

Lexington/Fayette Urban County Government  
Addendum for Services

**MONTHLY REPORT QUESTIONNAIRE – February 2021**  
**Listing of member/staff actively working on Lexington Economic Partnership Efforts:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Race/Ethnicity</u>	<u>Years of Experience in Eco Devo</u>
Gina Greathouse	Caucasian	31
Tyrone Tyra	African American	26
Betsy Dexter	Caucasian	06
Katie Vandegrift	Caucasian	05
Cheryl Klever	Hispanic	02

**Diversity numbers for entire company/organization:**

2 Full-time staff / 19 full – time positions currently filled in organization  
11 Board of Directors

**Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) Program Visits Between January 1 and January 26, 2021 on Behalf of the Lexington Economic Partnership:**

**1. Were all partners involved with the meetings with company leadership (Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development, LFUCG – Office of the Chief Development Officer, Higher Education Representatives (4-Year and BCTC) and staff from Bluegrass Workforce Innovation Board:**

- As companies accept invitations to meet, CLX invites a representative from sectors noted below to every existing business meeting: KY Cabinet for Economic Development, LFUCG Office of Chief Development Officer, Higher Education, and Bluegrass Workforce Innovative Board. During our Lexington Economic Partnership meeting on December 12 – approval was requested and granted to include a member from the Kentucky Career Center.

**2. Sectors of companies met with during the previous month:**

- Between January 24 and February 23, 2021, the Lexington Economic Partnership has met with the following sectors:

\*Please note: Companies have been accounted for once, however, many fit multiple sectors.

- |                               |                     |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| ▪ AgTech - 2                  | ▪ BioSciences – 0   |
| ▪ Customer Contact Center – 0 | ▪ Manufacturing – 2 |
| ▪ Business Services – 1       | ▪ Technology – 1    |
| ▪ Headquarters – 2            | ▪ Nonprofit – 1     |

- Between July 1, 2020 and February 23, 2021, the Lexington Economic Partnership has met with **62 existing businesses**.

- In February, Commerce Lexington met with six companies interested in expanding in the Lexington area.

### 3. Globally headquartered businesses met with during the previous month by sector:

- During the month of January, the Lexington Economic Partnership team met with two businesses headquartered in Fayette County.

### 4. Business by sector met with during the most recent month to discuss growth or increased employment plans:

- Please see response #2. Commerce Lexington's Economic Development team discusses growth and increased employment opportunities at every meeting. Please **see attached** Existing Business Agenda question #9b. Since July 1, **20 existing businesses** have requested additional information about Kentucky Business Incentive Program (KBI) or Kentucky Enterprise Initiative Act (KEIA) in support of growth or increased employment plans.

### 5. Major follow-up items or company concerns that LFUCG should be aware of from existing business meetings:

- Commerce Lexington's Economic Development team discusses follow – up next steps and actions at every meeting. Please **see attached** Existing Business Survey question # 13. To date, the Lexington Economic Partnership has responded to the following items.
  - **Workforce – 23 of 62** companies have requested support regarding workforce support.
  - **Real Estate/ Available Land – 18 of 62** companies met with since July 1 are interested in looking for real estate to expand operations.
  - **Training– 32 of 62** companies requested additional information about on-the- job training programs and support.
  - **COVID Impact – 14 of 62** companies responded moderate-severe concern about current and future revenue, contracts, and/or purchasing.
  - **Internship – 21 of 62** companies is meeting with the University of Kentucky to further discuss programs in support of engineering students and talent pipeline opportunities.
  - **Announcements** – Since January 1, 2021, Commerce Lexington is supporting **two companies** that announced expansion.
  - **Lexington Jobs Fund** – Since January 1, 2021, Commerce Lexington has not supported any company to apply for the Lexington Jobs Fund.
  - **LFUCG Workforce Fund** – Since January 1, 2021, Commerce Lexington is supporting one company with additional information on LFUCG's workforce fund.

