March Highlights

Successes around Macon-Bibb County

From groundbreakings, grand openings, and major announcements, Macon-Bibb County had many successes over the last month.

The Macon Amphitheater grand opening showcased what the amphitheater will mean to Macon-Bibb.

Hotel 45, Macon's first and only boutique hotel, opened early February. This hotel mixes the history of our area with an urban design ahead of its time.

The Otis Redding Foundation announced plans for the Otis Redding Center for the Arts. This Center will be a multipurpose space open to students of ages 5-18 who have a desire to explore their interest in all elements of music.

Ocmulgee Mounds, our area's National Historic Park, doubled in size thanks to negotiations by the Open Space Institute that worked to protect the historic lands.

Industry Highlight- Middle Georgia Freightliner- Isuzu

February marked the grand opening of Middle Georgia Freightliner - Isuzu's (MGF) new facility!

This announcement came on the 4th anniversary of a fire that burnt their original facility to the ground.

The fire occurred on a Friday, and MGF was operational by Monday in a temporary facility offered by Prince Precision, another Macon-Bibb County industry.

Through the rebuild, MGF was able to retain all 65 employees. At the grand opening, Mayor Lester Miller described it by saying:
"We are a family in Macon-Bibb County, and this is one of the situations where our community came together as a family. You don't get through hardships and grow for the better without working together as a team."
Read the entire announcement here!

Submit your Industry Highlight story to be featured in our next newsletter.

Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority

March 2022 Authority Report

Executive Director Report

February was a busy and successful month for the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority. The Executive Director's Report showed that prospect activity is steady. There are currently 18 open projects with a potential investment of more than $400 million and more than 4,000 potential jobs.

MBCIA officially celebrated 60 years of #MaconOpportunities in Macon-Bibb County. During these years, the Authority has brought names like YKK, Amazon, Tyson Foods, Irving Tissue, and GEICO to our area.

Board member Dwight Jones was reappointed for a second 5-year term.

Stephen Adams and Eleyce Coleman were guests on Macon Black Pages talk show, "A Call to Action." They discussed the 60th anniversary, why economic development is important to our area, and what projects MBCIA is currently working on.

MBCIA received the Community Impact Award from Trade & Industry Magazine for our work with Fine Fettle Dispensary (FFD). To read what FFD will bring to our community, read the announcement **here**.

MBCIA collaborated with strategic partners around Macon for a Georgia Trend ad to show we are a community invested in growing together. We are more than a county-- **we are Macon-Bibb**!

Existing Industry Report

Eleyce Coleman, Existing Industry Manager, was chosen for the Leadership Macon Class of 2022! Each month she is learning about a different aspect of Macon. Her knowledge will help MBCIA and existing industries in the future.

Coleman also worked with industries for hiring needs for industries, requests from strategic partners, and event planning.

Project Manager Report

Gary Wilson, Project Manager, has been working steadily on preparations for MHI RJ's arrival to Macon-Bibb County. Repairs have been made as necessary and MHI RJ is planning to be operational in March.

Timberland in Airport South Industrial Park is being transformed into farmland for Elliot Farms. MBCIA leases approximately 350 acres of land to local farmers. Utilizing our resources in between industries is important for our growth as a community. The crops they grow are then processed and used all over the world. Signs in Airport South are being refurbished, as well.

Marketing Report

In the marketing and public relations activities report, all social media platforms saw consistency or growth in reach, engagement, impressions, new followers, and page clicks than in previous months across all platforms.

The meeting closed with an executive session.