



DEKALB COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP
 YOUR OPPORTUNITY | OUR PRIORITY

2022

Annual Report



**INDIANA RANKED #1 STATE
 TO START A BUSINESS**
FORBES ADVISOR, 2022

SURPASSING A BILLION

Broke the \$1B investment mark in organization's 17th year



**AUBURN/DEKALB COUNTY
 RANKS T-5TH IN TOP U.S.
 MICROPOLITANS**

*Site Selection Magazine,
 3 Years in a Row*

ASHLEY | AUBURN | BUTLER | CORUNNA | GARRETT | HAMILTON | ST. JOE | WATERLOO



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Partners, Stakeholders, and Community Leaders,

We are elated to share the growth and progress in our local economy and initiatives over 2022 with positive momentum in 2023.

Highlights of 2022 include:

- Surpassed the \$1 billion investment mark in organizational history
- Began to implement housing strategy by providing community leaders, developers, lenders, and real estate professionals with housing strategy data and exploration of potential sites for housing development
- Additional business expansion and recruitment of community amenity-based businesses in collaboration with local leadership
- Proceeding with research and supporting broadband opportunities in collaboration with DeKalb County and Sand Strategies.

We are so grateful for all the investments you make, whether that is financially or personal time invested.

We make it our priority to welcome you, your family, and your business!



Anton King, President/CEO
 DeKalb County Economic Development
 Partnership, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



The board gratefully acknowledges the DeKalb County Commissioners, the DeKalb County Council, Mayor Mike Ley (Auburn), Mayor Mike Hartman (Butler), Mayor Todd Fiandt (Garrett), and all city and town councils for their leadership and commitment to economic development.

Pam Howard, Town of Waterloo - President

Aaron Schaffer, At-large, Community State Bank - Treasurer

Mary Simcox, Town of St. Joe - Secretary

Mayor Mike Ley, City of Auburn

Brent Shull, Town of Hamilton

Vivian Likes, City of Butler

Mike Hasselman, Town of Ashley

Danielle Aldrich, Town of Corunna

Councilwoman Amy Demske, DeKalb County Council

Darrick Brinkerhoff, City of Garrett

Rudi Eidam, At-Large, Development

Corey Schoon, At-Large, Workforce & Education

Staff: Anton King, President/CEO

Tori Searcy, Vice President

Sarina Harig, Project Manager

The board consists of fourteen members. Ten are appointed by county, city, and town officials and four are appointed by the board.

2023 STRATEGIC PLAN

Mission

We're on a mission to improve the quality of life for the citizens of DeKalb County through the responsible growth of business and industry.

Vision

Our vision is to facilitate investment into making DeKalb County a premier economic driver in Northeast Indiana and in the greater Midwest region of the United States.

Plan

Our plan is to create and seize opportunities that align with community priorities for continued economic growth for the entirety of DeKalb County.



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INITIATIVES & INDUSTRY



Build DeKalb Housing

- As the first phase this initiative began in 2022, the remaining phases will continue in 2023/2024. DCEDP will continue to reach out to developers to build housing project(s) & to make the data of the DeKalb County Housing Study available.

*One-page flyers for each community is available upon request.

182 RESIDENTIAL PERMITS ISSUED WITH EST. VALUE OF \$63M
(DEKALB COUNTY BUILDING DEPARTMENT & CITY OF AUBURN, 2022)



Build DeKalb Broadband

- DCEDP has created a taskforce that will serve as the guiding group to identify areas of need in the broadband build out, advocate for the development of fiber, & help oversee the implementation of broadband development in & throughout DeKalb County.



Build DeKalb Infrastructure

- As part of a county-wide focus to not only diversify infrastructure, but to expand & broaden existing roads, airports, utilities & availability to underserved communities.

INDIANA'S 5 E'S

- Environment
- Economy of the Future
- Entrepreneurship
- Energy
- External Engagement

"By making lasting investments in our health, education and workforce we are building a stronger tomorrow for all Hoosiers."
-GOVERNOR ERIC HOLCOMB

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

FEATURED 2022 PROJECTS



\$5M invested
25 jobs created
40 jobs retained



The DeKalb County Airport announced plans to expand the runway to 7,100 feet allowing safer and more diverse travel. In July 2022 Sweet Aviation became the Fixed Based Operator for the DeKalb County Airport.



\$3M invested
10 jobs created
78 jobs retained



Renovated event space by Beau & Alyssa Schendel, RBT Group, Garrett



LOCAL NON-PROFIT INVESTS \$25M IN HOUSING SOLUTIONS

"This project being done by the Sweitzer Family Office, will be one of the first of its kind in DeKalb County, & we are excited to have it being built in the City of Auburn. It will be a unique two-fold project that will begin to provide solutions to DeKalb County's housing shortage, something that DCEDP has worked to make a priority."

