



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

In order to make many of the action steps in this plan a reality, funding and entrepreneurial support is crucial. Local economic development is one of the four overarching goals of this plan. To that end, the following action steps were created.

### **ACTION STEPS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES**

#### **1. SPEAK TO EXISTING BUSINESSES IN THE SECTOR TO BUILD RELATIONSHIPS AND CREATE NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR BUSINESS EXPANSION, DEVELOPMENT, AND COLLABORATION.**

- a. Create an inventory of business opportunities and create basic business models.
- b. Communicate what recycled material is available and its value in terms of money and job creation.
- c. Identify and survey existing businesses using recovered materials to find out what types of materials are being used and are needed.

#### **2. COMPLETE A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF MULTIPLE SCENARIOS FOR RECYCLING PROCESSING INFRASTRUCTURE.**

#### **3. INCREASE AWARENESS AND ACCESS TO RESOURCES FOR STARTING AND EXPANDING BUSINESSES.**

- a. Create a plan of action for capital access.
- b. Scan all funding sources<sup>1</sup> that are available and relevant and what their requirements are.
- c. Identify an existing person or establish a position to provide grant support and expertise.
- d. Benchmark current business models and how other programs and businesses in the sector have funded themselves.

## NEXT STEPS

In order to accomplish the goals set forth in this plan, new creative partnerships between public and private entities will be required. AHSWD will also need to look to neighboring counties who share similar challenges to work together to address some of those challenges. Regional collaboration will be key.

A committee that oversees the implementation of this plan and the measuring of its progress will be established following the adoption of this plan. This committee will be responsible for keeping the plan at the forefront of decision making in Athens and Hocking Counties and engaging the public in meeting the goals of the action plan.

---

<sup>1</sup> An initial brainstorm of funding sources available is in the appendix