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CONTACT: Akia (Garnett) Ashmond Brew
agbrew@iedconline.org

Top Priorities for Senior Economic Developers to Address in 2017

Priorities include gentrification and inclusion, creative industries and millennial entrepreneurs

WASHINGTON, DC (Jan. 29, 2016) – More than 500 senior-level economic developers will convene during the International Economic Development Council’s 2017 Leadership Summit in Jacksonville, Florida from January 29 – 31 to discuss the most pressing issues facing the profession. The conference will feature discussions on trending topics in economic development, such as gentrification and inclusive economic development, creative industries, millennial entrepreneurs and regional economic development.

“Every economic development leader will benefit greatly from this event. As a profession, we are facing new opportunities to create jobs and prosperity in our communities, and to build new and lasting regional partnerships that will help strengthen ties between communities. The Leadership Summit program content will help us all tackle our current issues and opportunities, and will also help us lay the foundation for tomorrow’s leaders to build upon.” - Michael Langley, FM, CEO of Greater MSP in St. Paul MN, 2017 IEDC Chair of the Board of Directors.

By delving into topics such as thought leadership, infrastructure, workforce and innovation, with content specifically geared toward senior-level professionals, Leadership Summit is designed illustrate what economic development organizations can achieve under visionary leadership.

“This is the first time Jacksonville is hosting the IEDC Leadership Summit. We are excited to welcome some of the top economic developers from around the country to discuss issues relevant to our industry and to showcase the Jacksonville community. We are looking forward to a successful Summit that will benefit all attendees.” – Jerry Mallot, President, JAXUSA Partnership

The conference begins Sunday with an opening plenary session with keynote speakers Jane Landon, SVP and Chief Technology Officer of Web. Com, and Amy Liu, Vice President and Director of the Metropolitan Policy Program at the Brookings Institution. Throughout the week the summit will feature tours of key economic development initiatives in Jacksonville, including the Cecil Commerce Center and a tour of the port along the St. Johns River by river taxi.

All content is tailored to senior-level economic developers to allow for targeted discussions of the top priorities for the profession in 2017. The full program and more information can be found at www.iedcevents.org/LeadershipSummit.



About the International Economic Development Council

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is a non-profit membership organization serving economic developers. With more than 5,000 members, IEDC is the largest organization of its kind. Economic developers promote economic well-being and quality of life for their communities, by creating, retaining and expanding jobs that facilitate growth, enhance wealth and provide a stable tax base. From public to private, rural to urban, and local to international, IEDC's members are engaged in the full range of economic development experience. Given the breadth of economic development work, our members are employed in a wide variety of settings including local, state, provincial and federal governments, public-private partnerships, chambers of commerce, universities and a variety of other institutions. IEDC's members create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities and improve the quality of life in their regions. www.iedcONLINE.org.