



Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) 2015 Annual Report

Expanded role for EDAC reflects increased productivity

In 2015, Cook County’s Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) reviewed a record number of projects reflecting the increased activity and output of the Cook County Bureau of Economic Development. The chart on the right illustrates the increased volume and impact of economic development Class 7 incentives (for more information on Class 7 incentives, see page 2) considered by EDAC. Howard Males, Chair of EDAC, noted that, “EDAC members take their role seriously and welcome the opportunity to assist the County in its economic development efforts.”

In addition, President Toni Preckwinkle

Year	# of Class 7 Projects	Estimated Jobs Retained	Estimated Jobs Created	Private Sector Investment in \$ millions
2013	3	115	70	\$91.5
2014	7	1589	591	\$42.4
2015	13	183	728	\$123.0
Total	23	1887	1389	\$256.9

expanded EDAC’s mandate to review and recommend action related to Cook County’s community development, affordable housing, disaster recovery and resiliency activities.

To support this broader scope President

Preckwinkle appointed six new EDAC members: Kristin Faust, Andy Geer, Sharon Legenza, Jose Rico, Thurman Smith, and Evonne Taylor. Please see page 4 for a complete list of all EDAC members and their affiliations.

Innovative partnership supports infrastructure reconstruction

Construction is under way for the \$6.5 million reconstruction of Cullerton Avenue in Franklin Park. This project represents the County’s first project financed with the assistance of HUD’s Section 108 Loan Guarantee program which allows the County to borrow money from private investors at reduced interest rates to promote economic development. Cook County will provide up to a \$4 million loan for this project.

EDAC reviewed and provided its critical support for this project in October 2014. A combination of resources from the Village of Franklin Park, the State of Illinois, Cook County and the 10 businesses located within the industrial area, pro-

vides the basis for this unique public private partnership. These businesses employ 1300 workers and expect to increase their workforce as a result of this project.

At a groundbreaking last August, President Preckwinkle said that this project “is an example of what can be done to promote economic development and job growth in our industrial communities.”

Sureway Tools, pictured at right, employs 70 persons and anticipates hiring an additional 17 workers as a result of this project.



Tax incentives support community growth

Cook County's EDAC is charged with recommending approval for Class 7B and 7C tax incentives to the Cook County Assessor's Office. The purpose of these incentives is to facilitate the new construction, rehabilitation or the re-occupancy of commercial properties. Programs are designed to assist businesses by providing a reduction in the assessment level of a property over a period of time. All applicants must secure approval from the respective local municipality prior to submitting their application to Cook County.

In 2015 Cook County's EDAC recommended approval to the Cook County Assessor's Office for 13 projects that utilized Class 7 tax incentives. **The 13 projects represent more than \$123 million of private investment as well as the estimated retention of 183 jobs and the estimated creation of more than 720 jobs.** This represents a significant increase over previous levels of activity. EDAC's Financial Tools Sub-Committee carefully reviews each project and recommends action to the full EDAC.

The Bureau of Economic Development



Elgin Toyota and Scion Showroom (pictured above) 1580-1640 E. Lake Str., Streamwood utilized the Class 7B incentive to build a 60,000 square foot dealership that opened in June 2015. This project helped the dealership establish a strong presence in Chicago's northwest suburbs.

also reviews and recommends approval for Class 6B and Class 8 incentives, which similarly assist manufacturing and industrial applicants. The Cook County Board of Commissioners reviews and recommends approval of these projects.

Visit <http://cookcountyil.gov/economicdevelopment> for more information regarding the County's economic development resources.

County funds support affordable housing

Over the last 18 months, Cook County has received \$83.6 million from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide disaster relief to parts of Cook County adversely impacted by the floods in the spring of 2013. Cook County's Department of Planning and Development utilizes these funds to support replacement housing, property acquisition, infrastructure improvements and other activities.

For example, Parkview Apartments in Arlington Heights, IL (illustrated to right) a \$17.6 million project will receive \$2 million of funds. It is a 45-unit multi-family workforce rental housing project. EDAC approved this project in November 2015.



Cook County Celebrates National ‘Manufacturing Day’

Chicago Metro Metal Consortium (CMMC) and its partners celebrated 2015 Manufacturing Day on October 2 and throughout the month of October. Manufacturing Day is a celebration of modern manufacturing meant to inspire the next generation of manufacturers. **More than 15 CMMC events reaching more than 500 manufacturers and 1,000 students took place throughout October in celebration of Manufacturing Day and Month.**

Cook County hosted its first-ever Manufacturing Day event, in partnership with the Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership, the Chicagoland Manufacturing Renaissance Council, Illinois Manufacturing Excellence Center (IMEC), and Jane

Addams Resource Corporation (JARC). Approximately 60 high school students participated in an open house at JARC. Interactive stations including CNC Turning, CNC Milling, Press Brake, Robotic Welding, and Metrology were featured. Students traveled to Freedman Seating and S & C Electric to tour manufacturing facilities.

