



*association of central oklahoma governments*

Chair Willa Johnson  
Oklahoma County Commissioner

Vice-Chair Sam Bowman  
Oklahoma City Councilmember

Secretary/Treasurer Russell Smith  
Midwest City Mayor

Executive Director  
John G. Johnson

December 10, 2009

Commissioner Ray Vaughn  
Oklahoma County District Three  
320 Robert S. Kerr, Room 621  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102

Dear Commissioner Vaughn:

The Association of Central Oklahoma Governments has submitted a pre-application to the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) to prepare a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Central Oklahoma region. The plan will help identify regional assets and liabilities that contribute or detract from the region's current and future economic development opportunities. Completion of such a plan also could lead to designation of ACOG as an Economic Development District which could in turn, would lead to increased funding eligibility for the region and its member local governments, including Oklahoma County.

ACOG is one of 11 councils of government in Oklahoma, and the 10 other councils are each designated as Economic Development Districts. The City of Oklahoma City, Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce and EDA officials have all encouraged ACOG to submit an application for development of a CEDS and possible subsequent designation as a District.

To be successful, we need Oklahoma County's support and involvement, both in terms of sharing in the required cash match and in staff involvement. Our goal is for each of the four counties in the ACOG region to commit \$5,000 toward the total \$75,000 match. The City of Oklahoma City is expected to contribute \$50,000, and ACOG will submit \$5,000 as well.

We would like to make a brief presentation to the County Budget Board regarding this proposal at your earliest convenience. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John G. Johnson  
Executive Director