



Denny Coleman CEcD, FM

President & CEO
St. Louis County
Economic Council



Denny Coleman is president & CEO of St. Louis County Economic Council. Since 1990, Coleman has overseen a multitude of economic development initiatives that have earned St. Louis County national recognition for outstanding progress in the areas of community revitalization, business development and job creation.

Prior to the Economic Council, Coleman was director of development for the City of St. Louis and managed the its neighborhood, housing, and economic development efforts. He also served as vice president for community development at Mercantile Bank (now U.S. Bank) when the bank’s community development corporation received the National Fair Housing Award and a Private Sector Initiatives Award from the White House.

Coleman has a master’s degree in urban and regional planning from the University of Wisconsin and bachelor’s degree in urban geography from Saint Louis University. He also completed the Senior Executive’s Program at John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Education:

- Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government
- University of Wisconsin – Madison
 - M.S. in Urban and Regional Planning
- Saint Louis University
 - B.A. in Urban Geography

Coleman is currently the chair for the International Economic Development Council (IEDC). He is an advisory board member for Saint Louis University’s (SLU) master’s degree programs in urban planning and real estate development and the Institute for International Business. Coleman serves on numerous other boards and advisory committees for state and local governments, civic organizations, colleges and universities.

Civic and Community Involvement:

- IEDC – Chairman of the Board
- St. Louis Sports Commission – Board Member
- BRDG Park – Advisory Board Member
- Urban Land Institute- St. Louis – Member
- Missouri Growth Association – Member
- RCGA – Economic Development Steering Committee
- Recognized by *St. Louis Business Journal* as a “Most Influential St. Louisan” – 2001, 2004, 2006-2011
- Entrepreneurial Hall of Fame, SLU

Coleman and his wife, Bonnie, who is the operations manager at The Blessing Basket Project, have been married over 30 years. They have two grown children, Mike and Emily.

St. Louis County Economic Council serves as the county’s economic development agency, driving growth and prosperity in the most economically important county in Missouri. As the only economic development agency in the state to hold the esteemed Accredited Economic Development Organization from the International Economic Development Council, it provides a broad range of services through its six divisions: business development, business finance, economic development collaborative, real estate and community development, St. Louis Enterprise Centers, and World Trade Center Saint Louis.

