COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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Topics

- **What is Economic Development**
  - Multi-Discipline
  - Relationships / Partnerships / Collaboration

- **What does COUNTY Economic Development Look Like in Out-State Minnesota**
  - Rice County’s Economic Development Model
  - Other Economic Development Models – MAPCED Members

- **The Regional Focus of Economic Development**
  - Collaboration within the County
  - Opportunities for Scaling Economic Development Efforts in a Region
What is Economic Development
What is Economic Development

- **Economic development** is a process of working together to improve the local economy.

- **Economic development** includes many functions and disciplines – business development, marketing, infrastructure (roads, water, sewer, fiber), real estate/land use, and finance.

- **Economic development** cannot be done in a vacuum – is based on relationship building, partnerships, and collaboration.
County Economic Development

What does it look like…
Rice County

Rice County Economic Development

- Created in 2006 – with the goal of working collectively with the Rice County communities
- Emphasis on building collaborations – resulting in a robust network of public & private partners
- Specific initiatives are identified & implemented to achieve the economic development vision of the County & enhance the business climate
  - Strategic Partnerships
  - Technology
  - Value-Added Projects
  - Resource Development
A Climate for Growth... While government doesn’t create jobs, it can create an environment that encourages economic and job growth.

- How can Rice County encourage economic growth – by supporting the efforts of our Rice County communities, building programs and providing tools to compete for quality jobs, leveraging programs offered by our economic development partners, and building strong relationships and coalitions with organizations that can support our economic momentum and overall County vision.
MAPCED – Economic Development Models

“The mission of MAPCED is to champion economic growth through the advancement of County Economic Development Professionals in Minnesota.”
Strategic Goals

- **Build Capacity**
  - Internally Strengthen Committee Structure
  - Expand Membership
  - Expand Outreach

- **Develop Strategic Partnerships**
  - Enhanced Relationship with AMC, EDAM, DEED

- **Build Stronger Programs**
  - Solar/ Renewable Energy
  - Joint Training with AMC Affiliates

- **Develop a Sophisticated Advocacy Program**
  - MAPCED Measurement Tool
MAPCED Members – ED Models

Redwood Area Development Corp.

- Established in 1986 to serve communities in the county who wanted to move ahead with economic development / community development with shared staff.
- In 2003/04 added the Redwood County EDA and serve as contract staff
- Core services include:
  - Business Recruitment
  - Business Expansion
  - Administrative Services
  - Technical Assistance
  - Grant Services

Chisago County HRA/EDA

- The Chisago County Board established the HRA in 1988 and adopted full EDA powers in 2000.
- Core services include:
  - Providing Housing Assistance
    - Multi-Family, Senior, Rehab, SCDP
  - Assisting Cities
    - Development, Redevelopment, Marketing, Funding, Coordinate Projects
  - Assisting Businesses
    - Site selection, business finance assistance, business counseling
The Regional Focus of Economic Development
Regional Focus

WHY COLLABORATION WITHIN THE COUNTY IS IMPORTANT

- Shared Work Force
- Share Education / Training Opportunities
- Housing Options
- Synergies – Business & Industries
- Corridors of Commerce
Regional Focus

OPPORTUNITIES TO SCALE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS

- Understand fiscal ramifications
- Identify Common Ground Between Government Units
- Prioritize Desired Outcomes