

City of Columbus Business Retention and Expansion Program

2025

WHO BENEFITS FROM A BUSINESS RETENTION AND EXPANSION PROGRAM?



Businesses benefit from community support to solve problems that would cause them to fail, close or move away



People benefit from having local job opportunities... choices among a range of employers, types of jobs and industries... and local access to shopping and services



The community benefits from a stable tax base, business civic engagement, vitality and local pride

The objectives of the program are:

- To demonstrate support for local businesses
- To help solve immediate business concerns.
- To increase local businesses' ability to compete in the global economy
- To build community capacity to sustain growth and development.

Business Visit Team:

- Matt Amundson, City Administrator
- Mike Kornmann, Director of Community and Economic Development
- Mayor
- Other staff including Utility Director and Director of Public Works. One or more members will meet with businesses on the annual visit list.

Priorities:

The primary goal of the program in 2024-2026 will be to establish relationships with the businesses and understand some of the near-term needs. Phase two of the program in 2026-2028 will include more formal surveys and analysis of the local areas economic market and business climate. Types of analysis can be any of the following: market studies, cluster analysis, and others. While these are two distinct phases, the approach of “meet/assess/respond” will be the general approach to any business visit. Targeted businesses in 2025 will be major employers and downtown businesses. Businesses also include any property owners that lease their properties or may be interested in selling their properties.

The City will also create a business list of contacts and follow up with businesses after a visit.

2025 Business Visit List:

Prairie Ridge Health Care, Vita Plus, Roberts Manufacturing, Lyco, Fluid Quip, Fromm, American Packaging Company (APC), Columbus School District, Duffy Fleet, GAR Plastics, Drexel, Auburn Ridge, Eggerts Imprints, QOC Innovations, Therm-All, Vesta Technologies, Enerpac. Downtown businesses.