

## From the City's 2030 Comprehensive Plan (Dec 2009)

### Chapter 4 – Economic Development

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GOALS

##### **Goal 1**

The City will encourage, through land use and the City's EDA (Economic Development Authority), development that creates access to sustainable jobs for the residents of Blaine. Development of corporate offices, professional and financial services, research, medical manufacturing and medical services, education and emerging industrial technology will be focal points in helping to create a well balanced and vital economy for the City and its residents.

##### **Goal 2**

Redevelopment will be encouraged and supported for areas that are obsolete or blighted, and where such redevelopment is to foster job growth and increase property values as well as create a more positive community image. The plan will include specific targeted areas such as the University Avenue corridor, the older industrial park located in the area of 105th Avenue and Nassau Street as well as select areas along Highway 65 and others, including residential areas, that have been identified through the planning process. (Also a Land Use and Housing goal.)

##### **Goal 3**

The City will continue to support the viability and economic health of the Northtown area commercial center, as it represents a significant economic and employment center. The City will collaborate with Northtown to develop a strategy for private reinvestment, as well as explore and be receptive to new ways for the Northtown area to remain successful, including use of innovative stormwater management techniques. (Also a Storm-water goal.)

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IMPLEMENTATION

1. The City will provide for enough industrial and commercial land expansion in the Comprehensive Plan to allow for the development of the projected job growth until 2030.
2. The City's EDA (Economic Development Authority) will focus on creating access to sustainable jobs for the residents of Blaine with a focus on development of corporate offices, professional and financial services, research, medical manufacturing and medical services, education and emerging industrial technology.
3. The City will continue to support the Blaine Area Development Company, a non-profit corporation to promote economic development. BADC provides long-term, fixed asset financing for small and medium sized businesses utilizing the HUD Community Development Block Grant Program.
4. The City will continue to support the activities of the Metro North Chamber of Commerce, the Twin Cities North Chamber of Commerce and the Visit Minneapolis North Convention and Visitors Bureau.
5. The City will continue to support the viability and economic health of the Northtown area commercial center, as it represents a significant economic and employment center. The City will collaborate with Northtown to develop a strategy for private reinvestment, as well as explore and be receptive to new ways for the Northtown area to remain

successful, including use of innovative stormwater management techniques (Economic Development Goal #3).

6. The City will dedicate staff resources to monitoring the economic health of the city and assisting businesses in relocation or expansion within the City.

7. The City will work with the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) to support improvement and additions to the airport and its facilities that will enhance economic development activities in the community provided they do not change the airport status from reliever to intermediate.

8. The City will continue to seek effective ways to promote the benefits of Blaine to the business community.

9. The City will continue to provide information on economic development and the business community (such as BlaineBiz.com) on its website.

10. The City will periodically review its procedures, ordinances and fee structures to ensure they are up-to-date and that they protect and promote the quality of life in the City.

11. The City will promote environmentally sensitive and sustainable business practices.

12. The Comprehensive Plan will identify obsolete or blighted areas that should be targeted redevelopment.

13. The City will develop and implement plans for targeted redevelopment areas, as appropriate.

14. The City will periodically review existing land development requirements and economic incentives to ensure they are conducive to redevelopment and infill projects.