


Austin Economic Development Corporation: Executive Staff

		Professional Bio
	Theresa Alvarez President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	<p>Theresa is a native Texan who brings 27 years of corporate, non-profit and community board leadership experience to the Austin EDC. Having most recently served as the Senior Vice President of Community Relations for the Wells Fargo Foundation, she managed multiple local and statewide philanthropy budgets for investments in housing affordability, economic development, small business growth and sustainability. Over 19 years at Wells Fargo, Theresa led Community Relations for several regions across Texas including Austin, San Antonio, San Marcos, Bryan, College Station, Round Rock, Waco, Bastrop and Burnet. During her tenure, she worked closely with marketing and corporate communications and was responsible for philanthropy, building non-profit relationships, Community Reinvestment Act exams with the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), as well as initiatives for diversity, equity and inclusion.</p> <p>One of her proudest accomplishments from time at Wells Fargo includes working with the Mexican Consulate office and the Austin Police Department to secure bank accounts for undocumented people, becoming the first bank in the country to open accounts using the Mexican Consulate card as a primary form of identification. This unique experience shaped Theresa’s understanding of the various ways her professional contributions could impact individuals, families, and communities. She then went on to win a global fellowship with the Grameen Foundation and spent three months working on an economic development project for rural farmers in Medellin, Colombia. She later founded and led the Austin Diversity Council and several affinity groups, leading initiatives with Pride, Latino, African American, Asian, Veterans and Women’s employee network groups.</p> <p>Prior to joining Wells Fargo, Theresa worked as a Community Lender for Peoplefund, an Austin based Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) with a mission to create economic opportunity and financial stability for underserved people by providing access to capital, education and resources to build healthy small businesses. Her experience also includes Commercial Lending with Chase Bank. To connect her professional involvement more directly with local efforts in community development, Theresa has served on 20 local non-profit boards, committees and task forces. She chaired the board of the Ann Richards School Foundation, Foundation Communities and an art education organization known as “Believe in Me.” She was selected to serve on the Mayor’s Task Force for Institutional Racism and Systemic Inequities. Theresa is the co-founder of an Austin housing non-profit organization, the East Austin Conservancy, working to support East Austin families at risk of displacement. She currently serves on the board of the Waterloo Greenway Conservancy, as Treasurer of the East Austin Conservancy and the Advisory Board of the Ann Richards School Foundation.</p> <p>Theresa graduated from the University of Texas (UT) business school with a degree in Finance. While attending UT, she served as the President of the UT Ballet Folklorico team and as an officer in the Hispanic Business Student Association. She studied abroad at El Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico, one of Latin America’s top tier universities. Theresa has won several awards recognizing her commitment and work in the Austin community from The Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Austin Area Urban League, Ballet Austin, Girls Scouts, Seedling, Inroads, PODER and Advance. Having been a former performing artist, dancing with the Aztlan Dance Company, she served on the Aztlan board as well as the Mexican American Cultural Center (MACC) Bond Committee.</p>



David A. Colligan
Chief Operating Officer (COO)

David has organized and executed economic development efforts for creative, technology-driven areas that have unique cultures and identities; serving in roles that range from marketing manager of international activities to liaison between government and business for hundreds of prospective expansion projects. He came to Austin after graduating from the University of Louisiana and founding his understanding of objectives in economic development and the activities needed to generate such outcomes by working local, regional, and statewide initiatives with the Lafayette Economic Development Authority. In his eight years with the City of Austin’s Economic Development Department, David served in various roles associated with development and negotiation of public-private partnerships and transactions on the City’s behalf.

While serving as the Manger of Global Business Expansion, David negotiated and managed ten expansion projects that have committed to create 3,097 new full-time jobs that average \$91,544, retain 2,671 full-time jobs, and bring \$333 Million of investment to the City over a five-to-ten-year period. While serving in an executive capacity, David provided direct oversight of Redevelopment, Workforce Development and Music and Entertainment while serving as an executive of the department. Along with his work of recruiting expansion project for investment, job creation and tax revenues for Austin, significant milestones from his leadership include the creation of the State’s first Media Production Development Zone in Austin, the recreation of the City’s Economic Development Policy in 2018 with the creation of an on-going \$1.2 Million Strategic Investment Unit; alignment of the City’s workforce development programming with the Community Workforce Master Place; proposal of programs, policies and services in support of improving sound compatibility between residents, lodging and music establishments; and execution of third-party contracts to deliver \$25 Million CARES Act funding to Austin creatives, non-profits and businesses.

David led the feasibility study upon which a specific proposal for the creation of an Economic Development entity could be established to support inclusive development, priority projects and delivery of equitable outcomes through development for the City. His leadership in discussions with Mayor and Council supported the creation of the Austin Economic Development Corporation in October 2020. Since this time, David has served as AEDC’s Interim Chief Operating Officer, leading the development of the organization’s governance by working directly with nominating bodies through board member selection and approval. He also simultaneously supported the development of priority projects approved by Austin City Council while administratively standing-up the organization for immediate and long-term service delivery. David officially transferred from the City of Austin to Austin Economic Development Corporation following a competitive recruitment process in February 2022.



Anne Gatling Haynes
Chief Transactions Officer (CXO)

Anne Gatling Haynes has over 25 years of leadership experience working in public and private sector roles, in small and large cities, catalyzing inclusive and transformative development and founding new startup organizations and programs. She was most recently the founding CEO/President of the Houston Land Bank, where she has been leading the organizational restructuring of a twenty-year affordable housing program for the City of Houston into a standalone local government corporation, including passage of an enabling statute at the 87th Texas Legislature. She was the founding Director of Transformative Development at MassDevelopment, the economic development finance agency for Massachusetts. In that role she designed and led the Transformative Development Initiative [TDI], a place-based integrated approach to hyper local economic development in the Commonwealth’s network of Gateway Cities. That program provided human capacity, technical assistance, and local investments to locally driven plans, and leveraged local public and private dollars to amplify momentum.

In prior public service positions, Anne led the Economic Development Corporation of New Haven (EDC) as CEO, and served the City of New York as the Design Director/Program Manager for Mayor Michael Bloomberg as a lead representative for the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development on legacy municipal development projects in collaboration with City, State and Federal agencies such as Penn Station, Hunters Point South workforce housing development, Javits Center, and World Trade Center Performing Arts Center.

Prior to public service, she was a Senior Associate at Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects of New Haven where she led the design and construction of a variety of institutional, cultural arts, and mixed-use buildings, as well as led urban district planning projects. As a social venture founder, she was a co-founder and Director for CitySeed which launched and operates a network of farmers markets and other food based economic development ventures in New Haven. She also was the founding member of MakeHaven, a shared-resource

		<p>makerspace. As social venture investor, at MassDevelopment she ran the investment grant program to support collaborative workspaces throughout the Commonwealth, supporting many emerging community-based innovation hubs.</p> <p>Anne received her master's in architecture at Yale University, and Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of Virginia. In 2013, she received an MBA in the MIT Sloan Fellows Program in Innovation and Global Leadership where she wrote her thesis on network economic development strategies for an inclusive place-based innovation economy.</p>
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