



Business. Life. Balance.



2015

*Economic Development Division
Annual Report*

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Year in Review

The building scene continued to thrive in 2015, ranking as the City's fourth best year ever, with a total building valuation of \$155,229,632. The record for total valuation in a construction season was set in 2009 with \$197,605,369. Total building valuation for permits issued for each construction season for the last 14 years are as follows. The 15 year average is \$127.2 million.

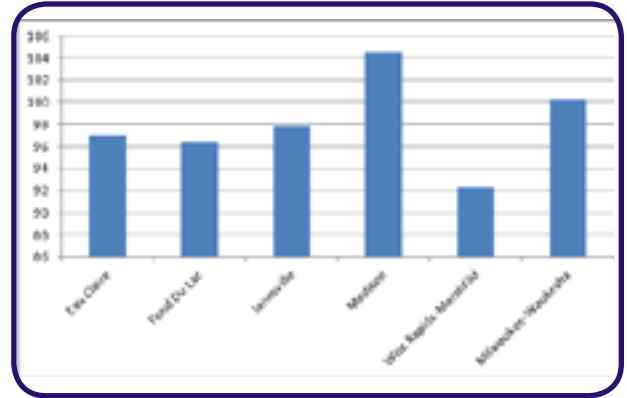
Unemployment in the City of Eau Claire and the Eau Claire MSA followed the State of Wisconsin and national trend. Throughout the year, Eau Claire City rates dropped a total of 1.1 points to end the year at 3.5 percent and the Eau Claire MSA dropped 1.1 points to a rate of 4.1 percent in December.

The Economic Development Division collected cost of living data for its quarterly report to submit to C2ER, a national economic development research organization. The data was then compared to that of other communities across the nation to create a cost of living index. Eau Claire continues to maintain its low cost of living, having an annual index of 97.0. This is below the national average of 100 and the state average of 98. Eau Claire consistently ranks as one of the most affordable metro communities in Wisconsin.

2015 brought numerous awards for the City of Eau Claire. Outsideonline.com named Eau Claire one of the best 16 places to live in America, Eau Claire was also named the 8th Best Small College Town in America by College Values Online. 247WallSt.com ranked Eau Claire 47 among 50 other cities for Best Cities to Live. Eau Claire was named as the Seventh Most Diverse City in the U.S. according to HomeInsurance.com. Eau Claire has received many awards this year and in past years and is making great strides to continue this trend.

The Downtown area continues to grow. The Lismore's conference center opened late fall of 2015 and has already been utilized for events. The hotel portion of this newly renovated facility will open in early 2016. Construction also began on the new 4-story ramp being built in the North Barstow Redevelopment area. Completion of the ramp is set for fall of 2016.

2015 ANNUAL AVERAGE COST OF LIVING INDEX FOR WISCONSIN MSAs



C2ER 2015 Annual Average Data Report

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS 2015



The Lismore



CONSTRUCTION

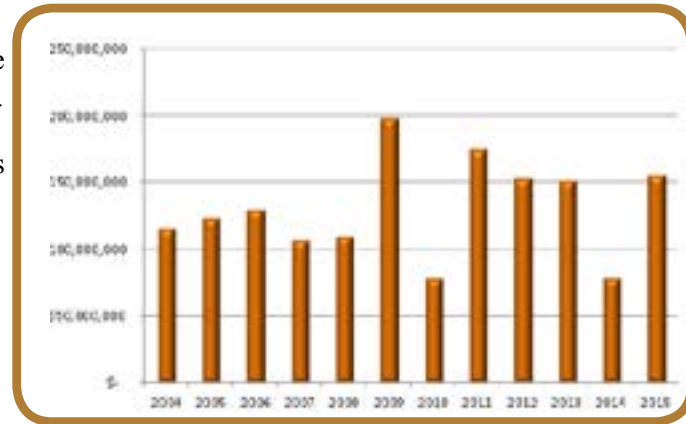
TOTAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

The 2015 construction season had a total building permit valuation of \$155,229,632. The record for total building valuation in a single construction season was set in 2009 with a valuation of \$197,605,369.

