



## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

In February, the Macon-Bibb County Industrial Authority welcomed existing and new industries to our office, engaged with prospects, and reflected on the origin stories of our keystone industries. With the International Cherry Blossom Festival approaching, we look forward to showcasing our thriving community.

As we invite economic developers to the area this month, we are focused on demonstrating the lively, friendly community we have here in Macon-Bibb County and highlighting the many opportunities for investment and growth. Our commitment to building long-term partnerships and supporting sustainable economic development will drive progress and prosperity for all of Macon-Bibb County.

## EXISTING INDUSTRY MANAGER REPORT



This month Existing Industry Manager, Eleyce Coleman, raised a glass bottle of Coca-Cola to celebrate exciting news for Macon! Coca-Cola Bottling Company United, Inc. has broken ground on an \$85 million investment

**Coca-Cola Bottling Company UNITED**

in its Macon facility. The expansion includes a 260,000 square foot warehouse and a cutting-edge Vertique warehousing system. The new development will generate around 50 new jobs and benefit associates, customers, and communities in the greater Macon area. We are thrilled that Coca-Cola UNITED has chosen to invest in our community once again, and we are grateful for their commitment to our region for years to come. At the groundbreaking ceremony, the Coca-Cola Polar Bear was in attendance, alongside local and state elected officials, community partners, and leaders. Cheers to Coca-Cola UNITED, and we can't wait to see the new facility up and running!



### Congratulations Bright Farms!

Trade & Industry Magazine's annual CiCi Awards recognized 15 impactful community projects announced in 2022, including Macon's newest industry, **Bright Farms**. These awards highlight the positive impact of site selection on job creation and community growth.

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# PROJECT MANAGER REPORT

*A letter from Gary*

As I read the news, often filled with negative stories, I'm reminded to appreciate the positive things happening in Bibb County. While the Authority Report's audience is broad, I want to encourage everyone that business is continuing as usual here in Macon-Bibb County. We have been busy preparing for prospect visits over the past month, which are still taking place despite the world's current events. We have been attracting good companies with strong track records to our county, and it's been keeping us busy.

This month, two companies made their second or third visits to the county, requiring us to closely examine whether they are a good fit for us and them. Additionally, the Bright Farms team visited last week, consisting of eleven members from their civil engineering and greenhouse building teams. They met with our Macon-Bibb County and utility partners to help bring quality, sustainable produce to Bibb County. While I won't reveal too much, I can say that tours of the facility will be available in a little over a year and a half, assuming all goes well.

Thank you,  
Gary Wilson

# INDUSTRY NEWS

*Coca-Cola Bottling Company UNITED  
groundbreaking photos continued*



**Wow, Macon, you did it again! A huge shoutout and thank you to our amazing community partners who helped make the County-Wide Clean Up a smashing success! It's always heartwarming to see everyone come together with pride and passion for our beautiful community. Thank you!**

**Click here to leave a message of congratulations for Coca-Cola Bottling Company UNITED!**



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