

MOMENTUM 2020: MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

“Never confuse motion with action.”

— Benjamin Franklin

LEAVENWORTH COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ISSUES EMERGENCY ORDER

Leavenworth County issues an Emergency Public Health Order effective March 24, 2020 – [to read the full order with guidelines for Stay at Home and Non-essential Business Operations cease requirement.](#)

On March 21, 2020, **small businesses were declared eligible for disaster loans from the Small Business Administration (SBA).** For more information visit: <https://www.kansascommerce.gov/>

We are committed to doing our part to assist our communities during COVID-19.

During this time, we are still here to assist you and your business. [Please click here for business resources.](#) Check back frequently for updates.

Announcements

Wilson Glass from St. Joseph, MO (Project Clear) announced plans to build a 5,000 square foot manufacturing facility in the Urban Hess Business Park in Tonganoxie. The company manufactures window frames and installs windows throughout the Kansas City area.

Wilson Glass will employ 5 people to start with plans to expand to 10. LCDC worked with the Leavenworth County Port Authority, the City of Tonganoxie, Kansas Department of Commerce and First State Bank on the project.

Mutual Savings Association announced a new branch bank location will be built in Lansing. LCDC first became involved in the project on September 22, 2015 when Mutual asked the agency to identify properties along K-7 in Lansing. Mutual will begin construction on the building this Spring.

Regional Labor Study Update

For LCDC to compete for and win economic development projects, it must be armed with current data on the labor shed, workforce trends and opportunities, wages and more. According to surveys conducted by the trade publication, *Area Development*, site consultants consistently rank **availability of skilled labor #1 and labor costs #2 as the most needed critical factors in the site selection process.**

LCDC has engaged with MarksNelson to update the County's 2015 labor report. The refreshed report will determine relevant labor data for the region, regional labor shed and site-specific labor sheds for Leavenworth, Lansing, Basehor and Tonganoxie. The report will also include an occupational analysis on six targeted industries: Warehouse & Distribution, Advanced & Light Manufacturing, Information Technology, Food Production & Support Services/Suppliers, Bio & Animal Health and Business Services. Much of the funding for the report is being provided by Evergy and the four communities involved.



Raising the County's Profile Through Leadership And Events

Kansas Economic Development Alliance (KEDA)

During KEDA's Annual Legislative Day, several legislators, as well as Governor Laura Kelly, provided updates to economic developers around the state. Steve Jack is serving a two-year term as the organization's president.



Framework for Growth

LCDC Executive Director Steve Jack is working with Deputy Secretary of Commerce Patty Clark to facilitate conversations with Kansas communities and economic developers for the Framework for Growth – a state-wide initiative geared to accelerate economic growth. Learn more [here](#).



Testimony Supporting Decoupling KIT/KIR and HPIP Incentives

HB 2702, a bill decoupling the Kansas Industrial Training (KIT) and the Kansas Industrial Retraining (KIR) programs from the High Performance Incentive Program (HPIP) has passed both houses of the Kansas Legislature.

Currently, to be eligible for HPIP incentives related to capital investment, business must either have a KIT or KIR training program through the state or track a minimum of 2% of payroll devoted to employee training.

Eliminating the training requirement will take fiscal pressure off KIT and KIR while also reducing paperwork for Kansas companies participating in HPIP. Steve Jack travelled to Topeka to testify on behalf of KEDA and Leavenworth County manufacturers.

Site Tours and Business Recruitment Events

LCDC continues to host several county-wide property and site visits with companies interested in looking to relocate or expand. A select group of interested commercial real estate brokers, developers and general contractors is showing new interest in the business parks.

The Kansas Department of Commerce's dedicated business recruitment representatives from Los Angeles and Washington D.C. will be visiting the County later this Spring to take a tour of communities and available properties.

Steve Jack attended the Site Selectors Guild annual conference in Atlanta. The Guild is made up of senior site location consultants who LCDC works with on business location projects. The conference provided extraordinary access to dozens of key location decisionmakers from around the county, many of whom expressed interest in the new business parks in the county and soon-to-be published Leavenworth Labor Shed study.

➔ Kansas Small Business Person of the Year

Tonganoxie Based HMC Performance Coatings Company Owner Named Kansas Small Business Person of the Year!

The U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) 2020 Kansas Small Business Person of the Year is Amie Tripp-Bristol, President & CEO of HMC Performance Coatings, LLC.



HMC Performance Coatings doubled sales and increased the number of employees from 10 to 23 between 2016 and 2018.

Tripp-Bristol will be honored at the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2020 Person of the Year ceremony in Washington, D.C. on May 3 – 4 where she will also represent the State of Kansas. Congratulations!

➔ Local Small Business Loans and Grants

First City Cheese Factory received a \$45,000 E Community loan and a \$20,000 Start-up Kansas loan as a result of assistance from Grow Leavenworth County. The loans helped the business to open a deli and sandwich shop at 610 Cherokee St. in Leavenworth, KS.



The Flower Bar located in Basehor, received a micro-grant from LCDC to help start up the floral design business. Congratulations Sabra Hotujac!



➔ ICYMI: LCDC Annual Meeting Recap

In January, LCDC hosted a panel discussion during the annual meeting on industrial and office development, deal flow, business parks, spec buildings and trends to look for in 2020. Panelists included Elli Bowen, KCADC/KC Smartport, Aaron J. Schlagel, Ryan Companies and Austin Baier, CBRE. Thanks to those who attended!

[Click here](#) to download LCDC's Annual Report.



Congratulations to Mary Mack for receiving the *President's Award for Dedication and Service to the Leavenworth-Lansing Chamber of Commerce!*

Featured Investors

PLATINUM



GOLD



Regular Meetings

LCDC Board Meeting

2nd Thursdays, noon

Rotating Locations in Leavenworth, Lansing, Tonganoxie and Basehor

LCPA Board Meeting

Last Wednesdays, noon

LCPA Trails Committee

2nd Tuesday every month, 3:30 p.m.

Membership Committee

2nd Tuesdays, 8 a.m.

Infrastructure Committee

4th Tuesdays, 3 p.m.



For more information about LCDC, please contact

Steve Jack

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

913.727.6111 • sjack@LVCountyED.org