

SOUTHFIELD FAST FACTS

Cooperative Agencies

Southfield Business Development Team has a unique cooperative relationship with several agencies:

- **Oakland County Planning and Economic Development** provides a wide range of services, including capital asset financing through the County's Local Development Company and SBA 504 loan program; referrals to private and public financing sources; small business counseling; industry-specific data; referrals to SCORE business counselors; economic, demographic and market data; referrals on contract procurement and export development; programs on technology transfer and joint venture matchmaking; employee training, retraining and recruitment; maps and aerial photos.
- **Automation Alley** serves as Southeast Michigan's only regional technology cluster that groups high-tech companies into a national marketing strategy that could be used as a tool to attract skilled talent and cutting-edge businesses.

This future-focused organization unites exceptional thinkers from diverse realms of technology, academia, manufacturing, engineering, production, and R&D. The Alley is the place where established CEOs from the world's leading corporations can join forces with young entrepreneurs launching exciting start-up ventures. Together, the Alley and its partners infuse the region with exceptional business opportunities and unrivaled job opportunities. To learn more about Automation Alley or participate please email Southfieldbdt@cityofsouthfield.com or www.automationalley.com

- **Michigan Economic Development Corporation** provides State and federal job training grant and loan programs; economic development programs; and the U.S. Export Assistance Center works with the Commission in providing a single contact for export marketing and trade finance. The MEDC conducts targeted trade missions and shows with firms wishing to buy or represent American products or services.
- **Michigan SmartZones** are collaborations between universities, industry, research organizations, government, and other community institutions intended to stimulate the growth of technology-based businesses and jobs by aiding in the creation of recognized clusters of new and emerging businesses, those primarily focused on commercializing ideas, patents, and other opportunities surrounding corporate, university or private research institute R&D efforts. To learn more about the SmartZone and how you can participate email Southfieldbdt@cityofsouthfield.com or www.medic.michigan.org/smartzones/program/
- **Southfield Chamber of Commerce** offers a variety of networking opportunities, including breakfast meetings, business card exchanges, monthly speakers' luncheons, participation in Oakland Leadership Council programs; marketing tools; and member services such as group discounts. The executive director serves on the Business Development Team.
- **The Cornerstone District - Southfield Downtown Development Authority** works to maintain and enhance the appearance and viability of the Northland area in southeastern Southfield. The District's executive director serves on the Business Development Team. The District's Economic Enhancement Strategy is bringing new vitality to the area through redevelopment and development opportunities. The Authority is funded by a two-mill tax on Authority properties and has a tax increment financing plan.
- **Southfield Public Schools** work cooperatively with the City in providing information on available business-related programs and services. The Partnerships for Education Council affords opportunities for business partnerships to provide students hands-on career experience, mentoring, tutoring, job shadowing, alternative education programs, advanced placement and training programs, child health interventions, intergenerational programs and more.
- **Southfield-based colleges and universities**, including Lawrence Technological University, Oakland Community College, Siena Heights University, University of Phoenix, Central Michigan

University, Cleary College and Marygrove College-ITEC Center provide training and retraining opportunities, two-and four-year degree programs, continuing and community education. Special-ized liberal arts and technology-based programs are developed based on employer interest.

For more information, contact Southfield's Business Development Team, (248) 796-4160 or email southfieldbdt@cityofsouthfield.com