

FCDC NEWS

Paul Bean—Executive Director | paul@thinkfranklinco.org



FCDC Director's Update

It has been a busy month for FCDC. I am happy to share that activity and interest in Proximity Park and Franklin County is increasing. During March we have had three active leads on the park. We are currently working closely with these interested industries. I want to lift up our city and county partners in these efforts.

They are all working hard to attract a quality new industry to our area. While you do not see dirt being moved please know, a tremendous amount of work is being done to attract new industry and new jobs to our community. I look forward to the day when we can announce the coming of a new industry with quality jobs. We are all certainly working hard to this end.

COVID-19

The County Health Department is doing a FANTASTIC job of managing the testing and vaccinations for our community. It is important that everyone gets vaccinated. Please support your employees time off to get their shot if possible. If you wish to help folks sign up in Franklin County for the vaccine, please call 785-229-3531 or go on the web at: <https://arcg.is/11yPyu>

Committee Work

Workforce:

Dr. Ryan Cobbs and Stella Tharp at USD 290 have joined me in four half day virtual sessions for completing our ACT WorkKeys Bootcamp. You will begin to hear more about this great program. It will enable folks entering the workforce or transitioning in the workforce to gain an upper hand in obtaining a job. For those industries and businesses that participate, it will reduce your recruitment cost and reduce your turnover. This is a great program that we will be working to expand and grow throughout the county in the coming months and years.

Industrial Inventory:

This committee is looking to help identify properties that we can add to our inventory of available options for new and expanding industry. Proximity Park is our primary location, but it will not be a perfect fit for all who are looking to land in Franklin County. It is important for us to find additional options throughout the county.

Member Services:

This committee is working to serve our existing members. We are looking forward to events and activities that can bring us together as we exit this pandemic. I am also happy to report that we are a growing organization. We have had six new members join FCDC for the year 2021. At this date we have a 96% retention rate of existing members from 2020. Please encourage others to join and experience the benefits of being a member of FCDC!

Marketing

I am happy to report that our new website is up and running. This has been a month's long process, but I think we are moving in the right direction. I continue to get feedback from site selectors and consultants in the field as to additions that I will consider implementing over the coming weeks and months. If you have not already done so, please go check it out at:

<https://www.fcdckansas.org/>

I want to thank Kaci Brady and Dustin Coureton for helping me get this off the ground. It truly has been a team effort! I look forward to hearing back from our membership on what you like or would like to see that is not on the site already.

New Email

As I work to get our marketing and contact information all in sync, I also have a new email address. Please use: paul.bean@FCDCKansas.org in the future. I will be able to receive on the old email for a bit, so we have time to get used to the change.

Training

In my efforts to sharpen my skills and become more effective as your director, I will be taking an intensive training during the month of April. I have six half day online sessions for Economic Developers to learn more and become better at my efforts to serve you. I am excited about this opportunity. I was awarded a grant toward the tuition from Team Kansas which is greatly appreciated. It is another way we are receiving such great support from outside of our organization.

Thank You

I want to thank each of our members for all you are doing for our community. Your jobs, tax payments, and community involvement are so important. Franklin County is a great place to live in large part to your choosing to do business here. THANK YOU!!!! Do not hesitate to reach out to me if there is ANYTHING I can do to help your business

It is a GREAT day to live in Franklin County!

Paul Bean

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