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Issue  
**ONE**  
2018

A Quarterly Insight into the Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation

# EconNews

## current topics >>>

### WELCOME

#### *EDC Newsletter Launch!*

The Economic Development Corporation (EDC) is proud to introduce the first edition of our newsletter. In each edition, we will feature a specific service we provide to local area residences and businesses. The EDC of Jefferson County provides a variety of services including development, retention, expansion, attraction and professional technical assistance to our business community. In addition, the EDC is the contracted administrator for the Jefferson County Community Development Block Grant Program that provides sustainability and infrastructure programs to benefit low-to-moderate income individuals within the County.

In future Newsletters look for a spotlight on a local business success story or a past or upcoming event within the County of information gathered on our community. We will include current debenture rates offered through the Small Business Administration (SBA).

## INTRODUCTION

### *New Executive Director*



*The Board of Directors of the Economic Development Corporation of Jefferson County is proud to announce the appointment of David Dews as Executive Director.*

On January 1, 2018, Mr. Dews took office and embarked on a three-month transition period working alongside Patrick Lamping until his retirement in April. This was done to ensure no loss of service to our customers.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Dews had served on the Board of Directors of the EDC since 2000. He brings to the position twenty-years of economic development and management experience. He has the knowledge and contacts to effectively lead the EDC. His experience can also open new doors that could prove very beneficial to Jefferson County.

Mr. Dews has a hands-on management style and is project oriented. His approach centers around building partnerships and operates under a regional matrix. Mr. Dews summed it up this way, “economic development occurs one contact at a time and one project at a time regardless of the geographic location”.

Mr. Dews further stated, “The EDC will work diligently to serve the four corners of Jefferson County. We build on the success of the individual and celebrate the benefit to the whole”.

## History of EDC >>>

### EDC's History

The EDC was established in 1979 and serves as the principal economic development organization for Jefferson County. The EDC is a public-private partnership of county and municipal governments, local private sector employers, educational institutions and other groups and individuals interested in the growth, development and prosperity of our community. Governed by an independent board of directors, the EDC includes one quasi-governmental body, the Industrial Development Authority, for which it provides staffing and administrative support.

The EDC also partners with numerous other community-based organizations including six Chambers of Commerce within Jefferson County, the Jefferson County Growth Association, the Jefferson County Port Authority, the University Missouri Extension, Jefferson College, Workforce Development, Mercy Hospital, Ameren Missouri, our realtors, the banking community and many more.

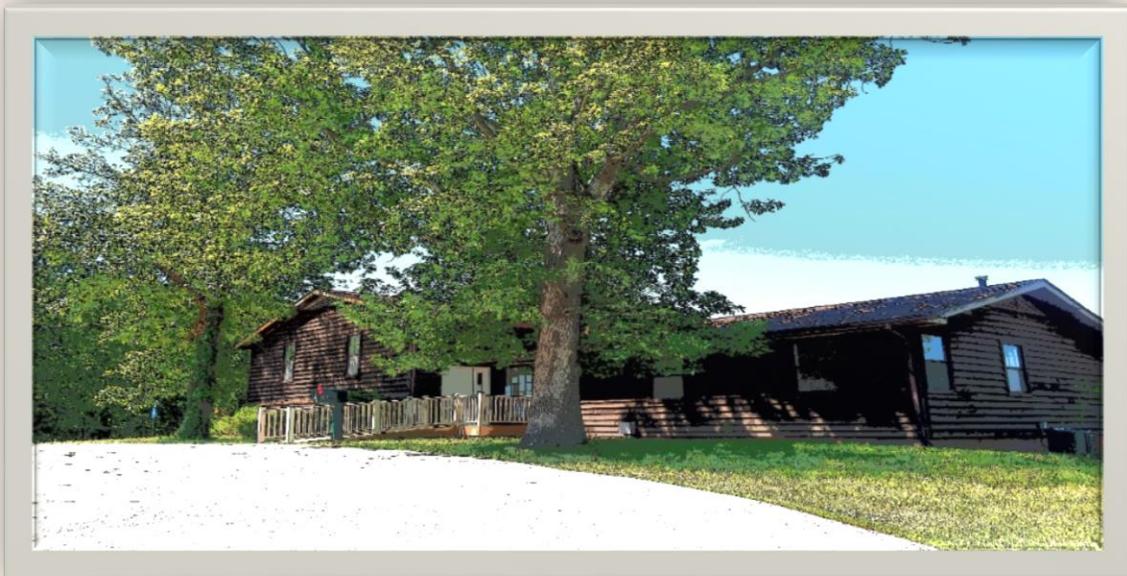
Since its formation, the EDC has grown to provide a broad range of programs and services to the business community and governmental sector in Jefferson County. When the EDC was first formed, the services of the Corporation were limited.

The EDC now provides financial and advanced technical support to the business community, including both large and small businesses, attracts new business ventures; facilitates the retention and encourages the expansion of existing business in Jefferson County.

The EDC works to increase commerce and development on the Mississippi River; revitalizes and renovates housing opportunities for individual home owners; and, provides specialized research, particularly in key economic indicators to our member communities. The EDC is an active participant in all segments of the economic spectrum and has provided direct financial and program assistance to projects that have changed the face of Jefferson County.

## Mission Statement

*It is the mission of the EDC to facilitate, lead and promote organized economic growth and improve the quality of life for the citizens of Jefferson County. To promote, protect and create full-time employment opportunities through innovation and conventional programs in our community*



# In the Spotlight

## SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

The U.S. Small Business Administration designated April 29 – May 5, 2018 as Small Business Week. This is a Nationwide event and designed to recognize entrepreneurs and small business for the contribution they make to the economy.

The EDC organized a Small Business luncheon that was held at Jefferson College Hillsboro Campus on May 9<sup>th</sup>. This is the first event in our county celebrating our small businesses.

Sally Hemenway, Director of the Division of Business and Community Services, for the Missouri Department of Economic Development was our guest speaker. She spoke about the impact small businesses have on the economy.



Sally Hemenway, Missouri Department of Economic Development

- Did you know that two out of every three jobs created in the United States are a result of small business expansions?
- Did you also know that over 80% of the businesses in the State of Missouri are small businesses?

The luncheon was a huge success. The EDC was hoping for fifty attendees this first year; we had sixty. Those in attendance were representatives of the EDC, the Jefferson County Growth Association, the Jefferson County Port Authority, the Industrial Development Authority, the six Chambers of commerce representing Jefferson County, elected and appointed officials from all levels of government, Jefferson College, Mercy Hospital, financial institutions, utilities and various businesses throughout the County.

The EDC is excited about the positive feedback and has already started making plans for next year's event.



Contact us at 636-797-5336

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**SBA Debenture Rate >>>**

**20 Year Debenture**

**June 2018\***

**Full Term 5.320%**

\*Rates change monthly. Contact our office for more information.