

BLACKHAWK HILLS

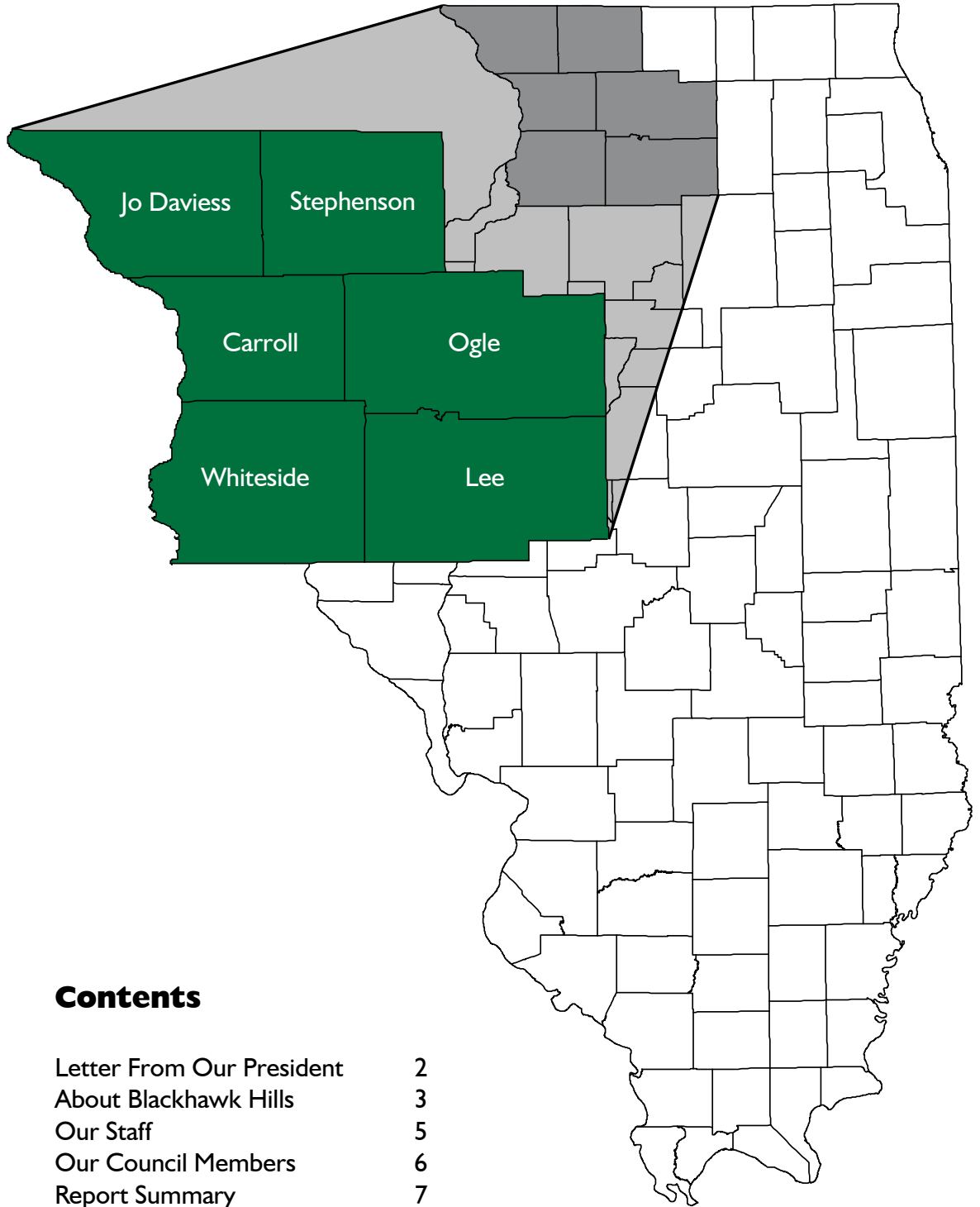
Regional Council

Jo Daviess • Stephenson • Carroll • Ogle • Whiteside • Lee

2012 - 2013 Annual CEDS Report



Strength Through Planning



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May 31, 2013

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of the Blackhawk Hills Regional Council (formally known as the RC&D), I am pleased to present the 2013 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Annual Report and Update. This report contains information on the Blackhawk Hills Regional Council as it pertains to the Economic Development District. Included in this update are strategies for improving the district to benefit the counties and communities within the region. You will find attached our region's list of project needs for the remaining year of our 5-Year CEDS Document, as well as our immediate project list for those projects that are ready to start now if funds were available.

In order to develop the strategies for improvement, Blackhawk Hills examines the area's demographic and economic trends, as well as the needs of the communities and counties, on an annual basis. The focus of the District is to encourage local sponsors, through implementation of these strategies, to support and maintain the economic vitality of the region.

The information contained in this report confirms the need for Blackhawk Hills to continue its involvement in promoting community planning, economic development, resource conservation and strengthening of partnerships through the county CEDS committees.

Sincerely,



Ron Colson
Blackhawk Hills Regional Council President

The mission of Blackhawk Hills Regional Council is to assist the people and local agencies of northwest Illinois in developing and implementing a regional outlook that will enhance economic growth, workforce development, natural resource conservation, and quality of life for local communities through leadership, program and project development, planning, and leveraging of resources.

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council (formerly known as Blackhawk Hills Resource Conservation and Development) serves the region as an Economic Development District (EDD). The EDD was established under criteria of the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) in 1992. The purpose of the program is to accelerate overall economic development program planning on a regional basis and to utilize all applicable federal, state, and local agencies, groups, and organizations in implementing the plan(s).

Blackhawk Hills Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D), was authorized in March 1974 by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and quickly became a not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization sponsored by the local County Boards and Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Boards, which has transformed into who we are today.

The Blackhawk Hills region is a 3,777.8 square mile area that consists of the six northwestern counties of the State of Illinois (Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, and Whiteside), and has a combined population of 235,689. The council is governed by an 18-member Council, which is made up of one representative from each of the local sponsors (County Boards and County SWCD Boards) and one area representative from each county (appointed by the two sponsors).

The Council pursues its mission by hosting or facilitating more than 100 meetings annually with federal, state and local leaders. Issues include, but are not limited to, land management, business development, transportation, neighborhood preservation, health, the environment, taxes, marketing, energy conservation, legislation, economic development, recreation, land conservation, agriculture, forestry, emergency services, water quality/management and education. These topics are addressed using a network of agencies, organizations and individuals that consists of more than 600 volunteers, and it's growing each year.

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council provides the following services and/or assistance.

- Community Planning
- Economic Development
- Natural Resources Conservation and Protection
- Grant Writing and Administration
- Demographic and Statistical Data
- Seminars, Summits, Workshops
- Meeting Facilitation and Group Development

We hope that you will find that Blackhawk Hills Regional Council is results oriented and striving to produce more tangible, regional results on issues important to Northwest Illinois.

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council as the Economic Development District

In response to tough economic times suffered in the 1980s, the original Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council expanded and diversified into sponsoring economic development programs. In 1989, the six stand-alone county redevelopment areas formed a coalition with the RC&D Council to establish an Economic Development District under criteria set forth by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA). In 1992, the EDA formally recognized the Blackhawk Hills RC&D area as an Economic Development District (EDD).

The focus that the Council has adopted for economic development issues is to:

1. Promote the importance of the planning process to facilitate positive feedback and desirable economic growth within the individual committee of the RC&D.
2. Assemble and implement a regional plan based on the needs of the communities within the region.
3. Provide technical assistance to the communities in the RC&D region by connecting local people with specific projects to appropriate local, state and federal offices.
4. Provide assistance in various grant or loan applications.
5. Provide support for communities in the form of statistical, demographic, and economic data.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

In order to assure that economic development initiatives come from the communities, the Council requires each sponsoring county to participate in the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) planning process. The CEDS committee consists of a chairperson and a variety of volunteers recruited for their various economic interests and pursuits.

The CEDS Committee works to ascertain the needs of the individual counties and communities. The chairpersons of each county committee, along with other regional economic development leaders then gather to form the Regional CEDS Committee project list. Bi-monthly Regional CEDS Committee meetings are the forum to discuss each county's concerns and needs, and allow for networking and the exchange of information. This structure allows the Regional Council and the CEDS Committees to coordinate efforts to promote regional economic development.

In the upcoming year, it continues to be our mission to encourage every county in the Blackhawk Hills region to become more actively involved in the CEDS planning process. It is our goal to help each county recognize the need to begin fostering a more encompassing, county-wide economic development planning initiative in partnership with the Blackhawk Hills Regional Council.



Julie Jacobs

Administrations Coordinator

Julie Jacobs joined Blackhawk Hills Regional Council in January 1987. Her primary responsibilities include human resource management, grant administration, not-for-profit management, serving as the office receptionist, and administrative support to the governing board including preparing meeting notices and minutes.



Theresa Wittenauer

Economic Development Coordinator

Theresa Wittenauer joined Blackhawk Hills Regional Council in December 2006. Her primary responsibilities include managing the Economic Development District, working directly with the regional and local Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) committees, updating and maintaining the CEDS document for the six-county region, and securing the annual planning grant.



Daniel Payette

Outreach Coordinator

Daniel Payette joined Blackhawk Hills Regional Council in March 2011. His primary responsibilities include support of the iFiber broadband project and maintaining the information technology systems for the office. His outreach efforts for iFiber include various governments, libraries, schools, colleges, healthcare facilities, and not-for-profits in the region.



Melanie Flesch

Assistant Outreach Coordinator

Melanie Flesch joined Blackhawk Hills Regional Council in March 2012. Her primary responsibilities include outreach for the iFiber broadband project, planning, development, and implementation of marketing strategies, communications, and public relations activities. Her marketing duties include general outreach, research, planning, reporting, development, and design.



