ALDI Hosts Groundbreaking for Regional Headquarters and Distribution Center in Loxley

ALDI, one of America’s fastest-growing retailers, officially broke ground for its new regional headquarters and distribution center in Loxley, Alabama, on February 10, 2021. The upcoming 564,000-square-foot office and warehouse will support ALDI’s growth throughout the Gulf Coast. The project is set to bring approximately $100 million in capital investment to Baldwin County, with plans to create more than 200 local jobs.

Governor Kay Ivey stated, “We’re proud to stand behind ALDI’s commitment to bringing value to the people of Alabama and the Gulf Coast region, and we welcome the company’s plans for a regional headquarters and distribution hub in Loxley that will create jobs for our hardworking citizens.”

The expansion is the grocery retailer’s first step into Baldwin County, but ALDI currently operates 30 stores across the state of Alabama. The new Loxley facility will serve new ALDI stores in southern Alabama, Louisiana and throughout the Florida Panhandle.

“As a leader in the grocery retailing industry, ALDI is fundamental to Baldwin County’s continued economic success,” said Lee Lawson, president and CEO of Baldwin County Economic Development Alliance. “This development represents a testament to Baldwin County’s continued support of its existing industry’s growth and expansion,” he added.

With plans to open the regional headquarters and distribution center in 2022, ALDI will seek new employees to begin operations. For more information about ALDI and job openings, visit aldi.us.
Baldwin County by the Numbers

Transportation and Warehousing Industry in Baldwin County

Source: JobsEQ

84% Growth in Baldwin County’s transportation and warehousing sector jobs since 2010

Total Wages for Baldwin County Workers in Transportation and Warehousing Sector (2010-2020)
The 2020 Talent Attraction Scorecard released by Emsi uses data on population and migration, growth of jobs and skilled workers, regional competitiveness and education attainment to determine how well communities are doing in attracting and developing talent. This year’s scorecard captures the status of counties just before COVID-19 and shares how the pandemic is shifting the migration and talent attraction landscape.

**Baldwin County has risen steadily in the large county rankings, RISING FROM NO. 109 IN 2016, TO NO. 63 IN 2020.**

With large metros losing some of their glitz and even struggling to retain talent, midsize and small markets are becoming more attractive options. Emsi reports eight of 10 most populated U.S. counties are all ranking in the bottom half, while midsized markets ranked well, with counties populated between 250,000 to 999,999 making up more than half of the top 100. Baldwin County ranked highest among Alabama’s large counties of populations with 100,000+ and ranked No. 63 among all large counties in the United States, followed by Madison County (No. 88) and Lee County (No. 212).

For the 3rd straight year, Baldwin County ranks as **ALABAMA’S LEADER FOR WORKFORCE TALENT ATTRACTION**, according to Emsi’s Talent Attraction Scorecard.

As Baldwin County takes yet another win in talent attraction, the scorecard pinpoints two pre-existing factors that give midsize and small markets even more room to shine - population shifts of major cities and the rise of remote work. Moving forward in 2021, communities that use the crisis as an opportunity to double down on building a resilient workforce can create an even greater advantage in talent development.
Mayor Richard Teal, the first new mayor in the town of Loxley in more than 30 years, was unanimously appointed following the passing of longtime mayor, Billy Middleton. Mayor Teal was appointed on June 10, 2020, to finish out Middleton’s term, and was officially sworn in publicly on June 24. Prior to becoming mayor, Teal served on the town council since 1988, where he worked alongside Middleton during his lengthy term.

As Loxley’s new mayor, Teal shared his primary goals for implementation during his term, with the safety, health and education of residents at the top of his list. Mayor Teal plans to make the infrastructure and water services sound, as well as search for a broader internet service selection to make available amongst the town. In 2019, 73 acres of land next to County Road 49 was purchased with the intention to build a municipal complex, which the mayor is excited to create future plans for. Lastly, Mayor Teal is persistent in adding to the town of Loxley’s economic growth, with plans to support local businesses, while also attracting more restaurants and redeveloping the downtown area.

With ALDI breaking ground on the new distribution center and regional headquarters in Loxley, this project is a great economic development win for Baldwin County early in his term. “We are eager for the new job opportunities that are to come for citizens as well as the economic growth and development for our community,” said Teal.

ALDI is not the only growing company in Loxley’s industrial and warehousing district, as Baldwin County continues to be a hub for a number of manufacturing and distribution and logistics operations. Kaishan Compressor, Southern Visions and Ecovery have each grown significantly over the past two years, and more growth is on the horizon. Mayor Teal sees this industry growth providing an atmosphere to promote job creation and economic growth in both existing and emerging industries.

Mayor Teal believes keeping an active relationship between the Town of Loxley and Baldwin County Economic Development Alliance is crucial. “With Baldwin County being Alabama’s leader in population growth and business investment, it is extremely important to have a healthy partnership with the Alliance.”

To find out more about Mayor Richard Teal, please visit townofloxley.org.