The top five building projects by valuation based on building permits issued for the 2015 construction season were:

HAYMARKET LANDING:	<i>\$30,000,000</i>
THE LISMORE HOTEL:	<i>\$12,958,475</i>
MARSHFIELD CLINIC ADDITION:	<i>\$9,146,119</i>
N. BARSTOW PARKING GARAGE:	<i>\$8,543,000</i>
FED EX DISTRIBUTION:	<i>\$7,300,000</i>

BUILDING VALUATIONS (IN MILLION US \$)



INDUSTRIAL CONSTRUCTION

Total building valuation for industrial projects in 2015 was \$25.1 million. This compares to \$5.6 million in building valuation for 2014. Other total valuations included \$13.1 million for miscellaneous projects in 2015 compared to \$12.7 million in 2014.



Haymarket Landing Construction

MISCELLANEOUS CONSTRUCTION

Miscellaneous projects include government, education, religious institutions, airports, public museums, and signs. In 2015, there was \$13.1 million in total valuation, compared to \$12.7 million for 2014. There was \$8.7 million worth of new buildings for 2015, which compared to \$0.7 in 2014. Additions, alterations, repairs, accessory structures, signs, and other permits in 2015 accounted for \$4.4 million compared to \$12.0 million in 2014.

There was one miscellaneous project in 2015 with a building valuation of more than \$750,000:

N. Barstow Parking Garage:	<i>\$8,543,000</i>
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N. Barstow Parking Ramp



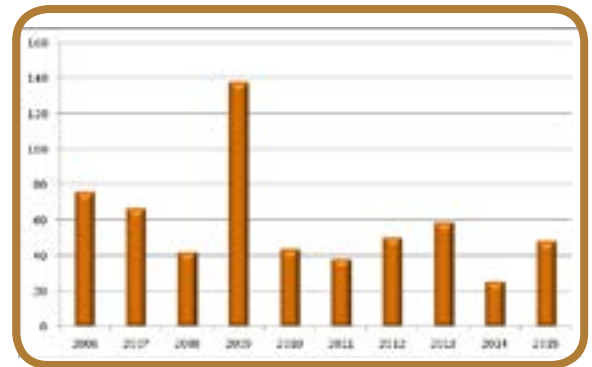
COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION

Development for the 2015 construction season saw a total building valuation of \$87.5 million compared to \$30.7 million in 2014. New building construction accounted for \$39 million for 2015 compared to \$5.4 million in 2014. Additions, alterations, repairs, accessory structures, electrical, mechanical and plumbing permits accounted for \$48.5 million in building valuation in 2015 compared to \$25.3 million in 2014.

The following 2015 projects were tops in commercial building valuations exceeding \$750,000:

HAYMARKET LANDING:	<i>\$30,000,000</i>
THE LISMORE HOTEL:	<i>\$12,958,475</i>
MARSHFIELD CLINIC ADDITION:	<i>\$9,146,119</i>
MARRIOTT FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES:	<i>\$6,440,000</i>
EAU CLAIRE FORD LINCOLN:	<i>\$2,800,000</i>
THE OXBOW HOTEL:	<i>\$2,130,000</i>
SACRED HEART HOSPITAL:	<i>\$1,828,000</i>
SACRED HEART HOSPITAL:	<i>\$1,117,000</i>
ROSS CLOTHING:	<i>\$990,000</i>
FARRELL INVESTMENTS RENTALS:	<i>\$944,900</i>
MCHS MIDELFORT URGENT CARE:	<i>\$880,553</i>
HARDEES:	<i>\$800,000</i>

COMMERCIAL VALUATION (IN MILLION US \$)



SITE SELECTION

Staff continued to offer site selection assistance to prospective and expanding businesses through a variety of methods. Online, the division maintained a property search database at www.EauClaireDevelopment.com/properties. A quarterly e-mail was sent to local real estate contacts to remind them to update their listings to ensure the database is current and accurate. Personal site selection assistance and property searches were also done frequently throughout the year.

Staff also continues to actively promote available industrial park land online through listings on Locate in Wisconsin, a site selection tool from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC), which offers a one-stop shop for information on statewide available sites, buildings, and demographic data. Currently, there are 596 acres of land available in the four industrial parks.

The Economic Policy Advisory Committee (EPAC) continues to review the covenants for the industrial parks and considers requests for changes to the restrictions that are better for businesses and could potentially increase the number of companies that locate there.

