

David G. Dobson,
Director



The Economic Development Department works closely with economic development partners in the El Paso community to facilitate and support workforce development, to recruit new business and to retain and expand existing businesses.

The Department also provides support services to the El Paso Regional Economic Development Corporation, (REDCO), in the attraction of new business entities to the City of El Paso. Such assistance is focused on the attraction of target industries in the areas of defense research and manufacturing, medical technology and automotive manufacturing.

The City of El Paso continues its support of small business development in the area through an Inter-local Agreement with the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for small business development and for maintaining the City/County Revolving Loan Fund.

Through a better understanding of the business environment within the region and around the globe, the Economic Development Department continues to facilitate the growth and well being of all aspects of El Paso's business and economic environment.

DIVISIONS / CORE SERVICES:

- Manage Business First! Program to work with existing El Paso businesses.
- Provide support services to REDCO, in the attraction of new business entities to the City of El Paso.
- Support of small business development through an Inter-local Agreement with the El Paso Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.



ACHIEVEMENTS FY05

In 2005, the Economic Development Department rolled out a new program to work with existing El Paso businesses to enhance their ability to grow through retention and expansion assistance. The program – “Business First!” – provides outreach to existing businesses to determine their needs and to match the businesses with a growing network of over 25 economic development service providers comprised of private, quasi-public and public sector entities, including City departments. In its first year, Business First!:

- Visited over 200 El Paso businesses
- Helped over 15 businesses with support services and technical assistance with either economic development partners or other city departments