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**Macon-Bibb County, Georgia Economic Development Team Receives Excellence in Economic Development Award from the International Economic Development Council**

Macon-Bibb County, Georgia Economic Development Team received a Bronze Excellence in Economic Development Award for its 2015 project in the category of Paid Advertisement Campaign for communities with populations of 25,000-200,000 from the [International Economic Development Council](http://www.iedc.org) (IEDC).

The honor was presented at an awards ceremony on Tuesday, October 6, during the 2015 IEDC Annual Conference, which was held October 4-7, in Anchorage, Alaska.

“From localized community projects, to large scale endeavors, economic development efforts have played a vital role in the global economy,” said JoAnn Cray, CEcD, Chair of the International Economic Development Council and President of Saginaw Future Inc. “As we address new and longstanding challenges, these efforts continue to take on even greater importance. The award serves as a salute to pacesetting organizations like the Macon-Bibb County, Georgia Economic Development Team for leading the charge.”

Each March the statewide business publication, Georgia Trend Magazine, features Macon-Bibb County, Georgia in a detailed article. For a number of years, the Macon Economic Development Commission and Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce have collaborated with some of our economic development partners on an ad designed to attract the attention of GA Trend’s readers and let them know why Macon-Bibb County is a great place for business and tourism. This year, eight (8) different organizations, Macon-Bibb County, the Bibb County School System, the Macon Water Authority, Macon-Bibb County Convention & Visitors Bureau, the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority, New Town Macon, the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce, and the Macon Economic Development Commission collaborated with the marketing company, Bright Ideas Group, to design this ad which features a coffee shop filled with people who represented a variety of economic development aspects of our community. To see our ad, please go to <http://www.maconworks.com/news-and-press.cms?id=243>.

Recipients of IEDC’s Excellence in Economic Development Awards demonstrate to an experienced panel of judges that they are at the forefront of the economic development profession. They are recognized as the world’s best economic development programs and partnerships, marketing materials, and the year’s

most influential leaders. These awards honor organizations and individuals for their efforts in creating positive change in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

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

The [International Economic Development Council](http://www.iedconline.org) (IEDC) is a non-profit membership organization serving economic developers. With more than 4,600 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 are engaged in the full range of economic development experience. Given the breadth of economic development work, our members are employed in a wide variety of settings including local, state, provincial and federal governments, public private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities and a variety of other institutions. When we succeed, our members create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities, and improve the quality of life in their regions. [www.iedconline.org](http://www.iedconline.org).

#### **About the Macon Economic Development Commission**

The mission of the Macon Economic Development Commission (MEDC) is to serve as the **single point of contact** to attract, sustain and grow primary jobs and investment in Macon-Bibb County. The MEDC is a private-public partnership funded by the business community through the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce; Macon-Bibb County and the Macon Water Authority through the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority. MEDC is responsible for recruiting new business and industry to Macon-Bibb County; working with existing business and industry on expansions and retention and assisting the partners with development of the Downtown Industrial District. MEDC works in partnership with the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority.

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