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St. Tammany Corporation Economic Development Efforts Recognized During International Conference
Special Recognition Awarded for Business Retention and Expansion and COVID-19 Response & Recovery

MANDEVILLE, La – St. Tammany Corporation took home major professional honors at this year’s International Economic Development Council (IEDC) 2020 Excellence in Economic Development Awards, which were announced yesterday at the organization’s virtual annual conference. St. Tammany Corporation’s efforts in business engagement, business technical assistance, and pandemic response and recovery efforts in the first half of 2020 were recognized for Economic Excellence in three categories.

IEDC is the largest nonprofit professional association for professional economic developers in the world, and these awards honor the world’s best economic development marketing campaigns, projects and programs, and the year’s most influential leaders. These award categories honor organizations and individuals for their efforts in creating positive change in urban, suburban, and rural communities.

“St. Tammany Corporation consistently strives for excellence in our programs, services, partnerships, and engagement and I am thrilled to have the organization’s work recognized on the international stage. The leadership and staff are deeply committed to enhancing business retention and technical service offerings and responding to the advancing needs of our existing business community,” said Marty Mayer, Board of Commissioners President.

St. Tammany Corporation was honored with the following awards for Economic Excellence:

- GOLD: *Advance St. Tammany* — Business Retention and Expansion (BRE) Initiatives (Population 200,000 to 500,000)
- GOLD: *StTammanySafe.com* — Special Purpose Website (Population 200,000 to 500,000)
- SILVER: COVID-19 Response and Recovery Campaign – Innovation in Economic Development Week (Population 200,000 to 500,000)

“St. Tammany Corporation is truly honored to be recognized by our peer economic development practitioners at the IEDC 2020 Excellence Awards,” said Chris Masingill, CEO of St. Tammany Corporation. “It is particularly special to be recognized for both our communications platforms in response to the pandemic and for *Advance St. Tammany*, our multi-layered business technical assistance program that is intentionally designed to support the evolving business retention and expansion needs of St. Tammany businesses.”

“The recipients of IEDC’s Excellence in Economic Development awards represent the very best of economic development and exemplify the ingenuity, integrity, and leadership that our profession strives for each and every day,” said 2020 IEDC Board Chair and One Columbus CEO Kenny McDonald. “We’re especially honored to recognize the outstanding organizations who received this year’s Excellence Awards. This year, more than ever, the value of a career dedicated to improving the quality of life for our friends and neighbors cannot be overstated. Each of this year’s recipients set a precedent for fellow economic developers to aspire to in the years to come.”

Awards are judged by a diverse panel of independent economic and community development subject matter experts from around the world, following a nomination process held earlier this year. In 2020, IEDC received over 500 submissions from twenty-eight states and four countries.

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About St. Tammany Corporation: As the lead economic development organization for St. Tammany, the St. Tammany Corporation functions as the comprehensive resource center for business services throughout the parish. St. Tammany Corporation’s services include business retention, site selection, workforce development, research and data services, state and local incentives, business attraction, talent retention, certified site development, relocation support, and marketing St. Tammany. Since the organization’s launch in 2018, St. Tammany Corporation facilitated business expansion and attraction announcements representing over \$90 million in capital investment and 1,150 new and retained jobs in St. Tammany Parish.