

**Regional Technology & Innovation Hub (Tech Hub)*****U.S. Economic Development Administration*****1. General RFP Info**

• Lead Agency:	Elevate Rapid City
• Department(s) Impacted:	Planning
• Application Due Date:	August 15, 2023
• Purpose:	Tech Hubs is an economic development initiative designed strengthen U.S. economic and national security through place-based investments in geographically diverse regions through resources to align with technologies and industries of the future.

**2. Project Summary**

- Deliverable: develop a regional Tech Hub led by Elevate Rapid City
- Must have a consortium to apply. Consortium must include higher ed, local government, relevant industry, and workforce training organizations. Rapid City's consortium consists of SD Mines, SD Dept. of Labor, industry partners in fields like engineering, Sanford Underground Research Facility, City of Rapid City. Others may join.
- Members of the Consortium will:
  - Participate in the Innovation District Master Planning efforts
  - Sit on the steering committee
  - Review current land use policies to ensure that local regulations will accommodate future needs of the innovation district and tech hub
  - Develop a long-term housing plan to ensure that economic growth resulting from the Tech hub does not displace current residents and to ensure that adequate housing is available for students, district employees, and supporting industries.
  - Coordinate with the South Dakota Mines to identify opportunities for improved connectivity and mobility between campus and the downtown core.

**3. Need/Impact**

- This opportunity will allow the community to continue its efforts to grow the innovation district in Rapid City to address both regional and global economic development opportunities.
- This aligns with the efforts the city has participated in over the last six years including:
  - In 2018, the City of Rapid City assisted in the development of the David Lust Accelerator Building (DLAB). The City provided the land used for the construction of the facility. Construction of the DLAB was funded in part by the EDA.

- In 2018, the City of Rapid City developed a new zoning district to help accommodate technology and light industrial facilities with small footprints within the downtown core, in close proximity to the South Dakota Mines campus. The zoning district allowed for the development of a mixed-use district that accommodates technology offices and facilities as well as residential uses and amenities.
- Through this grant, the City will continue to review all local land use requirements and public spaces to ensure the success of the district.

#### 4. Strings/Opportunities

- At least 3 tech hubs will be awarded in our region (Midwest, 10 states)
- At least 1/3rd of all grants must benefit small land rural communities
- At least one grantee must be in a low population state