KURZ INDUSTRIAL SOLUTIONS NEW SITE



TOP SITE SELECTION PAGES ON WEBSITE

Rank	Website Section	Pageviews in 2015
1	Property Search	6,181
2	Area Employers	3,687
3	Redevelopment	996
4	Doing Business	880
5	Financial Assistance	743
6	Map	741



BUSINESS RECRUITMENT

Economic Development Division staff responded to seven requests for proposals. Some were distributed by the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC), and others were requested by individuals or brokers. The responses were provided in a customized document tailored to each prospect's needs and specifications.

The division worked with the Eau Claire Area Economic Development Corporation (EDC), the WEDC, and Momentum West to attract industries that would strengthen Eau Claire's economy. Staff also worked closely with entrepreneurs and business development organizations, such as the SBDC, Western Dairyland, and SCORE.

Staff had actively promoted and advertised the former 3M Facility, located at 2020 Prairie Lane. The 261,000 square foot facility was sold to owners of Dynamic Fabrication and Finishing.

The division also worked with Kurz Industrial Solutions in their search for site options in Eau Claire. Kurz Industrial Solutions built a 20,000 square foot facility in the Gateway Industrial Park in 2015. The division hosted a ribbon cutting to celebrate their opening in the fall. At the ribbon cutting the 97 year old company explained that they receive a lot of business from western Wisconsin and that this business will benefit other businesses in the area. This was a \$4.0 million project for the community.

2020 PRAIRIE LANE (FORMER 3M FACILITY)



KURZ INDUSTRIAL SOLUTIONS RIBBON CUTTING



BUSINESS RETENTION/EXPANSION

Once again in 2015, the division partnered with the Eau Claire Area Economic Development Corporation (EDC) to conduct business retention calls with local companies key to the economic health of the area (technology, health care, education, food distribution, food processing, plastics, metal manufacturing, and printing). 46 calls were made throughout 2015.

As staff is able to learn about the issues and opportunities facing the companies, they are then able to provide information and assistance whenever possible.

In addition to these one-on-one meetings, the division maintained regular communication with the local business community through its quarterly electronic newsletter, business alert emails, updates to the website, surveys, polls, and calls.

In 2015 Eau Claire saw two existing businesses purchase land in the Gateway Industrial Park. FedEx Ground and Right Way Shuttle. FedEx Ground's new facility is 163,714 square feet and was chosen because of proximity to major highways and distribution centers. Eau Claire's workforce also played a factor into this location. Right Way Shuttle purchased land on the corner of Truax Boulevard and Preston Road. The building will be constructed in 2016. The division continues to work with existing companies on assisting and guiding them with their expansion and retention needs in the city.

SITE PROPOSAL



BUSINESS INCENTIVES

The City of Eau Claire strives to help local businesses to expand and invest in Eau Claire through a variety of funding sources. The Economic Development Division promotes these programs on its website and through the quarterly e-Newsletter, as well as press releases.

COMMERCIAL CENTER FACADE LOAN PROGRAM

The City of Eau Claire offers a façade loan program for Eau Claire businesses that are looking for a face lift. The program offers business owners a zero-percent-interest loan of \$5,000 to \$30,000, with up to 15 years to repay.

The façade program is aimed to encourage the revitalization of old commercial strip centers in the City of Eau Claire, with preference given to projects that improve buildings constructed before 1990. These funds can be used for a wide variety of projects, including façade renovation, signs, exterior doors, windows, awnings, exterior graphics, exterior lighting, and other façade or landscape improvements.

REGIONAL BUSINESS FUND PROGRAMS

In 2015 the division was notified that eligibility for the Regional Business Fund's was under investigation by HUD, the Department of Housing and Urban Development that oversees all Community Development Block Grant funded programs. The Regional Business Fund, Inc. Board of Directors, the West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission and the Revolving Loan Fund board through the City of Eau Claire all sent letters and notice of appealing this. In late 2015 the restrictions were removed and the Regional Business Fund was allowed to operate as it had been previously. Due to this delay, many loans had to be on hold for review. The division hopes to receive and review these applications in early 2016.

In 2009, the City had entered into a Regional Business Fund that enabled Eau Claire businesses to take advantage of a larger pool of low-interest financing opportunities. In 2015 the division approved one Micro Loan for \$25,000 at four percent interest for 3 years. The loan was made to The Attic Furniture and Home Goods, LLC.



