

1 S. Main Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Mt. Clemens, MI 48043  
Phone: (586) 469-5285  
Fax: (586) 469-6787  
www.macombgov.org/planning

# News

Macomb County Executive  
Mark A. Hackel



## Planning & Economic Development

### *For Immediate Release*

Media Contact: John Paul Rea, director  
(586) 469-5285

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### **Macomb County sees large investments in first quarter**

Based on client interactions and public releases, the Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development (MCPED) is proud to report more than \$201 million of investment and 571 newly-created jobs were announced in the first quarter of 2016.

“These investment figures continue to illustrate the progress and impact of our department’s business development services,” said MCPED Director John Paul Rea. “Working collaboratively with our communities and business development partners, we are achieving our goal to help companies grow.”

Investment in Macomb County spanned many industry sectors including automotive, health care, manufacturing and retail. Top investments by MCPED clients were made by Sodecia, General Sports and Entertainment and Sigma Manufacturing Services.

An international automotive supplier - Porto, Portugal-based Sodecia - announced a commitment to investing nearly \$80 million to expand its facility in Center Line and establishing this location as their North American headquarters. Renovations will include a 66,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art manufacturing facility along with a three-story tower to accommodate 27,600 square feet of administrative office. MCPED staff worked with the city of Center Line and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation to establish Industrial Facility Tax Exemption guidelines, enabling the city to provide the company with a 12-year tax abatement as an incentive.

Rochester-based General Sports and Entertainment invested \$12 million to build Jimmy John’s Field in Utica. The 4,000-seat stadium will host three independent minor league teams that are part of the United Shore Professional Baseball League. The grand opening of the field will be May 30.

MCPED staff also worked with Sigma Manufacturing Services, a division of Livonia-based Sigma International. The company purchased two sites in Eastpointe, totaling 55,000 square feet, investing \$1.4 million and creating 20 new jobs.

#### **About the Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development**

The Macomb County Department of Planning & Economic Development supports an environment where businesses prosper and people thrive. Its activities and programs are focused on stimulating the local economy through business retention, expansion and attraction while improving the overall

quality of life for residents. The department specializes in providing services to businesses at all stages of development with a concentration on the high-growth industries of aerospace, alternative energy, advanced manufacturing, defense and homeland security. For more information, call (586) 469-5285 or visit [www.MacombBusiness.com](http://www.MacombBusiness.com).

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