Ron Colson
President



William Tonne
Vice President



Glen Kuhlemier
Secretary/Treasurer



Darrell Stitzel

Carroll County

County Board
Representative



Ed Juracek

Carroll County

Soil & Water
Conservation
District



Cathy Brunner

Carroll County

Area
Representative



Steve Rutz

Jo Daviess County

County Board
Representative



William Tonne

Jo Daviess County

Soil & Water
Conservation
District



Marvin Schultz

Jo Daviess County

Area
Representative



Tim Deem

Lee County

County Board
Representative

Photo
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Available

Vacant

Lee County

Soil & Water
Conservation
District



Marilyn Shippert

Lee County

Area
Representative



Ron Colson

Ogle County

County Board
Representative



Lynne Kilker

Ogle County

Soil & Water
Conservation
District



Marcia Heuer

Ogle County

Area
Representative



Sam Newton

Stephenson County

County Board
Representative



Charles Moen

Stephenson County

Soil & Water
Conservation
District



Della Moen

Stephenson County

Area
Representative



Daniel Bitler

Whiteside County

County Board
Representative

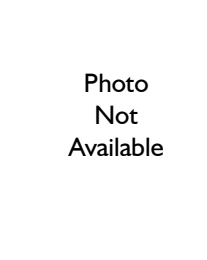


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Vern Latwesen

Whiteside County

Soil & Water
Conservation
District



Glen Kuhlemier

Whiteside County

Area
Representative

Report Summary

Over the past year, Blackhawk Hills Regional Council's initiatives focused on the following region-wide goals:

- **Encourage Long Term Regional Comprehensive Planning**
Regional plans are essential to attracting growth and preserving resources. Blackhawk Hills Regional Council works with federal and state agencies to promote and develop regional plans.
- **Assist with Infrastructure and Capital Improvement Planning**
Plans at the local level support community development and outline timelines for improving and replacing infrastructure. Blackhawk Hills Regional Council leverages funds for planning and ensures that suitable projects receive support.
- **Support Economic, Community, and Workforce Development**
Recognizing people and location-based elements of development is critical. The partnerships that Blackhawk Hills Regional Council establishes help the six counties invest in both human and community resources.
- **Support Natural Resources Preservation and Conservation**
Initiatives that both recognize the region's physical beauty and support the efficient use of resources ensure that future generations may maintain a certain quality of life. Blackhawk Hills Regional Council sponsored conferences and discussions address significant environmental and recreational concerns.
- **Support Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Collaboration**
Working with public and private sector officials to plan and encourage collaboration helps the entire region share in the benefits of development and resource-pooling. Round tables, workshops, and meetings with officials maintain intergovernmental relationships and spread knowledge beyond local geographies.

Summary of Projects

Encourage Long Term Regional Comprehensive Planning

- Economic Development Administration (EDA) 3-Year District Evaluation
- Five-County Economic Study and Recovery Plan
- Illinois Department of Transportation Inventory and Assessment
- Management of and Planning for the Economic Development District
- Upper Mississippi River International Port District (UMRIPD)

Assist with Infrastructure and Capital Improvement Planning

- City of Savanna Disaster Funding
- Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership - Northwest (iFiber)
- Illinois Energy Now Facility Visits
- Northwest Illinois Judicial Access Network (NIJAN)
- Rochelle Project E-Rail
- Turn Green Into Green: Illinois Energy Now Public Sector Workshop

Support Economic, Community, and Workforce Development

- Local Foods Initiative
- Northwest Illinois Workforce Investment Board (WIB)
- Ogle County Website Redesign
- Prevailing Wage Workshop
- University of Illinois Extension
- Western Whiteside County Business Climate Analysis

Support Natural Resources Preservation and Conservation

- Community Garden Workshop
- Conservation and Stewardship Days
- Driftless Area Initiative
- Envirothon
- Heritage Woods Community Garden
- Income Opportunities for Small Acreages Workshops
- Northwest Illinois Grazing Conference

Support Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Collaboration

- Chambers of Commerce
- County Board Chairs
- County Zoning Administrators
- Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities (CEO) Program
- Entrepreneurs and Inventors Club (E & I Club)
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Information Technology (IT)
- Local Tourism
- Northwest Illinois eTeam
- Tri-County Opportunities Council (TCOC)
- Website Assistance Program

Management of and Planning for the Economic Development District

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council was designated as an Economic Development District (EDD) by the Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) in March 1992.

As such, Blackhawk Hills Regional Council is responsible for the management and planning of the EDD, which includes updating and maintaining the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Plan. The EDA CEDS 5-Year Plan has been adopted by our council and submitted for the time period of 2008-2013. Blackhawk Hills Regional Council has begun the process of updating the 5-Year Plan which is to be submitted in 2014. An update is also submitted annually.

The Regional CEDS Committee meets every quarter with an average of 20 to 25 participants from the region. These meetings are used to give updates on the broadband initiative, on funding from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and other sources, and on regional projects and issues. This past year, we have offered presentations from Northern Illinois University, iFiber, University of Illinois Extension, and Midwest Intellectual Property Management Institute.

Staff regularly attends the county CEDS committee meetings that are held at the local level in the individual counties. Participants at the county CEDS meetings help share information at a local level and give updates on projects and initiatives our office is undertaking. Meetings are held monthly or bi-monthly, depending on the county administering the meeting.

Economic Development Administration District 3-Year Evaluation

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council was given the three year evaluation conducted by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) on June 18, 2012. A representative from the EDA, the director of East Central Intergovernmental Association, two local economic development professionals from our region, and three members of Blackhawk Hills Regional Council participated in the evaluation. Initial feedback was very positive and the group came away with some new ideas to help become more self-sustaining.

Five-County Economic Study and Recovery Plan

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) funded a study in September 2011 to conduct an analysis which included a labor shed and cluster analysis, as well as a study of wages, and underemployment levels for the counties of Carroll, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson and Whiteside. The study is being managed by the Northern Illinois University Center for Governmental Studies. The goal of the study is to obtain information on what types of businesses the region should be attempting to attract based on what resources and labor base available to support those businesses. The study is in reaction to layoffs and industrial closings that have occurred throughout the region. The EDA has funded the project and an advisory committee consisting of at least one economic development representative from each of the counties involved are steering the parameters of the survey. Blackhawk Hills Regional Council's staff is participating on this advisory committee. The project is scheduled to conclude in 2013.

IDOT Transportation Inventory and Assessment

In November, Blackhawk Hills Regional Council was awarded the opportunity to utilize Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Rural Planning funds to provide rural transportation planning assessments for Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, and Whiteside Counties with a special emphasis on those located within the Upper Mississippi River International Port District (UMRIPD) area. The scope of work will guide the coordination of the region's efforts to conduct an initial inventory and produce a plan to assess the water, rail, highway, and airport transportation networks that impact the economic vitality of the area.

The plan will include documentation from public meetings, existing plans, established goals and objectives, as well as alternative solutions as they relate to rural planning initiatives. Blackhawk Hills Regional Council will update the rural transportation plan on an annual basis as a component of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the region as required by the Economic Development Administration.



Upper Mississippi River International Port District

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council assisted with the organization and planning for the Upper Mississippi River International Port District (UMRIPD). The UMRIPD is a newly recognized district charged with promoting development along the Upper Mississippi River region. This District spreads through Carroll and Jo Daviess Counties in our region. Blackhawk Hills Regional Council will provide a rural transportation planning assessment document to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) for those counties as well as Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, and Whiteside. By utilizing a coordinated approach, a more comprehensive analysis will be produced through the engagement of local elected and economic development officials.

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council is also assisting the UMRIPD in developing a map analysis of the four critical transportation networks in comparison to the current industrial cluster map for the six-county region. Integrating these two maps will allow for an improved study of the gaps and impacts of the current transportation networks in comparison to the longevity needs of existing industrial establishments. This depiction will also allow for the development of a detailed analysis of economic development opportunities and incentives currently available. A comprehensive inventory of assets could be used to identify development options and create an action plan for the entire region.

Turn Green Into Green: Illinois Energy Now Public Sector Workshop

Consultants for the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunities (DCEO) spoke at the Turn Green Into Green: Illinois Energy Now Public Sector Workshop hosted by Blackhawk Hills Regional Council on December 12, 2012.

Information was presented regarding financial incentives that are currently being offered through Illinois Energy Now. These incentives cover a portion of facility upgrades to electric and natural gas systems including HVAC equipment, motors and drives, water heaters, boilers, lighting equipment, gas furnaces and refrigeration equipment. The workshop was designed to help local government officials and other public facility managers identify specific ways to cut energy costs and access millions of dollars in funding available through the DCEO Office of Energy.

DCEO staff was on site to schedule free energy audits for public facilities and provide application assistance. The workshop was for any representative of public sector facilities located in Carroll, Lee, Jo Daviess, Ogle, Stephenson, and Whiteside Counties. Approximately 40 participants attended the workshop and a number of potential projects were brought forward.

Illinois Energy Now Facility Visits

As a component of the Illinois Energy Now Public Sector Program, Blackhawk Hills Regional Council staff has been assisting consultants for the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunities (DCEO) promote the energy efficiency rebate program. Staff is helping to educate and encourage entities to apply for the incentive funds and plan annual facility upgrades in accordance with the rebate program in order to help maximize returns. The program is reoccurring from year-to-year based upon System Benefits Charges on customer's monthly electric and natural gas utility bills.

Staff has been coordinating and accompanying DCEO consultants with on-site project visits and energy reviews for public facilities throughout the region. These visits will prepare staff to provide application assistance to communities, counties, and school districts in the coming year. As of this spring, site visits have been completed with ten public institutions. Those institutions that have participated in the program include: Amboy Depot Museum, Lee County Highway Department, Amboy Fire Department, City of Oregon Village Hall, City of Oregon Maintenance Building, Lanark Village Hall, Whiteside County Highway Department, Village Hall in Sublette, Sublette Community Center, and Merrill School in Rock Falls.

City of Savanna Disaster Funding

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council provided technical assistance to the City of Savanna which will be the main recipient of an Economic Development Administration (EDA) investment as a result of the county receiving a Presidential disaster declaration during fiscal year 2011. The funds will be used for the construction, design, and engineering of a new wastewater treatment facility to make the city's wastewater services more resilient against future natural disasters and to support long-term economic development. The project entails the construction of a sequential aeration wastewater treatment facility, a lab, and sewer building, along with a sewage lift station at the existing wastewater treatment facility. The construction of a new wastewater treatment facility is needed in order to address a plant that is located in a floodway and has incurred continual damage from the natural rain and snow storm disasters that have occurred over the last two years.

Northwest Illinois Judicial Access Network

In 2012, Broadband Illinois offered organizations the chance to apply for Broadband Innovation grants of up to \$100,000. Awards could be used to pay for broadband-related initiatives. In response, Blackhawk Hills Regional Council submitted a proposal to construct the Northwest Illinois Judicial Access Network (NIJAN), a regional telepresence network that would connect the courtrooms of the Illinois Fifteenth Judicial Circuit.

With the proposed network, hearings could be conducted with an out-of-county judge remaining in his or her usual courtroom, while the attorneys, litigants, and interested public remain in the in-county courtroom. This project would eliminate most delays and save expense to the State of Illinois, which otherwise pays for judicial travel.

The NIJAN proposal placed among the top 15 of the 113 statewide proposals received. However, the project's implementation schedule was not sufficiently "shovel-ready" to merit an award. Blackhawk Hills Regional Council will continue to explore funding opportunities and promote the project.



Rochelle Project E-Rail

An application was submitted and approved by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for the City of Rochelle in the amount of \$2.4 million. This project consists of improving the municipal water, sanitary sewer, communications and electric utilities, as well as expanding the Rochelle Dual Access Railroad.

