

## Call for Paper Proposals on Linking Community Development and Economic Development

*Economic Development Quarterly* (EDQ) is the premier applied academic journal publishing research on U.S. economic and workforce development policy and issues. Its mission is to promote evidence-based economic development and workforce development research on policy, programs, and practices in the United States.

EDQ is seeking manuscript proposals that test theory and practices concerning linkages between economic and community development. In short, we are interested in research on how regional economic development efforts impact low-income neighborhoods and how community-based assets influence economic development. Selected manuscripts will be considered for publication in an EDQ special issue on the topic.

While community development and economic development share a similar goal – improving the economic well-being of area residents – they often use different tools and have different outcomes and different distributional effects.

In general, community development is focused on place-based investments that improve the physical and social environment and assets of a specific neighborhood or area. Community development activities can include human capital investment (education, job training, and employment placement), place-making physical capital investments (housing, infrastructure, access, transportation, and amenities), and social capital investments (health, safety, and community organizing). Ideally, community development activities result in economic inclusion, opportunity, and mobility for low-income families and socially isolated communities.

### POSSIBLE RESEARCH TOPICS

EDQ is seeking research manuscript proposals that examine the linkage between community development and economic development. *Possible* research topics could include:

- *Identifying the components of an effective place-based economic development effort.* These can include political, social, and economic factors.
- *Identifying the right geography for community development efforts compared with that for economic development programs.* Economic borders are commonly based on commuting sheds and supply linkages, while community development programs are often centered on political boundaries or areas that share strong historical or cultural environments.
- *Presentation of case studies that highlight factors associated with successful community development and economic development programs.* Papers that examine **two or more** geographic areas with contrasting approaches to economic or community development are encouraged.
- *Evaluation of the role of workforce development in successful community development and economic development efforts.*
- *Evaluation of the impact of community development investments on workforce development.*

In addition, we will consider well-researched commentaries that identify the

- *Strengths and weaknesses of community and economic development efforts.*
- *Necessary components of high-performing community or economic development efforts.*
- *Importance or lack of importance in integrating a region's economic development efforts with community development initiatives within its borders.*

These topics are offered as examples. Authors are encouraged to pursue their own topics if they can be tied to issues of importance to state and local policy makers seeking to help understand the relationship between community and economic development.

Papers must address key issues, evaluate program outcomes, and suggest policy implications. Submissions should indicate whether the research is being submitted as a Research Article or a Commentary. **Submitted papers should not have been previously published nor be currently under consideration for publication elsewhere.**

## **TYPE OF PROPOSALS CONSIDERED**

Research proposals should not exceed three pages, double-spaced, describing the proposed research, data, methodology, and policy implications. The proposed research must address key issues and suggest policy implications that inform economic and community development practices.

Authors must also submit a current curriculum vitae.

## **TIMELINE**

Paper proposals must be emailed to [edq@upjohn.org](mailto:edq@upjohn.org) by November 10, 2023. The selected authors will be notified the week of December 4, 2023.

The authors of the selected proposals will be invited to a one-day virtual researchers workshop hosted by the W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research in March 2024 to present their initial findings to the other participants and Upjohn Institute economists. Authors will be asked to submit drafts of their completed papers no later than the end of February 2024 so that they can be distributed to the other selected researchers and Institute economists for review before the one-day virtual Researchers Workshop. It is mandatory that the lead author of each paper attend the virtual workshop.

Completed papers for consideration for the EDQ special issue will be due no later than the end of July 2024. Papers will be required to go through the journal's peer review process to be included in the special issue.

For questions or information, please contact Claudette Robey, Managing Editor, at [edq@upjohn.org](mailto:edq@upjohn.org).