

Wyandot County Office of Economic Development

Code of Ethics

Introduction

The Wyandot County Office of Economic Development (WCOED) is committed to the economic development and growth of Wyandot County, OH and the immediate region. The WCOED brings together the interests of a broad range of public, private, and public/private groups to promote the Wyandot County area as a single economic entity. The collaboration of such a variety of groups and interests requires that certain standards of conduct must be developed and adhered to for the WCOED to meet its goal. This Code of Ethics represents the standards that each member of the WCOED supports and practices in its daily conduct of business.

Preamble

We, the members of the WCOED, set forth the following principles of behavior and standards of conduct to guide efforts in promoting the long-term economic health of the Wyandot County community. We fully realize that no Code of Ethics is of value without an inherent level of trust in the integrity of one another and a commitment from each of us to conduct ourselves at the highest levels of professional conduct. The WCOED was founded on the respect and trust of its members. In that spirit, we set forth this Code of Ethics:

- We are committed to the promotion of Wyandot County as a desirable business location for new and existing companies. When representing the WCOED, we shall endeavor to sell Wyandot County first and our individual communities and projects second.
- We shall honor the confidentiality requested by both our fellow members of the WCOED and our prospects. Information shared with our fellow members in confidence shall remain in confidence. Transactions are to be driven by the client.
- We are committed to working together with the real estate community and are in no way in direct competition with them. Economic developers are a resource and facilitator in the site selection process.
- We are committed to sharing among our membership as much information as is necessary and prudent on any activity undertaken by or in the name of the WCOED.
- At no time shall any economic development organization member of the WCOED advertise or promote its respective area to companies within another member's geographic area in a manner that is derogatory or insulting to the other geographic area. "Selling against" another member of the WCOED or another Ohio community, or direct solicitation of intrastate relocations, is strongly discouraged.
- We are committed to locating prospects in Wyandot County. In the event that our local jurisdictions cannot meet the needs of a particular prospect we shall communicate with our fellow members in an effort to meet the company's needs elsewhere in the Wyandot County and Northwest Ohio area.

Confidentiality of Prospects

In all instances, members of the WCOED shall honor the confidentiality of individual prospects. Whenever possible, specific information on particular transactions shall be shared within the WCOED and with applicable regional, state, and federal agencies. In those instances where prospects are dealing with individual communities, information will only be shared by WCOED staff and the local ED representatives involved.

In instances where a prospect wishes to remain completely confidential with an individual community, the remaining members of the WCOED shall honor that confidentiality and shall in no way attempt to intervene in the relationship. The prospect will remain confidential until the prospect chooses to announce.