

DUE DILIGENCE CHECKLIST FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPERS



BUSINESS BACKGROUND



- ☐ What type of facility (HQ, manufacturing line, warehouse/distribution, etc.) does the company plan to locate in the community?
- ☐ Does the project represent a recruitment, retention/expansion, or startup business?
- ☐ In what phase of the business lifecycle (Start up, Growing, Expanding, Mature, or Contracting) is the company? *Review the company's financial statements, compare financial ratios for industry.*
- ☐ Are there any pending lawsuits or recent legal decisions relevant to your decision? *Review recent news, legal actions, and bankruptcy proceedings.*
- ☐ Have you investigated the backgrounds of the company's principals? *Conduct a background check and contact personal references.*
- ☐ What are the sources and uses of funds for the capital investment?

COMMUNITY FIT



- ☐ Will the company advance the community's ED strategy? *Understand the company's industry and the functions to be conducted at local site.*
- ☐ Who are the company's suppliers and are they local?
- ☐ Does the company export its products outside of the region? Is this a basic industry business or a support industry business?
- ☐ Does the company compete directly with any existing local businesses?
- ☐ Will the company be a strong community partner and a good corporate citizen?
- ☐ Are there any adverse environmental or transportation impacts to consider in connection to this project?
- ☐ Will your available workforce development programs support the company's needs?

ECONOMIC IMPACT



- ☐ How many jobs will be created or retained? How do the wages compare to the local median wage?
- ☐ What specific occupations will the business hire?
- ☐ Will the company hire locally or will workers relocate to the community to fill the jobs?
- ☐ What will be the multiplier effects of the new business? Are these net new impacts?
- ☐ What is the size and nature of the capital investment?

FISCAL IMPACT



- ☐ What types and amounts of revenues will the project and spin-off activity bring to the community - property tax, sales tax, etc.?
- ☐ Are there infrastructure improvements or other direct public costs required by the community?
- ☐ How do the benefits and costs compare over a 10+ year horizon?
- ☐ If considering incentives, what's the rate of return and payback period?