

Western Maine Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy



AVCOG Strategic Initiatives In support of Regional Goals

Support economic vitality of the region's businesses

- Provide subordinated debt and equity
- Maine Small Business Development Center
- Maine Manufacturers Extension Partnership
- Maine Procurement Technical Assistance

Improvement of Western Maine's business climate

- L/A College IT Learning Center
- Local Workforce Investment Board Partnership—Transportation, Distribution and Logistics (TDL) Program

Support communities ability to diversify and develop new economic opportunities

- Androscoggin Valley Region Pine Tree Zone Administration
- Mountain Counties Heritage Network and Maine Woods Consortium
- Northern Forest Center-Sustainable Economy Initiative Implementation
- Quality of Place Report Implementation
- Maine Lakes and Mountains Tourism Council and Franklin County Fermata Working Group
- Northern Forest Canoe Trail

Improve and expand the region's public infrastructure to meet both residential and commercial needs

- Northern Border Regional Commission
- Economic Development Administration (EDA) Re-Authorization
- EDA Technical Assistance -Kingfield Water District Project Administration Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Technical Assistance—Rumford and Livermore Falls Façade Programs
- Mobilize Maine Initiative
- Regional Transportation Assessment Plan MPO Long Range Plan Implementation

Promote Regional Economic Cooperation and Analysis

- Maine Economic Development District Association (MEDDA)
- Affordable Housing Coalition
- AVCOG Regional Capital Investment Planning (RCIP); Open Space Plan and Regional Priorities implementation
- Scenic Byways
- Androscoggin Watershed Council

AVCOG Region Vision

Our shared vision for the tri-county area is a place of quality and natural beauty that offers an excellent residential and business environment with a healthy and stable economy that meets the varied and changing needs of the region. To that end the region will have:

adequate infrastructure (i.e. telecommunications and transportation) to support economic development;
quality job opportunities;
educational opportunities for all ages;
strong partnership between communities;
bustling downtowns;
suitable development in all parts of the region;
high environmental quality; and
youth opportunities

The tri-county will be a place where people can live and prosper and want to spend their whole lives!