Upgrades will impact future development opportunities, as well as the current businesses of Nippon Sharyo and Coated Sand Solutions which are located within the area. According to grantee estimates, the new facilities will service the growing industrial area in Rochelle and is expected to help create 290 jobs and generate \$58 million in private investment.

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council staff attended the ground-breaking ceremony on July 19, 2012, at the site of the new rail construction.

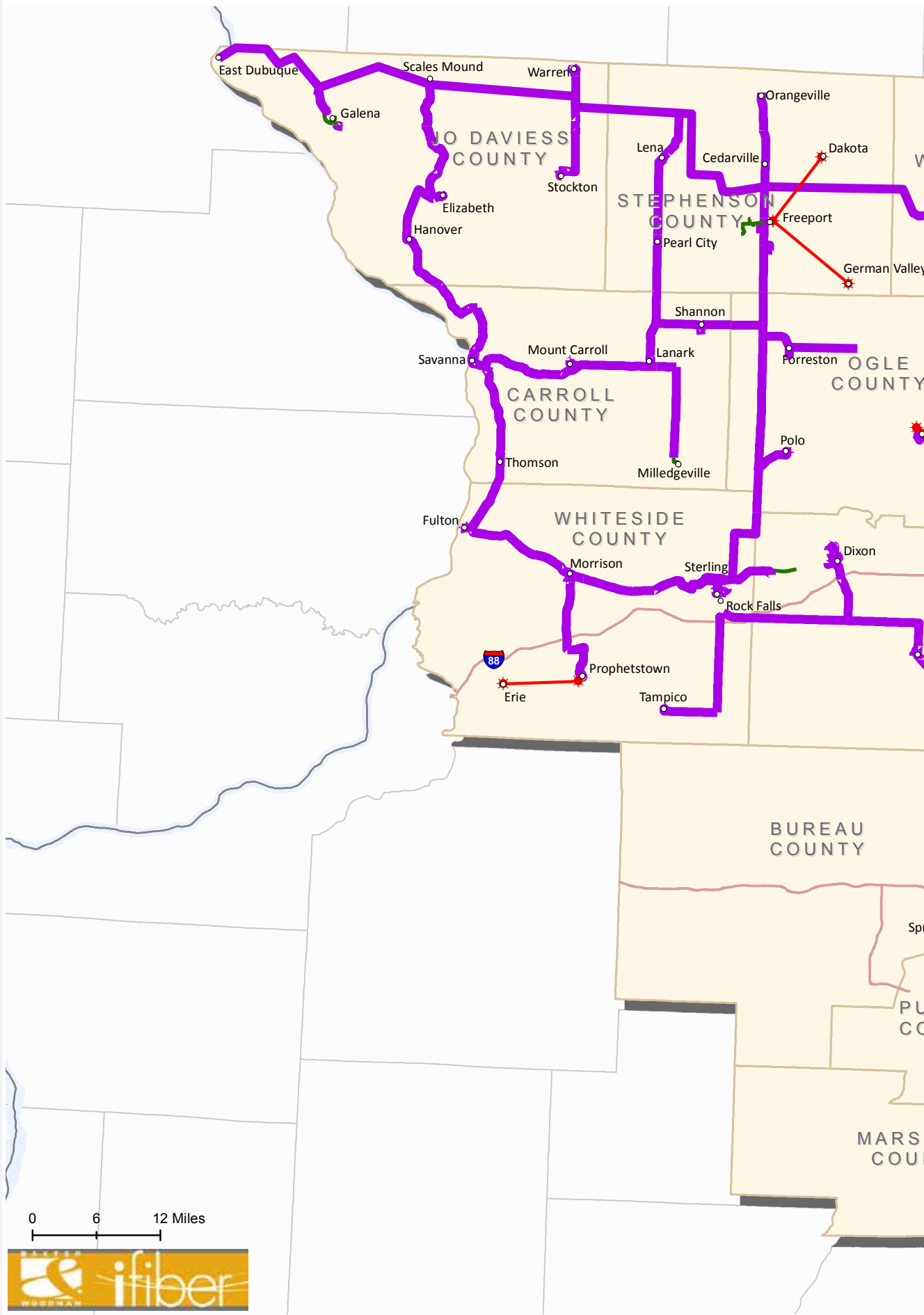
Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership - Northwest (iFiber)

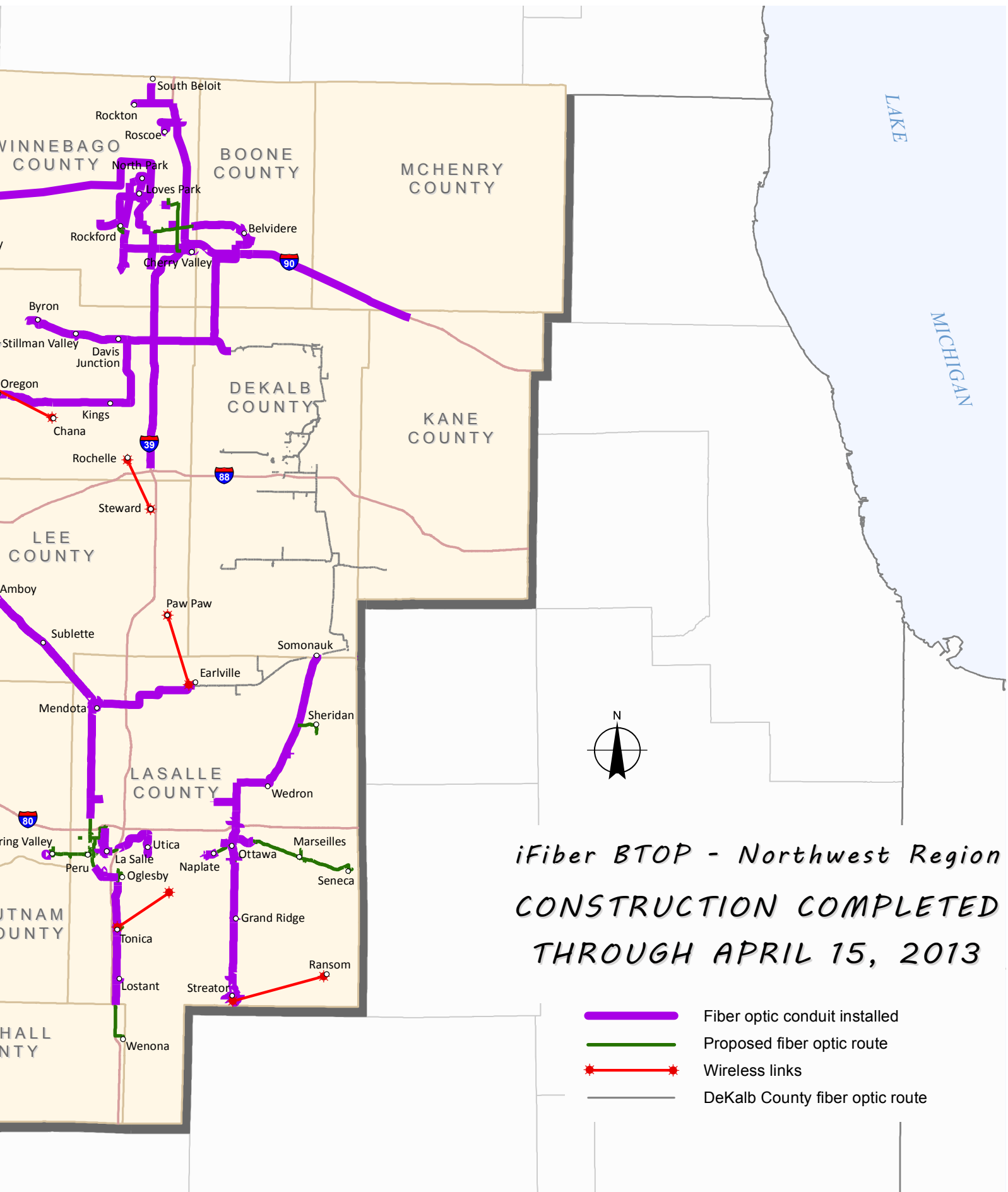
iFiber construction continues into 2013, with organizers focused on the remaining build-out, National Telecommunications and Information Administration reporting requirements, and core equipment deployment. Nearly 82% of the network is complete (a percentage that includes new and leased fiber/conduit) and almost 100% of construction permits have been acquired. Please visit www.ifiber.org for updated information.

Over the past year, iFiber has conducted site visits to community anchor institutions and secured locations for most of its core and distribution sites. Participating community anchor institutions now number in the several hundreds; they represent a geographically dispersed area that covers the entire 9-county Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership -Northwest. Staff at Northern Illinois University/iFiber continue to work with potential partners, including the Illinois Century Network, the IlliniCloud, and other representatives of fiber optic networks and consortiums in the region.

Contract negotiations with providers of Internet bandwidth, VoIP, and cloud services are ongoing and will continue throughout the next year. Blackhawk Hills Regional Council has encouraged communities and businesses interested in using iFiber's fiber optics and wireless to contact the council's office. While the focus is on connecting community anchor institutions, we continue to gather information about communities that have expressed a desire to use fiber optics or wireless for economic and community development.

Strength Through Planning





Northwest Illinois Workforce Investment Board

The Northwest Illinois Workforce Investment Board (WIB) meets on a bi-monthly basis throughout the year. Staff has served on this board for the past five years and continues to remain actively involved. Blackhawk Hills Regional Council has helped bridge the gap between workforce development and economic development. Staff also serves on the Business and Economic Development Partnership Committee, which has been exploring ways to merge partnerships between business, workforce development, and economic development.

On February 4th, Governor Quinn approved the merger of Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIA) 12 with Carroll, Jo Daviess, Ogle and Whiteside Counties. Stephenson County will be merging with Boone, Winnebago and the City of Rockford. The transition plan will be completed over the next four months and the newly consolidated LWIA 4 will be referred to as the Northwest Central Illinois Works or NCI Works. The merger transition will begin with a new Chief Elected Officers Agreement and an Acknowledgement Form signed by the eight county board chairs from Bureau, Carroll, Jo Daviess, La Salle, Lee, Ogle, Putnam and Whiteside Counties. The new Workforce Investment Board will then assist staff in completing a new five year plan.

Western Whiteside County Business Climate Analysis

The cities of Fulton, Morrison, and Prophetstown collaborated on an economic development assessment to help strengthen the potential of western Whiteside County. As part of these efforts, businesses in Fulton, Morrison and Prophetstown were surveyed to determine strengths in the region,

obstacles to expanding production, future plans, and actions that could be taken to improve the local business climate. The group came up with recommended actions to help with short-term economic stabilization and longer-term economic growth. The analysis outlined a set of objectives, strategies and action steps that can provide the project partners with a framework for improving and expanding business opportunities within the communities. Area leaders and economic development professionals came together and began collaboration with the Clinton area on how to better implement and revitalize existing programs to better serve small business in the region. The project was part of a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Grant which ended in September 2012.



