



For Immediate Release

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Grand Kakalin Project Wins Prominent Economic Development Award

Madison, WI – The Grand Kakalin development project in Kaukauna won the Public-Private Partnership Award at the 4th annual Community and Economic Development Awards (CEDA) banquet, held September 12, 2018, at The Edgewater Hotel in Madison. The CEDA Awards program was established by the Wisconsin Economic Development Association (WEDA) to recognize businesses, projects, and organizations that are making significant contributions to Wisconsin's economy.

The Public-Private Partnership award honors projects, programs or initiatives that have been successful due to exceptional collaboration between the public and private sectors.

"The Grand Kakalin project has not only preserved a piece of our past, it has breathed new life into our downtown district and has had a critical domino effect in creating new jobs and spurring development," said Randy Stadtmueller, President of Stadtmueller & Associates, the firm that helped develop the project. "Whether as an employee in Kaukauna's downtown, a pedestrian enjoying the river views, or as a resident visiting the Kaukauna Public Library, the Grand Kakalin project has changed for the better how we interact with the Fox River and our city's history."

The Grand Kakalin project has brought new life to the Fox River in downtown Kaukauna. This public-private partnership not only preserved a national register listed landmark in Wisconsin's first wood pulp paper mill, it created a new state of the art office for the corporate headquarters of Expera Specialty Solutions and updated the city library facilities into a contemporary 21st century community space. Thanks to strong collaboration between the developer, Expera Specialty Solutions, the City of Kaukauna and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, this project has brought a new and contemporary use to a piece of Wisconsin history.

"WEDA is excited to partner with the Wisconsin League of Municipalities, Wisconsin Counties Association, and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation to present the CEDA Awards and celebrate the dedicated efforts of business and organizations across the state to advance Wisconsin's economy," said WEDA Executive Director Brian Doudna.

Awards were given in the following six categories at the CEDA Awards banquet: Business Retention and Expansion; Economic Development Initiative; Economic Driver; Public-Private Partnership; Real Estate Development and Reuse; and Talent Attraction.

CEDA Award sponsors include the American Transmission Company; Alliant Energy; Bachmann Construction; Green Bay Packers; Insight Publications; J.H. Findorff & Son; Madison Gas & Electric; Wisconsin Public Service; and Xcel Energy.

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