



PRESS RELEASE

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The International Economic Development Council Recognizes HEDC with a Bronze Award in Economic Development Organization of the Year

HASTINGS, NE - The Hastings Economic Development Organization has earned international recognition, receiving the Bronze Award for Economic Development Organization of the Year from the International Economic Development Council. This award honors economic development organizations that demonstrate organizational excellence, ethical business practices, significant community impact, and a strong commitment to serving their community and its members.

HEDC received this distinction in recognition of its significant contributions over the past several years. These efforts include strengthening Hastings' housing market through projects such as The Flats at the Theatre District and Elm 26 Apartments, along with more than six additional housing initiatives that together have created or approved 458 new units in the past five years. HEDC has also supported local businesses including Bruckman Rubber, Pacha Soap, and Noah's Ark Processors by helping them secure funding for expansion. Beyond housing and business growth, HEDC has invested in workforce development, partnering with local schools to build a stronger talent pipeline for the community. The organization has also worked closely with the Hastings Area Manufacturers Association to connect the next generation with education and career opportunities with local manufacturers.

Beth Coil, HEDC Board President, commented, "These awards are a wonderful recognition of the positive impact HEDC is making in Hastings. The team's commitment to supporting growth and opportunity is helping build a strong and vibrant future for our community."

Additionally, HEDC was honored with the Bronze Award in the Economic Development Organization of the Year category for its collaborative efforts with the Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce to attract and promote business growth in Hastings. This partnership began in 2022, when the boards of both organizations approved combining their staff to create a unified team focused on advancing the entire Hastings community. By working as a single, coordinated staff, HEDC and the Chamber are able to not only promote and support local businesses, but also connect them with resources to address challenges, plan for growth, and attract new businesses and talent to the community.



Travis Augustin, Chamber Board Chair, commented, “As Chamber Chair, I’m thrilled with our community’s progress under shared leadership. The IEDC Bronze Award for Economic Development Organization of the Year reflects our collaborative spirit and dedication to Hastings’ growth.”

To learn more about the award, visit the International Economic Development Council’s website – www.iedconline.org.

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About the Hastings Economic Development Corporation: The Hastings Economic Development Corporation is a non-profit organization located in Hastings, Nebraska. The goal of the corporation is to strengthen and grow the community by supporting business expansion and attraction, workforce and housing development, and overall community development. Since 1973 HEDC has been dedicated to helping make Hastings a community of choice, for talented people and quality business. To learn more about the Hastings Economic Development Corporation and their projects visit the website www.hastingsedc.com or call the corporation at 402-461-8400.

About the Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce: The Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce, established in 1903, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting and promoting business growth in Hastings, Nebraska. Its mission is to facilitate growth and enhance the overall quality of life in the community, while its vision is to serve as the catalyst that ensures Hastings remains an ideal place to live, work, and do business. To learn more about the Chamber visit their website www.hastingschamber.com or call the Chamber at 402-461-8400.