CITY OF EAU CLAIRE JOB / BUILDING CREDIT PROGRAM

The Credit Program is focused on businesses that will create new jobs or expand their facilities. Eligible uses of funds include fixed assets, capital equipment purchases, land and facility purchase, remodeling, and rehabilitation. The credits are issued at a rate of \$1,000 per \$100,000 building valuation, or \$1,000 per job created.

REVOLVING LOAN FUND

The Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) is a program funded by the Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce. The funds are administered by staff, and decisions are made by a City Council-appointed RLF Administration Board.

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) is available for economic development and redevelopment in our TIF districts. The financing can be used for roads, utilities, and other infrastructure. Staff worked with the City's Economic Policy Advisory Committee on a TIF policy. Staff researched other communities, attended TIF policy training through WEDA and met with developers for feedback. City Council delayed action on the policy until 2016.



ENTREPRENEUR SERVICES

Once again, Downtown Eau Claire Inc. (DECI) held its Jump-Start Downtown Business Plan Competition. The 11th annual competition included the Jim Mishefske Award worth \$5,000 to Amy Erickson of Latitude 44 Yoga Studio.

Justin Kaufenberg, of Sport Ngin, delivered the keynote speech. Sport Ngin is a company that was co-founded by Kaufenberg, a UW-Eau Claire graduate, in Eau Claire. The company is now in Minneapolis where they build applications and services to help people spend less time on the administrative activities of their organizations and more time teaching the qualities of Sport to athletes.

In the history of the competition, over 69 entrepreneurs have submitted business plans, with five submissions in 2015. DECI has awarded \$65,500 to 30 winners and honorable mentions/runners-up. The competition has increased the diversity of the downtown business landscape by attracting a wide variety of companies from manufacturing to healthcare.

DECI partners with the Eau Claire Area EDC, UW-Eau Claire Small Business Development Center, Western Dairyland Women's Business Center, SCORE, and Downtown Business Improvement Districts to help entrepreneurs to get the best start on their new business.

AWARD WINNER - AMY ERICKSON OF
LATITUDE 44 YOGA STUDIO



KEYNOTE SPEAKER JUSTIN KAUFENBERG

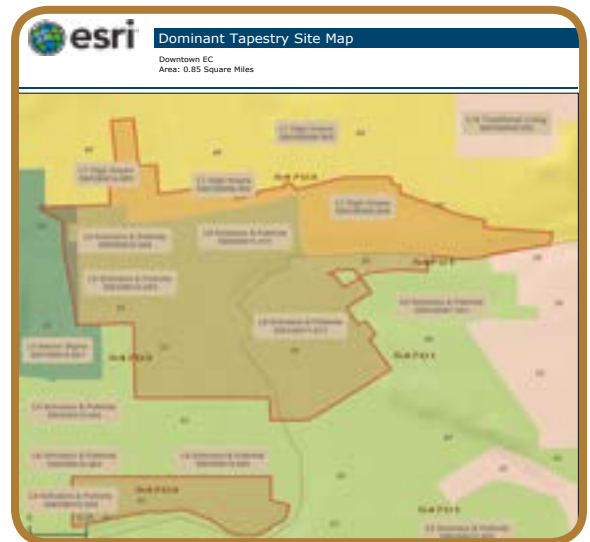


ESRI COMMUNITY ANALYST

The division purchased Community Analyst software that allows businesses and organizations to access a significant amount of data, report features, and map overlay graphs. The variables include demographics, health, economic/business, education, housing, crime, and market potential. These tools can help to better understand the behaviors and preferences of a community.

A screenshot of an ESRI report interface. It shows a table with multiple columns and rows of data. The table is titled "Community Analyst" and includes various data points. The interface is clean and professional, with a blue header and a white background for the table.

SAMPLE ESRI REPORT



Marketing

Staff continued to promote the brand “Business. Life. Balance.” developed in 2008. The division used an e-Newsletter, press releases to local media, and its website to increase awareness of resources available for local businesses, including financial assistance programs and property search capabilities.

