

January 2025

BROKEN  ARROW
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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January 2025 Report

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Business Retention and Expansion

Summary

- This month's BRE efforts centered on continuing connection with local businesses to enhance retention, uncover expansion opportunities, and foster stronger collaboration opportunities.
- Manufacturing Roundtable confirmed for **March 5, 2025**; Oklahoma Department of Commerce and Oklahoma Manufacturing Alliance to facilitate discussion on funding opportunities available for businesses looking to expand
- CEO, VP, delegation from Commerce and elected officials met with Paragon Films leaders to recognize them for \$300k Business Expansion Incentive Program
- Maintained ongoing discussions for Project Flight, focusing on site selection and feasibility
- Assisted local business with relocation resources for new employees relocating to Broken Arrow
 - Delivered Community Guide, Visit BA Guide, and digital relocation guide
- **BRE Employer Meetings: 7**
- **BRE Drop-ins: 11**

New Business Attraction

Summary

- Conducted initial discovery meeting with a business considering relocation to BA
- CEO and VP attended Select Oklahoma Reception in Dallas, networking with 60+ site consultants
- Hosted consultants and Department of Commerce for OKSITES Ready site visit for Houston and College industrial sites
 - Utility partners, landowner and broker, and city leadership in attendance
 - Facilitated tour of community, site, and surrounding industrial developments
- Met with landowner of 40 acres at Houston and County Line to discuss opportunities for site development and timeline of development

Incoming January Projects

- **Project Maero** – Submitted Sweet Gum property
 - Aerospace company looking to expand into the United States. Seeking existing building with a minimum of 10,000 SF.
 - Project Scope
 - \$8M in capital investment
 - 23 jobs
- **Project Building Block** – No available sites meeting the needs of the project. Plastic resin manufacturing company seeking a minimum of 50-acre greenfield site in an industrial park, a foreign trade zone and/or rural area. Heavy industrial zoning required.
 - Project Scope

- \$150M capital investment
- 30 jobs

Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Small Business Development

Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Assessment

- Discovered from Hispanic Business Council need for Spanish-language business education
 - Explored opportunities with Tulsa Tech Broken Arrow to expand entrepreneurial education and support for English and Spanish-speaking audiences

Workforce Development

Summary

- Staff attended the Texas A&M Engineering Career Fair. The opportunity allowed the BAEDC to represent the entire community of Broken Arrow to engineering students with the goal of attracting the talent to the area:
 - **70** students requested additional information about BA opportunities
 - **2** students currently have applied for Broken Arrow internship opportunities
- Facilitated Talent Attraction & Workforce Development committee meetings
 - Highlighted Texas A&M Engineering Fair
 - Demonstrated new Broken Arrow job board
 - Discussed logistics and date for Healthcare Career Day 2025 [**April 10**]
- Attraction Success Stories: Written dialogue from individuals who relocated here from outside the area to be showcased on the website.
 - **3** pending candidates
- **Employer Partner Meetings = 6**

Broken Arrow Job Board Monthly Metrics:

- **752** page visits; **231** clicks on jobs; **4** job alert subscribers
- **43** application engagements

Job Seeker Monthly Metrics:

- Job seeker engagements = **74**
- Job seeker placements = **0**

Job Seeker Year to Date Metrics:

- Job seeker engagements = **74**
- **43** application engagements (job board)
- Job seeker placements = **0**

Arrow Forge

Summary

- Identified potential user for Arrow Forge and conducted discussions the client to pitch the site

- Facilitated a meeting with the City Manager and the client to explore potential incentives
- Received commitment from Matt Litterell, Executive Director for Workforce and Economic Development at Tulsa Tech to serve as Chair of Arrow Forge committee
- Facilitated monthly Arrow Forge Committee Meeting
 - Presented initial draft of Arrow Forge business model and value proposition to committee for feedback

Research Analysis, Strategic Planning, & Advocacy

Summary

- Finalized and delivered 2024-2025 Grounds for Development publication
- Met with COBA Tourism & Economic Development (TED) to discuss BA developments
 - Working on road funding grant opportunities to improve industrial site's marketability
- CEO and VP met with One Wagoner County for alignment on projects and opportunities for collaboration and partnership
- Research Requests:
 - Business Resources – **2**
 - Property search for 8,000-10,000 SF; min. One garage door; 8-12 parking spaces and 20-40 service vehicle parking spaces.
 - Property search for min. 10,000 SF of commercial space, preferably for purchase for food manufacturing.
 - City of Broken Arrow – **0**
 - Workforce – **1**
 - Labor data request for company considering locating at Arrow Forge