



## Community Development Director – Real Estate

The **Detroit Regional Partnership (DRP)** is an economic development nonprofit dedicated to serving and promoting the 11-county region of southeast Michigan. Founded in 2019 by a group of business and philanthropic CEOs, our organization is laser-focused on marketing the region to out-of-state and international companies, attracting investments, spurring job growth for all, and sharing the Detroit Region's story with the world.

The Detroit Regional Partnership has been awarded an Economic Development Administration (EDA) Build Back Better Regional Challenge (BBBRC) grant in the amount of \$5.5 Million over the next 4 years to scale our region's industrial site readiness. As a result, DRP is expanding and accelerating its new industrial site readiness initiative, the Verified Industrial Properties (VIP) program. DRP is seeking a proactive and experienced **Community Development Director** to support the region's site readiness initiatives as part of this expansion.

The **Community Development Director** is responsible for leading the mega-sites pillar of the program, as well as providing the technical leadership required to grow and advance the program. With your effective communication and relationship management skills, you will engage a broad swath of the Region's real estate community, public partners, site owners, civil engineers, brokers, and real estate developers, to promote awareness of the mega-site pillar of the VIP Program and secure the participation of new, large agricultural sites for rezoning and readying for industrial users.

To be successful in this role you must have a strong passion for the Detroit Region, familiarity with the region's industrial real estate market, and experience with industrial development. Familiarity with the field of economic development is highly preferred.

### About the Role:

The primary role is leading the VIP Program's pillar of work responsible for identifying and readying large-scale (mega) agricultural sites that hold potential for conversion for industrial projects. Critical tasks include:

- Lead the procurement and management of all external contractors in support of the mega sites scope of work
- Serve as a liaison to site owners and municipal leaders that seek to learn about the program and/or join as participants
- Cultivate and maintain an inventory of industrial mega-sites for potential inclusion in the VIP Program
- Develop and manage a site owner and community engagement and education process, designed to assess interest in rezoning agricultural sites for industrial uses
- Develop and deploy technical services to support site owners and communities that seek to advance agricultural sites for industrial uses

- Ready a minimum of 1-2 large scale industrial sites through the program's support and services

In addition to leading the mega sites pillar of work, we are seeking a leader with technical skills needed to develop and operate the program successfully. Critical tasks include:

- Serve as VIP's technical expert and advisor on industrial development topics, including local and state permitting processes and brownfield development strategies
- Lead quality control of technical information communicated to stakeholders, including site owners, municipalities, and program partners
- Support the development of education materials and communication strategies aimed at raising awareness of the importance of industrial site readiness, the VIP Program, and tools to advance industrial site readiness
- Supports the development and operation of new program services and process, including topics like conceptual site planning and development services to end users exploring VIP sites
- Supports translating the technical aspects of the due diligence reports/program to owners and municipalities

**About You:**

- 5-8 years of professional experience in urban planning or in a community development capacity (AICP Certification preferred)
- Bachelor's degree in real estate development, urban & regional Planning, civil engineering, business, or other related area of study
- Familiar with industrial site reviews, site analysis and the development of industrial real estate and facilities
- Understands technical development details related to wetlands and floodplains, SHPO, geotechnical, brownfield redevelopment
- Ability to attend frequent evening events including community meetings, city council and county commissioner meetings
- Experience effectively presenting to City Councils, boards, County Commissioners
- Knowledge of community development, permitting and planning process
- Remote/Hybrid Role – can live anywhere with the ability to attend face to face meetings 2+ times a week (or as needed) in the downtown Detroit office.

When you join the Detroit Regional Partnership, you will be part of a small but talented team – a mission minded group of individuals you will be proud to work with. You will be surrounded by supportive leaders that will allow you to map out your career path. With our robust professional development program, amazing networking opportunities, and executive exposure, you will grow as a professional.

At DRP, we also offer an attractive compensation and benefits package including generous paid time off, retirement contribution match, health insurance (medical, dental, visual), and life insurance.

Are you ready to do what you love with us? Submit your resume and any relevant supporting materials for consideration to Darrell Maurer, Human Resources & Benefits Coordinator at [Darrell.Maurer@detroitregionalpartnership.com](mailto:Darrell.Maurer@detroitregionalpartnership.com).

*DRP is an equal opportunity employer committed to diversity and inclusion in the workplace. We prohibit discrimination and harassment of any kind based on race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, genetic information, pregnancy, or any other protected characteristic as outlined by federal, state, or local laws.*