## PRESS RELEASE

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## New Economic Recovery Taskforce Aims to Help BA Recover from COVID-19



Broken Arrow, OK — April 16, 2020 — The City of Broken Arrow, Broken Arrow Economic Development Corporation (EDC) and Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce formed "BA Rising: Economic Recovery Taskforce" to address how the City of Broken Arrow will strategically transition from disaster response to economic recovery.

They key objectives for the taskforce are to assess and forecast the current and future economic impact of COVID-19 in Broken Arrow and implement a plan to re-open the economy in a safe and strategic manner. Additionally, the taskforce will provide recovery resources to businesses and nonprofits as well as develop and deliver a roadmap to help unemployed and displaced workers get back to work. The taskforce will create industry cluster workgroups and work collaboratively with industry leaders to accomplish these objectives.

"Working with our business community, the BA Rising Economic Recovery Taskforce will help facilitate the reopening of our businesses and help find ways to get our economic engine going again" said Michael Spurgeon, City Manager.

Taskforce members include, Mayor Craig Thurmond, City Manager, Michael Spurgeon, Chamber and EDC President & CEO, Jennifer Conway, Broken Arrow Public School District Superintendent, Dr. Janet Dunlop, City Economic Development Manager, Norman Stephens, EDC Vice President, Darla Heller, Chamber Chairman, Alvin Bailey and EDC Chairman, Jim Beavers.

"Broken Arrow has done an excellent job in responding to the COVID-19 Crisis. Now, it is vital we move from responding to building the path to restart our economy in a safe manner. I believe we will rise even higher than before this crisis. Much of the planning has already begun with our city and schools, but bringing industry sectors, from manufacturing to nonprofits, to the table is an important step as each industry has been impacted in a different way. We will strive to make sure no one is left out of the recovery" stated Jennifer Conway, President and CEO of the Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce and EDC.

The Broken Arrow Chamber will be providing in depth updates on the Economic Recovery Taskforce efforts via social media and their website.

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## **About Broken Arrow Chamber**

The Broken Arrow Chamber provides the support and resources our business community needs, so that together we create an environment in which every business from entrepreneurs to corporations are able to thrive. We are the leading voice and advocate for business because when Broken Arrow businesses grow, the entire community thrives.

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