

Local Economic Development: Analysis, Practices, and Globalization

By John P. Blair, Michael Charles Carroll

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Local economies are the building blocks for national ones. An updated and expansive core text, the **Second Edition** of **Local Economic Development: Analysis, Practices, and Globalization** provides a comprehensive introduction to the economics of local economic development. Delving into cutting-edge topics such as cluster analysis, creative class orientation, competitive advantage, social capital, business expansion and retention, and learning regions, this clearly written interdisciplinary text connects theories with real-life examples and offers the reader pragmatic tools for future application, including a valuable "how-to" understanding regarding important qualitative tools and their interpretation.

Importantly, this text is uniquely accessible to students who lack a background in the field of economics.

New to this Edition

- **Offers a global emphasis:** Local economic development is clearly linked to national development throughout, making the text useful for adding an international component to traditional national economic development courses.
- **Features an institutionalist focus:** The text describes the ways political and the social environments interact with and influence the local development process, giving instructors opportunities to localize course material. It also addresses equity issues and the importance of interregional linkages, demonstrating the importance of an interdisciplinary approach.
- **Demonstrates comparative versus competitive advantages:** The author illustrates the changing perceptions of the sources of local advantages, given the dynamic global and technological environments.
- **Provides valuable information on careers in the field:** Students will learn about jobs where knowledge of local economic development is a primary or useful requirement, from opportunities as development officials in local

agencies to banking to community development.

Intended Audience

This is an ideal core text for undergraduate and graduate students of economics, political science, geography, public administration, and urban and regional planning. It is also a valuable resource for economic development professionals, NGOs, County Commissioner offices and others involved in the economic aspects of local economic development.

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Editorial Review

About the Author
John P. Blair is a Professor of Economics at Wright State University where he teaches courses in urban economics and local economic development. He received a Ph. D. from West Virginia University. He has served as a consultant for a variety of state and local governments as well as private agencies. He has written numerous books and articles about urban issues and public policies. Blair's academic articles have appeared in such journals as Land Economics, Growth and Change, and Economic Development Quarterly.

Michael C. Carroll is the Director of the Center for Regional Development and Associate Professor of Economics at Bowling Green State University. Prior to joining BGSU, he served on the faculty at Muskingum College and West Virginia State University. Dr. Carroll's business experience includes positions as corporate controller, operations manager, and president. His research interests focus on regional economic development and social economics. He is Editor-in-Chief of *Regional Science Policy and Practice* and Associate Editor of *Economic Development Quarterly*. His writings have appeared in a variety of academic journals including, the *Journal of Economic Issues, Annals of Regional Science,* and the *Industrial Geographer*. Dr. Carroll also authored *A Future of Capitalism: The Economic Vision of Robert Heilbroner* (Macmillan and St. Martin's Press) 1998. He earned his Ph.D. from Colorado State University.

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