

May 2025

BROKEN ARROW

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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May 2025 Report

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Business Retention and Expansion

Summary

- **Nine Broken Arrow companies** awarded over **\$1.12 million** through Oklahoma Innovation and Expansion Program (OIEP) and Business Expansion Incentive Program (BEIP).
- Facilitated a site visit at a Broken Arrow manufacturing facility planning a major expansion (**Project Sapling**)—adding **over 200,000 SF** and **185 new jobs** over the next three years. The visit included **company leadership, BAEDC Staff, Oklahoma Department of Commerce representatives, and consultants from EY.**
- Facilitated the groundbreaking ceremony for **Zeeco's 200,000 SF expansion** at the Global Technology Center, with Zeeco leadership, elected officials, City of Broken Arrow representatives, Oklahoma Department of Commerce, and other key stakeholders in attendance.
- Project Flight **Economic Development Agreement** has been finalized by the company and is scheduled to be presented to City Council for approval in June.
- **BRE Employer Meetings: 11**
- **BRE Drop-ins: 4**

New Business Attraction

Summary

- Attended **Pre-Development meeting** with client and representatives for **Project Sam** as they begin due diligence and initial site planning at 40 acres at College and County Line.
- Staff met with Senior Mechanical Engineer at **American Airlines** to discuss supply chain challenges and landscape of **aerospace industry** in Tulsa region.

Incoming May Projects

- **Project Rocko** – Submitted Arrow Forge. Site visit 05/21
 - Industrial drone company seeking 2-4 acres with the ability to test/calibrate to build their HQ and manufacturing operations.
 - Project Scope
 - \$4 million capital investment
 - 150 jobs
- **Project Vintage** – No available sites meeting the needs of the project.
 - Confidential automotive company seeking location for new state of the art electric vehicle assembly operation. Seeking minimum of 750 acres that is fully controlled by economic development entity.
 - Project Scope
 - \$7 billion in capital investment
 - 3,500-4,000 jobs
- **Project Locksmith 2** – No available sites meeting the needs of the project.
 - High-end dairy product manufacturer seeking a food grade building with a minimum of 30K SF that has been previously used for dairy product production.
 - Project Scope
 - \$30 million capital investment

- 50 jobs
- **Project Performance** – No available sites meeting the needs of the project.
 - Battery storage, graphite, and carbon product manufacturer seeking 1 million SF existing or a minimum of 200 acres greenfield site in an industrial park. Rail required.
 - Project Scope
 - \$1.1 billion capital investment
 - 500 jobs
- **Project Elevate** – No available sites meeting the needs of the project.
 - U.S. based company seeking 20-30 acre brownfield site for first commercial-scale facility to produce sustainable aviation fuel. On site rail spur required and co-location with refinery or port preferred
 - Project Scope
 - \$400 million capital investment
 - 45 jobs

Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Small Business Development

Summary

- **Broken Arrow** has officially been accepted as a host community for **1 Million Cups (1MC)**, a national Kauffman Foundation initiative designed to educate, engage, and connect local entrepreneurs to their community.
 - 1MC provides a free, **weekly platform** for entrepreneurs to present their businesses to a diverse audience of mentors, advisors, and community members.
 - This program will launch in Broken Arrow later this summer and serve as a key component of our ecosystem-building efforts by encouraging knowledge sharing, collaboration, and grassroots support for early-stage startups.
- **Entrepreneurship Steering Committee** has been re-engaged and convened in May to align community partners and stakeholders around a shared vision for entrepreneurial development in Broken Arrow.
 - The committee includes representation from small business owners, local entrepreneurs, entrepreneurial support organizations and the BAEDC. Its work will guide strategy, identify gaps in support services, and shape future programming.

Workforce Development

Summary

- Attended the **Oklahoma Business Expo** hosted by OKSBE which had a goal of offering attendees the opportunity to expand their network, forge new relationships, and explore resources within the community. Showcased the BelnBA talent attraction brand and connected with over 50 individuals looking for employment and business expansion opportunities.

- Facilitated **workforce development** and **talent attraction committee meetings** with local employer and community partners. Discussion revolved around job board metrics, STEM Camp logistics, updates on success stories produced, and debrief around the career fair held in April.
- Staff attended the **National Association of Workforce Development Professionals** conference to connect with other similar professionals around the topic of workforce development and community engagement. A primary takeaway was Registered Apprenticeship work being done in Texas to help address the shortage of healthcare professionals. Will incorporate that dialogue into an HR Roundtable event.
- Coordination and employer recruitment for **virtual reality video shoot**.
 - The goal of this initiative is to be able to utilize this video to enhance **workforce development and talent attraction** efforts for our community.

Employer Partner Meetings = 5

Broken Arrow Job Board Monthly Metrics:

- **382** page visits; **140** clicks on jobs; **3** job alert subscribers
- **25** application engagements

Job Seeker Monthly Metrics:

- Job seeker engagements = **15**
- Job seeker placements = **1**

Job Seeker Year to Date Metrics:

- Job seeker engagements = **165**
- **178** application engagements (job board)
- Job seeker placements = **3**

Arrow Forge

Summary

- **Beck Design** met with representatives from **BAEDC, City of Broken Arrow, and the Arrow Forge Committee Chair** to review conceptual designs for district entry signage
- Hosted a site visit at **Arrow Forge** with client for **Project Rocko**
 - Oklahoma identified as a front runner for site location with Claremore and Broken Arrow being top locations.
- **Arrow Forge Committee** convened for May committee meeting
 - Received updates from City of Broken Arrow Engineering and Planning on infrastructure and platting.
 - Beck Design presented two design entry signage options were presented during **committee meeting** for consideration.
 - The committee selected one preferred option to present to **City Council for feedback**.

Research Analysis, Strategic Planning, & Advocacy

Summary

- Submitted applications for **International Economic Development Council (IEDC) annual awards** for key initiatives including **Grounds for Development, Career Awareness, Amplify BA**, and others.
- The Marketing & Research Manager attended the **Rogers County Workforce Analysis Presentation**, hosted by the Claremore Economic Development Team in collaboration with Lightcast, to gather **regional labor market insights**.
- The **Biannual Report** and **Annual Presentation** were completed and submitted to the City of Broken Arrow, summarizing key accomplishments and strategic progress.
- VP and BRE Manager participated in the **May Manufacturers Council Meeting**, continuing efforts to support and engage the local manufacturing sector.
- MM initiated the quoting process for a **comprehensive refresh of the EDC website** to enhance user experience and better showcase economic development opportunities.
- VP and MM attended a demonstration of the **CoStar/STR platform**; once the merger is finalized, the **City of Broken Arrow will rely on the EDC to generate hospitality reports** using our license.
- VP attended the **NAIOP Breakfast Meeting**, fostering connections and staying informed on regional real estate and development trends.
- **Research Requests:**
 - **Business Resources – 2**
 - Pulling information for a developer interested in putting in a daycare. This included information on new/existing housing developments and available retail space.
 - Pulling market insights on the office space leasing market to give insight on why a listing is on the market longer than expected.
 - **City of Broken Arrow – 1**
 - Surveying the Broken Arrow Manufacturers to gauge satisfaction when it comes to Oklahoma Natural Gas and their responsiveness to new connections and issues.
 - **Workforce - 0**