In the Chicago Southland region, more than 300 students toured one of 19 participating manufacturing companies,

visited manufacturing training facilities at Prairie State College or South Subur-



President Toni Preckwinkle listening to a discussion of Metal Inert Gas (MIG) Welding at the Manufacturing Day Open House at JARC.

ban College and participated in a manufacturing career resource fair.

Planning for Progress drives investments

In 2013, the Cook County Department of Planning and Development launched an innovative strategic planning effort — **Planning for Progress (PFP)** — to guide County investments and partnerships for the 2015 – 2019 period related to economic development, affordable housing, and community development. Building off of the strategies of **Partnering for Prosperity** and with technical assistance from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning Local Technical Assistance program, **Planning for Progress** was formally adopted by the EDAC and Cook County Board in 2015.

For the first time in the County’s history, **Planning for Progress** encompasses two Federally-required strategic plans in one — the HUD-required Consolidated Plan and the EDA-

required Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). It incorporated the input of over 2,000 stakeholders and informs local and regional policy, as well as ongoing planning and development activities.

Plan implementation began in October 2015 and the Department convened a series of meetings with major employers, workforce development providers, financial and philanthropic institutions to further explore coordination and leverage opportunities for impact.

The Department continues to engage other regional and local stakeholders regarding coordination around fair housing, HUD Section 3 low-income hiring, and the possibility of bringing a 211 resource referral system to the metropolitan area. Lastly, the Department is working with BRick Partners to develop performance measurements that will aid in implementation.

“Planning for Progress provides the County with a roadmap for the strategic deployment of nearly \$300 million of federal funding .”

Cook County Board President , Toni Preckwinkle



Planning for Progress



What is EDAC?

The Cook County Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) is a 22-person advisory committee appointed by Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle to counsel the County regarding policies, strategies, and plans to help the economy grow and communities prosper.

Historically EDAC focused its efforts on the review of tax incentives for commercial development, financial support for job creation and/or retention and approval of overall economic development planning. In 2015, EDAC's responsibilities expanded to include affordable housing, community development and disaster relief. In conjunction with the increased responsibilities, President Preckwinkle appointed several new members with expertise and interests in these areas.

EDAC has three Subcommittees: Governance, Financial Tools and Incentives and

Planning and Development. All meetings are open to the public. Information regarding EDAC's 2016 meeting schedule and its agendas is available <http://cookcountyil.gov/economicdevelopment>.

Contact us:

Michael Jasso
Bureau Chief
Cook County Bureau of
Economic Development
69 W. Washington
Suite 2900
Chicago, Illinois 60602
312-603-1077
info.edev@cookcountyil.gov

On the web, visit:

www.cookcountyil.gov/economicdevelopment

EDAC's 2015 Guest Speakers:

Toni Preckwinkle, President, Cook County Board

John Cooke, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Asset Management, **Cook County Hospital Strategic Redevelopment**

John Yonan, Superintendent, and **Maria Choca Urban**, Director of Strategy, Planning and Policy, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways, **Cook County's Long Range Transportation Plan**

Rob Rose, Executive Director, **Cook County Land Bank Authority**

Karin Norington-Reaves, CEO, **Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership**

EDAC Members

Howard Males, Chair
CEO
Research Pros

Pam McDonough*, Vice Chair
CEO
Alliance for Industry and Manufacturing

Lynn Cutler
Senior Policy Advisor
Holland and Knight

David A. Day
Chief Administrative Officer
National Black MBA Association

Teresa A. Faidley
Senior Vice President
Wintrust Commercial Banking

Kristin Faust
President
Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago

Joseph Flanagan*
Chairman and CEO
Aqirent, LLC

Jesus Garcia
Commissioner, 7th District
Cook County Board

Andrew Geer*
Vice President, Chicago
Enterprise Community Partners

Graham Grady*
Partner
Taft/

Michael Jasso
Bureau Chief
Cook County Bureau of
Economic Development

Sharon Legenza
Executive Director
Housing Action Council Illinois

Tom Livingston
Resident Vice President
CSX Transportation

David Raifman
Commissioner
Department of Planning and
Development
City of Chicago

Diane M. Morefield
Former EVP and CFO, Strategic
Hotels & Resorts

Karin Norington-Reaves
CEO
Chicago Cook Workforce
Partnership

Ed Paesel
Executive Director
South Suburban Mayors and
Managers Association

Jose Rico
Senior Vice President
United Way of Metro Chicago

Edward Sitar
Manager, Economic and Business
Development
Com Ed-An Exelon Company

Thurman 'Tony' Smith
Senior Vice President
Community Development
Banking - Market Manager
PNC

Evonne Taylor
CEO and President
Taylor Made Business Solutions

William W. Towns*
Assistant Vice President,
Neighborhood Initiatives
University of Chicago

* Subcommittee Chair or Co-Chair.