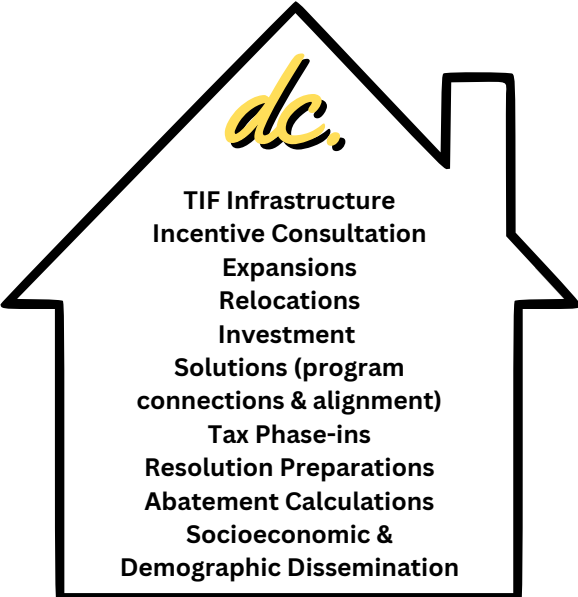
-ANTON KING, PRESIDENT, CEO



HOW DO WE

Attract, Retain, & Expand

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY?



2022 Five-County Economic Development Forum hosted by the DeKalb County Economic Development Partnership at Kruse Plaza.

BOTTOM LINE:
"We work leads in the pursuit of enhancing the local economy. We strive to create quality employment opportunities, grow the tax base, and diversify our economic mix."
-ANTON KING, PRESIDENT/CEO



2022 EVENTS

NON-PROFIT OF THE YEAR
(DEKALB CHAMBER PARTNERSHIP'S DUESY AWARDS, 2022)



BOARD MEMBERS CAPTURED ABOVE (L-R): MAYOR MIKE LEY, PAM HOWARD, ANTON KING (STAFF), AND RUDI EIDAM



**KING JOINS
MID-AMERICA
EDC BOARD**

AS INDIANA DIRECTOR, MID-AMERICA EDC IS A BEST PRACTICES ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS THROUGHOUT 13 STATES.



**Auburn
Named Top 5
Micropolitan
2021, 2022 &
2023**



SITE SELECTION MAGAZINE (MAR 2023)

FEATURED SITES & BUILDINGS



GARRETT - CR 19 SPEC BUILDING
50,000 SF SPEC BUILDING COMING FALL 2023
CLOSE TO I-69
FOR LEASE



ST. JOE - DEVELOPMENT LAND
7.3 ACRES
OWNED BY TOWN OF ST. JOE
FOR SALE



AUBURN - 207 S WEST ST
55,00 SF OFFICE SPACE
MIXED-USE
FOR SALE (W/ OCCUPYING TENANTS)



BUTLER - HIGHWAY 6 PROPERTY
29 ACRES
INDUSTRIAL ZONING
FOR SALE



AUBURN - 201 BRANDON ST
329,348 SF DIVISIBLE
LESS THAN 1 MILE FROM I-69
FOR LEASE



WATERLOO - US 6 & CR 31
OVER 100 ACRES RIGHT OFF INTERSTATE EXIT
FRONTAGE ON US 6



ASHLEY - I-69 DEVELOPMENT
OVER 180 ACRES RIGHT OFF INTERSTATE EXIT 340
THE KLINK GROUP & JICI CONSTRUCTION
DESIGN & BUILD

**DeKalb
County's % of
Regional Market**

2020 - 8.34%
2021 - 8.29%
2022 - 8.17%

**Industrial Inventory
DeKalb County
(2022)**

>38
active
properties

>6
gained
industrial
sites/buildings

>3
owners
acquired
industrial
site/building



**1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF DCEDP
NEW OFFICE, RIBBON CUTTING, MAY
2022**



NOVEMBER, 2022



**VICTORIA SEARCY JOINED
DCEDP AS VICE PRESIDENT
JUNE 2022**



**INDIANA RANKED #1 STATE TO
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(FORBES ADVISOR, 2022)



2022 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Deals Won
74

leads worked
120

DeKalb County

total investment \$177M

<i>average wage</i>	<i>median income</i>	
\$60,757.00	\$55,421.00	
<i>new jobs</i>	<i>unemployment rate</i>	
279	2.5%	
<i>retained jobs</i>	<i>company contacts/ visits</i>	
1,305	303	
<i>leads received</i>	<i>labor force participation rate</i>	
212	66%	

Special Thanks to our Cities, Towns & Investors!



ASHLEY | AUBURN | BUTLER | CORUNNA | GARRETT | HAMILTON | ST. JOE | WATERLOO



ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN THE CITIES OF DEKALB COUNTY

AUBURN | BUTLER | GARRETT

