with Ohio Means Jobs and Stark County schools and colleges to align programs that meet the talent demands in Stark County.



Collaborate with the Stark Entrepreneurship Alliance and community partners to build initiatives and support start-ups and early-stage companies.

Foster Entrepreneurship.



Seek Greater Investments to Get Greater Returns.

Reverse current trends of smaller, older, poorer.



Strengthening STARK

A CALL FOR ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

Fact: In 2000 Stark County's population was 378,098. The State of Ohio projects by 2040 the population is expected to drop to 355,500—a decline of 6%.

Fact: Over the next decade, the only age group expected to rise in Stark County is residents 65 and over.

Fact: The percentage of Stark County's residents living in poverty rose from 9% to nearly 15% since 2000.

The STRENGTHENING STARK PLAN Strengthens You.

The Strengthening Stark Economic Plan is a shared effort to transform Stark County into a growing, younger and more prosperous community. A diverse group of partners from multiple sectors are committed to working together to implement the plan. Economic development entities, from across the county, have assumed responsibility for much of the plan's development, and the Stark Economic Development Board is responsible for overall plan coordination, in addition to measuring the progress of the plan and communicating that progress to the community.

Partners in the plan have focused on both how they will work together to develop and implement the plan, and what priorities they will address together.

- Goal:** Transform Stark into a growing, younger and more prosperous community.
- How we work:** Partners share responsibility for plan development and implementation.
- SEDB** coordinates planning process, measures progress, and communicates performance.
- Community Stakeholders** engage in plan development and implementation.
- Planning Committee** provides governance; oversees plan development and implementation.

STRENGTHENING NEO Strengthens You

SEDB works closely with Team NEO to attract new companies to Stark, as well as to help existing companies grow by leveraging their industry and innovation expertise. SEDB relies on Team NEO's marketing and research resources, as well as their connections to Jobs Ohio. In 2018, a tighter partnership will be formed with Team NEO, including sharing a staff member to better meet the needs of Stark County businesses. SEDB and Team NEO share a commitment to accelerating economic growth in Northeast Ohio and Stark County.

Teamneo

SEDB Priorities:

Strengthen Talent Supply Chain: Growing businesses need well-prepared talent. We will help companies, job seekers, educators, training programs and others to understand our county's supply of talent and our near- and longer-term demand for talent. We will help maximize alignment of supply and demand. We will celebrate businesses that attract and retain local talent, and we will encourage other companies to adopt their practices.

Retain & Grow Existing Businesses: Most jobs are created by existing companies. We will target high-growth potential companies and connect them to the resources and services they need to accelerate their growth.

Grow Targeted Industries: Key strong industries and industries projected to grow will drive economic growth in Stark County. We will develop specific strategies to accelerate the growth of these industries, including attracting new businesses. Targeted industries include: manufacturing, food processing, tourism and entertainment, and petrochemicals/plastics. We will develop and implement strategies to grow these industries.

Catalyze Entrepreneurship: Stark County has a long, rich history of entrepreneurship. We will continue the next chapter in that story by helping startups to secure the mentorship, talent and capital they need to succeed.

Improve Connective Infrastructure: Our businesses and residents need strong connections to each other and the world. These connections rely on everything from bike trails and highways to rail lines and fiber optic cables. We will identify and advocate for infrastructure investments that create stronger connections for Stark County, SEDB and Team NEO.