

SANDUSKY COUNTY

Economic Development Corporation



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fremont-Sandusky County Recognized as a Top 20 Micropolitan by Site Selection Magazine

Fremont, OH – The Sandusky County Economic Development Corporation (SCEDC) is thrilled to announce that Fremont-Sandusky County has once again achieved recognition as one of the Top 20 Micropolitans in the nation, as highlighted by Site Selection Magazine. This remarkable achievement marks the seventh consecutive year that Fremont-Sandusky County has ranked in the top 20.

What does this mean?

Site Selection is a prestigious national economic development publication that evaluates communities based on key metrics such as new business project announcements, job creation, capital investment, and overall economic activity. Being recognized among the top areas by Site Selection Magazine underscores Fremont-Sandusky County's appeal as a prime location for businesses seeking to establish new facilities. Factors such as a skilled workforce, robust infrastructure, affordable cost of living, and a business-friendly environment contribute to our community's desirability.

Since 1988, Site Selection has awarded the Governor's Cup based on newly developed corporate facilities, tracked by the proprietary Conway Projects Database. Corporate real estate analysts regard these annual evaluations as "the industry scoreboard." Over the past six years, Ohio has consistently ranked in the top-5 in both new and expanded corporate facilities categories, boasting several top-10 cities and the highest number of top-100 micropolitans among all 50 states.

City of Fremont Mayor, Danny Sanchez, stated, "To be ranked in the top 5% out of 551 similar communities confirms that our efforts are paying off. We have ambitious goals that will continue enhancing our community's attractiveness for investment. I'm excited for companies like Crown Battery and Kuns Northcoast Security, who made significant investments in 2024. We pride ourselves on being business-friendly and are looking forward to additional investments in the upcoming year."

During the SCEDC Annual Meeting of Investors on February 27th, Executive Director Beth Hannam presented a review video showcasing key projects and capital investments within the county. Highlights included Crown Battery's expansion of over 50,000 square feet of manufacturing space and Kuns Northcoast Security's \$25,000 Small Business Grant through JobsOhio to expand their van fleet. In 2024, Sandusky County completed 49 projects, resulting in over \$147 million in capital investments, the creation of 298 new jobs, and retention of 3,960 existing jobs, contributing over \$5.1 million in new payroll.

“Sandusky County is an exceptional place to live and work,” remarked Sandusky County Commissioner Russ Zimmerman. “Our geographic location provides clients with access to various transportation options. Our EDC collaborates with multiple agencies to connect businesses and opportunities across the region, ensuring that each project, regardless of size, receives personal attention from start to finish.”

“As we celebrate this Top 20 Micropolitan designation, we recognize the ongoing promise for business development and workforce potential in Fremont-Sandusky County,” said Beth Hannam. “This award is a testament to the collaborative efforts of local leaders, businesses, and communities dedicated to fostering growth and opportunity.”

Looking ahead to 2025, the SCEDC has plans to launch several initiatives aimed at further advancing economic development in the region. A key project is the acquisition of Leadership Sandusky County, focused on cultivating leadership skills within our community to build a robust pipeline of future leaders.

In addition, SCEDC has introduced Sandusky County Business Connect, a program designed to assist established businesses with their succession planning needs. This initiative will connect business owners with qualified buyers, ensuring smooth transitions and supporting the sustainability of the local economy.

Sandusky County Economic Development Corporation (SCEDC) is a non-profit organization that focuses on business attraction, business retention and expansion, and workforce development for Sandusky County.

For more information about upcoming projects and initiatives, interested parties are encouraged to contact Kyleigh Lash at the Sandusky County Economic Development Corporation.

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