Prevailing Wage Workshop

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council, in conjunction with the Carroll County Soil and Water Conservation District, sponsored a Prevailing Wage Workshop held on October 16, 2012. Tom Whalen, Conciliation and Mediation Manager at the Illinois Department of Labor, presented on the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act. The workshop helped explain how the state law impacts local communities and organizations. Approximately 35 participants attended the workshop.

Ogle County Website Redesign

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council was asked by members of the Ogle County Board to help facilitate the process of redesigning the county's website. The county's previous website included several different domain names for various departments. Each domain name and hosting required additional costs for the county. Blackhawk Hills Regional Council staff assisted the Ad Hoc Committee in determining how to streamline the process and help the county's website to become a true resource of information.

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council staff met with all county departments to determine the information needed for each department's section of the website. Staff also assisted the Ad Hoc Committee in determining the general layout. Staff dedicated a substantial amount of time to this project and saved the county several thousand dollars by helping facilitate the process. A Request for Proposal was sent out by the county to area website designers in January and the Ad Hoc Committee selected a local designer from Lena, IL to build the website. The project is moving forward and should be completed in the spring of 2013.

Local Foods Initiative

The Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission recently received a Rural Business Opportunity Grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to support local food initiatives. They asked to partner with Blackhawk Hills Regional Council and focus on our two northern counties of Jo Daviess and Stephenson. A number of meetings have been held in the region concerning a push to promote local foods.

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council, along with the University of Illinois Extension, began looking for opportunities to help coordinate all efforts to make one strong push for local foods in our region. It continues to be a goal to increase awareness of the MarketMaker Program to local farmers and producers. This program, developed by the University of Illinois, is a web-based resource that connects farmers, fishers, processors, distributors, food retailers, and consumers.

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council sees this as an economic generator for our area, as agri-tourism continues to soar in northwestern Illinois. These meetings have opened up the doors to the possibility of working closer with the county Farm Bureaus and we continue to collaborate on many other projects concerning the economic area of local farming and community gardening.

University of Illinois Extension

The University of Illinois Extension Unit 4 and Blackhawk Hills Regional Council have established a close working relationship to address community and economic development issues in Carroll, Whiteside, and Lee Counties. In particular, staff worked with Extension Unit 4's governing board to set community and economic development priorities based on Extension's existing strengths. Priorities discussed include a focus on supporting Thomson Federal Prison mobilization efforts and providing education on social media as it relates to government's interactions with the public.

Additionally, in considering Extension's access to experts and facilitators statewide, staff at Blackhawk Hills Regional Council have explored the use of University and Extension personnel to engage municipalities and counties that desire specific types of community education. These localities often do not have the time, staff, or financial ability to coordinate training sessions.

Both entities are also assisting the Upper Mississippi River International Port District in its visioning and strategic planning sessions. The first of these sessions will allow port district board members to better address internal and external planning issues, as well as brainstorm programming and policy actions related to community and economic development.

Envirothon

The Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the Blackhawk Hills Regional Council area hosted the annual Envirothon Competition on April 9, 2013, at Highland Community College. The Envirothon is a year-long learning process that provides an opportunity for high school students to learn more about the environment.

Twenty-four teams from eighteen schools competed. Members of the winning team received a \$500 college scholarship and advanced to the State Envirothon Competition to held on May 1 and 2, 2013, at Allerton 4-H Memorial Camp in Monticello, Illinois. Julie Jacobs, Blackhawk Hills's Administrations Coordinator, served as the emcee and a group leader at the competition. Blackhawk Hills Regional Council is one of the funding sources for the scholarships.

First Place - Dakota High School
Second Place - Dixon High School
Third Place - Amboy High School



Income Opportunities for Small Acreages Workshop

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council along the Illinois Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils (IARCDC) held a state-wide workshop at the University of Illinois Extension Center in Lincoln, Illinois on September 4, 2012. There were twenty-six participants at the workshop. The workshop focused on several important topics including programs and services of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service and Farm Service Agency, and the second being organic and transition to organic farming. The IARCDC had received a grant from the National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils to host the workshop.

Driftless Area Initiative

Blackhawk Hills continues to participate in the Driftless Area Initiative (DAI). DAI is a multi-state partnership whose goal is to develop a unified voice for natural resource issues in the Driftless Area. The mission of DAI is to unite organizations and individuals within the driftless area of the upper Mississippi River basin for collaborative action to enhance and restore this region's ecology, economy, and cultural resources in a balanced, integrated fashion. Ed Juracek serves on the DAI Board of Directors representing Blackhawk Hills Regional Council. Della Moen, Blackhawk Hills Council Member, serves as the Secretary for the DAI Board.

Northwest Illinois Grazing Conference

The Northwest Illinois Grazing Conference, Getting More from Pasture Forages, was held on February 6, 2013, in Stockton, IL. Fifty-five attendees heard presentations on rotational grazing basics, establishing pastures and hay, pasture forage quality, portable irrigation systems, and grazing cover. The conference also included an exhibitor section with commercial and agency representatives sharing information about programs, products, and services targeted to livestock graziers in northwest Illinois. Blackhawk Hills Regional Council was pleased to serve as a sponsor for this event for the fifth consecutive year.

Conservation and Stewardship Days



Tri-County Conservation Day

Staff of Blackhawk Hills Regional Council volunteered for the Tri-County Conservation Day which was held on September 27, 2012, at Palisades State Park in Savanna, IL. The event is hosted by the Soil and Water Conservation Districts from Carroll, Jo Daviess, and Whiteside. Twenty-seven schools sent fourth grade students to participate in the event. The students visited various stations where they learned about conservation topics. The event is part of a local initiative to get children outside where they can explore and learn about nature. Staff volunteered for the “wood cookie” station.



Lee-Ogle County Outdoor Stewardship Days

Third grade students from Lee and Ogle Counties attended the Lee-Ogle County Outdoor Stewardship Days at Dixon’s Lowell Park. The two day event was hosted by the Lee and Ogle County Soil and Water Conservation Districts. A variety of agencies, organizations, and volunteers came together with a goal of caring for the environment and maintaining natural resources while having fun in the great outdoors. Students visit various stations where they learn about conservation topics. Blackhawk Hills Regional Council staff volunteered for the activity tent. The activities included identifying animal tracks and decorating a “wood cookie.”

Community and School Garden Workshops

Community gardens are thriving nationwide as part of a growing trend in self-sufficiency and the desire to eat locally grown produce. The University of Illinois Extension and Blackhawk Hills Regional Council hosted a workshop on “Creating and Maintaining Sustainable Community Gardens” on July 27, 2012. The event covered topics such as the basics of creating a community garden, choosing the proper cultivation site, composting management, and what to grow for the remainder of this planting season. Blackhawk Hills Regional Council also co-hosted a workshop for schools who were interested in starting or maintaining a garden on-site for students. Six schools were in attendance to learn about the steps they need to take to implement successful school garden plots maintained by students.

Heritage Woods Community Garden

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council along with the University of Illinois Extension created a community garden at Heritage Woods in Sterling. The Heritage Woods Community Garden was established to provide garden space for those who do not have suitable space of their own and wish to grow produce. Ten 8’ by 8’ plots were established. Blackhawk Hills Regional Council staff and volunteers helped maintain a number of plots that were used for local food pantries and churches.

Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities Program

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council, in conjunction with the Whiteside Area Career Center, is launching the Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities (CEO) Program. Set to begin during the fall 2013 academic year, the CEO program is an extraordinary educational endeavor. Rather than a textbook course, the CEO program immerses students in real life learning experiences with the opportunity to take risks, manage results, and learn from the outcomes. Entrepreneurship is not just about teaching someone to run a business, it is also about encouraging creative thinking and promoting a strong sense of self-worth and accountability. The CEO program is funded primarily by a large group of business investors, who also participate actively in the structure of the class. Staff has actively participated in getting business to support the program and currently serves on the advisory board for the program.

Geographic Information Systems and Information Technology

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council continues to sponsor roundtable discussions with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Information Technology (IT) officials. At the bi-annual meetings, technology issues are highlighted and experts are invited to present. This past year, the group welcomed a representative from the United States Geological Survey for a presentation on Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) and a representative from the Illinois State Archives for a presentation on electronic records retention. Besides core GIS/IT personnel, meetings have included attendees from county assessor offices and related county departments.

County Board Chairs

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council facilitates bi-monthly meetings of the county board chairs from the six counties. These meetings help officials share information and discuss current issues the region may be facing. These meetings also help Blackhawk Hills Regional Council to determine current needs and what type of assistance may be required at local and regional levels.

County Zoning Administrators

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council hosts quarterly meetings of the County Zoning Administrators from the six counties. These meetings help officials share information and discuss current issues the region may be facing. These meetings also help Blackhawk Hills Regional Council to determine current needs and what type of assistance may be required at local and regional levels.

Tri-County Opportunities Council

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council staff has served on the governing board of the Tri-County Opportunities Council (TCOC) for the past nine years. TCOC is a Community Action Agency serving the nine Illinois counties of Bureau, Carroll, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall, Ogle, Putnam, Stark and Whiteside. TCOC works to better focus available local, state, private, and federal resources to assist low-income individuals and families to acquire useful skills and knowledge to gain access to new opportunities and achieve economic self-sufficiency. TCOC oversees the following programs: Community Services Block Grant, Foster Grandparents, Head Start/ Early Head Start, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and Weatherization and Housing Program.

Website Assistance Program

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council received another additional \$10,000 from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) in planning funds this year which was earmarked to assist communities and counties within our administrative boundaries in the development of websites or updating of current websites. These funds were matched by local investments totaling of over \$20,000.

Program participants were invited to attend a series of two workshops. The first workshop was held on October 4, 2012, with Melanie Flesch of Blackhawk Hills Regional Council presenting. Approximately 30 participants attended the event which was designed to assist with the basic construction and development of a website. The second workshop was held on March 7, 2013, with Flesch once again presenting. Approximately 30 participants learned about search engines, how they work, and how they affect your website. Topics also included how to get your website noticed through keywords, free Google programs such as Analytics, Insights for Search, and Webmaster, and maintaining a proper updating schedule. The participants of the 2012 Website Assistance Program are Fulton, Galena, Rochelle, Warren, and Ogle County.

Entrepreneur and Inventors Club

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council continues to provide technical and financial assistance to the Entrepreneur and Inventors (E & I) Club. The club was founded in 2005 as a way to advance economic development and growth among the six counties. The E & I Club is a place where individuals can meet to share knowledge, experience, and ideas. The club and its members help start, maintain, and grow businesses through the sharing of knowledge, leadership, and mentoring. The E & I Club serves Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson, and Whiteside Counties in northwest Illinois but is also open to individuals in surrounding counties. Each meeting offers networking opportunities for current and future members to connect and share ideas. This past year, to stay better connected with members, the club created a new website (www.eandiclub.org) and an e-newsletter.



