

[MUSIC PLAYING]

-Economic development is so broad. It can be from what I do as far as business recruitment. It can be business retention. Anything that basically develops the community and brings some type of commerce into it. Economic development can be marketing. PRT, state of South Carolina, does an excellent job with promoting economic development, as you know with all the great sites in the state. Tourism is a major economic development for the state of South Carolina. There are so many facets. It's just that the one industry that I'm in nobody really thinks about a whole lot, but the business recruitment side is the true driver. But there are so many other facets of economic development.

There are people who build homes. A lot of people consider themselves economic developers. So yeah, it's very broad but anything that brings commerce into an area, or money. Anytime you are bettering the community, bringing in jobs and money to that area, you are providing some type of economic development.

Greenville has a history, well the entire state has a history, of textiles and agriculture. The upstate of South Carolina, in particular, the area of Greenville, Spartanburg has been very blessed in now being the manufacturing driver for the state. So everything you see we were fortunate enough to have a major OEM like BMW come into the area. And we are fortunate enough, as well, to have Michelin as our corporate headquarters. So there are so many major manufacturers, GE, that have come in and with their supply base really built up the area which has allowed Greenville to grow and diversify itself and flourish the way that it has. So yeah, any type of manufacturing driver-- they used to say one manufacturing job creates 10. So yeah, that's how the manufacturing industry has allowed Greenville to flourish just through its economic development initiatives.

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