

Siouxland Leaders to Join Iowa Business Council's Vision to Vitality community forum in Le Mars Oct. 25

Forum will focus on the theme "United for Economic Growth in Siouxland"

(DES MOINES) – The Iowa Business Council (IBC) announced new details for its third Vision to Vitality community forum, which will be held in Le Mars, Iowa, on Thursday, October 25, 2018, from 4-5:30 p.m. at The Wells Enterprises Corporate Office. The forum will be hosted by IBC member Mike Wells, President and CEO of Wells Enterprises, Inc.

The Le Mars Vision to Vitality forum will focus on the theme, "United for Economic Growth in Siouxland." The Siouxland area continues to lead the way as a region that addresses its needs collectively. Successes with regional transportation efforts and ongoing housing development projects, like the Wells Enterprises partnership with the City of Le Mars to develop mixed housing units, will be highlighted at the event.

"Regional collaboration is critical to increasing economic vitality in communities big and small. Siouxland leaders have done an exceptional job of harnessing public-private partnerships to promote economic growth and strengthen their workforce," said IBC Executive Director, Georgia Van Gundy. "The Iowa Business Council's executive-level members are eager to hear about Siouxland leaders' unique approach to challenges that aren't necessarily unique to their hometowns."

The Le Mars Vision to Vitality forum will include a brief overview of the IBC and its policy priorities, along with an insightful panel of local leaders moderated by IBC Executive Director, Georgia Van Gundy. The event will conclude with an open discussion period where the IBC will gather feedback from attending community members on best practices and the factors limiting economic growth in the area.

The panel will include the following leaders from across Siouxland:

- Mike Wells, President and CEO, Wells Enterprises Inc.
- Dr. Steven Webner, Superintendent, Le Mars Community Schools
- Neal Adler, Executive Director, Le Mars Area Chamber of Commerce
- Chris McGowan, President, Siouxland Chamber of Commerce

The Vision to Vitality forums are free to attend and open to both the public and the media.

The IBC's inaugural Vision to Vitality community forum was held in Boone, followed by a second forum in Muscatine last month. The IBC will hold additional Vision to Vitality forums in 2019 with locations for these events to be announced at a later date.

Le Mars event details are as follows:

Thursday, October 25, 2018

4 p.m. Iowa Business Council holds Le Mars Vision to Vitality community forum
The Wells Enterprises Corporate Office – Auditorium
1 Blue Bunny Drive
Le Mars, IA

For more information on the IBC and to access its research and data, please visit www.IowaBusinessCouncil.org.

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About the Iowa Business Council's Vision to Vitality community forums

The Iowa Business Council's (IBC) Vision to Vitality community forums are candid discussions with CEOs from Iowa's largest employers, senior executives and local community leaders about the state of Iowa's economy. Panelists provide insight into the regional, state and local business climates, examine how their local communities and industries are approaching today's business challenges, and discuss how the private sector can collaborate with government to increase community vitality. The events also offer an opportunity for the IBC to gather feedback from attendees on what policies could help communities grow and attract business.

About the Iowa Business Council

The Iowa Business Council (IBC) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization whose 23 members are the chief decision makers of major Iowa employers. One in six jobs in Iowa are tied to an IBC company. IBC member companies have invested billions of dollars of capital in Iowa's commercial infrastructure; lead the way in technology innovation, R&D, and grants procured; and are often the driving financial and volunteer forces behind philanthropic efforts all over the state.

IBC member companies include: Ruan Transportation Management Systems; Vermeer Corporation; Iowa Bankers Association; Alliant Energy; Casey's General Stores, Inc.; Corteva Agriscience; Deere & Company; Fareway; FBL Financial Group, Inc.; HNI Corporation; Hy-Vee, Inc., Kent Corporation; Mercy Health Network; Meredith Corporation; MidAmerican Energy Company; Pella Corporation; Principal; Rockwell Collins; The Weitz Company; The University of Iowa Health Care; UnityPoint Health; Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Iowa; and Wells Enterprises, Inc.