



**REGIONAL SOLUTIONS PROGRAM  
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR TINA KOTEK**

**Northeast Regional Priorities and Focus Areas**

Appointed by the Governor, Advisory Committees are composed of community leaders, including a Convener and representatives for cities, counties, businesses, sovereign Tribal nations, and philanthropic and community benefit organizations. Committees are tasked with identifying Regional Priorities for community and economic development, assisting with obtaining and connecting to resources and funding, and utilizing their local connections to advance regional efforts. Below are the priorities and tactics adopted by the members of the Northeast Regional Solutions Advisory Committee on December 19, 2024. The focus areas comprise conversations that the Committee had during the development of the priorities in fall of 2024.

| Priorities            | Focus Areas  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Housing Production    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Middle market housing</li><li>• Workforce development for housing</li></ul>  |
| Community Resilience  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shared services</li><li>• Food security</li><li>• Non-profit sector business development</li><li>• Energy resilience</li></ul>   |
| Infrastructure        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Industrial and commercial land development and availability</li><li>• Resilience and impact on infrastructure</li><li>• Supply chain challenges</li></ul>  |
| Stewardship Economy   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regional food and fiber communities</li><li>• An economy shaped by the need, and responsibility, to manage for the sustainability of both land and communities</li><li>• Highlighting the success of the Rural Engagement and Vitality Center</li><li>• A value stream map of supply chains in the region</li><li>• Encouraging a study of supply chain challenges</li><li>• Development of an entrepreneurship center that addresses shared services for businesses withing the stewardship economy</li></ul> |
| Workforce Development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A focus on getting individuals prepared to be employees (soft skills)</li><li>• Encouraging more flexibility for employees</li><li>• Supporting EOU's grant funding for workforce readiness</li><li>• Long-term investment in education and programs for soft skills within high schools</li></ul>   |

## **Committee Members**

|   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Convener                                    | Kelly Ryan                       |
| County Representative                       | County Commissioner John Hillock |
| City Representative                         | Robert Strobe                    |
| Business Representative                     | Loran Joseph                     |
| Philanthropy Representative                 | Maurizio Valerio                 |
| Community-Based Organization Representative | Haley Hueckman                   |
| Community-Based Organization Representative | Nils Christofferson              |