

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission Draft Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) — FORGE

Serving Calhoun, Chambers, Cherokee, Clay, Cleburne, Coosa, Etowah, Randolph, Talladega, and Tallapoosa Counties

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: September 1–30, 2026

PUBLIC HEARING: Friday, September 11, 2026, at 12:00 noon

The East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission (EARPDC), together with the CEDS Strategy Committee, invites the public to review and comment on FORGE (Framework for Opportunity, Resilience, and a Growing Economy), the draft Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the East Alabama region.

The CEDS is a regional strategy designed to strengthen and diversify the economy, support job creation, improve living conditions, and coordinate public- and private-sector economic development efforts. Residents, businesses, local governments, community organizations, and other interested parties are encouraged to review the draft and provide feedback on regional priorities, needs, goals, and proposed actions.

PUBLIC HEARING LOCATION

Location: EARPDC Board Room, Quintard Tower, Suite 300, 1130 Quintard Avenue, Anniston, Alabama 36201

Microsoft Teams participation

Meeting link: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/283448090327186?p=Lo4tbXaQ45FN2Nrmj3>

Meeting ID: 283 448 090 327 186

Passcode: dP2wi2Ux

Dial-in number: 469-848-0248

The September 11 hearing provides an opportunity to offer comments in person or through Microsoft Teams. Attendance at the hearing is not required to submit comments.

REVIEW THE DRAFT AND SUBMIT COMMENTS

Online: The draft will be available throughout the comment period at www.earpdc.org.

Email: eric.wright@earpdc.org

Mail or hand delivery: Eric Wright, Director of Planning and Development, EARPDC, P.O. Box 2186, Anniston, AL 36202. Hand deliveries may be made to [\[EW1\]](#) [\[EW2\]](#) [\[EW3\]](#) EARPDC at 1130 Quintard Avenue, Anniston, Alabama 36201

Telephone/questions: 256-237-6741, extension 149

Comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. Central Time on Wednesday, September 30, 2026.

A printed copy or alternative format of the draft is available upon request. Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a reasonable modification to participate in the hearing, should contact Eric Wright at 256-237-6741 or eric.wright@earpdc.org as soon as possible, but no later than 48 hours before the hearing.

All timely comments will be reviewed and considered before the CEDS is finalized.