Local Tourism

Staff of Blackhawk Hills Regional Council actively serve on the Lee County Tourism Council (LCTC). The LCTC meets on a monthly basis and has focused on electronic marketing this past year. LCTC and Blackhawk Hills Regional Council work closely with the regional tourism agency called Blackhawk Waterways Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Northwest Illinois eTeam

As part of its broadband outreach, Blackhawk Hills Regional Council continues to participate as a member of Broadband Illinois' Northwest Illinois eTeam. The eTeams bring together public and private stakeholders to advance broadband initiatives across Illinois by developing technology growth plans. Meetings are held quarterly and move from community to community. The Northwest Illinois eTeam consists of representation from Bureau, Carroll, Henry, Jo Daviess, LaSalle, Lee, Mercer, Putnam, Rock Island, and Whiteside Counties.

Chambers of Commerce

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council staff works with local Chambers of Commerce to stay up-to-date on economic trends in the business marketplace. Currently, Blackhawk Hills Regional Council staff serves on the board of the Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce and on several committees of the Sauk Valley Area Chamber of Commerce.

Website Redesign

www.blackhawkhills.com



Blackhawk Hills Regional Council launched a redesigned website on October 6, 2012. The site was redesigned to better serve those in our six-county region with additional information that was not contained on the old site.

The new site has easier navigation and more information, such as projects, initiatives, funding opportunities and a central calendar with upcoming schedules.

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council also has a Facebook page where meeting notices and funding opportunities are posted. Visit Blackhawk Hills Regional Council's website, www.blackhawkhills.com, for a link to visit the Facebook page.

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council Board Changes

Former Board Members - Blackhawk Hills Regional Council and staff would like to thank several individuals who are transitioning off our board for their years of service to the organization:

- Cathy Brunner, Carroll County Area Representative, joined the council in November 2001.
- Kevin Reibel, Carroll County Board, joined the council in January 2011.
- Kim Monk, Jo Daviess County Board, joined the council in January 2009.
- Isaac Mercer, Lee County Board, joined the council in January 1997.
- Kenneth Roeder, Whiteside County Board, joined the council in January 2011.

New Board Members - The staff and fellow council members of Blackhawk Hills would also like to welcome several new members to the board:

- Darrell Stitzel is the new representative from the Carroll County Board.
- Steve Rutz is the new representative from the Jo Daviess County Board.
- Tim Deem is the new representative from the Lee County Board.
- Daniel Bitler is the new representative from the Whiteside County Board.

Monthly E-Newsletter

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council launched a monthly e-newsletter in October 2012. This newsletter is designed to keep entities such as municipalities, counties, not-for-profits, schools, libraries, chambers of commerce, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, businesses, and other partners up-to-date on information in the six-county region. Included in the newsletter are notices of upcoming meetings, workshops, funding opportunities, programs, initiatives, and other happenings.

To sign-up for the monthly e-newsletter, please visit Blackhawk Hills Regional Council's website for a link or call 815-625-3854 for more information.

www.blackhawkhills.com

2011-2012 Annual Meeting

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council held its annual meeting on May 24, 2012, at the Freeport Country Club. The meeting was open to the public and featured Lynn Feaver, of Prospering Together, as the keynote speaker.

Prospering Together is the result of a county-wide planning effort by the citizens and leaders of Stephenson County. The strategic plan is based on community involvement and includes elements that address economic health, community vitality, and caring about people. Underscoring the plan is the importance of citizens and governmental officials working together for an improved future.

At the meeting, Ron Colson was elected as President. He previously served as the Vice President for the past three years. William Tonne accepted the position of Vice President. He most recently served as President for the past three years.

Two awards were presented at the meeting:

The 2012 Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to Ron Colson, Sam Newton, and William Tonne for the hard work and dedication to the Illinois Broadband Opportunity Program - Northwest.

The 2012 Carson DeJarnatt Economic Development Award was presented to Prospering Together and was accepted by Lynn Feaver, Chuck Moen, Della Moen, and Sam Newton, all of Stephenson County.



Annual Update Report on the Blackhawk Hills Regional Council CEDS 2013

Introduction

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) in compliance with 13 CFR Part 303 requires the development of a strategy in order to remain eligible for assistance from the Economic Development Administration (EDA), U. S. Department of Commerce. While a new or revised CEDS must be submitted every 5 years, 13 CFR Part 303.2(d) requires that “Each year thereafter (after initial approval), the planning organization must submit an annual strategy report, acceptable to EDA.” This annual report is submitted in compliance with EDA requirements and is intended to inform the public, decision makers and EDA on progress in implementing the Blackhawk Hills Regional Council CEDS.

EDA guidance provides that “the annual report documents the progress achieved on economic development activities, regardless of the source of funding, and reports on changing economic conditions.” The annual report should:

- Adjust the CEDS as needed.
- Report on the previous year’s economic development activities and any significant changes in the region’s economic conditions.
- Evaluate the effectiveness in meeting goals.
- Schedule achievable goals for the coming year.

Current Economic Conditions

The Blackhawk Hills Regional Council Region continues to be impacted by economic conditions that have resulted in deterioration of public service, infrastructure and quality of life of the community at all levels.

Overall labor force statistics are updated monthly and annually. Therefore, we are able to obtain new figures for unemployment each year. For the Blackhawk Regional Council, Department of Labor and Bureau of Labor Statistics announced that the average April 2013 unemployment rate for the region was 8.16 percent. This is a slight drop in unemployment for the region by .36 percent from April 2012 to April 2013. The highest unemployment remains to be seen in Ogle County at 9.4 percent, which is slightly down from the 2012 figure by .8 percent.

In terms of distress levels in the Region, EDA defines a distress-eligible region or community one which has 24 month unemployment rates that are 1% higher than the national rate for the same period or one which is experiencing a per capita income level that is 80% or less of the national level. Currently, the Blackhawk Hills Regional Council Region as a whole is deemed distressed in terms of unemployment rates. All but one of six counties that make up the region is considered independently distressed based upon unemployment figures calculated on www.statsamerica.org. Furthermore, the Bureau of Economic Analysis classified Ogle County as distressed under the Per Capita Income criteria. The chart below depicts the details of the distress figures.

| Area | 24 Month Unemployment | Threshold Calculation | BEA PCPI | Threshold Calculation |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Carroll | 9.18 | 0.85 | \$ 35,880 | 86.3% |
| Jo Daviess | 7.58 | -.75 | \$ 42,456 | 102.2% |
| Lee | 9.56 | 1.23 | \$ 34,815 | 83.8% |
| Ogle | 11.37 | 3.04 | \$ 35,741 | 86% |
| Stephenson | 9.84 | 1.51 | \$ 36,980 | 89% |
| Whiteside | 9.6 | 1.27 | \$ 37,306 | 89.8% |
| BHH Region | 9.79 | 1.46 | \$ 36,912 | 88.82% |
| U.S. | 8.33 | * | \$ 41,560 | * |

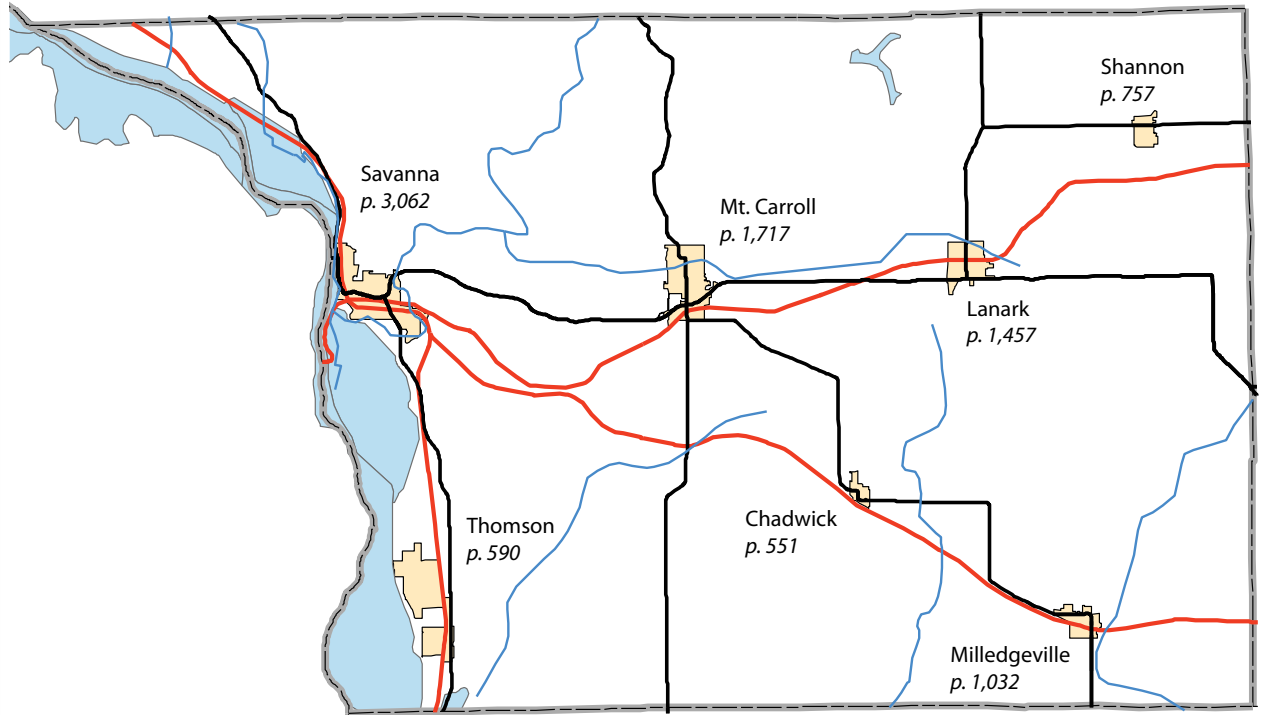
*www.statsamerica.org as reported on 5/31/2013

In terms of layoffs, the Blackhawk Hills Regional Council region has been hit fairly hard over the past decade. Though numbers do not seem as high as some counties throughout IL, our region is fairly rural and smaller in population size. Therefore, when recording layoff figures for over 50 employees for more than 30 days, the numbers certainly have a huge impact on our limited job opportunities. Over the past 10 years, layoff numbers have included: Lee County at 953, Ogle County at 2650, Stephenson County at 2463, and Whiteside County at 1648. Again, these figures only include layoffs that extended beyond 30 days and impacted more than 50 employees for the past 10 years (2000-2010). This also excludes any governmental or agricultural industries, which account for many jobs in our rural area.

