

# STATE OF DELAWARE

# **DEPARTMENT OF STATE**DIVISION OF SMALL BUSINESS, DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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# <u>Division of Small Business, Development & Tourism Transition Report</u>

## **Division Mission**

The Division has been working with the University of Delaware Institute for Public Administration to research, develop and plan a mission for the agency. The report produced will direct the Division's economic development strategy and initiatives moving forward. IPA hosted in October a stakeholder meeting and three listening sessions to gather input and suggestions to help craft the mission. The overall effort is nearing completion and is scheduled for release in early 2018.

#### **New Legislation**

The Division has been developing a clean-up bill that will further align state law with the agency's new role in economic development. The bill is scheduled for introduction in early 2018.

## **Staffing**

All of the Division's 25 FTEs are in place. Of 14 employees impacted by the transition from DEDO to DSBDT, 12 have set future paths, ranging from new positions with the State to retirement.

#### Case Work

The Division continues to field and respond to Requests for Proposals from companies and site selectors until the Delaware Prosperity Partnership is able to take on the function.

#### Council on Development Finance

The Governor appointed 3 new members to the Council on Development Finance. The Division in November held an orientation for new and existing members. CDF is schedule to next hear requests on January 22, 2018.

#### **Department of State**

The Division has transitioned its financial, technology and human resources operations to the Department of State and is completing the process of fully integrating all necessary systems.

## **Advisory Councils**

The Division has created three new advisory councils directed at the Minority, Women and Veteran Business Enterprise community. The councils for minority-owned and women-owned businesses have had their first meetings, and the veterans council is scheduled to start up in January 2018.