

INVER GROVE HEIGHTS EDA 2020-21 WORK PLAN

The following work plan provides guidance to the Inver Grove Heights Economic Development Authority (EDA) and its staff and is updated annually. It is recognized that other unanticipated development opportunities and challenges may arise throughout a given year that may impact work plan outcomes and priorities.

Identify & Support Smart, High-Value Growth Opportunities

1. Conduct business retention & expansion (BRE) visits with city's 15 largest private sector employers to determine how best to support their continued growth in our community.
2. Establish "shovel ready certified" development sites for new corporate office headquarters and warehouse/distribution centers that may be directly marketed to site search consultants, brokers and businesses via annual broker tour and other events.
3. Maximize the economic development opportunities that may result from proposed state and county transportation infrastructure investment.
4. Advance the redevelopment of Concord Boulevard to improve the riverfront experience for both residents and visitors which will lead to increased private sector investment along this very important, one of a kind, historic city corridor.
5. Secure information on local and regional real estate market trends, and partner with MN Real Estate Journal, MNCAR, DEED MN Marketing Partnership, Dakota CDA, Economic Development Association of MN and River Heights Chamber of Commerce to better position IGH for growth.

Support The Development Of A Variety of Housing Types

1. Work with the Inver Grove Heights Housing Committee to explore the potential of partnering with Habitat for Humanity or similar non-profit to develop an affordable, single-family housing project.
2. Partner with Dakota Community Development Authority (CDA) to develop a Workforce Housing Project at 66th and Concord Boulevard.
3. Explore development of ISD 199 South Grove site and other potential high-density workforce housing sites and identify related funding resources to deploy.
4. Prepare marketing materials/RFP's for city surplus land that is zoned for residential uses including high density, market rate and/or senior housing per 2040 Comp Plan.

Continue To Advance A Business Friendly, Supportive Approach Toward Development

1. Evaluate effectiveness Cityview software "Portal" on city website that allows public to apply for routine construction permits and rental housing permits and make payment electronically. Explore and implement new Cityview software system ad-ons that improve customer experience and increase staff productivity.
2. Evaluate the value of implementing comprehensive electronic plan review among multi-city department divisions (planning, engineering, code compliance, building inspection,

fire marshal) for the purpose of improving efficiency, record-keeping and facilitating faster decision-making by staff.

3. Review city's multi-department building permit/site review process for the purpose of creating and implementing process efficiencies including construction escrow management.
4. Improve city's economic development website pages and work with city communications division and other partners on creating a new, comprehensive city marketing campaign.
5. Support entrepreneurial growth by funding small business counseling service (Open 20 Business) with Dakota County CDA. Explore hosting of a small business resource fair event with local partners to better link local businesses with existing resources.