



The Current

Connecting the Cities and Counties of the Mid-Missouri Region

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Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission

November 2007

Economic Development Marketing and Site Selection Factor Study

Growth Services Inc, of Jefferson City has completed an economic development marketing and site selection factor study titled *Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission Marketing and Site Selection Factors*.

The focus of the study is to review the economic development recruitment and retention process by Site Selectors and the factors important to them when making a site selection process. Site selection factors evaluated include labor, transpor-

tation/telecommunication, finance, and quality of life factors. The study also evaluates numerous other site selection factors such as- cost of land, energy availability and cost, proximity to major markets, availability of land, environmental regulations, proximity to technical university, etc. The Columbia and Jefferson City areas were also compared with 379 other Metropolitan Statistical Areas in the nation as provided by the Miliken Institute.

Information from the study will be incorporated into the website- www.letusshow.us being developed to market the economic development opportunities in the region, and included in the update of the *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy* being updated by the MMRPC staff and the MMRPC Economic Development Advisory Committee. Contact Ed Siegmund for additional information regarding this study.

Boonville Awarded Industrial Infrastructure Grant

Governor Blunt announced that the Missouri Department of Economic Development has awarded the City of Boonville, on behalf of Caterpillar INC, an Industrial Infrastructure grant in the amount of \$565,000.00 to relocate Mid-America Industrial Drive, allowing Caterpillar to expand the current Boonville based production facility. Caterpillar is investing \$7.2 million to expand the

facility, create an additional 33 jobs, and retain 63 jobs; the city's cost share is \$123,740.

Mid -America Industrial Drive currently provides access to Caterpillar, Fuqua Homes, and Nordyne. The road way will be moved to the north within the current boundaries of the industrial park to provide continued access to Fuqua Homes and Nordyne and the existing road

will be removed to accommodate the expansion. Construction is expected to begin in the spring with a projected finish date of June 1, 2008 weather permitting. The MMRPC assisted the city and Caterpillar with the application and environmental assessment process and has been chosen to administer the grant on behalf of the city.

MMRPC Expands Staff

Allison Johnson has been hired as a Regional Planner/GIS Technician for the MMRPC. She is originally from Paris, TN, and graduated from Murray State University in western Kentucky in Spring of 2007, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Geosciences. Allison was named "outstanding senior in

the geosciences" by her professors at Murray State.

This past summer, Allison completed an internship focusing on GIS mapping applications with the Pennyriple Area Development District in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. Allison's initial work activities will

include providing GIS mapping applications for regional studies and comprehensive planning activities currently underway, assisting with 2010 census activities with the MMRPC membership, and providing local technical assistance to cities and counties for mapping requests.

Energy Revolving Loan Fund

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources Energy Center, effective immediately, will begin accepting applications for competitive financing under the Energy Loan Program. This program provides loans to Missouri K-12 public schools, local governments and public higher education facilities to perform energy-efficiency projects. Applications for funding are due by January 2, 2008, with funds to be awarded by March 15, 2008.

The department intends to make approximately \$5 million to \$7 million available for new loans for energy-efficiency projects. This is a competitive loan-application cycle. To determine which receive funding, the department will rank applications based on project payback, which includes analysis of project implementation costs and anticipated energy cost savings. Priority consideration will be given to applicants with loan

applications that do not exceed \$1 million in total per applicant. The department may fund all or a portion of individual applications for loan financing. Any applicants with enforcement issues with the department will be disqualified. For additional information or questions- please call the Department of Natural Resources Energy Center at Jefferson City - (573) 751-3443 or 1-800-361-4827.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MMRPC ANNUAL
DINNER!

NOVEMBER 28, 2007

Calendar

November 12 - Bid Opening. City of California Senior Housing CDBG project. Veterans Day Day-MMRPC closed.

November 15. Deadline- MoDNR Outdoor Recreation Grants.

November 19. MoDOT Statewide Transportation Investment Priorities. Jefferson City. For additional information contact Ed Siegmund @ 573.657.9779 or edwardsiegmund@mmrpc.org.

November 22/23. Thanksgiving Holiday. MMRPC office closed.

November 28. MMRPC Annual Dinner. American Legion Hall Ashland. For details contact the MMRPC at 573.657.9779 or see www.mmrpc.org.

November 30. Deadline Mo. Heritage Properties Program Grants.

Conferences and Events

November 7- 9: Missouri Chapter American Planning Association Conference

The Missouri State Chapter of the American Planning Association will hold its statewide annual planning conference November 7-9 at the Cervantes Convention Center at America's Center, St. Louis. The conference, Reality Planning: will feature four tracks: Survivor: Lessons from the Trenches; America's Next Top Model: What's Working in Rural Communities, Cities and Inbetween; Dancing with the Stars: Lessons in Collaboration; Home Improvement: The Planners' Toolbox. Session topics include integrating growth with environmental and historic preservation, redevelopment projects, rural planning issues, transportation projects and the relationship between planning and related professions. See www.mo-apa.org for additional information and to register.

November 8. Missouri Water and Waste Conference-Columbia. Includes updates by representatives of USDA Rural Development, MoDNR, MODED, on water and waste issues impacting Missouri communities. Contact Nonie Dudley, USDA, at 573.876.9324 or nonie.dudley@mo.usda.gov

November 8- 9: Missouri Statewide Conference for Nonprofit Organizations - Strengthening the Voice of the Nonprofit Sector in Missouri.

This first ever Missouri Statewide Conference for Nonprofit Organizations will provide opportunities for dialogue, sharing proven and promising practices and networking. The purpose of the conference is: to bring Missouri nonprofit and philanthropic organizations from across the entire nonprofit sector together to build nonprofits' identity and strengthen the nonprofit voice; to examine state-level public policy issues which affect the sector; to help nonprofit organizations

understand and effectively engage in the public policy arena, particularly at the state level; and to explore the level of interest in establishing a Missouri association of nonprofit organizations. Conference details are available at <http://bsbpa.umkc.edu/mwcnl/Conferences/MissouriNPOConference/2007/Introduction.htm>.

November 13-14: Hawthorne Institute-Advanced Grantmanship- Jefferson City. Training opportunity exploring the best practices for application and administration of grants. Space is limited. For additional info contact the Hawthorn Institute at 573.659.9066.

November 18-20: Missouri Association of Counties Annual Conference & Trade Show at Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, MO. For additional information see www.mocounties.com

Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission

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