

From: MassEcon <coordinator+massecon.com@ccsend.com>
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To: Lori Conroy
Subject: February InBrief: Governor Healey Wants to Drive Economic Development

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February 2023



IN BRIEF

MAKING MOVES IN MASSACHUSETTS



Notes on the economy

Governor Maura Healey announced that she is filing her first two pieces of legislation, one of which is a \$987 million "immediate needs" bond bill targeting housing and economic development. [Read more here.](#)

Competitiveness is a set of conditions and strategies to attract and retain both people and employers that will determine the future economic viability of the state and region. Massachusetts has historically succeeded due to its unique ecosystem of innovation, a highly educated and trained workforce, and anchor industries such as health care, biotech, education, financial services, and tech. [Read more here.](#)

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. – Big Y's annual Sack Hunger campaign donated 1.5 million meals to food banks this year. [Read more here.](#)

2023 MassEcon *Impact Award* Finalist Vertex Pharmaceuticals extended its existing strategic

partnership with Arbor Biotechnologies to gain rights to the latter's novel precision editing technology for up to three diseases. [Read more here.](#)

WILMINGTON, Mass. – Monogram Foods, a 2023 MassEcon *Impact Award* Finalist, engages its workers in an operation that dishes out millions of meals each week. "We currently have a multitude of product lines. Sandwich assemblies and wraps. Fried products and bakers," said Rich Foster, vice president and general manager of Monogram Food's Gourmet Division. [Read more here.](#)

Brockton Beer Company, a 2023 MassEcon *Impact Award* Finalist, is working to revitalize the city's downtown. Two communication majors who met and married at Stonehill are getting the word out about the company's good work. [Read more here.](#)

The state's federal representatives were able to secure \$13 million in federal funding for Western Massachusetts in the end-of-year omnibus spending package. [Read more here.](#)

Expanding in MASS

Newmark has negotiated a 30,665-square-foot lease at Axis Park North, a six-building, 450,000-square-foot office and life sciences campus in Billerica, a northern suburb of Boston. [Read more here.](#)

2023 MassEcon *Impact Award* Finalist, Edwards Vacuum, officially moved into its 135,000-square-foot new headquarters in Haverhill last week, marking the occasion along with its contractor Dacon Corporation by making a \$10,000 gift to Boys & Girls Club of Greater Haverhill for a digital arts program. [Read more here.](#)

WALTHAM, Mass. – Alcresta Therapeutics, which develops enzyme-based treatments for rare diseases, has signed a 14,441-square-foot life sciences lease at 130 Turner Street, a 270,000-square-foot facility located in the western Boston suburb of Waltham. [Read more here.](#)

WALTHAM, Mass. – Veeco, a New York-based manufacturer of semiconductors and electronics, has signed a 16,506-square-foot life sciences lease at 130 Turner Street, a 270,000-square-foot facility located in the western Boston suburb of Waltham. [Read more here.](#)

PITTSFIELD, Mass. – The William Stanley Business Park is closer to fulfilling the \$10 million needed to redevelop its biggest parcel, Site 9. "It took a while to get up to \$10.8 million but I think we are very close," Business Development Manager Michael Coakley told the Pittsfield Economic Development Authority on Thursday. [Read more here.](#)

NEW Products & funding



WALTHAM, Mass. – National Grid announced it is partnering with four nonprofit business associations to distribute \$1 million in grants to help businesses with their energy bills. [Read more here.](#)

QUINCY, Mass. – Stop & Shop, a neighborhood grocer for over 100 years, announced today that Flashfood, a digital marketplace that significantly reduces food waste at the retail level by connecting consumers with discounted food nearing its best by date, expanded availability of its program across 34 of its Massachusetts stores. [Read more here.](#)

SPENCER, Mass. – FLEXcon Company, Inc., an innovator in adhesive coating and laminating, today announced the launch of the next generation of FLEXcon® PRISMcal® self-adhesive, holographic metallized vinyl films for interior ad-specialty applications such as novelty stickers and decals, general-purpose signage, and P-O-P displays. [Read more here.](#)

ROCKLAND, PEMBROKE, MA – South Shore Young Professionals (SSYP), a nonprofit organization with a mission to provide information, resources, and opportunities to young professionals and businesses on the South Shore, has awarded its 2022 \$7,500 Foundation Grant to Amanda Gilman, founder of AMG Snacks. [Read more here.](#)

Partners @work



QUINCY (WGEM) - Two new candidates joined the Quincy Area Chamber of Commerce Business Hall of Fame list. The Quincy Area Chamber of Commerce annual meeting took place at the Oakley-Lindsay Center where CEO and President, Bruce Guthrie inducted C. David Nuessen and Carl Richards. [Read more here.](#)



The Cape Cod Chamber expands Tourism Marketing Team with the appointment of longtime Chamber employee Liz DiGirolamo to the position of Director of Tourism Outreach and Promotion. [Read more here.](#)



Springfield, Holyoke and Pittsfield agencies receive MassDevelopment grants to support small businesses. MassDevelopment recently announced a round of small-business support grants from its Transformative Development Initiative (TDI) program that will fund projects such as storefront improvements, equipment upgrades and technical assistance. [Read more here.](#)



North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce supports downtown beautification in Fitchburg through Project Maintain program. The North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce recently collaborated with InTown Fitchburg to continue the work of improving the downtown Fitchburg business district which began shortly prior to the pandemic shutdowns. [Read more here.](#)

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