Create and retain well-paying jobs by supporting growth in our region’s key industries

1. Develop and implement a pilot program that makes it easier for businesses to obtain the permits they need to locate and expand in the region.
1.2 Explore creating an organization to help coordinate economic development activities region-wide.
1.3 Provide a forum for highlighting the economic and workforce development needs of our key industries.
1.4 Consider creating a North Jersey “Futures Council.”
1.5 Connect small businesses that support the region’s innovation clusters to growth and development opportunity.

Enhance North Jersey’s innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem

2.1 Expand the technical assistance and networking resources available to the region’s startups and second-stage companies.
2.2 Establish a regional system of virtual incubators.
2.3 Foster other types of shared workspaces and connect them to economic development and finance programs.
2.4 Create and capitalize a regional innovation fund.

Strengthen the region’s economy by building on existing assets and infrastructure

3.1 Use our region’s transportation infrastructure as a framework for future investment.
3.2 Leverage the region’s role as a major freight distribution hub.
3.3 Strengthen tourism by promoting North Jersey’s arts, cultural, recreation, historic and natural amenities at the regional scale.
3.4 Support and expand agricultural businesses, urban farming and agritourism.

Align workforce training with industry needs

4.1 Align workforce development efforts with industry needs through improved data collection and enhanced coordination.
4.2 Expand occupational and soft skills training to address barriers to employment for disadvantaged workers.
4.3 Help incumbent workers transition to living-wage occupations.
4.4 Create regional apprenticeship and internship programs for non-college-bound students.
4.5 Promote skilled trades and other traditional vocational and technical programs.
4.6 Promote workforce development strategies to support the state’s tourism industry.

Locate most new housing and commercial development in places with existing and planned infrastructure

5.1 Promote transit-oriented development (TOD).
5.2 Encourage infill and redevelopment on existing vacant and underutilized properties.
5.3 Prioritize brownfields for redevelopment.
5.4 Expand the use of innovative planning tools that promote smart development.

Create vibrant places and neighborhoods that will attract and retain residents, workers and visitors

6.1 Design places that meet the diverse needs of people in all age groups.
6.2 Create a physical vision for new development based on an understanding of the unique characteristics that define each place, including historic context.
6.3 Establish programming and management practices to create active, actively-managed spaces.
6.4 Locate development in areas that are walkable, bikeable, and accessible by public transit.
6.5 Invest strategically in catalyst spaces, rather than stand-alone building projects.
6.6 Create the local organizational framework to implement and manage these strategies.

Connect people and places with safe, convenient and reliable transportation

7.1 Maintain transportation infrastructure in a state of good repair.
7.2 Adopt and implement “Complete Streets” policies.
7.3 Improve conditions and service at “Transit Hub” locations.
7.4 Enhance and improve existing public and private transit services.
7.5 Increase transit system capacity in strategic locations.
7.6 Use New Jersey’s State Highway Safety Plan and NJ TRANSIT Safety Programs to improve safety.
7.7 Use technology to improve transportation operations.

Find detailed Action Plans at: togethernorthjersey.com/actionplans
**FA8A** Expand and diversify the region’s housing supply to meet current and future demand
- **8A.1** Increase housing variety and choice by removing regulatory and other barriers to housing production.
- **8A.2** Target financial and other incentives to increase production of housing options not well-supplied.
- **8A.3** Increase the supply of housing affordable to a range of household sizes and incomes, especially in areas that are well-served by public transit.
- **8A.4** Ensure that the region’s existing supply of deed-restricted affordable housing units remain affordable.

**FA8B** Address barriers to housing mobility, increase access to areas of high opportunity and affirmatively further fair housing policies region-wide
- **8B.1** Affirmatively further fair housing policies region-wide.
- **8B.2** Promote regional housing mobility by fostering innovation in the use of Housing Choice Vouchers.
- **8B.3** Use public investment programs to create, connect, and strengthen access to opportunity.
- **8B.4** Increase the supply of affordable, accessible housing options for people with disabilities and seniors in appropriate locations.

**FA9** Create a system of public education that prepares all students for the 21st century economy
- **9.1** Address school funding disparities.
- **9.2** Expand school programming for the 21st Century.
- **9.3** Improve access for pre-K and early childhood education.
- **9.4** Improve educational outcomes by implementing “Community Schools,” wraparound services, and school-community partnerships.
- **9.5** Expand boundaries and access to high performing schools.

**FA10** Enhance the resiliency of the region’s communities and infrastructure
- **10.1** Identify the region’s vulnerabilities to extreme weather and climate change.
- **10.2** Adapt communities to be resilient to extreme weather events and the impacts of climate change.
- **10.3** Expand floodplain buyout programs and return flood-prone areas to their natural function.
- **10.4** Use green infrastructure to mitigate the impacts of extreme weather and climate change.

**FA11** Transition to a clean energy economy
- **11.1** Reduce energy use through conservation and increased efficiency.
- **11.2** Transition to carbon-free electricity generation, including increased use of renewables.
- **11.3** Modernize and upgrade the region’s power infrastructure.
- **11.4** Reduce petroleum use in the transportation sector.

**FA12** Improve health outcomes for our region’s residents
- **12.1** Integrate public health considerations in all aspects of planning and policy-making.
- **12.2** Increase access to affordable healthy foods and maximize access to locally produced fresh food.
- **12.3** Increase access to quality healthcare facilities, especially for medically underserved communities.
- **12.4** Enhance health education programs.
- **12.5** Create safe and healthy buildings, neighborhoods and communities through planning and design.
- **12.6** Expand the use of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) strategies.
- **12.7** Improve conditions for communities that are disproportionately burdened by air pollution.

**FA13** Improve stewardship of natural lands, agricultural lands, open space, parks, historic resources
- **13.1** Work with landowners to stewardship of privately owned natural lands and green space.
- **13.2** Expand programs to preserve parks, open space, natural and agricultural lands permanently.
- **13.3** Improve stewardship of public parks, open space and natural lands.
- **13.4** Implement best practices for stewardship of private and preserved agricultural lands.
- **13.5** Expand programs to preserve historic resources.
- **13.6** Improve stewardship of publicly-owned historic sites.

**FA14** Manage water systems to improve water quality and supply
- **14.1** Improve management of stormwater runoff.
- **14.2** Protect water supplies through planning and enforcement.
- **14.3** Reduce or eliminate combined sewer overflows.

**FA15** Revitalize and strengthen communities by expanding arts and cultural opportunities
- **15.1** Develop financing tools for arts and culture.
- **15.2** Support cultural programs and activities.
- **15.3** Integrate arts and culture into the local, county, regional, and statewide planning efforts.
- **15.4** Fund arts education for all New Jersey students.