

Program Focus Area

Existing Business Activity — Business Recruitment — Real Estate Development

Project Averages

Active and Missed

69 Missed Project Over 12 Months



30

JOBS
275



47

THOUSAND SQUARE FEET
200K



14

ACRES
93



\$2.1

MILLION INVESTMENT
\$259M

November Unemployment Rate

4.0% ↑ from 3.8% in October
Regional November Rate is 4.5%
State November Rate is 3.7%

To learn more, visit the link below.
[High Country WDB Overview | LEAD Analytics \(nccommerce.com\)](#)

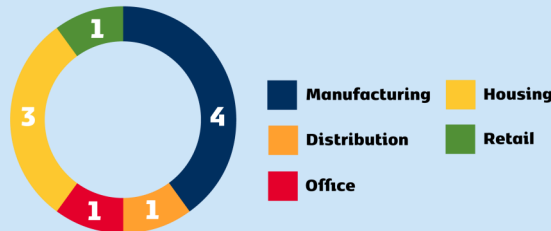
Project Activity Stats



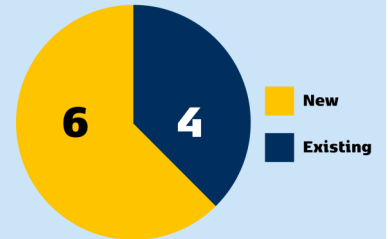
Active Projects

10

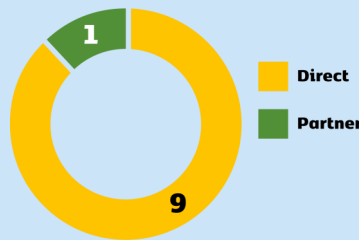
Project Industries



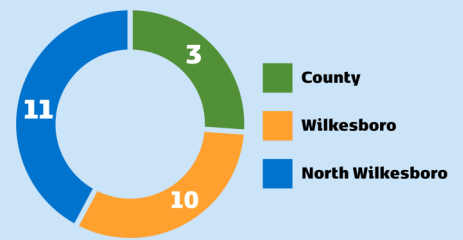
Projects by Type



Projects by Source



Projects by Location



Existing Business

Current and YTD Total
Activity since July 1, 2024



9

UNIQUE VISITS
47



1

FOLLOW UP VISITS
6

53 YTD
YTD Visit Goal: 130

Program Stats



11

PARTNER MEETINGS
59



4

REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT
29



26

SOLUTIONS PROVIDED
219

Wilkes EDC is a public, private nonprofit organization where local government and the community invests in focusing on strengthening and expanding businesses to impact our economy. This collaborative effort is accomplished through combined funding of 70% public (local government entities) that ensures operational capacity and 30% private (LEAP Forward Investors) that accomplish the programmatic services to move Wilkes County forward.

Wilkes EDC expresses our gratitude to those who have already committed to the LEAP Forward Campaign and welcomes others to invest in growing Wilkes. Below is a list of our investors to date.

Thank you to our Investors!

Visionary Investor



Strategic Investors



Cam Finley



Scott Nafe

Anonymous Donor

Community Investors

BUMGARNER SERVICES



Champion TOWING



Jim Smoak



ECMD
Building Stronger.
Together.



Advocate Investors

- Anonymous Donor
- Arnold and Becky Lakey
- Blair Properties LLC/Allen Tate
- Brushy Mountain Powersports
- Carolina West Wireless
- Church & Church Lumber Co.
- Contentment
- CS Forester Benefits Group
- Dale and Michelle Isom

- Duke Energy
- ECS Southeast, LLC
- Faw Insurance
- Fortress Management Group, Inc.
- Frontier Natural Gas
- Hampton Inn Wilkesboro
- Holiday Inn Express Wilkesboro
- McNeill Chevrolet & Nissan of Wilkesboro
- North Wilkesboro Speedway

- Omega Construction
- Riverstone Land and Equipment, LLC
- Steve C. Davis, Inc.
- T&J Produce
- Transource Truck Leasing
- Wilkie Construction Company SE

Associate Investors

- Alex and Amy Blair
- BGE, inc.
- Blue Ridge Ranch
- Charlie Sink

- Eddie and Anna Holland
- Energy United
- Holly Minton
- James River Equipment Company

- Joe and Debbie Johnston
- Ron Wilcox
- Select Steel Buildings
- WCC – Small Business Center

Patron Investors

- Andrew Palmer
- Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.
- Craftmast Furniture

- Ken Noland
- Laurie Brintle-Jarvis
- Lesa Hensley

- Luke Mathis
- Mountain View Hardware, LLC
- Shelmer Blackburn

Will you join these investors in moving Wilkes County forward?

