



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

The holidays are quickly approaching and the team at the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority is reflecting on the past twelve months. Our 60th anniversary has been quite a banner year and we are excited to celebrate it. We have some great events to look forward to, as well as big announcements so be sure to pay attention to your inbox this holiday season!

We would also like to recognize Sam Hart, community leader and dedicated MBCIA board member whose term is up this December. We are grateful for his many years of service to the community. Congratulations to him as he embarks on a well deserved retirement!

EXISTING INDUSTRY MANAGER REPORT

Existing industry expansions have contributed greatly to MBCIA's 60th anniversary banner year. This is a testament to the continued relationships we build even after industries open their doors. We work closely with local, state, and federal organizations to provide our local industries with the resources they need to succeed and grow right here in Macon-Bibb County.

When companies, like Coca-Cola, YKK AP, and Nichiha reinvest in our community, it means more jobs to keep our local economy strong and the tax burden lower for our citizens.

This year alone our efforts have brought in over \$3 million in direct revenue to our taxing entities.

Recently, Coca-Cola announced a 90 million-dollar reinvestment into their existing plant. This expansion is expected to bring an additional fifty jobs that students who utilize the pathway we helped to facilitate earlier this year. ICYMI, a partnership between the W.S. Hutchings College and Career Academy, Central Georgia Technical College, and Coca-Cola produced a warehousing and distribution pathway for students- combining education and training with future career opportunities



Sam Hart was presented with an appreciation plaque at the December board meeting.

Are you up to date on all things Macon-Bibb Industry? Make sure you are subscribed to our newsletter and follow our social media!

You can also find important MBCIA announcements at: mbcia.com/news/

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PROJECT MANAGER REPORT

A letter from Gary

Here at the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority, we work hard to advocate for our industries, existing and incoming.

I spend a great deal of my time trying to help incoming industry through the gauntlet of the permitting process. I use the word "gauntlet" not to lay any blame, but to say that we at MBCIA realize it isn't easy. Stephen and I have attended many meetings to try and understand what is the cog in the wheel, when it comes to permitting. In the process, we have met with our Macon-Bibb County partners, incoming industry, and contractors to understand permitting better and offer any assistance in improving upon it. I want you to know that every department within the city wants to make the process better. No one is wringing their hands and chuckling evilly at the thought of frustrated businesses not being able to get permitted.

Speaking for the MBCIA- we encourage you, the industry, to come to us first. Let us in on the pre-development meeting. We can then follow up with fire, engineering, water, etc., being sure that the lines of communication are clear and open going forward. Let us be a part of your sit-downs with department heads. Let us in on civil plan changes and we will help expedite the process in any way we can.

In short, we can help. We want to be seen as customer service to industry. We believe the more we are involved with this process, the smoother it will become. We want to empower industry to keep "#MaconOpportunities."

Best,
Gary

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT!



Our very own Executive Director, Stephen Adams, was featured in Georgia Trend's Georgia 500 Economic Development section.

[Read more about Stephen Adams and the entirety of the Georgia 500 here.](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS



[Click here to see the Facebook Live.](#)

AGILE COLD STORAGE

Atlanta, GA-based Agile Cold Storage, LLC broke ground on their fourth cold storage warehouse in Georgia earlier this month. Phase I of the new 275,000 square foot multi-temp Macon facility is targeted to open this summer. Over the next three years, Agile plans to invest over \$150 million in the construction of its new facility to support the domestic and export markets.

"Investing and creating jobs in our home state is exciting. Because of its strategic location near the port of Savannah and along major interstates, Macon was the perfect location for our expansion," said Agile President and CEO Don Schoenl. "We appreciate Macon-Bibb County and the State's interest in helping us grow our footprint, as this will be our fourth facility in Georgia."

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