

NEWS RELEASE

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Cass County Economic Development Council Celebrates a Year of “Community, Collaboration, and Construction” at 2026 Annual Meeting

CASS COUNTY, NE – The Cass County Nebraska Economic Development Council (CCNEDC) gathered at Round the Bend Steakhouse to reflect on an eventful 2025 and set a bold vision for 2026. Defining the past year through the pillars of Community Development, Collaboration, and Construction, the Council reported a high mark for community and business engagement as well as critical infrastructure advancements.

Addressing Childcare – The Council received a keynote address covering the Economic Impacts of Child Care in Our Communities from Mike Feeken, the Strategic Partnerships Advisor for First Five Nebraska. Highlighted by the message that “Today’s workers need childcare, and tomorrow’s workers are in child care,” the vital role that quality, affordable childcare plays in workforce development, business success, and talent recruitment was explored.

Infrastructure and Strategic Partnerships – Key milestones in 2025 included:

- **Highway 75 Growth:** The groundbreaking of the Metropolitan Utilities District water connection to the City of Plattsmouth, City of Plattsmouth’s Highway 75 Corridor Vision Plan, and First State Bank’s new facility on Highway 75.
- **Creative Growth:** Partnering with the City of Plattsmouth to apply for a Creative District designation and growing collaboration with Main Street Businesses.
- **Business Engagement:** Meeting with employers representing over 11% of all Cass County employees and launching a new Main Street survey in Louisville and Weeping Water.
- **Regional Planning:** Leading a successful regional water/wastewater inventory in partnership with "6 Regions One Nebraska" to identify future development sites.
- **Community Support:** Completing a new Downtown Development Plan for the Village of Elmwood in collaboration with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Honoring Leadership and Excellence – The Council bid a grateful farewell to two long-standing board members, Mike Slattery (2001) and Joel Clements (2012), and ushered in a new organizational structure underpinned by an elected Board of Directors and supported by a Strategic Advisory Board.

The Council recognized Quarry Oaks Golf Club with its 2026 Business Recognition Award in honor of their recently completed reinvestment and renovation, highlighted by a reimagined clubhouse and thoughtful golf course updates.

(Photos attached)

*** For further interview opportunities, please reach out to
Josh Charvat (contact information listed above). ***

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About the Cass County Nebraska Economic Development Council

The Cass County Nebraska Economic Development Council (www.CCNEDC.com) is a nonprofit business organization and is part of the Greater Omaha Economic Development Partnership. The mission of CCNEDC is to attract, retain and grow businesses and jobs for all of Cass County Nebraska.

About the Greater Omaha Chamber Economic Development Partnership

The Greater Omaha Chamber Economic Development Partnership (www.OmahaChamber.org/economic-development/) represents an eight-county area from two states (Nebraska and Iowa) that includes Cass, Dodge, Douglas, Mills, Otoe, Pottawattamie, Sarpy and Washington Counties. The regionalized partnership operates as a comprehensive resource, driving growth