

Panelist Bio

Michael Stevens

**Director of Development
City of Columbus**

Michael Stevens was appointed in April 2020 by Mayor Andrew J. Ginther to serve as the Director of Development for the City of Columbus. Prior to the appointment as Director of Development, Michael served as the City's first Chief Innovation Officer responsible for the Smart Columbus Initiative.



Michael has also served as President and CEO of Lake County Partners, a 501 (c) 3 economic development corporation that works to maintain economic vitality and quality of life in Lake County, Illinois. Michael was responsible for leading efforts to attract and retain jobs, stimulate capital investment, and pursue economic diversity.

From 2007 to 2012, Michael served as the Deputy Development Director for the City of Columbus responsible for the City's Economic Development and Planning activities. Michael led the City's Business Attraction and Retention programs; strategic land utilization; international initiatives; and promotion of public sector tools and programs available to help companies expand.

Michael has also worked for Cardinal Health, Inc. in its Corporate Real Estate Group, with the City of Dublin as the Director of Economic Development, and for the City of Huron, Ohio as its Assistant Service Director.

Michael is a proud graduate of The Ohio State University where he received degrees from the Fisher College of Business and the John Glenn College of Public Affairs.

