



The Inside AEDG

January, 2023

The latest news, views, and announcements

INSIDE

Port Authority Board

Drew Fields sworn in as new board member

Our Success is Your Success

AEDG produces case study videos spotlighting new development in Allen County.

MakerFest Returns

MakerFest 2023 will be held at the Allen County Fairgrounds in October 2023.



President's Pitch

Happy New Year!

It is a privilege for our team at Allen Economic Development Group to serve the Lima/Allen County community. As we look back, 2022 was a year like no other with successes and highlights.

We saw a record number of investments in development by the public and the private sectors in our community. We proudly saw more than \$750M worth of investment in economic development projects. This, in addition to the previous three years, totaled more than \$2B worth of investments. In addition, in 2022, we witnessed more than \$60M of investments and commitment of investments in downtown Lima.

With this impressive growth in manufacturing, housing and development we are making Allen County a more enjoyable place to live, work and play. One of the goals within our mission at AEDG is to assist businesses in Allen County to have sustainability and growth.

Collaboration is key! It takes collaborative partnerships to make this all happen. The AEDG team works with our local, regional and state partners to accomplish

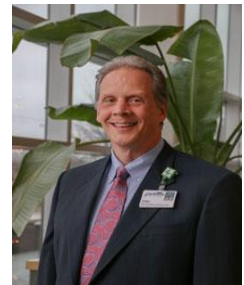
Continued on page 3

AEDG Board Members

- Eric Pohjala
- Kurt Alexander
- Chad King
- Tammy Whitlow
- John Recker
- Rusty Rush
- Phil Buell
- Beth Seibert
- Sharetta Smith
- Howard Violet
- Keith Horner
- Dr. Cynthia Spiers
- Tim Turnwald

AEDG Board News

At the close of 2022, Todd Sutton, Nutrien, finished his term on the AEDG Board of Trustees. Todd served as Chair for the last two years. He is an asset and a friend to the community and to the AEDG team. Thank you for your guidance and leadership over the years.



2023 will bring changes and new faces to the AEDG Board of Trustees. Eric Pohjala, Lima Memorial Hospital, will fill the role of Chair. Kurt Alexander, P&G and Chad King, Citizens National Bank, will serve as Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer, respectively. Lastly, Rusty Rush, Charles River Laboratories, will fill the vacant seat on the board.

We look forward to a successful and fulfilling 2023.



Our Success is Your Success

Allen Economic Development Group and Greater Lima Region Inc. played host to a community update meeting in November at 19 Hawthorne on Fetter Road in Bath Township, where we showcased nearly \$2 billion in investments since 2019, including \$688 million in 2022. With impressive growth in manufacturing, housing and making Allen County a more enjoyable place to work and play.

We spotlighted many projects and showed the importance of collaboration that is needed for a thriving downtown community to grow. We want people to share in the success of Lima/Allen County.

These spotlights were done with case study videos featuring businesses that have played a large role in the economic development within the county. The feature businesses include:

Charles River Laboratories, a leading preclinical research facility, located in Spencerville, is expanding its operations. Rusty Rush, general manager, describes the expansion and working with Allen Economic Development Group to develop the financial incentives that aided the Allen County project. This

project is a \$43M investment and will add 91 new jobs to the community.

Procter & Gamble is set to become an even greater part of the Allen County economy with its announcement of a planned \$501 million investment in the Lima plant, an investment that promises to add more than 100 jobs to the region.

The Metro Center Upscale Lofts & Business Arcade on Elizabeth Street in downtown Lima includes luxury amenities and cultural opportunities that only downtown living can offer. The Walter Development Group chose to invest in the revitalization of an empty and under-utilized building to provide much needed market rate housing and commercial space.

Central District has been completely reimaged as a modern blend of repurposed historic building and outdoor urban leisure space. They will be a combination of retail, residential, eateries and multi-use spaces. This is a \$5M investment to downtown Lima.

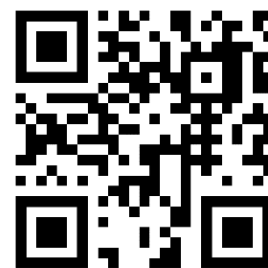
Together we are creating a place that people want to live, work and play.

Lima/Allen County.... We are better together!

We are very excited about the new development in Allen County. But the best is yet to come!

These videos along with the Year-In-Review, Collaboration is the Key, and Downtown Lima Development can be found on our website and our YouTube Channel at www.aedg.org. Special thanks to Video Branch and Anne Decker Marketing for producing the videos.

Look for more videos in the coming months.



Go to our website at www.aedg.org



News from the Port Authority

Drew Fields is the newest member of the Port Authority of Allen County. He is the president of Innovative Packaging, Inc.

The Port Authority of Allen County was formed in 1982 by the Allen County Commissioners. It was reorganized in 2013 and is now administered by the Allen Economic Development Group. A port authority, through powers outlined in the Ohio Revised Code, can own, lease, and buy land, provide financing mechanisms to eligible entities, issue bonds, and other economic development tools. The port owns 70 acres of developable land adjacent to I-75 in Gateway Shawnee Industrial Park.

President's Pitchcontinued from page 1
much and we are more impactful because of it. But without a vision, people have no direction. The team at AEDG continue to use our Strategic Plan to guide us year by year.

Our primary goals include being an advocate and support for our existing businesses, attracting new business, and advancing infrastructure and site preparedness for development.

There were several highlights in 2022, including the growth and expansion of Charles River Laboratories and Procter and Gamble. We also saw companies like Randall Bearings and Perry proTech take residence in their new facilities.

We continue to support the newer companies to our region such as deSter and Logoplaste. Additionally, we are seeing new facilities in Allen County with the building of Towneplace Suites and Holiday Inn Express.

Our team continues to work with our partners to support our businesses for the workforce of the future. We will continue to work for the development of market rate housing and downtown development. We are fortunate to have state partners who support the success with funding for development efforts.

We continue to market the great things happening in Lima/Allen County. We are thankful for the past accomplishments and we look forward to the future. We believe the best is yet to come! Join us in that goal and together we can accomplish much.

MakerFest Returns

We are excited to announce plans are in the works for MakerFest 2023! The event will be slightly different than previous years, but we are confident students will get a good glimpse at the tremendous career opportunities in the region and the educational path needed to find success. Some details include:

When: Oct. 12-13 — schools will choose which day to attend

Where: Allen County Fairgrounds

Mission: MakerFest 2023 will be a hands-on event, with the goal of utilizing demonstrations to inspire area high school students to pursue career opportunities that exist in the region.

This event will be geared toward freshmen and sophomore students who are still shaping their learning path. The goal is to give students a glimpse at a possible career and information on what curriculum in their high school years will help them reach their goal.