### 6. Support network or business sector meetings that occurred during the recent month:

- n/a

## **Commerce Lexington- Talent and Workforce Development Monthly Report- February 2021**

### **A. Describe work in the previous month to connect upper level students to jobs or internships in local corporation and companies for graduate level, senior year and junior year students within their identified area of interest:**

Most recently, the Economic Development Talent Subcommittee at UK met to discuss micro-internships. We heard from Parker Dewey, a company that offers the largest network of highly motivated college students and recent graduates who are looking for short-term, paid, professional assignments. While executing these micro-Internships, students demonstrate their skills and grit as they seek a full-time role or internship.

Not only do professionals get immediate support, micro-Internships also help companies identify and evaluate prospective job candidates for internships or full-time needs when they arise. As a result, organizations improve hiring effectiveness, enhance diversity, and drive retention.

Betsy will continue to work with the committee to better understand the platform and connect local businesses and students to these opportunities.

### **B. How many students were placed in local companies during the previous month in relation to item (A) above in this section:**

Due to Covid-19 and healthy at work restrictions, we do not have updated numbers.

### **C. Describe work in the previous month with Fayette County Public Schools to connect interested junior level students with jobs or internships in local companies in their identified area of interest as part of the Career Academies of Lexington:**

N/A- Due to Covid 19 and school not being in person, we don't have an update on student placements.

### **D. Meetings with education leadership in Lexington related to issues to assist in the development of workforce and growing the Lexington economy/jobs:**

Commerce Lexington is working with the Fayette County School Board to find the best candidate for the next superintendent. We will work closely with the team on providing input on a Superintendent profile, participate in public forums and interview panels with potential candidates.

Phase 2 of our talent research study is almost complete. We surveyed over 300 young professionals (age 19-40) as well as local companies to hear opinions regarding finding a job, developing and growing professionally, and living in the region. This is an opportunity for us to better understand the emerging leaders who work in this region. Once the research is complete, we will analyze the information and the research portion of the project will be done. We will incorporate that information in our overall regional talent strategy to ensure that we can compete for jobs and talent.

## EXISTING BUSINESS MEETING – Agenda

*Company*

*Date*

**Invited:** \_\_\_\_, Gina Greathouse, Cheryl Klever, Brittany Cox, Elizabeth Bishop, Annie Franklin, Elodie Dickinson, George Ward, Kimberly Kluemper, Pam Hatcher, Jeanne Devers, Amy Glasscock, Rolando Thacker, Arabella Tully, Lindsey Ransdell, Jeff Lee

**1. Introductions:**

- a. Commerce Lexington
- b. Cabinet for Economic Development
- c. LFUCG Office of Development Officer
- d. Higher Education – UK and BCTC
- e. Bluegrass Workforce Development
- f. Kentucky Career Center

**2. Business overview: (*Company*)**

- a. Type of business:
- b. How long in Lexington:
- c. Ownership:
- d. Sales/Revenue
- e. Current Business Trends
- f. Location of customer base/clients
- g. Suppliers location?

**3. \*\*COVID Affect**

- a. Employment levels? I.e. increase, decrease, level
- b. Supply chain impact?
- c. Any needs?

**4. Networking Opportunities:** Manufacturer, Bio, C3N, Headquarters, Tech

**5. Employment:**

- a. Lexington only - full time, part time, temporary:
- b. Wage rates:

**6. Capital Investment:**

- a. Recent
- b. Future

**7. Real estate:**

- a. How large is the operation?
- b. Own or lease?
- c. Need additional or different space?

**8. Challenges/Needs:**

- a. Workforce
- b. Training
- c. Financing/funding
- d. Legislative
- e. Other

**9. Growth Opportunities:**

- a. Expansion – real estate
- b. Expansion – number of employees
- c. Modernization
- d. R&D

**10. Import/Export Opportunities:**

**11. Visit Lex Partnership and/or Opportunities:**

**12. Open Discussion:**

**13. Follow up items:**