SEASONAL NEWSLETTER

The Economic Development Division sends out a quarterly electronic newsletter to its 1,789 active contacts featuring local business news, development stories, and resources. Throughout 2015, the average email open rate was 29 percent, four percentage points above the industry open rate of 25 percent.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Distributing information to the general public and the business Community remains a top priority for the division. The goal of regular communication is met through press releases, maintaining an updated website, and media engagements. Several press releases were sent in 2015 using an internal list of media contacts. The website is updated when a new story, program, or opportunity is announced. on TV-13, TV-18, Leader-Telegram, The Business News, The Bottom Line, the Chippewa Valley Business Report, Wisconsin Public Radio, iHeart Media and Mid-West Family Broadcasting. The division also featured the City of Eau Claire in the Chippewa Valley Business Report.

WEBSITE

The Economic Development Division’s website www.EauClaireDevelopment.com has a strong number of users, with 2015 recording 16,031 visitors. Top visited pages were maps, employment pages, commercial and industrial property search, the home page, and financial assistance. The pages that showed the most activity over last year include the property search, maps, employment, media page, and redevelopment.

A large amount of traffic was generated by our partner websites, including the City of Eau Claire, Eau Claire Area Economic Development Corporation, and Downtown Eau Claire, Inc. In total, about 14% of site traffic came from partners’ links, about 73% was from search engines, and another 12% from direct traffic. The remaining was from Social Media campaigns utilizing the City’s Economic Development Division Facebook page as well as email blasts with our seasonal newsletter.

FALL E-NEWSLETTER



Chippewa Valley Business Report

West Central Wisconsin's Business-to-Business Journal

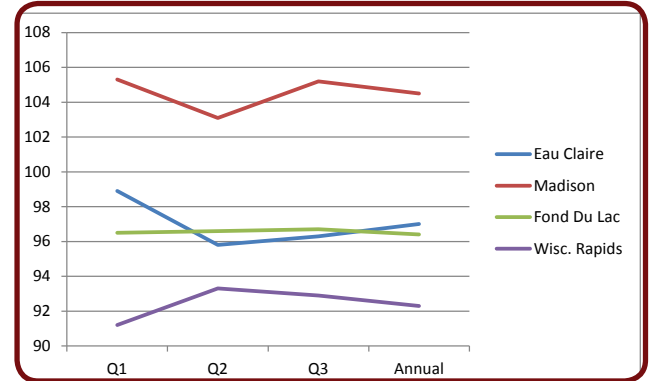
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WEBSITE



COST OF LIVING

The Economic Development Division collects cost-of-living data quarterly and submits it to C2ER, a national economic development research organization. The data is compared to that of other communities across the nation to create a cost of living index. Eau Claire maintains its low cost of living, having an annual index of 97. This is below the national average of 100 and the state average of 98. Eau Claire consistently ranks as one of the most affordable metro communities in Wisconsin.

2015 WISCONSIN COST OF LIVING INDEX



C2ER 2013 Annual Average Data Report

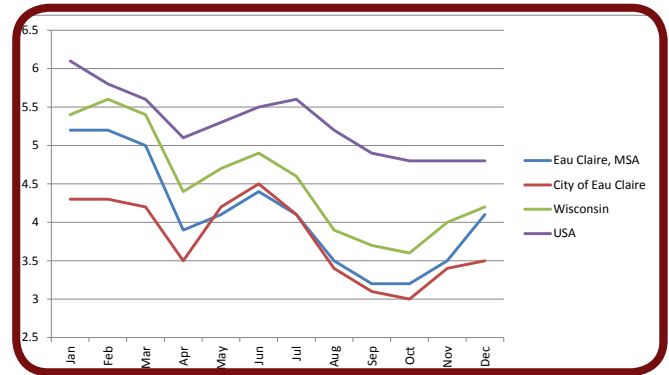
UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment in the City of Eau Claire and Eau Claire MSA followed the State of Wisconsin and national trend, dropping throughout 2015 with an increase in the summer months. Rates for the Eau Claire MSA stayed below state and national averages the entire year.

Across the year, the City of Eau Claire dropped over 2 points with a rate of 5.0 in October. The Eau Claire MSA dropped almost 3 points for a preliminary rate of 4.7 percent in October; Wisconsin is at 5.7 percent in October, and the US is at 6.6 percent in November.

2015 UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)



Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD)

WAGES AND WORKFORCE

Total employment in the Eau Claire MSA averaged 87,582 in 2015, which is up 622 from 2014. Average wages in the Eau Claire MSA of all employees on private nonfarm payrolls, not seasonally adjusted, are \$38,023.

