



**Mid-Missouri Regional
Planning Commission**

The Current

Connecting the Cities and Counties of the Mid-Missouri Region
July Announcements

**MMRPC
EXECUTIVE
BOARD:**

**Karen Miller
Chairman
Commissioner
Boone County**

**Lowell Eaton
Vice-Chairman
Presiding
Commissioner
Howard County**

**Bob Jones
Secretary
Presiding
Commissioner
Cole County**

**Ken Kunze
Treasurer
Presiding
Commissioner
Moniteau
County**

**Mike Kalaf
Budget
Chairman
Mayor
City of Lohman**

**Les Hudson
Personnel
Chair
Director
Planning
And Protective
Services-City of
Fulton**

**Pat Cunningham
City Clerk
New Franklin
Howard County**

**Eddie Brickner
Presiding
Commissioner
Copper County**

**Darrel King
County
Assessor
Moniteau
County**

**Gayla
Neumeyer
Alderman
City of
Rocheport**

**Gabe Craighead
Commissioner
Callaway
County**

**Isaac Edwards
At-Large
Member
Boone County**

**Eminent Domain- Supreme Court
Decision**

The Supreme Court ruled in June that local governments may force property owners to sell out and make way for private economic development when officials decide it would benefit the public, even if the property is not blighted and the new project's success is not guaranteed.

The 5 to 4 ruling provided the strong affirmation that state and local governments had sought for their increasing use of eminent domain for urban revitalization, especially in the Northeast, where many city centers have decayed and the suburban land supply is dwindling.

Opponents, including property-rights activists and advocates for elderly and low-income urban residents, argued that forcibly shifting land from one private owner to another, even with fair compensation, violates the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution, which prohibits the taking of property by government except for "public use."

Justice John Paul Stevens, writing for the majority, cited cases in which the court has interpreted "public use" to include not only such traditional projects as bridges or highways but also slum clearance and land redistribution. He concluded that a "public purpose" such as creating jobs in a depressed city can also satisfy the Fifth Amendment. The court should not "second-guess" local governments, Stevens added, noting that "promoting economic development is a traditional and long accepted function of government."

In response to the Supreme Court action- Missouri Governor Matt Blunt is creating a special task force to study federal and state eminent domain laws. The task force will also be charged with issuing criteria to be applied by state and local governments when the use of eminent domain is being proposed. The nine-member Missouri Task Force on Eminent Domain will exist until December 31, 2005.

**Cole County Awarded Funds for
Courthouse Accessibility**

Residents of Cole County will enjoy improved access to public functions in the historic County Courthouse thanks to a \$250,000 grant through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. A combination of CDBG and county funds will pay for design and installation of a new elevator to serve all five floors of the courthouse located in Jefferson City. MECO Engineering was selected as the project's engineer and the Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission (MMRPC) as the grant administrator. The MMRPC previously worked with Cooper, Howard and Moniteau Counties to access CDBG funds for the installation of county courthouse elevators in these other Mid-Missouri counties.

The new Cole County Courthouse elevator will replace a chairlift that presently requires a sheriff's deputy to assist physically challenged visitors to the courthouse who wish to access public offices above the ground floor. The new elevator will help Cole County to come into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

**Upgraded Facilities Forthcoming for
Glasgow-area Seniors**

After several years of watching their circa 1870 building decline, members of the Glasgow Senior Center's Board of Directors set out to make some big changes. These changes, the group determined, would guarantee that senior services would be available indefinitely in Glasgow. Working with a local contractor to develop estimates for needed repairs, the City of Glasgow staff and residents developed a detailed building renovation plan. Once submitted for funding consideration by the Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission, that plan so impressed the staff of the State of Missouri's Neighborhood Assistance (NAP) Tax Credit Program that the NAP program awarded the Glasgow Senior Center \$124,028 in tax credits to replace the roof of the City-owned building, restore exterior brickwork and complete essential interior improvements that will enhance access for the elderly. Perhaps the most significant change to the Glasgow Senior Center's operations will be that tax credits and local donations will fund the conversion of an adjacent, City-owned garage into a new kitchen for the center.

There are numerous expenses for which NAP tax credits are eligible. After a tax credit award, the recipient organization raises funds by offering tax credits to local donors. In the case of Glasgow, for each local businessperson donating \$1.00, that donor receives a one-time discount of 70 cents off their state tax burden.

If your community has a not-for-profit operation that might benefit from the NAP tax credit program, contact the MMRPC offices at 573.657.9779 or view more information online at <http://ded.mo.gov/cd/NAP.htm>.

MMRPC Staff

**Ed Siegmund, Executive Director
Frances Buckley, Fiscal Officer
Trevor Harris, Planning Coordinator
Lisa Nichols, Administrative Assistant
Daniel Schneiderjohn, GIS Intern**

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www.mmrpc.org**

Calendar

July 4, 2005—Holiday MMRPC office closed.

July 12, 2005—Economic Development Advisory Committee Marketing Group Meeting. 10:00 am at the MMRPC office, 206 E. Broadway, Ashland, MO If you have questions please call 573.657.9779.

July 25, 2005—Annual Missouri Census Data Center (MCDC) conference/training event. Conference will be held at the University of Missouri. For information visit: http://mcdc2.missouri.edu/websas/training05_form.shtml.

July 27, 2005—MMRPC TAC Meeting, TAC starts at 4:30 Dinner at 6:00. Copper Kettle, Ashland, MO. If you have questions please call 573.657.9779.

July 27, 2005—Regional Planning Commission Meeting. Dinner at 6:00 p.m. and meeting will start at 6:30 –Copper Kettle, Ashland, MO –If you have questions please call 573.657.9779.

Upcoming Events

August 24, 2005—Executive Board Meeting, 5:00 at MMRPC Office, Ashland, MO 65010.

September 11-14, 2005--Missouri Municipal League Annual Conference. For more information visit: <http://www.mocities.com>

September 28, 2005—MMRPC's Annual Meeting, Bar B Q in the park, Ashland City Park, Ashland, MO for more information please call 573-657-9779. Watch your mail for registration materials.

October 25-27, 2005—Missouri Association of Counties Annual Conference and Trade Show. For more information visit: <http://mylocalgov.com/MoCounties/index.asp>

GIS Intern – Daniel Schneiderjohn

GIS Intern--The MMRPC has added Daniel Schneiderjohn to our staff. Dan is a graduate of the University of Missouri with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forestry. In addition-Dan has completed 16 additional coursework hours in geographic information system (GIS) mapping techniques. Dan has work experience with the University of Missouri as a GIS mapping technician – including developing a tourism map for southeast Missouri.

Dan will be assisting the MMRPC with transportation mapping requirements as a part of the regional transportation planning process, and assisting with the development of the letusshowyou.us regional economic development website.

Welcome aboard Dan.

New Executive Board Officers Announced

At the May 25, 2005 Regional Planning Commission meeting the following officers were selected for the 2005/2006 Fiscal year: Chairman-Karen Miller, Boone County Commission; Vice Chair-Lowell Eaton, Howard County Commission; Secretary-Bob Jones, Cole County Commission; Treasurer-Kenny Kunze, Moniteau County Commission; Past Chairman-Eddie Brickner, Cooper County Commission; Budget Chairman-Mike Kalaf, City of Lohman, Cole County; Personnel Chairman-Les Hudson, City of Fulton, Callaway County; Liaison/EDAC-Pat Cunningham, City of New Franklin, Howard County; Liaison/TAC-Gabe Craighead, Callaway County Commission.

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