

# Tankenoff named Business Person of the Year

Renovating old industrial space into Bauhaus Brew Labs, taking on demolition and restoration at the 43-acre Pentagon Park in Edina and many other projects, Scott Tankenoff of Hillcrest Development does not shy away from challenges, according to Hillcrest employee Charlie Nestor. Tankenoff's ability to renovate difficult spaces while collaborating with residents, even those who disagree, is one of the reasons the Edina Chamber of Commerce named Tankenoff the 2015 Business Person of the Year.

"Usually the hard projects are the ones that can make the most impact on the community," Nestor said. Nestor is a development and leasing manager at Hillcrest, specifically focusing on redevelopment projects with

Tankenoff.

Acquiring properties at Pentagon Park, a "dying property in foreclosure," is one of those projects that qualifies as a project that makes a huge impact on the community. The commercial and industrial park located near Highway 100 and Interstate 494 was established in the 1960s and was a prime location for a time, but it had faltered after ownership changes and the Great Recession. Hillcrest acquired the property in 2012 and began tearing down existing buildings last year. Over the span of many years, the redevelopment is expected to encompass multiple uses: mixed office, medical, housing and retail.

"Scott Tankenoff and Hillcrest Development's vision

for the redevelopment of Pentagon Park will have long-lasting benefits for Edina," said Edina Chamber of Commerce Board Chair Rebecca Hopf said. "The potential is huge to draw new business to Edina, which means job creation and the continuation of a healthy, sustainable community that Edina is."

Such a large project, especially located near the beloved Fred Richards Golf Course that the city closed for financial reasons, can bring about a mix of opinions, questions and fears from residents. Tankenoff addresses those concerns and collaborates with stakeholders more than most, Nestor said.

"Not all of the other developers out there would have gone to the same lengths to



Scott Tankenoff

invite everyone in the process," Nestor said.

The extra effort includes the

extent of his communications, according to Edina Chamber of Commerce President Lori Syverson.

"Scott wants to make sure that as much of the community understands what he's doing as much as possible," Syverson said. "He takes every step that he can to make sure everyone is included in the communication process."

The combination of vision, collaboration and planning are some of the reasons Tankenoff was awarded the Business Person of the Year for 2015.

"Scott and his team have been a pleasure to work with and have been strong supporters of the Edina Chamber of Commerce. Thank you, and congratulations, Scott," Hopf said.

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