

STAPLES, MN

A community you can get attached to

Economic Development Director

Salary: \$65,688 to \$84,215



Welcome to Staples, Minnesota!



Staples is an active, growing community home to award-winning healthcare at Lakewood Health System, a strong school district - Staples-Motley Schools, advanced training opportunities at Central Lakes College, a skilled workforce, and countless recreational and cultural opportunities for all ages. The City, with approximately 3,010 residents, nearly doubles in size Monday-Friday with the number of employees coming in to Staples for work. The community offers a good mix of economy with high paying jobs, professional services, and a blend of manufacturing.

Staples is located at the junction of U.S. Highway 10 and Minnesota Highway 210. The City sits on the border between Todd and Wadena Counties, about 150 miles northwest of Minneapolis-St. Paul, about 150 miles southwest of Duluth-Superior, and 110 miles east of the Fargo-Moorhead area. Residents enjoy small town living with the advantage of all the perks offered by greater Minnesota.

The Staples Economic Development Authority (SEDA) was established by enabling resolution number 801 on April 14, 1992, by the Staples City Council. As identified in the enabling resolution, SEDA was created to promote the economic, commercial, housing, and industrial development and redevelopment of the City. SEDA is overseen by a seven member Board comprised of the Mayor and two Council Members as well as business representatives from education, health care, retail/commercial, and industrial sectors.

SEDA actively works to attract, develop, and support economic growth within the community. They work with all businesses including retail, commercial, industrial, and manufacturing in a variety of objectives including startup, relocations, company expansions, and everything in-between.

Over the past 15 years or so, the City has really focused on infrastructure improvements to provide a secure foundation for economic growth. The community has also benefited from the significant improvements with its extensive commercial redevelopment along the Highway 10 corridor. They have prepped their community to welcome new businesses by having 60 acres of shovel ready land available.

The City has also started focusing on downtown revitalization. In fact, they received a \$100,000 grant from the Blandin Foundation which is being invested in these revitalization efforts. The City is fortunate to have a large community group focused on these efforts, as well.

Along with these efforts, the City was recently awarded funding through the Small Cities Development Program through the state. The \$948,000 grant, along with \$125,000 the City made as a community match, will be focus on housing in the community including twenty single family housing units, five single family rental housing units, and five Commercial/Downtown projects.

VOTED

“Best Run City Under 10,000”

BY BUSINESS VIEW MAGAZINE

The Position



Summary of Duties

As the Economic Development Director for the City of Staples, this position will manage the Economic Development, Community Development, and Marketing initiatives for the City. This individual will serve as the Executive Director of the Staples Economic Development Authority.

Desired Skills and Abilities

- A people person who is a community builder, relational, and out about in the community
- Creative, persistent, confident, resourceful, and willing and able to take initiative
- A problem solver and team player who is willing to assist in many functions to benefit the City of Staples
- Knowledge in federal, state, and regional programs available for economic and community development including grant availability and procurement
- Considerable knowledge of the community and its strengths, weaknesses, business climate, and community organizations
- Working knowledge of the process involved in developing or expanding businesses and of land acquisition and disposition, real estate financing, and commercial/industrial/residential development
- Considerable ability to communicate effectively, plan/coordinate/implement development goals and activities, conduct surveys, research information, and prepare correspondence, reports, and presentations

Qualifications

Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Economics, Marketing, Public Administration or other related field, and a minimum of five (5) years of experience in local government, financial management, or business ownership or operation or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Apply

Visit <https://daviddrown.hiringplatform.com/203059-staples-economic-development-director/816479-application-form/en> and complete the application process by March 14, 2024.

Please direct any questions to Bart Fischer at bart@daviddrown.com or 612-920-3320 x119.