

2024 GREDA GOAL SCORING RANKING

Action Item	Community Impact								Chance of Success								Resource Availability								EDA Ownership								Total								Preliminary Ranking	Potential Tasks	
	Connelly	S. Blake	Martinetto	Sutherland	Bruns	Hodnik	Korte	Average	Connelly	S. Blake	Martinetto	Sutherland	Bruns	Hodnik	Korte	Average	Connelly	S. Blake	Martinetto	Sutherland	Bruns	Hodnik	Korte	Average	Connelly	S. Blake	Martinetto	Sutherland	Bruns	Hodnik	Korte	Average	Standard Deviation										
1	Continue to work with HWY 35 LLC on current and future development opportunities								5	5	3	5	5	5	5	4	4.571	4	4	3	3	4	4	3.857	3	3	2	3	4	3	5	3.286	16	17	12	15	16	16	18	15.71	1.89	7	Promote the sale and development of GREDA sites in the Downtown (Block 5, Block 20-21, VFW/Rose) Welcome and support investment interest in the redevelopment of infill sites such as the former K-Mart site, former Ray's Sport and Marine, and former Sawmill Inn site. Identify retail gaps and more actively recruit businesses and developers.
2	Ensure an adequate inventory of industrial sites and facilities exist to accommodate full industrial, warehousing & distribution business expansion and relocation potential.								5	5	4	2	4	5	5	4	4.143	3	3	3	3	4	2	2.857	5	5	5	4	4	5	5	4.714	16	15	13	15	14	16	17	15.14	1.35	9	Continue to explore funding opportunities that would support the development of a speculative, flexible, industrial/warehousing building in Grand Rapids. Consider opportunities to make strategic property acquisitions for future industrial development.
3	Support the redevelopment of strategic commercial sites outside of the downtown.								5	5	4	3	3	5	5	5	4.286	3	3	3	2	3	3	2.857	3	4	2	2	4	4	3	3.286	14	15	11	10	14	14	18	13.71	2.63	13	Continue to explore funding opportunities that would support the development of a speculative, flexible, industrial/warehousing building in Grand Rapids. Recruit a developer.
4	Continue to advocate for highway transportation route improvements to improve linkages between Grand Rapids and the interstate, the Duluth port and to address blight conditions within the City.								5	5	4	3	4	4	5	5	4.429	3	3	2	2	2	3	2.571	4	3	2	2	3	3	5	3.143	16	13	10	9	11	13	18	12.86	3.24	14	Implement grants and other incentives to complete the Arbor Wood buildout and startup, work actively with Voyager Capital to promote the site to prospective new tenants. Complete the public infrastructure buildout.
5	Begin implementation of the updated Downtown Plan.								5	5	4	4	4	5	5	5	4.571	4	4	3	4	4	4	3.714	5	5	2	4	4	3	5	4.000	19	17	12	16	15	15	20	16.29	2.69	5	Discuss with appropriate agencies, government and elected officials the prioritization of divided highways between Grand Rapids and Duluth via Highway 2 as well as completion of the Cross Range Expressway between Taconite and Penguilly.
6	Ensure adequate funding is available for GREDA services and market their availability.								5	5	2	3	3	5	5	4	4.143	4	3	4	3	4	4	4.286	5	5	4	4	5	3	5	4.429	19	16	14	14	19	17	19	16.86	2.27	3	Review strategies within the completed Downtown Plan update. Explore strategies for a sustainable Central School, Seek a Blandin Foundation grant to establish a Downtown Entertainment revolving loan program to provide short-term loans for entertainment at Downtown festivals. Consider a Blandin Foundation grant for the purpose of hiring a consultant to lead downtown business and property owners through steps to establish a downtown program and organization using the Main Street Approach.
7	Assist with the redevelopment of the Boswell site.								5	4	3	5	5	4	4	4	4.286	3	3	3	3	3	2	2.571	3	2	2	2	2	3	4	2.571	14	11	10	13	12	12	16	12.57	1.99	15	Communicate the many GREDA successes and raise awareness of GREDA programs. Consider comprehensive updates to the GREDA website under a new platform.
8	Continue to assist the L&M Distribution Center project.								5	5	3	5	5	5	5	5	4.714	5	5	4	5	5	5	4.714	4	3	3	3	5	3	5	3.714	19	18	14	17	20	18	20	18.00	2.08	1	Support County efforts to implement energy transition strategies. Identify energy transition funding state and federal programs that may be applicable to GREDA efforts toward economic diversification.
9	Consider ways to diversify the membership of the Commission and amend the meeting format to include updates from local partners/organizations.								5	3	2	3	3	3	4	3	3.286	5	4	4	3	4	3	4.000	5	3	4	3	5	5	5	4.286	20	13	14	12	16	15	19	15.57	2.99	8	Support any efforts by Northstar Pellets to re-introduce legislation to establish production incentives for wood pellet production. Research and consider advocacy for U.S. EPA rule changes that would define wood as carbon neutral so it can be used as an alternative fuel source applicable to a future conversion of MP Unit from coal.
10	Continue support of the Yanmar expansion.								5	5	3	5	5	5	5	5	4.714	5	4	3	4	4	4	4.286	4	3	3	4	4	3	5	3.714	19	16	13	17	18	15	20	16.86	2.41	3	Invite local partner organizations to provide updates, one presentation per quarter. As membership opportunities arise, recruit applicants that further a diverse board.
11	Continue to support our medical service providers to ensure that Grand Rapids maintains and grows its position as a regional hub.								5	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	4.571	5	4	3	4	3	3	3.143	3	3	2	2	2	2	5	2.714	16	14	11	13	13	13	20	14.29	2.93	12	Provide a recommendation to the City regarding ASV/Yanmar's request for Tax Abatement, Coordinate the request to Itasca County for Tax Abatement, continue to work on supportive workforce housing development.
12	Consider ways to support the relocation/renovation of local small businesses and provide assistance with ADA compliance.								5	4	3	5	5	5	5	5	4.571	5	3	4	4	4	4	4.000	5	5	4	4	5	4	5	4.571	20	15	15	17	19	18	18	17.43	1.90	2	Communicate with major providers, Grand Itasca and Essentia, about trends toward a stay at home rural health care model and the buildout of services and jobs to support that growth potential.
13	Provide as needed support for wood product industries.								5	5	3	5	5	5	5	5	4.714	4	3	2	3	3	3	3.143	3	3	3	3	3	2	5	3.143	16	14	10	13	15	14	20	14.57	3.05	11	Consider submitting a grant request to the Blandin Foundation to establish a loan program, possibly with some forgivable terms, to address ADA and Minnesota Accessibility Code deficiencies. This type of program would help address the most common additional cost experienced when new classifications of building occupancy are proposed for a commercial building. Request recapitalization of the Redevelopment Fund PRI. Review local design standards.
14	Support initiatives addressing workforce and childcare shortages.								5	5	4	4	5	5	5	5	4.714	4	3	3	3	4	3	3.429	3	3	3	2	3	2	5	3.000	16	13	13	11	16	14	20	14.71	2.93	10	Participate in developing and implementing a coordinated group effort of area and regional entities to support the successful advancement of the project.
15	Pursue and support initiatives addressing housing shortages.								5	5	4	4	5	5	5	5	4.857	4	4	3	3	4	4	3.571	4	2	3	4	5	3	5	3.857	17	13	14	16	18	16	20	16.29	2.36	5	Continue to support private development interest in housing projects by reviewing proposed Housing TIF Districts, and through development agreements on GREDA parcels. Work with childcare facility developers and IRRR to incentivise/remove financial barriers for projects.