



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Howard County Economic Development Authority Receives 2024 Excellence in Economic Development Silver Award for E-newsletter from the International Economic Development Council

*IEDC's annual Excellence Awards honor the economic development organizations, government entities, initiatives, and programs that have demonstrated consistent, exemplary performance in the profession*

**COLUMBIA, MD (August 28, 2024)** – The Howard County Economic Development Authority's e-newsletter, Economic Edge, received a 2024 Excellence in Economic Development Silver Award from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC). The award was bestowed specifically for the organization's work in the Magazine & Newsletter category for areas with populations of 200,000–500,000 residents. HCEDA CEO Jennifer Jones will be acknowledged and honored at the IEDC 2024 Annual Conference in Denver, CO, September 15–18.

"We're honored to receive IEDC's 2024 Excellence in Economic Development Silver Award for our Economic Edge e-newsletter. This recognition underscores our commitment to providing Howard County's businesses with valuable, timely information," said Jones. "Economic Edge strives to be an essential resource for local businesses by offering insights that help them thrive and spotlighting their success stories. By fostering an informed business community, we strengthen our county's economic resilience."

"We are thrilled, but not surprised, that our Howard County Economic Development Authority has been recognized by the International Economic Development Council for its e-newsletter," said Howard County Executive Calvin Ball. "Our HCEDA is at the forefront of innovation as they strive to provide Howard County residents with resources to help them grow their businesses. This recognition is a nice reminder that EDA's work is making a mark in the business world. Congratulations to CEO Jennifer Jones, and the rest of the team, for being recognized for their efforts."

"The Howard County Economic Development Authority is setting the standard of excellence for economic development with its Economic Edge e-newsletter. This award highlights HCEDA's commitment to its community and demonstrates the transformative impact of economic development," said Nathan Ohle, IEDC President and CEO, "It is with great pride that IEDC presents this award to HCEDA, celebrating their leadership and innovation in the field of economic development."



“We are absolutely thrilled to announce this year's award winners. These exceptional projects showcase remarkable dedication and ingenuity within the field,” said Kevin Kramer, Chair of IEDC’s Excellence in Economic Development Awards Advisory Committee. “The Howard County Economic Development Authority’s contributions will leave a lasting impact and demonstrate its commitment to creating positive change for its residents.”

Every year IEDC looks specifically for economic development organizations, government entities, initiatives, and programs that have demonstrated consistent, exemplary performance in the economic development profession, leading the execution of projects that have a significant impact on revitalizing communities, and playing a major role in shaping and improving the practice of economic development.

### **About The Howard County Economic Development Authority**

Howard County Economic Development Authority helps businesses launch, thrive and stay in Howard County, Maryland with streamlined permitting, informed site selection and connections to resources. HCEDA offers Howard County entrepreneurs a range of loans and microloans as well as mentorships and office space through its Maryland Innovation Center. Learn more at [www.hceda.org](http://www.hceda.org) and [www.mdinnovationcenter.com](http://www.mdinnovationcenter.com).

### **About the International Economic Development Council**

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is a non-profit, non-partisan membership organization serving economic developers. With more than 4,300 members, IEDC is the largest organization of its kind. Economic developers promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities by creating, retaining, and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth, and provide a stable tax base. From public to private, rural to urban, and local to international, IEDC’s members engage in the full range of economic development practices. Given the breadth of economic development work, our members are employed in various settings, including local, state, provincial, and federal governments, public-private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities, and a variety of other institutions. When IEDC succeeds, its members create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities, and improve the quality of life in their regions. Learn more at [www.iedconline.org](http://www.iedconline.org).

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