

Ottawa County Economic Development Office, Inc.

6676 LAKE MICHIGAN DRIVE • P.O. BOX 539 • ALLENDALE, MICHIGAN 49401 • PHONE 616 892-4120 • FAX 616 895-6670

DATE: January 28, 2010

TO: OCEDO Board of Directors
Ottawa County Board of Commissioners
Financial Contributors

FROM: Kenneth J. Rizzio, Executive Director



RE: **Work Activities for the 2nd half of 2009**

For your information, this memo provides a summary of the major work activities that I completed between July 1st and December 31st of 2009. Please feel free to make copies of this memo for your Board/Council/Commission members. If you have any questions or would like additional information (on most of these items), please call me at 892-4120 or e-mail to: krizzio@altelco.net Thank you.

I. Industrial Retention, Expansion & Attraction Activities:

Industrial retention visits were made to 10 manufacturing firms in Ottawa County. Most of these visits were made jointly with Bill Kratz, Business Development Manager for the MEDC. The firms visited were located in the City of Hudsonville; and the Townships of Allendale, Holland, Jamestown, Olive, Polkton, Tallmadge and Wright.

Continued to assist with the location of Continental Dairy Products, Inc./CS Facilities, LLC's proposed new \$ 100 million milk processing plant on the former Delphi property in the City of Coopersville. Wrote several sections of the City's application for a \$ 6.4 million USDA loan to help finance needed improvements to the municipal wastewater treatment system. Prepared an application for a \$ 2.4 million CDBG infrastructure grant also for the utility upgrade. Prepared an application for a \$ 960,000 MDOT Economic Development Fund Category-A Grant for the re-construction of a portion of Randall Street. Prepared a Supplement to Fiscal Statement Form for the Company's P.A. 198 Tax Abatement Application. Currently, assisting the Company apply for the \$ 31 million in available Recovery Zone Facility Bond allocation from Ottawa County. This dairy project will create 70 direct new jobs over the next two years; 150 construction jobs at peak construction; and an estimated 447 indirect new (spin-off) jobs in other economic sectors.

Participated in the application process for a High-Tech MEGA Tax Credit for CRI of Allendale. This defense contractor is proposing an investment of \$ 3 million and the creation of approximately 50 new jobs in Allendale and the City of Walker.

Wrote the Environmental Review Record, a Notice of Intent and a CDBG-R (ARRA) Infrastructure Grant Application in the amount of \$ 890,000 for Phase II on-site wastewater pretreatment system upgrades to support an internal expansion (machinery & equipment acquisition) at Quincy Street, Inc. This food processor in Holland Township will create 18 new jobs in the next 24-months.

Prepared a revised Notice of Intent for a \$ 500,000 CDBG Implementation Grant for Saturn Electronics & Engineering, Inc., a manufacturer of solenoids located in the City of Coopersville. The original CDBG grant offer at the end of 2008 was not accepted by the Company because of the rapidly downward trending automotive production volumes. Proposed now is a \$ 14.5 million internal expansion project with the creation of 26 new jobs over the next two years. A revised CDBG grant application will be prepared.

Continued to administer the following two CDBG grant funded projects for Holland Township (with the preparation of progress reports & payment requests): the Wastewater Pre-treatment System & Road Improvements/Boar's Head Provisions Expansion Project AND the Wastewater Pre-treatment/Request Foods, Inc. Expansion Project.

Prepared, edited and/or helped process P.A. 198 industrial facilities tax abatement applications for the following 5 manufacturing firms:

<u>Manufacturers</u>	<u>Communities</u>	<u>Investments</u>	<u>Jobs</u>	
			<u>Existing</u>	<u>New</u>
Sara Lee Foods*	Olive Twp	\$ 7,222,731	850	30
Ottawa Development*/** (Michigan Wood Fibers)	Blendon Twp	175,000	0	6
Dutch Treat Salads	Zeeland Twp	337,215	8	6
Zeeland Farm Services	Zeeland Twp	1,184,000	180	2
Laser Dynamics	Allendale Twp	<u>2,552,000</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>4</u>
TOTALS		\$ 11,470,946	1,085	48

* Plant Rehabilitation District

** Denied by the State Tax Commission (OD was ruled a non-manufacturer)

Assisted H.S. Die & Engineering, Inc./H.S. Technologies, Inc. in Tallmadge Township and Aggressive Tool & Die, Inc. in the City of Coopersville prepare applications for the designation of their sites as Tool & Die Recovery Renaissance Zones. The MEDC approved both applications.

Assisted at least six prospects searching for industrial sites in the Townships of Allendale, Georgetown and Holland; and in the Cities of Coopersville, Hudsonville and Zeeland. One of the prospects was Port City Racing, who has purchased the former Amstore

Building in the City of Coopersville. Port City Racing provides engineering, new product development and the custom fabrication of components for the automotive racing industry. The Company has approximately 40 employees.

Prepared a Notice of Intent for a \$ 500,000 CDBG Economic Development Infrastructure Grant for another industrial prospect considering a \$ 44.2 million manufacturing plant expansion project to be located either in SW Ottawa County or out-of-state (at a site near its Corporate Headquarters). The proposed expansion project would create 20 new jobs over two years. The Environmental Review process was also started- the first wetlands public notice was prepared. The MEDC's incentives package was not accepted; the project went out-of-state.

II. Small Business Counseling Activities:

OCEDO is a satellite office of Region 7 of the Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center Program at Grand Valley State University. Over the last six months, at least 48 short-term clients located throughout Ottawa County were assisted with information on how to start a business; where to obtain financing; what are the required licenses & permits; how to write a business plan; and what local, State and federal business assistance programs are available to assist them. OCEDO also assisted 16 long-term clients with one-on-one counseling. Those clients were located in the Cities of Coopersville, Holland and Hudsonville; and the Townships of Allendale, Blendon, Georgetown, Holland, Tallmadge, Wright and Zeeland.

III. Other Activities:

Participated in meetings of the Kent-Ottawa-Muskegon Foreign Trade Zone (KOM-FTZ) Authority Board (currently serving as Chairman); Hudsonville Economic Development Committee, Allendale Area Chamber of Commerce (Board of Directors & Building Enhancement Grant Program Committee) and the Hudsonville Parks Board. A Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant application will be written for the proposed construction of an Interpretive Center in the Hudsonville Nature Center.

Provided input into several proposed projects of the Ottawa County Department of Planning & Performance Improvement, including the Agricultural Technology Incubator, Economic Development Software, Revolving Loan Program and Recovery Zone Facility Bond Allocation. Also promoted Ottawa County's Energy Audit Grants Program to nine manufacturers located in the following Townships: Holland, Jamestown, Olive, Spring Lake, Tallmadge and Zeeland; and the Cities of Hudsonville and Zeeland.

Began discussions with Muskegon County officials on establishing a Regional Wastewater Treatment Initiative which will include Muskegon County, northern Ottawa County and northwestern Kent County.

1/28/2010