Another useful analysis we can use in determining the state and growth of the region economy over the past year is by looking at reported building permit numbers. Overall, the region has seen a 32% drop in the number of building permits being issued by the counties. Similarly, the region has seen a 39% drop in the amount spent on construction costs throughout the counties. Carroll County actually saw a slight increase in both the number of building permits issued, as well as the investment in construction costs. Ogle County saw the largest drop in both categories (U.S. Census Bureau).

| Building Permits | | | | Construction Costs | | | |
|------------------|------|------|------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 |
| Carroll | 18 | 23 | 15 | Carroll | \$3,750,703 | \$3,853,000 | \$4,347,000 |
| JoDaviess | 37 | 33 | 45 | JoDaviess | \$9,695,198 | \$9,395,661 | \$10,764,666 |
| Lee | 29 | 14 | 17 | Lee | \$5,815,000 | \$5,850,119 | \$3,822,000 |
| Ogle | 51 | 24 | 31 | Ogle | \$11,692,773 | \$551,300 | \$5,396,973 |
| Stephenson | 26 | 10 | 24 | Stephenson | \$5,333,000 | \$1,606,576 | \$5,183,000 |
| Whiteside | 50 | 40 | 42 | Whiteside | \$8,907,134 | \$6,430,597 | \$18,860,700 |
| Totals | 211 | 144 | 174 | Totals | \$45,193,808 | \$27,687,253 | \$48,374,339 |

Additional statistics for each of the individual counties in Blackhawk Hills region can be found immediately following this section.



LEGEND

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|--|---------------------------------------|--------|
| | Major River/ Stream | ↑ N |
| | Major Railroad | |
| | Major State/ Federal Roadway | |
| | Census Place/ Census Designated Place | |
| | Major Waterbody | |
| | 2010 Census Population | |

| Population | 1990 | 2000 | 2010 |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Carroll County | 16,805 | 16,674 | 15,387 |
| Blackhawk Hills Region | 227,213 | 235,689 | 233,802 |
| State of Illinois | 11,430,602 | 12,419,293 | 12,830,632 |

Projects in Carroll County

- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Plan
- Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities Program
- Envirothon
- Five-County Economic Study and Recovery Plan
- Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership - Northwest (iFiber)
- Illinois Department of Transportation Inventory and Assessment
- Illinois Energy Now Energy Efficiency Visits
 - Lanark Village Hall
- Savanna Disaster Funding
- Tri-County Conservation Day
- Upper Mississippi River International Port District

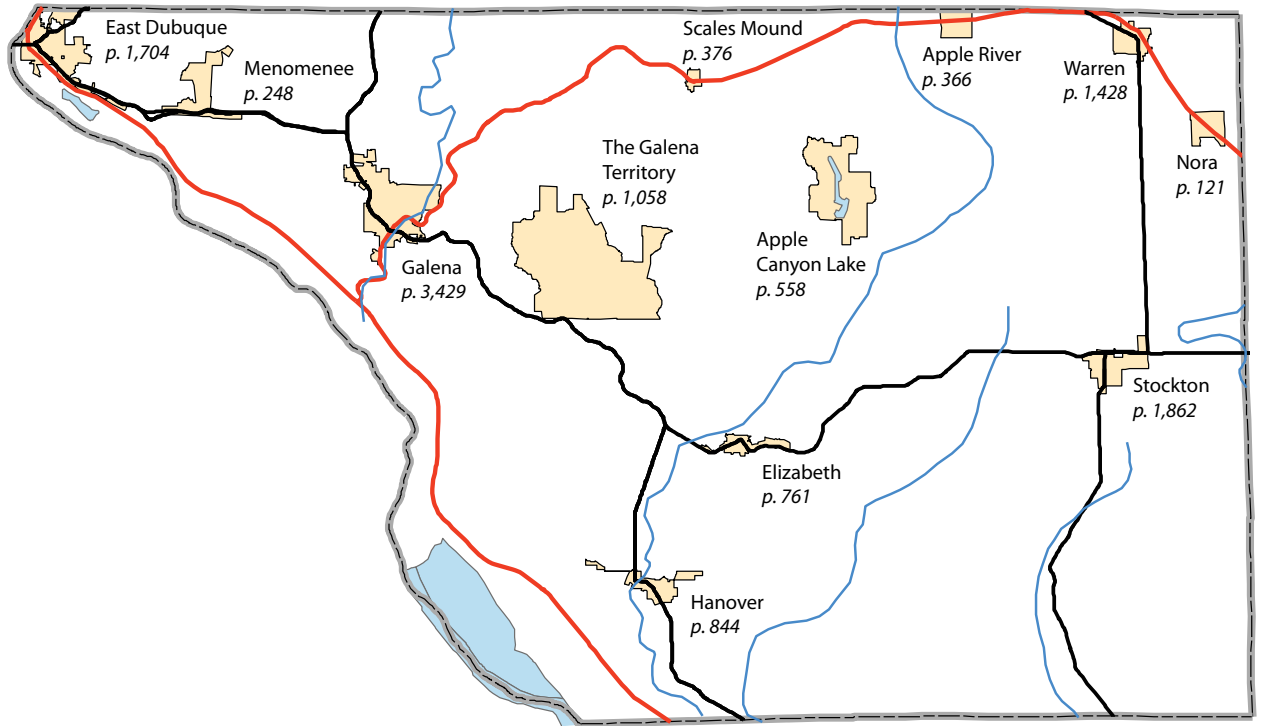
| Subject | 2010 |
|---|-------------|
| Median Age (years) | 46.5 |
| Total Labor Force | 7,987 |
| Percent Unemployment | 8.50% |
| Mean Travel Work (minutes) | 24.4 |
| Total Number of Companies | 1669 |
| Total Family Households | 4,343 |
| Median Household Income (dollars) | \$45,433 |
| Average Household Size (people) | 2.29 |
| Percent of Families Below Poverty Level | 13.10% |

| Housing | 2010 |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Total Housing Units | 8,437 |
| Occupied Units | 6,622 |
| Vacant Units | 1,815 |
| Owner-Occupied | 5,163 |
| Renter-Occupied | 1,459 |
| Homeowner Vacancy Rate | 2.70% |
| Homes for Sale | 145 |
| Rental Vacancy Rate | 11.00% |
| Available for Rent | 182 |

| Educational Attainment | 2010 |
|---|-------------|
| Less than 9th Grade | 3.70% |
| 9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma | 7.20% |
| High School Graduate (includes equivalency) | 42.10% |
| Some College, No Degree | 23.90% |
| Associate's Degree | 6.90% |
| Bachelor's Degree | 10.40% |
| Graduate or Professional Degree | 5.80% |

| Employment by Industry Classification | Total | Percent |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| Civilian Employed Population 16 Years and Over | 7,308 | |
| Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, and Mining | 343 | 4.70% |
| Construction | 637 | 8.70% |
| Manufacturing | 1,368 | 18.70% |
| Wholesale Trade | 215 | 2.90% |
| Retail Trade | 831 | 11.40% |
| Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities | 523 | 7.20% |
| Information | 137 | 1.90% |
| Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, and Rental and Leasing | 339 | 4.60% |
| Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, and Waste Management | 463 | 6.30% |
| Educational Services, Health Care, and Social Assistance | 1,404 | 19.20% |
| Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation, and Food Services | 512 | 7.00% |
| Other Services, Except Public Administration | 296 | 4.10% |
| Public Administration | 240 | 3.30% |

Statistical data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder at www.census.gov.



LEGEND

- Major River/ Stream
- Major Railroad
- Major State/ Federal Roadway
- Census Place/ Census Designated Place
- Major Waterbody
- 2010 Census Population

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N

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| Population | 1990 | 2000 | 2010 |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Jo Daviess County | 21,821 | 22,289 | 22,678 |
| Blackhawk Hills Region | 227,213 | 235,689 | 233,802 |
| State of Illinois | 11,430,602 | 12,419,293 | 12,830,632 |

Projects in Jo Daviess County

- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Plan
- Envirothon
- Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership - Northwest (iFiber)
- Illinois Department of Transportation Inventory and Assessment
- Local Foods Initiative
- Tri-County Conservation Day
- Upper Mississippi River International Port District
- Website Assistance Program
 - Galena
 - Warren

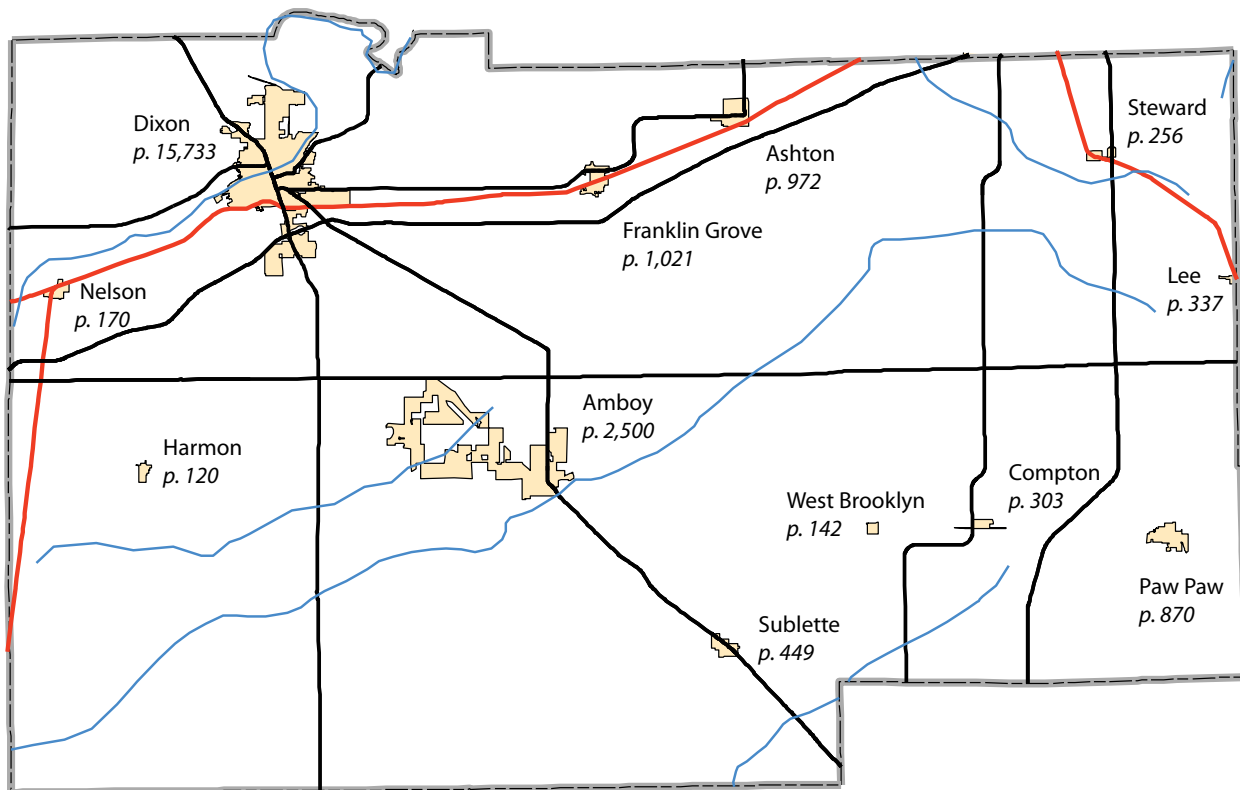
| Subject | 2010 |
|---|-------------|
| Median Age (years) | 47.1 |
| Total Labor Force | 12,255 |
| Percent Unemployment | 5.30% |
| Mean Travel Work (minutes) | 21.5 |
| Total Number of Companies | 2,655 |
| Total Family Households | 6,514 |
| Median Household Income (dollars) | \$52,487 |
| Average Household Size (people) | 2.31 |
| Percent of Families Below Poverty Level | 8.50% |