There were six major employers in Eau Claire in 2012, defined as having more than 1,000 employees. These employers were Menards, Mayo Clinic Health System, Eau Claire Area School District, Midelfort Clinic Ltd Mayo Health, Sacred Heart Hospital, and UW-Eau Claire.

The following table demonstrates Eau Claire’s annual MSA State and Area Employment, Hours, and Earnings for the year of 2015. The following graph demonstrates Eau Claire’s MSA Total Nonfarm Annual State and Area Employment, Hours, and Earnings from the year 2003 to the year 2013.

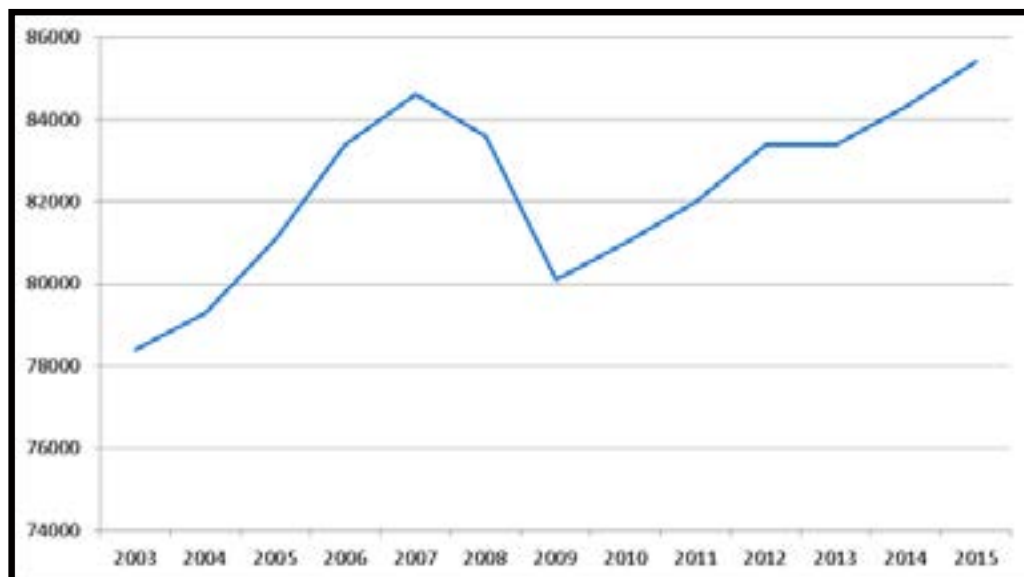


WAGES AND WORKFORCE CHARTS

STATE AND AREA EMPLOYMENT, HOURS, AND EARNINGS -- EAU CLAIRE, WI -- NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED -- ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR 2015
 THIS DATA WAS RETRIEVED FROM WISCONSIN'S WORKNET -- CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS END OF NOVEMBER 2015

Total Nonfarm	85,400
Total Private	73,300
Goods Producing	14,200
Service Providing	71,200
Private Service Producing	59,100
Mining, Logging and Construction	3,700
Manufacturing	10,600
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	17,300
Wholesale Trade (WI)	3,100
Retail Trade	10,700
Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (WI)	3,500
Information	900
Financial Activities	3,800
Professional & Business Services	9,000
Educational & Health Services	16,000
Leisure and Hospitality	8,000
Other Services, exc Public	4,200
Government	12,100

TOTAL NONFARM STATE AND AREA EMPLOYMENT, HOURS, AND EARNINGS -- EAU CLAIRE, WI -- MSA -- NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
 THIS DATA WAS RETRIEVED FROM WISCONSIN'S WORKNET -- CURRENT EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

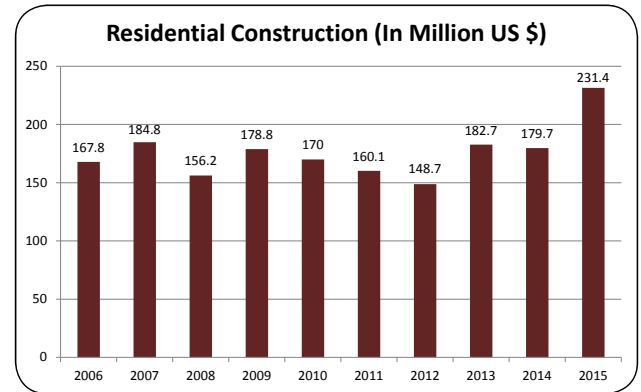


RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

The 2015 construction season had an overall building valuation for residential development of \$29.6 million compared to \$27.9 million for 2014. The valuation for all new residential dwellings equaled \$21.1 million compared to \$15.2 million in 2014.

