

I took another trip to Chicago, this time with the Dallas Regional Chamber. We met with multiple site selectors on this trip and had very good discussions with them about the benefits of locating in our area and how the upcoming change in the Governor's office may affect economic development programs on the state level. The site selectors gave us insight into what Texas is doing well and where we are being beaten by other states. A universal theme was most states are trying to copy what Texas has done and we need to "keep our foot on the gas." Workforce and real estate availability are two of the primary project drivers. Some states have better and more flexible workforce training programs and manufacturers are taking note.

Business Development Activities:

- Attended Aggie Real Estate Network conference 7/24 - 7/26
- Attended the Dallas Regional Chamber Chicago Mission 7/27 - 7/30
- Met with entrepreneur interested in consolidating 4 real estate-related businesses from around the southern United States in McKinney on 8/8
- Met with investment advisor looking to place a substantial amount of money into development in McKinney on 8/13

Projects:

There are several active projects in the pipeline, but none of them require board action this month. Among other projects, I continue to stay in touch with two manufacturing prospects from out of state, and I am working to locate suitable sites for their operations.

Miscellaneous Activities:

- Worked on updating the Application for Economic Development Assistance