Ready to make a pledge? Visit the link or scan the QR code to invest or call (336) 838-1501.



Wilkes EDC Announces Hidden Brook Sporting Club

In December, the Wilkes County local government and Wilkes EDC announced the upcoming Hidden Brook Sporting Club, a new outdoor recreation destination located in North Wilkesboro. Developed by Kelly and Tracey Dickson, this project will enhance Wilkes County's outdoor economy by offering activities such as sporting clays, archery, hiking, and event spaces. Hidden Brook Sporting Club will not only attract outdoor enthusiasts but also create jobs, draw tourism, and provide opportunities for residents of all ages and experience levels.

Aligned with the Wilkes Outdoor Economy Action Plan, this project utilizes the North Wilkesboro Industrial Park—recognized as a prime location for recreation-focused development. The Town of North Wilkesboro played a pivotal role by selling the 258.4 acre site to the Dickson family for this initiative, further solidifying the town's commitment to economic growth and outdoor-focused development. Visit the [Wilkes Outdoor Action Plan](#) to learn more about the study.

Hidden Brook Sporting Club offers a semi-private membership model, welcoming both members and the public to experience its top-tier facilities. With multiple courses featuring shooting stations, a five-stand setup, and certified instructors with vast experience and a national following, the club promises an exceptional outdoor recreation experience. This combination of expertise and state-of-the-art amenities positions Hidden Brook Sporting Club as a premier destination for outdoor enthusiasts.

The project's success is also attributed to the support of the Wilkes County Government and the Town of North Wilkesboro, who awarded a five-year Economic Investment Grant at 80% of the projected increase in tax revenue. Their investment, estimated at \$5,578,680, combines real and personal property improvements and will create 13 new jobs to join the Dickson family in this initiative. Moving forward, the local government will evaluate additional incentives in alignment with the continued growth and success of the project.

"This is a prime example of how Wilkes County can leverage its natural assets and strategic partnerships to foster economic growth," said LeeAnn Nixon. "Hidden Brook Sporting Club showcases the power of collaboration and the potential of our outdoor economy."

As Hidden Brook Sporting Club prepares to open, Wilkes EDC celebrates this milestone as a step forward in advancing the county's outdoor amenities. The project demonstrates Wilkes County's vision and commitment to sustainable growth, continuing to bring exciting opportunities to the region.

Click the link to read Wilkes EDC's Press Release for Hidden Brook Sporting Club: [New Sporting Club Opening Soon In North Wilkesboro, North Carolina | Wilkes EDC](#)

Stay up to date with Hidden Brook Sporting Club here: [Hidden Brook Sporting Club | Sporting Clays, Field Archery, Hiking / Mountain Biking | North Wilkesboro, NC](#)



Wilkes EDC Joins Wilkes County's Kiwanis Meeting at Roselli's

On December 5th, Wilkes Economic Development Corporation (EDC) had the privilege of visiting the North Wilkesboro Kiwanis Club meeting at Roselli's on 10th. This gathering provided an excellent opportunity to share updates on Wilkes EDC's progress, outline our purpose, and address questions from the engaged and thoughtful members in attendance.

The North Wilkesboro Kiwanis Club, a cornerstone of the community since 1923, has been committed to empowering children and fostering future leaders. Their programs, such as Terrific Kids in all Wilkes County elementary schools and Key Clubs in the county's five high schools, exemplify their dedication to building a brighter future for our youth.



We are grateful for the opportunity to connect with such a passionate group and discuss how Wilkes EDC's efforts align with the shared goal of strengthening Wilkes County's future. Thank you to the Kiwanis Club for your warm hospitality and continued commitment to making a difference in our community. Follow their Facebook page to stay up to date: [Kiwanis Wilkes County | Facebook](#)

Wilkes EDC welcomes the opportunity to be a guest speaker to provide updates, listen to ideas and answer questions at additional community and civic events. Contact us to express your interest: [Contact Us | Wilkes EDC](#)



STEAM EXPO



03.19.2025 | 9-2PM

PRIVATE EVENT FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS ONLY

HANDS ON LEARNING * AERODYNAMICS * TRACTION AND FRICTION * TECHNOLOGY * AND MORE!



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING A VENDOR?



SCAN THE QR CODE TO REQUEST MORE INFORMATION