The total valuation for residential additions, alterations, repairs, accessory structures, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, and pool permits amounted to \$8.5 million in 2015, compared to \$12.6 million for 2014.

RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION (IN MILLION US \$)



QUALITY OF PLACE

Quality of Place is important for the long-term growth of our community. That is why the Economic Development Division provides staff and support for the Redevelopment Authority.

CANNERY REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The City of Eau Claire adopted the West Riverside District plan in 2011, which includes the 30-acre West Bank Redevelopment district. The plan makes recommendations on where redevelopment and public space should be located within the redevelopment district. The Redevelopment Authority continues to negotiate the purchase of property within the district.

In 2015 the Redevelopment Authority renamed this district the Cannery Redevelopment District. Ayres Associates was hired to create the public and private space plans for the Cannery Redevelopment District. As of the end of the year, phase one had been developed. The board also hosted a community vision session in conjunction with Ayres Associates where they gathered public input from the surrounding neighborhood and businesses in the area. The board will take these results into consideration as the planning process continues in the year 2016.

The Redevelopment Authority acquired four properties throughout the year of 2015. These properties include: 1714, 1716, 1711 and 1807 Oxford Avenue.

The newly named Cannery Redevelopment District also gained a new neighbor in Lazy Monk Brewing. The owners bought the former Charlson building on 97 W. Madison Street at the end of 2015. Staff assisted the owners with the necessary approvals and permits.

THE CANNERY DISTRICT PUBLIC SPACE PLAN



NORTH BARSTOW REDEVELOPMENT

The North Barstow Redevelopment District has seen quite a bit of action and change over the past years. This past year included the start of a new parking ramp and the start of the new Haymarket Landing mixed-use building.

The ramp is located next to Royal Credit Union and JAMF Software, where the post office was formerly located. Royal Credit Union has signed a lease agreement to rent out approximately 220 of the 769 stalls in the four-story structure. The City may also have potential contracts with QBE and JAMF Software to rent out almost 200 more stalls combined.

The new Haymarket Landing mixed-use project has made great headway in 2015. A project that began in the fall of 2014, the building stands six-stories high with space for retail on the bottom portion and residential space on the above levels. There will be more than 100 apartments available to house almost 400 UW-Eau Claire students. Developers said this is a \$30 million project.

The Redevelopment Authority continues to seek requests for proposal for Block 7 and the Liner Building next to the new ramp. Interest has been shown by local and out-of-state developers.

SOUTH BARSTOW REDEVELOPMENT

The South Barstow area also saw renovations for two future hotels. The Lismore Hotel completed its conference center portion in 2015 and expects to open the hotel portion up in early 2016. The Oxbow Hotel, the former Green Tree Inn to be renovated into a boutique hotel, began construction towards the end of the year, but expects to open within 2016. The hotel is projected to cost \$4 million to renovate and will include a courtyard between the two buildings and a restaurant featuring locally grown and prepared food.

THE COMMUNITY ARTS FACILITY

The Community Arts Facility has come a long way since its concept was proposed more than a few years ago. \$15 million was approved by the state to help fund this project. Between the City of Eau Claire and Eau Claire County, another \$8.5 million has been contributed as well. A community group is working towards raising another \$13.5 million and the remaining \$3 million is expected to be funded by new market tax credits.

At the end of 2015, a local bank and its employees provided a \$1 million matching grant for the project bringing local philanthropic pledges to \$11 million.

The Community Arts Facility will feature a 1,200-seat theatre, a 400-seat theatre, classrooms, offices and public spaces. Construction should begin in 2016.

HAYMARKET LANDING CONSTRUCTION



THE OXBOW HOTEL RENDERING



THE COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER RENDERING



DOWNTOWN LIVING

The Biscuit Loft Apartments were opened in September, 2015. The building has great history and most recently housed the Eau Claire Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department. Metro Plains, the development group for this project, refurbished the building using materials and resources that were left standing in the building. In early 2016 the 115-year-old building was awarded landmark status by the City's Landmark Commission.

