

growth.

Ames Economic Development Commission

A Five-Year Economic Development Strategy: 2012-2016



advocate.

Businesses in Ames are prospering because of the efforts put forth through the help of the Ames Economic Development Commission (AEDC) partners like you. Thanks to your advocacy, Ames is a great place to live, work and thrive.

The Ames community depends on economic growth for many reasons; health is one of them. A healthy economy is a stable economy that allows people to live a peaceful and enjoyable life. While it goes without saying, Ames is a healthy, stable and growing community. In fact, Ames was voted as the 5th Fastest Growing Small City in the U.S. in 2010 by Forbes.com.

Ames needs to continue on the path of economic success now more than ever. In this day and age, the AEDC and its generous partners need to invest in the best development strategy out there, and successfully integrate all working parts to keep Ames ahead of the game. Positioning ourselves for the future was never as important as it is today and keeping our business community strong.

integrate.

Five Year Strategic Objectives (2012-2016)

This plan was adopted to provide a proactive and aggressive business retention/expansion and recruitment program and workforce development initiatives that will improve the economic performance and vitality of the Ames area and its business community. This will allow our community to better compete for job creation and capital investment.

The objectives by which the Ames Economic Development Commission will be measured are as follows:

DEVELOP OPPORTUNITIES RESULTING IN \$200 MILLION IN TAXABLE CAPITAL INVESTMENT

GROW AMES AREA EMPLOYMENT BY A NET INCREASE OF 1,000 JOBS

DRIVE AN INCREASE IN RETAIL BUSINESS SALES YEAR OVER YEAR

INCREASE THE ANNUAL INVESTMENT IN THE AEDC TO \$750,000

ENHANCE PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNICATION AMONGST STAKEHOLDERS, THE COMMUNITY AND THE REGION

Vision: A plan to advance the prosperity of the Ames area through the talents and strengths of people and businesses working together for the betterment of our community led by the Ames Economic Development Commission.

collaborate.

The Community Investment Fund (CIF) has been highly instrumental in leveraging other dollars for projects locating or expanding in Ames. In the chart below are a handful of projects that have benefited from the CIF being used to provide the “local-match” funding for state of Iowa economic development assistance.

A typical project requires a 20% local match towards whatever the Iowa Economic Development Authority will inject into a project. That local 20% match is then split between the CIF and the City of Ames.

For example, if the Iowa Economic Development Authority pledges \$100,000 towards a project, then the local match would be \$20,000 - the CIF would insert \$10,000 and the City of Ames would insert \$10,000.

“The Community Investment Fund helped solidify our decision to bring our renewable energy business to the Ames community. With this key partnership, nearly 80 green collar employees now work to enhance the country’s energy security every day...”

- Dan Oh, Renewable Energy Group



COMPANY	*CIF AMOUNT
WebFilings	\$25,000
NewLink Genetics	\$150,000
BioForce Nano Sciences	\$50,000
Wheatsfield Co-op	\$25,000
Rural Soluxions	\$11,000
Quality Attributes Software/VIS Energy	\$40,000
Sauer-Danfoss, Inc.	\$50,000
Renewable Energy Group	\$25,000
HIPRA	\$75,000

*CIF amounts are from 2005-2011.

\$200,000,000 in capital investment since 2007. **958** new jobs since 2007. **385** new jobs since November 2010. **15** successful projects.

at any rate.

You can be a part of this exciting initiative! New investment levels for the 2012-2016 campaign are as follows:

- Bronze (\$1,000 - \$2,499)**
 - All AEDC postal mailings, electronic mail and press announcements
 - Invitations to any AEDC functions and investor meetings
 - Listing on appreciation advertising and AEDC Annual Report
- Silver (\$2,500 - \$4,999)**
 - All Bronze Investor benefits
 - Listing as an investor on www.amesedc.com with hyperlink to company website
- Gold (\$5,000 - \$11,999)**
 - All Silver Investor benefits
 - Company logo accompanying hyperlink to company website
- Platinum Board of Directors Seat (\$12,000+)**
 - All Gold Investor benefits
 - Voting seat on the AEDC Board of Directors

translate.

Over the years, Ames has seen some tremendous growth of new and existing businesses in the community. With the help of collaborations across the board, these companies have been able to receive the support they need in order to keep the economic vitality thriving in Ames.

AG LEADER TECHNOLOGY, 2202 South Riverside Drive, Ames, completed a \$6 million, 98,000 square foot addition to their facility in 2008. They promised creating 58 new jobs over three years which would increase their employment base by 37%.

COLORBIOTICS, 1725 Dayton Avenue, Ames, a Becker Underwood Company, completed their new \$13 million, 140,000 square foot building in September 2008.

PHASIENT LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES, 1523 South Bell Avenue, Suite 101, Ames, brought 25 new jobs to Ames as well as a \$1.8 million investment which more than tripled their company in 2007.

RENEWABLE ENERGY GROUP, 416 South Bell Avenue, Ames, completed their new lab space addition in July 2009 and grew their workforce by nearly 80 people in three years.

QUALITY ATTRIBUTES SOFTWARE, 1615 Golden Aspen Drive, Suite 103, Ames, brought 34 new jobs as well as a \$1 million investment to the Ames community.

SAUER-DANFOSS, INC., 2800 East 13th Street, Ames, opened their new 34,000 square foot expansion in 2008 which allowed them to add 207 new jobs, along with a full-service kitchen.

BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM VETMEDICA, 2501 North Loop Drive, Suite 1000, Ames, announced their commitment in fall 2010 to invest \$2 million in an expansion in the Iowa State University Research Park which will create 20 jobs at an average of \$78,000 per year.

WEBFILINGS, 2625 North Loop Drive, Suite 2105, Ames, announced their commitment to creating 250 new jobs over the next couple years in December 2010. They also plan to invest \$30 million in a new 51,000 square foot office building in the Iowa State University Research Park.

FLINT HILLS RESOURCES, 2321 North Loop Drive, Suite 110, Ames, a division of Koch Industries, moved to Ames in spring 2011 and created 20 new jobs.

ALLTECH, 1523 South Bell Avenue, Ames, moved to Ames in spring 2011 and are leasing South Bell Avenue office space.

HIPRA, Iowa State University Research Park, Ames, intends on moving to Ames to locate their U.S. headquarters where they will create an estimate of 75 new jobs in the Iowa State University Research Park.

RURAL SOLUXIONS, 1601 Golden Aspen Drive, Suite 108, Ames, an Atlanta-based software company, committed 20 new jobs and moved into their office space in fall 2011.

university | community | opportunity