

Wal-Mart's Jobs and Opportunity Zones

At Wal-Mart, we are committed to creating opportunity beyond the walls of our stores and Clubs. The Jobs and Opportunity Zones (JOZ) program is about making unique contributions to the local community by offering an even greater economic boost to the people and the neighborhoods that need Wal-Mart the most. This effort is an extension of the company's dedication to associates, the communities we serve, and to the millions of working families who rely on us every day to save them money, so they can live better.

Each Zone encompasses a Wal-Mart store and a host of local businesses and suppliers with which Wal-Mart works to increase job creation and economic opportunity in surrounding neighborhoods. As part of the program, Wal-Mart partners with local chambers of commerce, business groups, minority chambers of commerce and minority and women-owned businesses within these zones. These new stores create thousands of jobs, many of which are in economically disadvantaged areas.

Specifically, Wal-Mart will:

- Offer Business to Business (B2B) Expos to area businesses, including minority and women-owned business owners, to present the company's economic opportunities at the local level and to bring local businesses together to help them connect with other potential business partners in their community.

- Partner with local economic development organizations, including but not limited to chambers of commerce and minority chambers of commerce in the 10 Zones. We work with these chambers to identify and invest in opportunities that will impact small business owners and their employees in the surrounding neighborhoods the most. Wal-Mart stores in 10 cities serve as hubs for each of the Zones. These include:
 - **Chicago, Illinois:** The JOZ program was launched at the former manufacturing plant on the West Side of Chicago in April 2006. The Wal-Mart Supercenter in the city of Chicago opened in September 2006.

 - **Portsmouth, Virginia:** In January 2007, a new Wal-Mart Supercenter opened in this community's Mid-Town area. City officials have pursued economic investment in this area for years.

 - **Landover Hills, Maryland:** Wal-Mart opened its first store inside the Washington, D.C., beltway in March 2007 at the former Capital Plaza Shopping Center in Prince George's County.

 - **Richmond, California:** A former department store location was transformed into a new Wal-Mart store in April 2007 at the Hilltop Mall in this Bay Area community.

 - **Sanger, California:** A new Wal-Mart Supercenter opened in June 2007 at the site of a vacant commercial building in this community just outside of Fresno.

 - **El Mirage, Arizona:** In this community near Luke Air Force Base, Wal-Mart opened a new Supercenter in July 2007 in an area that local officials have long targeted for economic investment.

 - **Cleveland, Ohio:** A new Wal-Mart Supercenter opened at the site of a former steelyard on October 2007. The new development, which includes other retailers, will be called Steelyard Commons.

 - **Indianapolis, Indiana:** A new Wal-Mart Supercenter opened on January 23, 2008 in the city's Lafayette Square area. The neighborhood has lost several retailers over the years, but is now being redeveloped. Much of the revitalization is due to the efforts of the citizen-led Lafayette Square Area Coalition.

 - **Decatur, Georgia:** In March 2008, the site of the former Avondale Mall became the new home of a Wal-Mart Supercenter in this community just outside Atlanta.

 - **East Hills, Pennsylvania:** Operation Nehemiah, an initiative of the Petra Ministries congregation, has pursued retail development at the site of the former Eastgate Mall just outside of Pittsburgh. The mall, which opened in the 1960s, lost most of its major tenants in the early 1980s and was demolished in 2001. A new Wal-Mart Supercenter will open at this site in early 2009.

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