



## Agenda

### Board of Directors Working Session

April 27, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Shulman Rogers, 12505 Park Potomac Avenue, Potomac, MD 10854

For assistance call 301-355-2201

#### **THEME - Business Retention, Attraction and Expansion A Deep Dive into Key Industries**

- What are the issues and problems REDI needs to address in order to strengthen our key industry areas of Bio/Life Science and Small-Scale Manufacturing
- What issues and problems does REDI need to address with regard to Small Businesses needs and the emergence of Clean Tech

**8:00 Welcome and Goals for Session.....Susan Prince**

**8:10 Presentation.....Cindy Rivarde/Richelle Wilson (The current challenges of the Bio/Life Science sector and the possible emergence of Clean Tech as an Industry Sector)**

**8:30 Presentation.....Ilana Preuss – Recast Cities (Positioning Rock East (and Rockville generally) as the Place for Small Scale Manufacturing)**

**8:50 Brief Discussion**

#### **Breakout Sessions**

Identify the problem REDI needs to address for FY25 for each topic:

*Topics will be discussed in breakout sessions with high level report back to the group*

#### **9:15 Break Out Session Number 1 – Small-Scale Manufacturing**

Some topics to consider include:

- What are the biggest takeaways from the small-scale manufacturing work by Recast Cities?
- What are the pros and cons of REDI helping with the creation of a commercial kitchen or food incubator?
- What are the risks and opportunities of creating a business association in Rock East?

**9:45 Return to Group for Discussion and Report Out**

**10:00 Break**

**10:15 Break Out Session Number 2 - Life/Bio Science and Technology**

Some topics to consider include:

- What do bio/life science businesses need to start, grow, and stay in Rockville?
- What gaps in resources are there for the bio/life science sector that need to be addressed to make our area more competitive with Boston and California?
- What can be done in the Zoning Code rewrite or other governmental regulations or actions to encourage and grow the Life/Bio Science Sector in Rockville?

**10:45 Return to Group for Discussion and Report Out**

**11:00 Break Out Session Number 3 - Small Business or Clean Tech**

Some topics to consider for Clean Tech include:

- Do we see a clean tech business sector emerging in Rockville that should be researched and developed as a potential key industry sector?
- Could Rockville promote energy demo projects like vertical access windmills, solar power, etc. to promote Rockville as a place for innovation?
- Can REDI help facilitate opportunities to lower energy costs for businesses through promoting alternative solutions?

Some topics to consider for Small Business include:

- What are the most pressing needs of small businesses currently?
- Are community needs for small businesses being met – if not, how could meeting these needs be incentivized?
- Are there industry sectors that should be prioritized?

**11:30 Return to Group for Discussion and Report Out**

**11:45 – Closing Discussion**

**Noon – Adjourn**