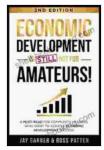
Economic Development Is Still Not For Amateurs: A Guide to the Perils and the Promise of Public Investment

In the wake of the Great Recession, there has been a renewed interest in economic development as a way to promote job growth and improve the quality of life in communities across the country. However, economic development is a complex and challenging undertaking, and it is important to understand the risks and rewards involved before embarking on any such initiatives.

This article provides a comprehensive overview of economic development, from its theoretical underpinnings to its practical applications. We will explore the different types of economic development strategies, the key factors that contribute to success, and the potential pitfalls that can derail even the best-laid plans.

By understanding the challenges and opportunities associated with economic development, you can make informed decisions about how to invest your time and resources. With careful planning and execution, economic development can be a powerful tool for creating jobs, improving incomes, and building stronger communities.



Economic Development Is [STILL] Not for Amateurs!: A must-read for community leaders on how to achieve economic development success by Jay Garner

★ ★ ★ ★ 4.7 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 1137 KB

Text-to-Speech	:	Enabled
Screen Reader	;	Supported
Enhanced typesetting	;	Enabled
Word Wise	;	Enabled
Print length	;	86 pages
Lending	;	Enabled



Economic development is the process of improving the economic wellbeing of a community or region. This can be done through a variety of means, such as:

- Attracting new businesses and industries
- Expanding existing businesses
- Improving the skills of the workforce
- Investing in infrastructure
- Promoting tourism

The goal of economic development is to create jobs, increase incomes, and improve the quality of life for all residents.

There are many different types of economic development strategies, each with its own strengths and weaknesses. The most common strategies include:

 Business attraction: This strategy focuses on attracting new businesses to a community or region. This can be done through tax incentives, financial assistance, or other programs.

- Business expansion: This strategy focuses on helping existing businesses to expand their operations. This can be done through financial assistance, technical assistance, or other programs.
- Workforce development: This strategy focuses on improving the skills of the workforce. This can be done through training programs, education programs, or other programs.
- Infrastructure investment: This strategy focuses on investing in infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, and schools. This can help to make a community or region more attractive to businesses and residents.
- Tourism promotion: This strategy focuses on promoting tourism to a community or region. This can be done through marketing campaigns, advertising, or other programs.

The best economic development strategy for a particular community or region will depend on a number of factors, such as the local economy, the available resources, and the goals of the community.

There are a number of key factors that contribute to the success of economic development initiatives. These factors include:

- Strong leadership: Economic development initiatives need to be led by a strong team of leaders who are committed to the success of the project.
- Clear goals and objectives: Economic development initiatives should have clear goals and objectives that are agreed upon by all stakeholders.

- Public-private partnerships: Economic development initiatives are most successful when they are supported by a strong partnership between the public and private sectors.
- Long-term planning: Economic development is a long-term process that requires consistent planning and execution.
- Evaluation and accountability: Economic development initiatives should be evaluated on a regular basis to ensure that they are meeting their goals and objectives.

By understanding these key factors, you can increase the chances of success for your economic development initiatives.

There are a number of potential pitfalls that can derail even the best-laid economic development plans. These pitfalls include:

- Lack of funding: Economic development initiatives can be expensive, and it is important to secure adequate funding before embarking on any such projects.
- Lack of support: Economic development initiatives need the support of the community and the local government. Without this support, it is difficult to achieve success.
- Short-term thinking: Economic development is a long-term process, and it is important to avoid short-term thinking that can lead to bad decisions.
- Lack of coordination: Economic development initiatives require coordination between a variety of different stakeholders. A lack of coordination can lead to delays, inefficiencies, and even failure.

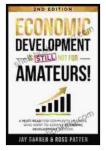
By understanding these potential pitfalls, you can take steps to avoid them and increase the chances of success for your economic development initiatives.

Economic development is a complex and challenging undertaking, but it can also be a rewarding one. By understanding the risks and rewards involved, and by carefully planning and executing your initiatives, you can increase the chances of success.

With the right approach, economic development can be a powerful tool for creating jobs, improving incomes, and building stronger communities.

If you are interested in learning more about economic development, I encourage you to contact your local economic development agency or chamber of commerce. These organizations can provide you with information and resources that can help you get started.

You can also find more information about economic development on the website of the International Economic Development Council (IEDC). IEDC is a professional organization for economic developers around the world.



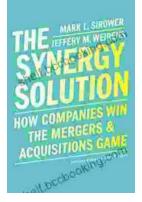
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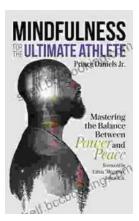
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