

**RESOLUTION NO: 4872**

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING CHAMPAIGN COUNTY  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, a formal policy addressing economic development will help Champaign County Board members reach the best possible economic development decisions;

**WHEREAS**, Champaign County has undertaken the development of a County-wide economic development policy;

**WHEREAS**, the Champaign County Economic Development Policy Subcommittee has forwarded the *Champaign County Economic Development Policy* to the Policy, Personnel and Appointments Committee of the Champaign County Board for its consideration and endorsement;

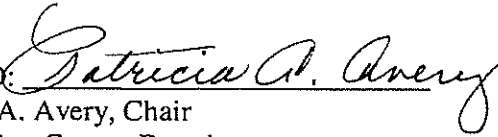
**WHEREAS**, the Policy, Personnel and Appointments Committee has recommended a policy including goals and objectives;

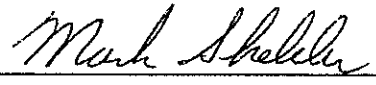
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Champaign County Board, Champaign County, Illinois, as follows:

1. That the Champaign County Board hereby adopts the *Champaign County Economic Development Policy*, which is attached hereto.
2. That the Champaign County Board acknowledges that modifications to the Policy as a result of changes in socio-economic conditions may occur. The Economic Development Subcommittee will monitor such changes and bring them to the attention of the Champaign County Board.
3. That the Champaign County Board hereby establishes the Champaign County Economic Development Subcommittee as the on-going advisory body for economic development as a subcommittee of the standing Policy, Personnel and Appointments Committee. The subcommittee will be responsible for making recommendations regarding the *Champaign County Economic Development Policy*.

4. That the Champaign County Economic Development Policy Subcommittee has the following powers and responsibilities:
  - a. Serve as liaison with the Champaign County Economic Development Corporation and the East Central Illinois Economic Development District;
  - b. Review the *Champaign County Economic Development Policy* as necessary, but not less often than on time per year and;
  - c. Review and authorize Community Development Action Program (CDAP) loans
  
5. That Champaign County will provide the resources required for the subcommittee to undertake the responsibilities established herein.

**PRESENTED, ADOPTED, APPROVED, AND RECORDED** this 7<sup>th</sup>. Day of October, A.D. 2004.

SIGNED:   
Patricia A. Avery, Chair  
Champaign County Board,  
Champaign County, Illinois

ATTEST:   
Mark Shelden, County Clerk &  
*Ex-Officio* Clerk of the County Board

# Economic Development Policy

## Socioeconomic Status

Goal ED-1: The County is committed to improving the socioeconomic status of its residents by raising the median family income, maintaining low levels of unemployment, and providing diverse employment opportunities.

### Objectives:

- ED-1.1: Facilitate the creation and retention of jobs at or above the living wage that meet the needs and demands of Champaign County residents.
- ED-1.2: Encourage business investment that a means to provides job opportunities for Champaign County residents.
- ED-1.3: Encourage diverse job and entrepreneurial opportunities for persons interested in full-time or part-time employment or desiring to own their own businesses.
- ED-1.4: Encourage educational opportunities for residents of all ages to develop and upgrade skills required for employment, advancement and entrepreneurship.
- ED-1.5: Cooperate with education providers and employers in developing facilities and programs meeting a continuum of educational needs at the K-12, college, and continuing education levels.
- ED-1.6: Actively participate in the six county East Central Illinois Economic Development District (EDD) to promote regional interests.

## Public Services

Goal ED-2: Champaign County will consider the ramifications of economic development decisions when planning for public services and facilities.

### Objectives:

- ED-2.1: Work with public service providers to deliver the services and facilities necessary to support a high quality of life and attract business investment.
- ED-2.2: Review land use and permitting procedures to assure that regulatory processes are understandable, predictable, and can be accomplished within reasonable time periods in a manner that meets or exceeds state statutory requirements.
- ED-2.3: Develop local regulations to achieve their purposes in the most effective and efficient way.

## **Economic Development Policy**

### **Commercial & Industrial Development**

**Goal ED-3: Maintain a supply of commercial and industrial sites to provide opportunity for targeted new and expanding businesses to locate or remain in Champaign County.**

#### **Objectives:**

- ED-3.1: Encourage a range of commercial retail and service businesses to meet local resident needs and serve visitors to Champaign County.
- ED-3.2: Plan for a diversity of ready-to-build sites with sufficient support infrastructure and services needed to meet the demand for commercial and industrial growth.
- ED-3.3: Protect commercial and industrial sites designated under relevant plans from encroaching incompatible uses.
- ED-3.4: Facilitate the retention and expansion of existing local businesses and start-up of new businesses particularly those that provide family wage job opportunities and operate in compliance with applicable regulatory requirements.
- ED-3.5: Encourage regular countywide updates of inventories of land utilization, land demand, and suitable available properties for residential, industrial, commercial, public facility, and agricultural uses.
- ED-3.6: Increase the commercial and industrial tax base.

### **Diversification, Business/Agriculture**

**Goal ED-4: Preserve the strength of agriculture and agritourism, and the existing business base, while diversifying the local economy.**

#### **Objectives:**

- ED-4.1. Promote the growth of agriculture and agritourism that is both sustainable and profitable
- ED-4.2: Encourage development of enterprises that add value to local agricultural production
- ED-4.3: Encourage development of appropriate non-farm enterprises that augment income for farm families.
- ED-4.4: Encourage the establishment of industrial parks and other light manufacturing facilities and provide zoning of facilities engaged in producer services, including computer, health services, and telecommunications.

ED-4.5: Focus business recruitment and development on firms that will diversify the local economy and can effectively serve state, national and other global markets from a Champaign County location.

## **Quality of Life**

**Goal ED-5: Enhance the overall quality of life of the citizens of Champaign County in order to promote economic growth.**

### **Objectives:**

ED-5.1: Encourage commercial and industrial developments that incorporate innovative and/or experimental applications, which demonstrate an ability to conserve natural resources and/or protect or enhance environmental quality.

ED-5.2: Protect commercially significant natural resource lands or lands in urban settlements from encroachment by conflicting uses.

ED-5.3: Promote visitor opportunities that are compatible with or complement the character and existing uses of natural resource lands and critical areas or the rural lifestyles of Champaign County.

ED-5.4: Support local jurisdiction efforts to improve and market visitor services.

ED-5.5: Provide for siting and development of quality residential neighborhoods.

ED-5.6: Encourage development of human and social service facilities that create job opportunities, meet community needs, and maintain Champaign County's quality of life.

ED-5.7: Support development and maintenance of human and social service facilities including, but not limited to, health care, education, transportation and other services for persons with special needs.

## **Workforce Development**

**Goal ED-6: Support coordinated and comprehensive workforce development infrastructure that provides sufficient inventory of quality workforce to meet the needs of local business.**

### **Objectives:**

ED-6.1: Encourage the development of a skilled workforce by promoting education and workforce development programs.

ED-6.2: Encourage local businesses to participate in local workforce development programs and to provide assistance and support to employees.

ED-6.3: Work cooperatively with workforce investment boards (WIB) and all other job-creating organizations.

ED-6.4: Cooperate with education providers and employers in developing facilities and programs meeting a continuum of educational needs at the K-12, college, and continuing education levels.

## **Incentives**

**Goal ED-7: The County will ensure that its investment in economic development will add economic value and increase employment within the County.**

### **Objectives:**

ED 7.1: Provide normal and customary incentives to businesses locating within the County that adhere to job quality standards.

ED 7.2: Carefully scrutinize requests for non-customary assistance or incentives to ensure a favorable return on any County investment, and minimize the downside risk to County taxpayers.