



Since February 2000

# ECI NEWS

## ECI INVESTMENT ADVISORS, INC.

### CELEBRATES TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—FEBRUARY 2020, Chicago, IL** — G.A. Beller, President and founding principal of ECI Investment Advisors, Inc. (ECIA), is proud to announce the firm's twentieth anniversary. The company has been providing financial and investment advisory services to institutional clients, municipalities, and family trusts since February 2000.

ECIA was financial advisor and the master developer for several award-winning legacy projects for both public and private investors. Two projects of major significance are:

#### **The Broadstreet Community Development Authority – Richmond, Virginia**

In 2001, The City of Richmond established a selection committee to explore the feasibility of an urban renewal project of major significance to its Central Business District. After an extensive nationwide search, the committee selected ECI Investment Advisors, Inc. as their Master Developer. ECIA secured project financing through Legg Mason and in 2003 created The Broad Street Community Development Authority (CDA) of Richmond, VA, the largest funded urban CDA in Virginia. ECIA through the CDA acquired, razed, and repositioned fifteen plighted building sites in the city's downtown central business district. The project included the revitalization of nine blocks surrounding the newly constructed Richmond Convention Center. Additionally, within the CDA district, ECIA redeveloped the historic Miller & Rhoads Department Store into a mixed-use project that became the home of the Richmond Hilton Hotel and the Miller & Rhoads Apartments.

#### **Mutual of Omaha – Midtown Crossing at Turner Park – Omaha, Nebraska**

Following a national search process, Mutual of Omaha selected ECIA as their Master Developer for the award-winning Midtown Crossing at Turner Park development. The development included the acquisition of adjoining properties to be incorporated with Mutual of Omaha's corporate campus. This one million square foot mixed-use project consisted of seven newly constructed multi-story buildings to accommodate Omaha's Element by Westin Hotel, luxury apartments and condominiums, and a mix of neighborhood retail components, all forming a new town center.

Midtown Crossing at Turner Park became home to Wohlner's Grocery & Deli, a full-service health club, a dine-in theatre complex, numerous upscale and leisure dining establishments, as well as many neighborhood retail businesses. Turner Park, which is the center of Midtown Crossing, is a multi-use, family-friendly venue featuring an outdoor movie theatre and concert stage, as well as special events hosted by Mutual of Omaha and the City of Omaha. The project has won a number of national and international awards, including the prestigious International Development Award from the Urban Land Institute in 2010.

Mr. Beller had this to say about the project: *I have never had a more fulfilling professional experience than the one enjoyed with the Mutual of Omaha executives and our own ECIA team during the seven years we spent together developing Midtown Crossing at Turner Park. I look back with pride at the tremendous results of our efforts and will always value the relationship that grew out of our joint commitment.*

In addition to ECIA's legacy projects, ECIA was a principal investor in an exclusive airport concession agreement at **T.F. Green Airport in Providence, Rhode Island**. While owning the concession agreement, ECIA provided advisory operational services for all of the airport's parking facilities consisting of 6,000 on-airport spaces. This included the ownership of two parking garages containing approximately 2,250 spaces and the operation of an additional 3,750 short and long-term spaces. The concession agreement was ultimately sold to the State of Rhode Island Airport Authority.

Through its wholly owned subsidiary G. Anton Companies (GAC), and its affiliates, ECIA entered the publishing and entertainment industry in 2013. In addition to providing financial and production resources to authors, ECIA has expanded its interests to the development of creative content for the film and television industries.

Beller adds: *I wish to express my sincere gratitude to our clients—many of whom have been with us for over a decade—for their long-standing confidence in ECIA's advisory services.*

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