

Tennessee Certified Economic Developer Capstone Project Outline

Misty DePriest, UT Center for Industrial Services

July 18, 2016

I. Background

- a. Over the course of the last two years, the University of Tennessee Center for Industrial Services has worked with the South Central Tennessee Development District to implement resiliency planning at the business and community level.
- b. The Middle TN region is home to over nine hundred automotive suppliers and two major OEM's; this project was borne from the recognition that a major automotive supply chain disruption would have a devastating economic effect for the region.
- c. This project is applicable to the following TECD coursework:
 - i. Tennessee Business Retention and Expansion course
 - ii. Tennessee Economic Development Finance course
 - iii. Tennessee Managing Economic Development Organizations course
 - iv. Tennessee Strategic Planning for Economic Development course
 - v. Tennessee Marketing and Attraction course
- d. Local, State and National Standards & Trends that Support this Project
 - i. Voice of the customer
 1. Global business environment
 2. Mandate from OEM to businesses
 3. Demand from communities EMA organizations
 4. Lack of resources at automotive suppliers to accomplish
 - ii. Supplier Development Focus area of IMCP Drive program
 - iii. 2012 White House National Strategy for Global Supply Chain Security
 - iv. White House "Public & Private Sector Efforts to Increase Community Resilience through Building Codes and Standards"
 - v. National Institute of Standards and Technology: Codes and Standards for Resilience
 - vi. Increase in community stressors (beyond weather events)
 1. Economic downturns
 2. Lack of skilled workforce to maintain economic growth
 3. Violence
 4. Environmental issues
 5. Cyber security

II. Project Description

- a. Opportunity - Developing and Implementing a Community Resiliency Program in Middle Tennessee
- b. Partnership between the University of Tennessee Center for Industrial Services & South Central Tennessee Development District
- c. This project has several goals:
 - i. Create awareness for the need to have a proactive community resilience program
 - ii. Develop business resilience program for SCTDD

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- iii. Develop community level resilience program for Bedford County to include all stakeholders
 - iv. Drive resiliency from the community level into the business level to include a robust system focused on the Middle TN automotive cluster
 - v. Determine and document ways in which local and state EDO's can drive and support community and business resilience
 - d. This is a long term and ongoing project that will see successes at different times
 - e. Activities to date include:
 - i. Developed unsolicited grant proposal seeking funding to support awareness and training throughout SCTDD region
 - ii. Facilitated regional "lunch and learn" presentations to create awareness for businesses
 - iii. Guest Speaker at NADO conference
 - iv. Facilitated two meetings between NIST and Bedford county stakeholders to begin information sharing and community resilience planning
 - v. Complete research to support project
 - vi. Developed standard processes to implement community & business resilience programs
 - vii. Will develop and implement SCTDD business resilience program on July 29th, 2016.
- III. Results & Lessons Learned To Date
 - a. Resiliency programs require support and understanding of need by all stakeholders
 - b. Many templates, programs, etc exist to accomplish the goals – requires standardization
 - c. More tangible results will be accomplished between now and September, 2016.