BISCUIT LOFT APARTMENTS RIBBON CUTTING



DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN

In 2015, the Eau Claire Public Transit Authority formed a task force to begin discussions on the possibility of a new transfer center in a different location. The group met several times in 2015 and will continue to do so in 2016. This is included in the Downtown Master Plan to replace the current center that was built in the mid-eighties.

There have been sites proposed as possible locations, but the group has yet to determine final site and secure financing. The new center will provide expanding services by the City's Transit Department and offer more routes. The City Council will hear a presentation from the consultant in the second quarter of 2016.

CITY OF EAU CLAIRE TRANSIT BUS



QUALITY OF LIFE

Once again, Eau Claire was recognized for its many quality of life attributes in 2015.

- Outsideonline.com named Eau Claire one of the best 16 places to live in America.
- Eau Claire was also named the 8th Best Small College Town in America by College Values Online.
- 247WallSt.com ranked Eau Claire 47 among 50 other cities for Best Cities to Live.
- Eau Claire was named as the Seventh Most Diverse City in the U.S. according to HomeInsurance.com.
- Eau Claire was selected as one of ten All-America City Award winners in 2014, the country's most prestigious award for outstanding, community based civic accomplishments. Eau Claire continued celebration of this with banners in the downtown area.



MISSION STATEMENT

As a division of the City of Eau Claire, our mission is to grow local businesses, facilitate expansions, and recruit outside businesses to locate in Eau Claire in order to increase the quality of living, add well-paying jobs, and grow tax base.

DIVISION SERVICES

- Meeting with Eau Claire manufacturers and other local companies to thank them for their contributions to Eau Claire, inform them of services provided by the City, and listen to any concerns or issues
- Assisting existing businesses to expand
- Recruiting more businesses to locate in Eau Claire, developing proposals in response to prospects' needs, and assisting them during the site selection and development/permit process
- Answering economic development questions and providing information to businesses, developers, entrepreneurs, and citizens
- Administering economic development loan programs
- Maintaining the City's economic development website – www.EauClaireDevelopment.com
- Maintaining the City's economic development Facebook page with over 380 followers
- Maintaining an available property inventory on www.EauClaireDevelopment.com
- Collecting data for the quarterly Cost of Living Index and gathering other community statistics
- Researching economic development trends, best practices, and growth industries
- Marketing the strengths/assets of the community
- Preparing economic development reports each year and evaluating existing programs and resources effectiveness
- Supporting and working with other economic development agencies in the area
- Working with the media as the City's Economic Development contact
- Providing staff and management for Downtown Eau Claire, Inc., the Eau Claire Redevelopment Authority, the North Barstow BID, South Barstow BID, West Grand Avenue BID and Water Street BID
- Encouraging Creative Class and other talent recruitment and retention efforts
- Quality of place initiatives that helps attract talented workers

AERIAL VIEW OF NORTH BARSTOW AREA



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The division focused on communicating with the general public through speaking engagements in local community clubs, neighborhood associations, UW-Eau Claire classes, and student organizations. Regular communication with the media is important and staff participated in many TV, radio, and newspaper interviews addressing economic development issues.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Economic development is impossible without collaboration from a diverse group of organizations. The Economic Development Division is proud to have created many long-lasting partnerships over the years.

2015 Community Partners	
Chippewa Valley Innovation Center	Revolving Loan Fund Board
Chippewa Valley Technical College	South Barstow BID
Downtown Eau Claire, Inc.	University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire, SBDC, CE
Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce	Visit Eau Claire
Eau Claire Area Economic Development Corporation	Volume One
Eau Claire Redevelopment Authority	Water Street BID
Economic Policy Advisory Committee	West Grand BID
Gateway Industrial Park Corporation	Western Dairyland Women’s Business Center
Momentum West	Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation
North Barstow Medical BID	Xcel Energy

City of Eau Claire’s 2015 Funding for Development Organizations	
Eau Claire Area Economic Development Corporation	\$90,000
Downtown Eau Claire, Inc.	\$80,000
Redevelopment Authority	\$700,000
Chippewa Valley Innovation Center	\$12,100

STAFF



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Amy Kalmon

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Business. Life. Balance.



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