| Housing | 2010 |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Total Housing Units | 13,574 |
| Occupied Units | 9,753 |
| Vacant Units | 3,821 |
| Owner-Occupied | 7,740 |
| Renter-Occupied | 2,013 |
| Homeowner Vacancy Rate | 2.50% |
| Homes for Sale | 199 |
| Rental Vacancy Rate | 14.00% |
| Available for Rent | 339 |

| Educational Attainment | 2010 |
|---|-------------|
| Less than 9th Grade | 3.50% |
| 9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma | 6.60% |
| High School Graduate (includes equivalency) | 38.20% |
| Some College, No Degree | 21.10% |
| Associate's Degree | 7.20% |
| Bachelor's Degree | 14.30% |
| Graduate or Professional Degree | 9.00% |

| Employment by Industry Classification | Total | Percent |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| Civilian Employed Population 16 Years and Over | 11,602 | |
| Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, and Mining | 653 | 5.60% |
| Construction | 840 | 7.20% |
| Manufacturing | 1,525 | 13.10% |
| Wholesale Trade | 351 | 3.00% |
| Retail Trade | 1,305 | 11.20% |
| Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities | 607 | 5.20% |
| Information | 180 | 1.60% |
| Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, and Rental and Leasing | 626 | 5.40% |
| Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, and Waste Management | 727 | 6.30% |
| Educational Services, Health Care, and Social Assistance | 2,212 | 19.10% |
| Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation, and Food Services | 1,551 | 13.40% |
| Other Services, Except Public Administration | 614 | 5.30% |
| Public Administration | 411 | 3.50% |

Statistical data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder at www.census.gov.



LEGEND

| | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| | Major River/ Stream | |
| | Major Railroad | |
| | Major State/ Federal Roadway | |
| | Census Place/ Census Designated Place | |
| | Major Waterbody | |
| | 2010 Census Population | |

| Population | 1990 | 2000 | 2010 |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Lee County | 34,392 | 36,062 | 36,031 |
| Blackhawk Hills Region | 227,213 | 235,689 | 233,802 |
| State of Illinois | 11,430,602 | 12,419,293 | 12,830,632 |

Projects in Lee County

- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Plan
- Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities Program
- Envirothon
- Five-County Economic Study and Recovery Plan
- Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership - Northwest (iFiber)
- Illinois Department of Transportation Inventory and Assessment
- Illinois Energy Now Energy Efficiency Visits
 - Amboy Depot Museum
 - Amboy Fire Protection District
 - Lee County Highway Department
 - Sublette Village Hall/Community Center
- Lee-Ogle County Outdoor Stewardship Days

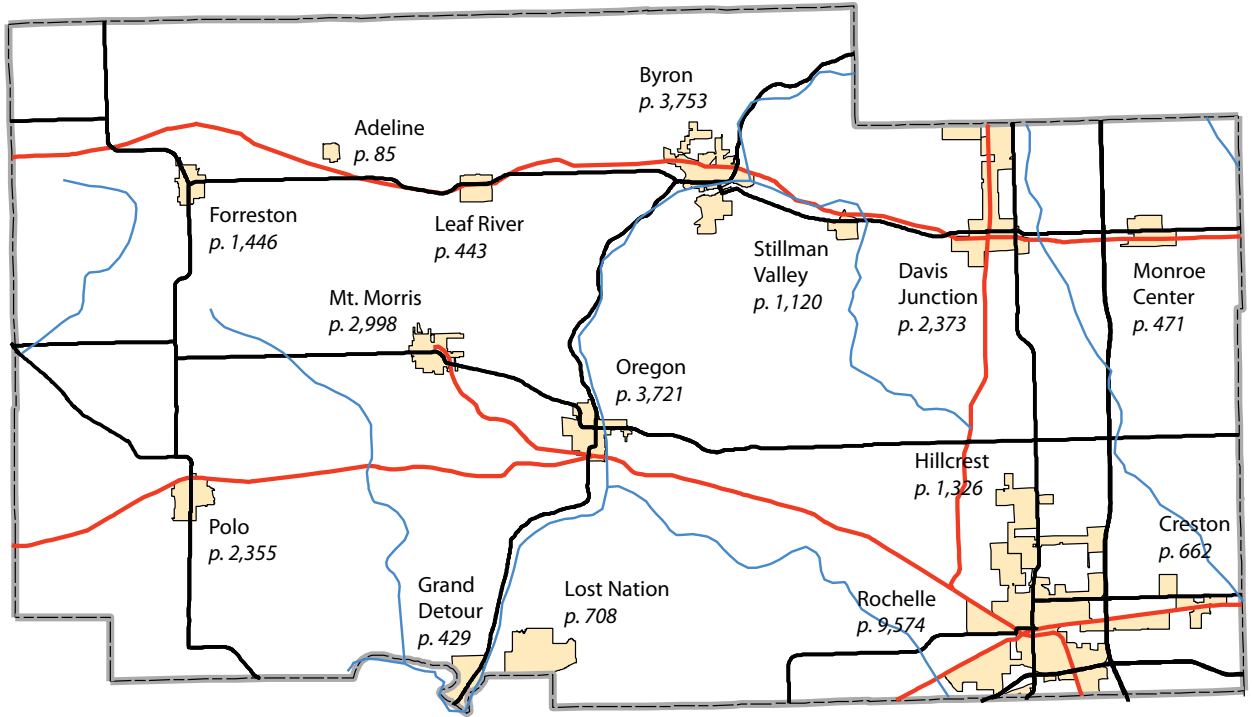
| Subject | 2010 |
|---|-------------|
| Median Age (years) | 42.0 |
| Total Labor Force | 18,369 |
| Percent Unemployment | 5.70% |
| Mean Travel Work (minutes) | 22.6 |
| Total Number of Companies | 2,448 |
| Total Family Households | 9,064 |
| Median Household Income (dollars) | \$49,451 |
| Average Household Size (people) | 2.41 |
| Percent of Families Below Poverty Level | 9.50% |

| Housing | 2010 |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Total Housing Units | 15,049 |
| Occupied Units | 13,758 |
| Vacant Units | 1,291 |
| Owner-Occupied | 10,213 |
| Renter-Occupied | 3,545 |
| Homeowner Vacancy Rate | 2.40% |
| Homes for Sale | 256 |
| Rental Vacancy Rate | 7.50% |
| Available for Rent | 288 |

| Educational Attainment | 2010 |
|---|-------------|
| Less than 9th Grade | 4.30% |
| 9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma | 9.70% |
| High School Graduate (includes equivalency) | 36.70% |
| Some College, No Degree | 24.40% |
| Associate's Degree | 9.60% |
| Bachelor's Degree | 11.10% |
| Graduate or Professional Degree | 4.20% |

| Employment by Industry Classification | Total | Percent |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| Civilian Employed Population 16 Years and Over | 16,709 | |
| Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, and Mining | 504 | 3.00% |
| Construction | 834 | 5.00% |
| Manufacturing | 3,396 | 20.30% |
| Wholesale Trade | 648 | 3.90% |
| Retail Trade | 1,819 | 10.90% |
| Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities | 1,100 | 6.60% |
| Information | 184 | 1.10% |
| Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, and Rental and Leasing | 644 | 3.90% |
| Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, and Waste Management | 972 | 5.80% |
| Educational Services, Health Care, and Social Assistance | 4,195 | 25.10% |
| Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation, and Food Services | 1,069 | 6.40% |
| Other Services, Except Public Administration | 657 | 3.90% |
| Public Administration | 687 | 4.10% |

Statistical data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder at www.census.gov.



LEGEND

| | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| | Major River/ Stream | |
| | Major Railroad | |
| | Major State/ Federal Roadway | |
| | Census Place/ Census Designated Place | |
| | Major Waterbody | |
| | 2010 Census Population | |

| Population | 1990 | 2000 | 2010 |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Ogle County | 45,957 | 51,032 | 53,497 |
| Blackhawk Hills Region | 227,213 | 235,689 | 233,802 |
| State of Illinois | 11,430,602 | 12,419,293 | 12,830,632 |

Projects in Ogle County

- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Plan
- Envirothon
- Five-County Economic Study and Recovery Plan
- Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership - Northwest (iFiber)
- Illinois Department of Transportation Inventory and Assessment
- Illinois Energy Now Energy Efficiency Visits
 - Oregon Village Hall
 - Oregon Maintenance Building
- Lee-Ogle County Outdoor Stewardship Days
- Rochelle Project E-Rail
- Website Assistance Program
 - Rochelle
 - Ogle County

