

# Wake County Economic Development

**County Commissioners Meeting  
November 9, 2020**



**WAKE COUNTY**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# Welcome

Michael Haley

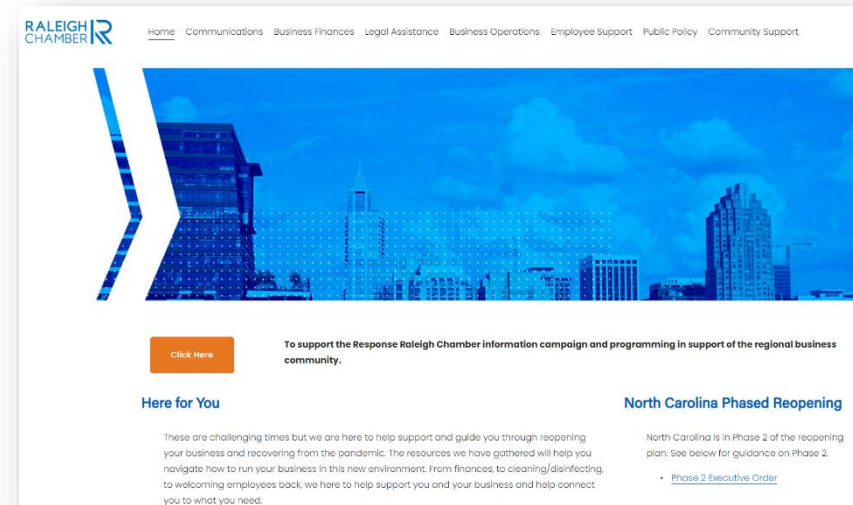
*Executive Director, Wake County Economic Development*

# Overview of WCED Activity during Pandemic

Michael Haley

*Executive Director, Wake County Economic Development*

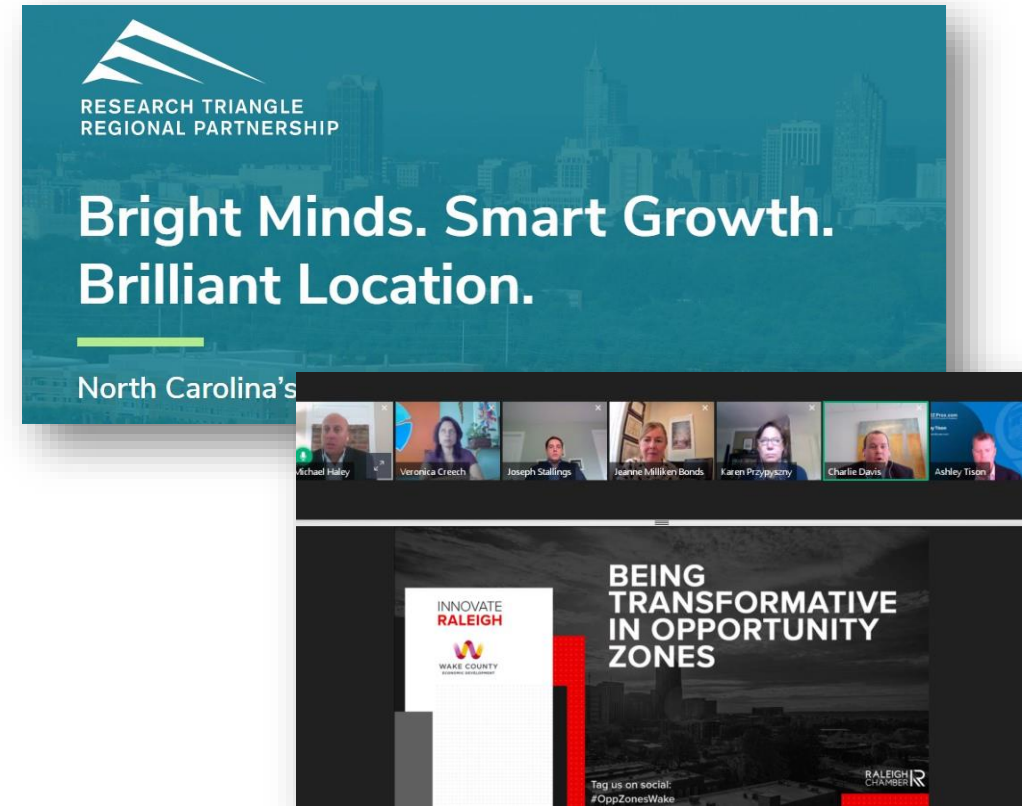
# COVID-19 COMMUNICATIONS



# ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

## Focused on three key elements: Response, Recovery & Support

- Hosted or supported several events to support small businesses impacted by pandemic
- Deployed existing industry survey
- Conducted daily virtual job fairs
- Shared info with municipalities
- Supported WakeForward
- SSC calls
- Created the Recovery Taskforce (Chris is a member and provides an update at each meeting) and Plan
- Regional Marketing campaign
- Implementing our economic development strategic plan



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# PROJECT ACTIVITY

We continue to receive projects throughout this pandemic and have seen a relatively healthy project pipeline.

**41 Active Projects**

**8,672 Potential Jobs**

**1.7 B Potential Investment**

Recent Project Announcements include:

- Bandwidth Expansion
- Hansae

## 1 Pillar 1: ECONOMIC PROSPERITY Business Recruitment & Expansion



### Active Projects by Industry



### Industry Activity



### Total Projects



### Company Announcements



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# RTI Blueprint Study



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# Driving Equitable & Inclusive Economic Development

WCED and Raleigh Chamber have worked closely with Wake County Commissioners on the shared goal for a more equitable and inclusive community.

- Vulnerable Communities Map
- RTI Best Practices Study
- Hired first Equitable Economic Development position
- Targeted Growth Area Incentives
- Triangle DEI Alliance
- Vulnerable Communities Committee of Live Well Wake

## Timeline Review: 2014 - 2021





# PROPOSAL

The culminating efforts of equitable economic development and inclusive prosperity continues to evolve. This work, combined with a growing public desire to address root causes of racial disparities, has led us to an opportunity to convene a public-private initiative.

To continue to advance the work of inclusive prosperity and address systemic racism, RTI was solicited to create a Blueprint to set the foundation for a dynamic 10-year strategy.

- The Blueprint will build off existing research and recent community planning efforts that effectively capture the needs and priorities in Wake County.
- This effort will help transition this information into an action-oriented Blueprint.
- An online, publicly available dashboard to help track progress toward the longer-term goal of ending systemic racism will accompany the Blueprint.

Partners to date: Wake County, Triangle DEI Alliance, Duke Energy Foundation, Raleigh Chamber, WCED, City of Raleigh

# Closing Remarks

Michael Haley

*Executive Director, Wake County Economic Development*