

Nelson County Economic Development Agency



“PARTNERS FOR PROGRESS”

PRESS RELEASE

Site Selection magazine has named the Nelson County Economic Development Agency (“NCEDA”) as one of the Top 20 Micropolitan Economic Development Groups in the United States. NCEDA was the only economic development agency in the state to be listed in the magazine’s Best to Invest rankings in this category.

Kim Huston, President of NCEDA, said "We are honored to be listed in this best of the best by *Site Selection* magazine and we are certainly in good company with some of the most successful communities in the country. We knew that 2014 was an extremely busy and very successful year for NCEDA and the Bardstown Industrial Development Corporation (“BIDC”) and it's nice to be recognized for our economic successes, strategies and our partnership with our local government, not to mention the livability and quality of life we have here. However, we are most grateful for the companies that chose to locate or expand in Nelson County. Without their confidence in Bardstown and Nelson County and our people they could have chosen to grow their company in any other community.”

The economic development groups were first ranked according to four objective categories: new jobs, new jobs per 10,000 residents, new investment amount and new investment per 10,000 residents. Additional criteria included the creativity of economic development strategy; scope of project activity; and documenting link between the economic development organization and actual results.

This year’s Top US Economic Development Groups are recognized for their ability to leverage their community’s assets to reach new markets while making sure existing industries have what they need to thrive,” says Patty Rasmussen, senior editor at *Site Selection* magazine, who authored the Top Groups report. “As we talked with corporate executives looking to relocate or expand, we found that they’re looking for more than incentives or inexpensive land. Livability is an important differentiator and communities that invest in quality of life infrastructure are seeing that investment pay off.”

Frank Wilson, Chairman of the BIDC said, “This wonderful recognition serves as further affirmation that the efforts of Kim Huston and the NCEDA/BIDC team are reaping tremendous benefits in our community. These efforts have helped attract two new industries in the last couple of years and have aided numerous others with significant expansion plans, including capital investments and additions to the workforce in the manufacturing sector. It is noteworthy this article references “livability is an important differentiator and communities that invest in quality of life infrastructure are seeing that investment pay off”. The vision the NCEDA/BIDC team had, working with local and state government officials, to invest in beautification efforts in our downtown district clearly have been key contributing factors to our strong economic development results and instrumental to receiving recognition from *Site Selection* magazine and other notable accolades such as “The Most Beautiful Small Town in America” by *USA Today* and *Rand McNally* just a few short years ago.”

For more information on the Nelson County Economic Development Agency and the Bardstown Industrial Development Corporation, visit www.visitbardstown.org or contact Kim Huston at 502-348-6402 or at kimhuston@nceda.net.