

# MACON-BIBB SHINES ON THE BIG STAGE

SEPTEMBER 2022



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

August was an exciting month full of activity and announcements for MBCIA! Two major announcements occurred in the month-- YKK AP's expansion and two industrial parks were granted GRAD Certification with Select Status.

YKK AP plans to invest \$125 million into a new state-of-the-art facility. The manufacturing facility will create 100 new jobs and feature cutting-edge machinery and equipment. Find the full press release [here](#).

The Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) announced Airport East Industrial Park and Interstate 75 Business Park have earned "Georgia Ready for Accelerated Development, otherwise known as GRAD certified, with Select status. This proactive certification status showcases MBCIA's dedication to industries and allows for the fast-tracking of construction projects. Read the full announcement [here](#).

## EXISTING INDUSTRY MANAGER REPORT

MBCIA hosted Economic Development Day for the 2022 Leadership Macon class. Along with industry tours, these emerging leaders learned about why economic development is important in a community. Our Existing Industry Manager, Eleyce Coleman, not only helped create the program, but also participated as a member of the Leadership Macon Class.

Throughout the month, Eleyce works to aid industries through any need or request. Requests this month include assisting with workforce and hiring needs, utility and Public Works questions, as well as having onsite visits to continue building relationships with industries.



Macon-Bibb County was host to the Georgia Economic Developers Association August Luncheon. This event saw over 100 economic development professionals from all over the state.

### Macon: The Business of Music

featured a panel of speakers from all areas of development in our community.



Alex Morrison with the Urban Development Authority spoke about the creation or in many cases the repurposing of our local resources. The importance of revitalizing urban areas goes hand in hand with economic development.

Karla Redding-Andrews with the Otis Redding Foundation discussed the importance of culture, specifically music, in our community.

Gary Wheat, President of Visit Macon, discussed upcoming projects like the Macon Amphitheater and how these types of projects directly impact tourism and economic development.

All of these facets of quality of life strengthen economic development, talent recruitment, and talent retention.

## PROJECT MANAGER REPORT

Project Manager, Gary Wilson's months of tireless work paid off with the announcement of two GRAD-certified industrial park sites. Congratulations! Now Gary will focus his efforts on preparing for the arrival and nearing groundbreakings for [Fine Fettle](#), [Agile Cold Storage](#), and [YKK AP](#).

He will also continue facilitating industry needs like fixing potholes, repaving parking lots, and landscaping.

## INDUSTRY IN MACON-BIBB COUNTY

In August, MBCIA had the privilege of sponsoring Bibb County School's Back to School Bash. This event helped raise funds and supplies for students across the county. Over 1,000 uniform shirts, backpacks, school supplies, and other needed items were given to students ahead of the new school year.



ICYMI- Check out our local ad campaign highlighting our 60th anniversary and board members. View our latest [Macon Magazine Ad](#) below and view our [Macon Black Pages ad here](#).

As we wrapped up the latest Fiscal Year, we reminisced on our top 10 projects. Watch our latest Monthly Minute [here](#).



Follow MBCIA on all social platforms for updates on current activities, industry updates, and Macon-Bibb County to-dos!