

Economic Development South Dissolution Frequently Asked Questions

Why is EDS dissolving?

As EDS explored options for sustainability through a strategic planning process, usual funding streams did not provide certainty for solvency. EDS has traditionally focused on community growth, which, given current circumstances, is quite challenging, during this time for communities. Given the current economic climate, funding priorities remain with advancing public health, safety, and stability of our communities--as they should be.

How did EDS arrive at this decision?

EDS conducted an assessment throughout the first six months of 2020 to provide strategic direction for the organization. This assessment was performed by a third-party who explored EDS' mission, interviewed stakeholders and funders, and reviewed the internal operations. This analysis, coupled with the global pandemic, provided the realization that the organization could not be sustainable at this time.

When will EDS dissolve?

EDS will wind down the organization by December 31, 2020. Until then, EDS will be working to close operations and transition its assets.

What will happen leading up to the dissolution?

EDS will work to reach out to stakeholders to let them know of this decision. The staff will also be selling its organizational assets and closing out and/or transitioning current projects.

What assets does EDS have?

Assets include supplies, equipment, and real estate. If you are interested in learning more, please contact EDS Executive Director Joey-Linn Ulrich at joey-linn@econdevsouth.org.

Who made the decision to dissolve?

The EDS board of directors unanimously voted on this decision on July 13, 2020 and July 29, 2020, in accordance with EDS bylaws. This decision was based on third-party recommendations that took into account surveys and interviews from stakeholders and funders from across the region.

What happens next?

The EDS Board of Directors remains committed to the communities within the EDS service area. Many board members are community leaders, business people, and residents who are passionate about their communities. The board will continue to look for ways to impact our communities through other ways and means.