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# DECEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

It has been a whirlwind of a year here for team CNEDD. We have been so busy with a multitude of projects. Carla Kimball's first year as Executive Director was a smash! We have some exciting news to share with you in the coming year, so keep your eyes and ears open! 2025 is going to bring many new, and thrilling, opportunities for our communities and counties. We are looking forward to everything coming up and excited to bring you along on all our adventures!



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

## 6 Regions, 1 Nebraska Award Announcement



On December 20, CNEDD joined the Southeast Central Economic Development District (SCEDD) to celebrate the first three announcements of awarded projects through the 6 Regions, 1 Nebraska initiative (Metro, Southeast, and Northeast); awards for the state's other three regions (Central, Mid-Plains, and Western) will be announced early next year.

**“To succeed in growing the state, we have to think beyond the welfare of our hometown,”** said Gov. Pillen. **“I appreciate the many leaders who’ve committed to the 6 Regions, 1 Nebraska initiative. The awards announced today are investments into collaborative projects that will benefit entire regions.”**

6 Regions, 1 Nebraska encourages cooperation, instead of competition, among neighboring communities. The regions were determined by the community college districts, and groups met in person, and virtually, to discuss region needs. **Each region successfully supported one application for an award of \$200,000. The CNEDD district covers three of the regions, Central, Northeast, and Mid-Plains, and participated with all three.**

To make the announcement, Gov. Pillen was joined by K.C. Belitz, Director of the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED); Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry President Bryan Slone; regional navigators and co-chairs; community college leaders; and awarded project applicants.

The Metro region also identified housing as a top priority, backing a funding request from Spark, an Omaha-based nonprofit, and Southeast chose to focus on infrastructure needs throughout the region.



You can watch the livestream from this event on our Facebook page!



Happy Holidays from all of us at CNEDD!

Carla, Tish, Deanna, and LaNae

