

Economic Development Corporation hits the road

*By Pat Kimbrough
The High Point Enterprise
September 15, 2016*

HIGH POINT — Tucked away in an almost pastoral landscape of green space, you might not realize that the BB&T Leadership Institute is in the city of High Point.

Corporate executives, school administrators and others make the trip to the site in the Piedmont Centre office/industrial park to develop their talents as leaders.

“Middle to upper-middle-market clients are our sweet spot — companies with \$50 million in sales and up, and about 150 employees,” Executive Vice President and Director Will Sutton told the High Point Economic Development Corp. board of directors last week.

The board’s meeting at the BB&T Leadership Institute was the most recent example of 77 companies visited since EDC President Loren Hill came on the job in 2000.



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Will Sutton, director of The BB&T Leadership Institute, speaks to the High Point Economic Development Corp. board of directors last week. The company is one of 77 locations visited by the board since 2000.

The list includes a wide range of businesses, spread out all over the city, including 28 manufacturing companies and 16 of High Point's top 20 employers, as well as distribution and logistics firms, furniture, customer service, health care, automotive, retail and commercial photography companies.

"It gives our board members the opportunity to learn more about the many different kinds of businesses in town and interact with business leaders they might not have met yet," Hill said.

"We visit a wide range of industry sectors, at locations throughout the city. I've been pleased to see contacts made at our company visits that have later benefitted that company, local efforts, and/or High Point charities."

Three of the companies visited have since closed: Bill Davis Racing, Team Emergent and Steelcase/Brayton International.

Before 2006, the EDC rarely met outside of City Hall.

In May of that year, two representatives from Lifestyle Enterprises, which operates the furniture showroom the Forbidden City Museum adjacent to City Hall, made a presentation to the board that was followed by a tour of the site.

Hill said former High Point Regional President Jeff Miller, then chairman of the EDC board, "saw the value of the board holding its meetings outside city hall and encouraged us to meet at High Point companies several times per year. We have been meeting 'on the road' several times per year since then."



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The High Point Economic Development Corp. held its annual meeting at furniture company BuzziSpace in 2014. The board started holding more of its meetings at companies around the city in 2006 as a way to strengthen ties between the EDC and local businesses.

The board has met at the following locations:

2001

- Guilford Technical Community College, Jamestown campus, Koury Hospitality Careers Center
- String and Splinter, 305 W. High St.

2002

- Guilford Technical Community College, Jamestown campus, Koury Hospitality Careers Center
- Polo Ralph Lauren (today known as Ralph Lauren Corporation), 4100 Beechwood Drive
- Showplace, 211 E. Commerce Ave.

2003

- Guilford Technical Community College, Jamestown campus, Koury Hospitality Careers Center

2004

- Guilford Technical Community College, Jamestown campus, Koury Hospitality Careers Center

2005

- High Point University, Hayworth Fine Arts Center / Norton Hall

2006

- Bill Davis Racing, 300 Old Thomasville Road
- Guilford Technical Community College, Jamestown campus, Koury Hospitality Careers Center
- Lifestyle Enterprises/Forbidden City Museum, 320 E. Commerce Ave.
- Marsh Furniture, 1001 S. Centennial St.

2007

- Banner Pharmacaps (today known as Patheon), 4125 Premier Drive
- Digital HighPoint, 401 Model Farm Road
- Guilford Technical Community College, Jamestown campus, Koury Hospitality Careers Center
- Harriss & Covington Hosiery Mills, 1250 Hickory Chapel Road
- High Point Regional Health System (today known as High Point Regional UNC Health Care), 601 N. Elm St.
- Kreber, 221 Swathmore Ave.

2008

- Dairy Fresh, 1350 W. Fairfield Road
- Guilford Technical Community College, Jamestown campus, Koury Hospitality Careers Center
- Guilford Technical Community College, High Point campus, 901 S. Main
- Kao Specialties Americas, 243 Woodbine St.
- Pennybyrn at Maryfield, 109 Penny Road
- Polo Ralph Lauren (today known as Ralph Lauren Corp.), 201 N. Pendleton St.
- Team Emergent, 4160 Mendenhall Oaks Parkway, Suite 101

2009

- Geneva Corporation/Covington Power Services (today Covington is known as Clarke Power Services), 8015 Piedmont Triad Parkway
- Guilford Technical Community College, Jamestown campus, Koury Hospitality Careers Center
- Harland Clarke, 4475 Premier Drive [special meeting]
- Mannington Laminate Floors, 210 N. Pendleton St.
- Premier Office & Technology Park / Huntsman Textile Effects /TriQuint Semiconductor (today known as Qorvo), 4050 Premier Drive
- Steelcase/Brayton International, 250 Swathmore Ave.
- Vomela, 2410 E. Kivett Drive

2010

- American Express, 7701 Airport Center Drive, Greensboro [Greensboro Partnership's economic development board meeting, HPEDC board invited]
- Environmental Air Systems, 623 McWay Drive
- High Point University, Plato Wilson School of Commerce
- New Breed Logistics (today known as XPO Logistics: Supply Chain), 4043 Piedmont Parkway
- Thayer Coggin, 230 South Road
- TransTech Pharma (today known as vTv Therapeutics), 4160 Mendenhall Oaks Parkway/PharmaCore, 4150 Mendenhall Oaks Parkway/Mendenhall Clinical Research Center (today known as High Point Clinical Trials Center), 4170 Mendenhall Oaks Parkway [regular High Point EDC board meeting, Greensboro Partnership's economic development board invited]
- Zaki Oriental Rugs, 600 S. Main St.

2011

- Advanced Home Care, 4001 Piedmont Parkway
- Carolina Container, 909 Prospect St.
- Chambers Fabrics, 1914 S. Elm St.
- Graphic Visual Solutions, 4301 Waterleaf Court
- High Point University, University Center (today known as R.G. Wanek Center)
- Ralph Lauren Corporation, 4190 Eagle Hill Drive
- The Phillips Collection, 916 Finch Ave.

2012

- Baltek, 5240 National Center Drive
- Cornerstone Health Care, Corporate Office, 1701 Westchester Drive, Suite 850
- High Point University, Conference Center
- Liberty Property Trust unoccupied building, 4183 Eagle Hill Drive, Suite 109
- Packrite, 1650 Eastway Court
- Sears Operations Center, Oak Hollow Mall, 921 Eastchester Drive

2013

- Bank of North Carolina, Corporate Headquarters, 3980 Premier Drive, Suite 210
- Han-Tek, 1330 Potts Ave.
- High Point University, Phillips Hall
- South University, 3975 Premier Drive
- Stanley Furniture, 200 N. Hamilton St.
- Stiles Machinery, 729 Gallimore Dairy Road

2014

- APAC Customer Services, 4336 Federal Drive
- BuzziSpace, 1200 Redding Drive
- Davis Furniture, 2401 S. College Drive
- Diana Parrish Design and Photography, 5275 National Center Drive
- LGS Innovations, 4090 Premier Drive
- SynTec Seating Solutions, 200 Swathmore Ave.

2015

- Graco Supply and Integrated Services, 318 New St.
- Home Meridian International, 2485 Penny Road
- Showplace, 211 E. Commerce Ave.
- Smith Leonard, 4035 Premier Drive, Suite 300
- The High Point Enterprise, 213 Woodbine St.

2016

- 98 Asian Bistro, Historic Site of Lyles Chevrolet, 1800 N. Main St., Suite 106
- Daimler's Thomas Built Buses, 1013 Callahan St.
- The BB&T Leadership Institute, 4194 Mendenhall Oaks Parkway, Suite 101