



---

## PRESS RELEASE

Date: October 1, 2025

Contact: Sydney Erickson, Community Development Director

### **The International Economic Development Council Recognizes Hastings with a Silver Award in Multi-Year Collaborative Economic Development**

**HASTINGS, NE** - The Hastings Economic Development Corporation has received international recognition for its collaborative efforts to revitalize downtown Hastings, working alongside the Community Redevelopment Authority, Queen City Development, and the Business Improvement District. This award highlights the power of partnerships between economic development organizations and local agencies to drive growth and strengthen communities.

IEDC is the world's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization for economic developers, representing more than 4,500 members across both the public and private sectors worldwide. Receiving an IEDC Excellence in Economic Development Award is considered one of the profession's highest honors, celebrating organizations that are driving innovative, sustainable, and community-focused progress.

Each of the four entities have played a distinct role in the revitalization of downtown Hastings. HEDC facilitated the acquisition of funding by assisting with Community Development Block Grants and providing support through its revolving loan fund. The Community Redevelopment Authority enabled businesses to apply for façade grants, enhancing not only individual storefronts but also the overall appearance of the downtown area. Queen City Development contributed as a developer, transforming numerous downtown buildings into apartments. Finally, the Business Improvement District has worked to elevate the overall quality of downtown Hastings, collaborating closely with the CRA and earning creative district distinction for the downtown community.

Randy Chick, Community Redevelopment Authority Director, summarized the efforts commenting, "The Downtown Revitalization Project in Hastings is a powerful example of what's possible when community organizations work together toward a shared vision. The organizations involved in this project laid the groundwork for a thriving, revitalized downtown that supports both economic and community growth. These efforts were responsible for doubling the valuation of the core area from \$24 million in 2015 to over \$51 million in 2025 and not only reversed years of decline but created a sustainable foundation for continued success."



The collaboration among these four entities has resulted in 26 new owner-occupied rental units, the establishment of 17 businesses, the acquisition of \$1.22 million in grant funding, and \$13 million in private investment, all contributing to the revitalization of downtown Hastings.

Shannon Landuaer, HEDC Executive Director, commented, “Hastings is very appreciative of this award as it highlights the necessity of entities working together for common growth goals. In our community, projects don’t happen without our city, CRA, economic development and others all working together to bring a project to market. The exemplary long-term leadership in the community brings experience to the energy of more current community initiatives, providing a needed balance in meeting short and long-term goals.”

To learn more about the award, visit the International Economic Development Council’s website – [www.iedconline.org](http://www.iedconline.org).

###

**About HEDC:** 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 talent people and quality business. To learn more about the Hastings Economic Development Corporation and their projects visit the website [www.hastingsedc.com](http://www.hastingsedc.com) or call the corporation at 402-461-8400.