



MEDIA RELEASE

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CONTACT: Greater Dubuque Development Corporation
Mike Blouin, President
MikeB@greaterdubuque.org
P: 563.557.9049

Dubuque Receives National Economic Development Award

DUBUQUE, IOWA – June 5, 2009 – U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke has awarded Dubuque the 2009 Excellence in Economic Development Award for Excellence in Historic Preservation-led Strategies. Locke said Dubuque received the award for its commitment to research-based, market driven economic development in helping grow the local economy.

“The city of Dubuque represents the best and brightest in 21st century economic development,” Locke said. “Excellence Award winners exemplify the importance of supporting regional strategies to ensure American communities succeed in the global marketplace and create higher-skill, higher-wage jobs.”

“Dubuque sets the gold standard for a community taking charge of its economic destiny by revitalizing its downtown historic district in order to attract new businesses and dramatically increase tourism,” Senator Tom Harkin said. “These revitalized areas, along with the city’s business-friendly environment, have made Dubuque a magnet for new businesses and industries. The 2009 Excellence in Economic Development award will continue to make Dubuque a role model for cities around the country.”

Nominations are made annually in different categories and are evaluated by a Selection Panel appointed by the Assistant Commerce Secretary for Economic Development.

This year’s categories were:

- * Excellence in Urban or Suburban Economic Development
- * Excellence in Rural Economic Development
- * Excellence in Environmental or Energy Economic Development
- * Excellence in University-led Economic Development
- * Excellence in Economic Diversification Strategies
- * Excellence in Community and Faith-based Social Entrepreneurship
- * Excellence in Historic Preservation-led Strategies.

EDA is an agency within the U.S. Commerce Department and supports the economic development needs of distressed communities throughout the United States. Its mission is to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness and preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy.

Additional information on how EDA investments are helping distressed communities create a positive and sustainable economic future can be accessed at: <http://www.eda.gov>.