



News from the Office of the Mayor

Mayor Sylvester “Sly” James, Jr.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JULY 21, 2011

Mayor James, City Manager and EDC Executive Board announce John Crawford as interim head of the EDC

Crawford brings depth and breadth of experience to top economic development post

(Kansas City, Missouri) --- This morning, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Executive Board of the Kansas City Economic Development Corporation (EDC) appointed John Crawford as the interim leader of the EDC.

John Crawford previously served under Mayors Cleaver and Barnes at the EDC as Executive Director of three of the city’s most important Commissions: Tax Increment Financing Commission (TIF), Land Clearance for Redevelopment Authority (LCRA) and the Port Authority.

“We have tasked John, someone with deep knowledge of the EDC, with recommending to the full EDC Board of Directors the most effective and efficient structure for the organization charged with recruiting and retaining businesses in Kansas City,” said EDC Board Chairman Clyde McQueen.

“We need the EDC to be a lean, mean job creating machine. Every day, I need the staff to be singularly focused on bringing quality employers to Kansas City. We are a great place to live that supports an exceptional quality of life. We honestly have assets and amenities that many cities covet. Our recruitment and retention efforts begin at an advantage; we need to press that advantage everyday with every deal. John’s devotion to Kansas City, his keen insights into business recruitment and his determined outlook on development make him the perfect steady hand to guide the EDC in the interim. I thank him for serving our city in such a positive way,” said Mayor Sly James.

The Economic Development Corporation (EDC) of Kansas City, Missouri, was created in 1987 as a 501c4 non-profit agency to manage the efforts of six statutory redevelopment agencies, three of which John Crawford has served as Executive Director. The EDC critical mission is to drive economic development and create an environment in which businesses and residents prosper in Kansas City, Missouri.