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For more information on the work of the Illinois Development Council, log on to our website at [www.ildevelopmentcouncil.org](http://www.ildevelopmentcouncil.org).

For a list of IDC's leadership team, click the following link. [IDC Board of Directors](#).

### **It's A New Year by *Edward Sitar* IDC Chairman of the Board**



The start of the new year is always a time for reflection, goal setting, and hope for what lies ahead. Will 2010 see a recovery of the economy? Will it be a jobless recovery? Will financial situations of local governments improve? Who will emerge victorious in Springfield? These are just some of things that are probably on many of our minds.

What will IDC do to aid in the State's recovery? How can IDC help you as a professional? IDC certainly needs a broad and large membership to be the most effective economic development organization in Illinois. This means we need your membership renewal secured so we can fund activities throughout the year. If you have not already sent in your 2010 membership, please don't delay. We have numerous activities in addition to our annual summer conference planned for the coming months. Continue watching for this news update for more details.

### **Government Affairs Update**

#### **2010 IDC Advocacy Day - March 4th**

Mark your calendars and save the date for the 2009 Illinois Development Council Advocacy Day on Thursday, March 4, 2009. We will begin the day by hearing from legislators during breakfast at the Sangamo Club before members head to the Capitol to meet with their own legislators. Please consider being a part of this important event.

#### **Federal Biodiesel Blenders Credit in Jeopardy**

The Biodiesel Blenders Credit, an excise tax credit claimed by companies that blend B100 (100 percent biodiesel) with petroleum diesel for use in the fuel markets, is in jeopardy of not being extended – a non-action which will be extremely detrimental to Illinois economic development in general and several large Illinois corporations in particular.

The Blenders Credit was included in Federal House Bill 4213 "Tax Extenders Act of 2009" as part of the Expiring Energy Tax Provisions section. There are 50 additional tax credits that are a part of this bill including Personal Provisions, Business Provisions, Charitable Provisions, Community Assistance Programs, Disaster Tax Relief Provisions, Energy Provisions and Revenue Provisions. HB 4213 will allow the continuation of a \$1.00 tax credit per gallon of biodiesel produced through December 31, 2014.

Although IDC does not take positions on federal legislation, the Board and Governmental Affairs Committee felt it was important to share this information with members so that they might either act on it on their own or share with interested parties. Further information on this legislation can be found on the IDC website. Click on the following links:

<http://www.ildevelopmentcouncil.org/documents/ExpirationOfBiodieselCredit12-4-09.pdf>

<http://www.ildevelopmentcouncil.org/documents/SummaryHR4213TaxExtendersActOf2009-12-7->

[09.pdf](#)

<http://www.ildevelopmentcouncil.org/documents/Urbanchuk-EconomicImpactOfEliminatingTheBiodieselTaxCredit12-3-09.pdf>

## Buck Hires Former Chicago 2016 President Lori Healey

John Buck Co. has hired the former president of Chicago's Olympic bid committee as the blue-chip developer looks to drum up more public-sector business. Lori Healey (former IDC Chairman of the Board) will start next week as a principal at Chicago-based Buck, where she'll focus on building the firm's pipeline of public sector projects. Government work hasn't suffered as much in the recession as other commercial real estate market sectors.

"Ms. Healey would seem tailor-made for the job. She knows real estate, having worked for a major architecture firm before rejoining city government in 2005." She has worked as Mayor Richard Daley's chief of staff and later as president of Chicago 2016, the city's Olympic bid committee.

"Having worked with her in many of her previous roles, we know Lori to have the highest integrity and to be one of the hardest-working and most knowledgeable people in both the commercial real estate and public sectors," company Chairman and CEO John A. Buck said in a statement.

## 8th Annual Commercial Real Estate Forecast Conference

8th Annual Commercial Real Estate Forecast Conference will be held Tuesday, January 19, 2010 from 8am-12pm at the Chicago Marriott Downtown (540 North Michigan Avenue). For information on this event log on to [www.rejournals.com](http://www.rejournals.com).

## IDC 2010 Dues Renewal Coming in Strong

Every IDC member has been sent their 2010 dues renewal statement and the IDC board is encouraged by the early response in renewals. This show of member commitment is so important to the overall focus and expansion of member service. 2010 promises to be a year of opportunity for members to be involved in IDC sponsored events and programs.

Our **Cooperative Marketing Committee** is looking at multiple events both statewide and nationally. The IDC **Government Affairs Committee** is broadening our out reach in the government arena and our **Education Committee** already has a great program line up for January 25th at our Metro Meeting in Oakbrook ([register here](#)). The **Annual Conference Committee** has scheduled the 2010 event for July 14-16 at the brand new Bloomington-Normal Marriott. This year's theme will be focusing on "professional development" so mark your calendars.

And if that is not enough our **Communication Committee** is hard at work at expanding our media exposure not only to IDC members but the economic development community at-large with improvements to our website, increased exposure with social media and timely dissemination of industry information.

There is no question that your dues dollars are hard at work with the Illinois Development Council. Its leadership team remains firmly committed to make your membership experience of value. If you have not sent in your dues for 2010 yet, please do so soon to insure your opportunity to participate in the work of IDC is not interrupted. We also encourage you to reach out to fellow professionals who have not made the decision to join IDC and ask them to become a part of an organization that is making a difference in Illinois' economic development. Our **Membership Committee** has recently completed a new membership brochure which you will be able to see on our website shortly.

Thank you  
IDC Board of Directors  
IDC Staff

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