By Administrator Tuesday, 19 April 2016 05:08 -

RALEIGH, (SGRToday.com) - Funding aimed at speeding up development of major job sites has been approved by the Golden LEAF Foundation and the Rural Infrastructure Authority.

On April 7, the boards announced \$25 million in funding for sites in tobacco dependent distressed areas of the state which have at least 150 acres of contiguous land.

Moving the economic needle is what the initiative is all about, said Dan Gerlach, Golden LEAF President. "We are providing substantial resources to reduce the preparation time and increase the competitiveness of sites across North Carolina."

An application process will assess key requirements for what are commonly known as megasi tes

-- appropriate local financial support

- -- recent private sector interest in developing an industrial project at the site
- -- a strategy to market the site to identified clients

-- a site that is ready for development as a result of the improvements.