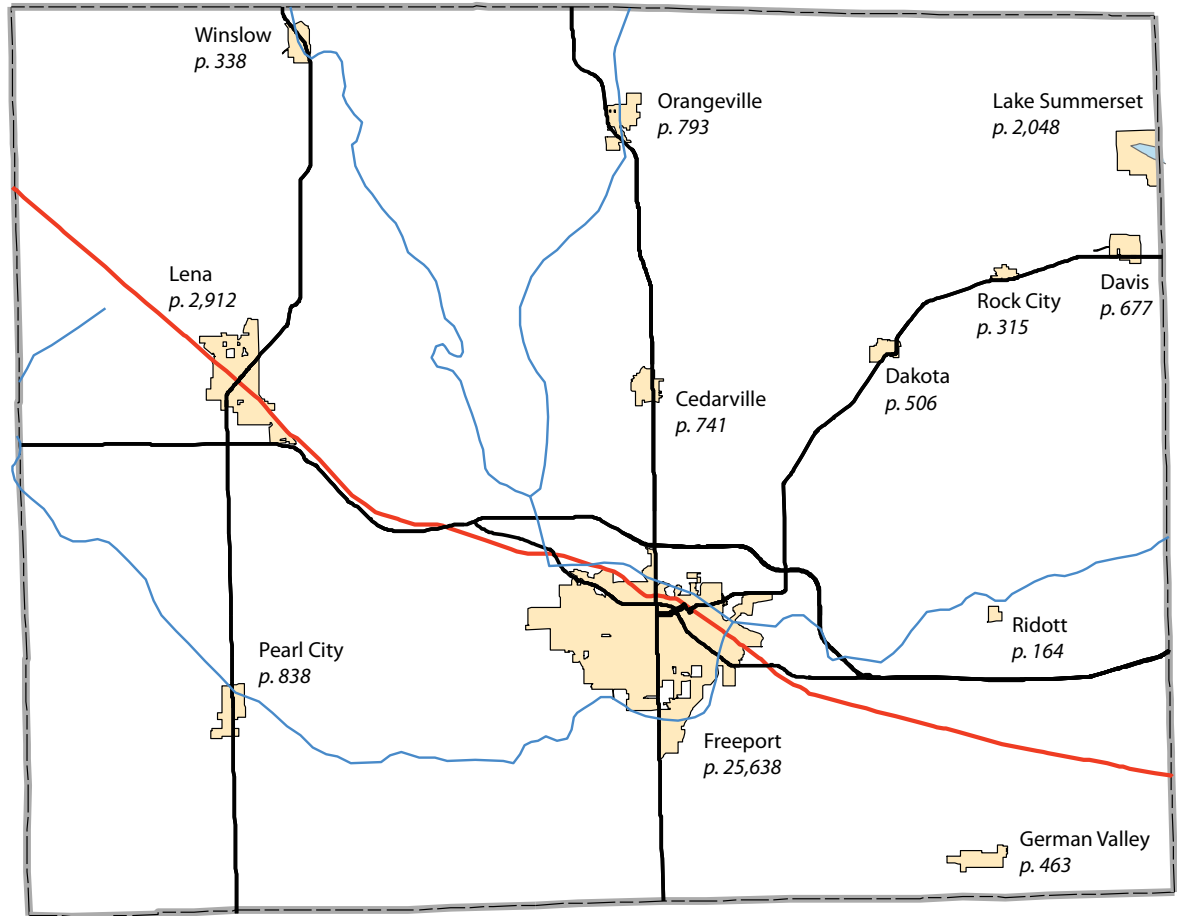
| Subject | 2010 |
|---|-------------|
| Median Age (years) | 40.7 |
| Total Labor Force | 28,539 |
| Percent Unemployment | 10.40% |
| Mean Travel Work (minutes) | 24.4 |
| Total Number of Companies | 4,622 |
| Total Family Households | 14,711 |
| Median Household Income (dollars) | \$57,094 |
| Average Household Size (people) | 2.54 |
| Percent of Families Below Poverty Level | 10.30% |

| Housing | 2010 |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Total Housing Units | 22,561 |
| Occupied Units | 20,663 |
| Vacant Units | 1,839 |
| Owner-Occupied | 15,922 |
| Renter-Occupied | 4,934 |
| Homeowner Vacancy Rate | 2.30% |
| Homes for Sale | 382 |
| Rental Vacancy Rate | 7.10% |
| Available for Rent | 378 |

| Educational Attainment | 2010 |
|---|-------------|
| Less than 9th Grade | 4.00% |
| 9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma | 8.10% |
| High School Graduate (includes equivalency) | 36.20% |
| Some College, No Degree | 24.50% |
| Associate's Degree | 8.30% |
| Bachelor's Degree | 12.20% |
| Graduate or Professional Degree | 6.80% |

| Employment by Industry Classification | Total | Percent |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| Civilian Employed Population 16 Years and Over | 25,569 | |
| Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, and Mining | 681 | 2.70% |
| Construction | 1,781 | 7.00% |
| Manufacturing | 4,529 | 17.70% |
| Wholesale Trade | 881 | 3.40% |
| Retail Trade | 2,731 | 10.70% |
| Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities | 2,273 | 8.90% |
| Information | 511 | 2.00% |
| Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, and Rental and Leasing | 1,323 | 5.20% |
| Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, and Waste Management | 1,959 | 7.70% |
| Educational Services, Health Care, and Social Assistance | 5,122 | 20.00% |
| Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation, and Food Services | 1,749 | 6.80% |
| Other Services, Except Public Administration | 1,163 | 4.50% |
| Public Administration | 866 | 3.40% |

Statistical data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder at www.census.gov.



LEGEND

| | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| | Major River/ Stream | |
| | Major Railroad | |
| | Major State/ Federal Roadway | |
| | Census Place/ Census Designated Place | |
| | Major Waterbody | |
| | 2010 Census Population | |

| Population | 1990 | 2000 | 2010 |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Stephenson County | 48,052 | 48,979 | 47,711 |
| Blackhawk Hills Region | 227,213 | 235,689 | 233,802 |
| State of Illinois | 11,430,602 | 12,419,293 | 12,830,632 |

Projects in Stephenson County

- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Plan
- Envirothon
- Five-County Economic Study and Recovery Plan
- Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership - Northwest (iFiber)
- Illinois Department of Transportation Inventory and Assessment
- Local Foods Initiative

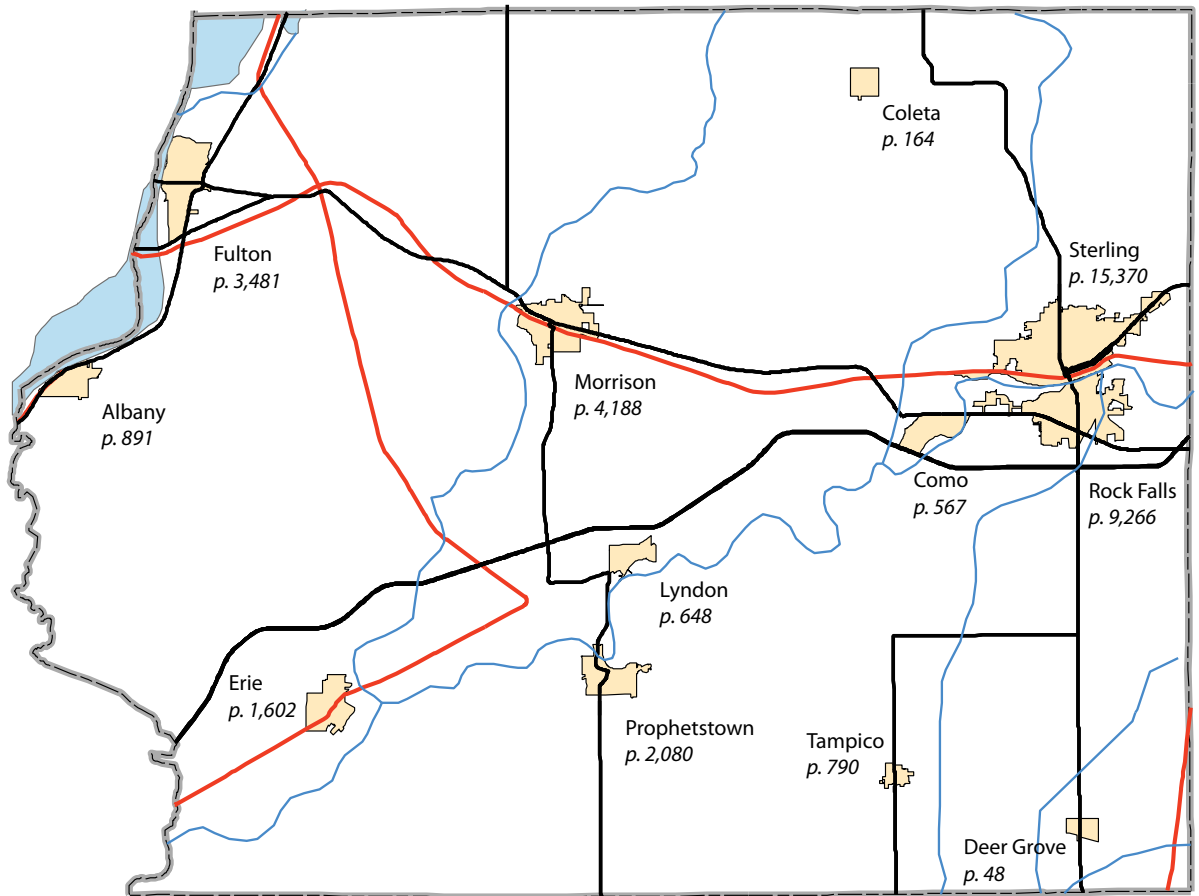
| Subject | 2010 |
|---|-------------|
| Median Age (years) | 43.1 |
| Total Labor Force | 24,549 |
| Percent Unemployment | 10.40% |
| Mean Travel Work (minutes) | 20.2 |
| Total Number of Companies | 3,662 |
| Total Family Households | 13,015 |
| Median Household Income (dollars) | \$43,410 |
| Average Household Size (people) | 2.36 |
| Percent of Families Below Poverty Level | 14.70% |

| Housing | 2010 |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Total Housing Units | 22,081 |
| Occupied Units | 19,845 |
| Vacant Units | 2,236 |
| Owner-Occupied | 14,272 |
| Renter-Occupied | 5,573 |
| Homeowner Vacancy Rate | 2.40% |
| Homes for Sale | 353 |
| Rental Vacancy Rate | 10.30% |
| Available for Rent | 647 |

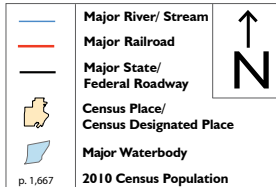
| Educational Attainment | 2010 |
|---|-------------|
| Less than 9th Grade | 3.30% |
| 9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma | 8.00% |
| High School Graduate (includes equivalency) | 36.70% |
| Some College, No Degree | 25.50% |
| Associate's Degree | 8.60% |
| Bachelor's Degree | 11.30% |
| Graduate or Professional Degree | 6.40% |

| Employment by Industry Classification | Total | Percent |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| Civilian Employed Population 16 Years and Over | 21,981 | |
| Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, Hunting, and Mining | 977 | 4.40% |
| Construction | 1,383 | 6.30% |
| Manufacturing | 4,410 | 20.10% |
| Wholesale Trade | 490 | 2.20% |
| Retail Trade | 2,257 | 10.30% |
| Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities | 901 | 4.10% |
| Information | 263 | 1.20% |
| Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, and Rental and Leasing | 1,282 | 5.80% |
| Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, and Waste Management | 1,462 | 6.70% |
| Educational Services, Health Care, and Social Assistance | 5,210 | 23.70% |
| Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation, and Food Services | 1,583 | 7.20% |
| Other Services, Except Public Administration | 1,236 | 5.60% |
| Public Administration | 527 | 2.40% |

Statistical data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder at www.census.gov.



LEGEND



| Population | 1990 | 2000 | 2010 |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Whiteside County | 60,186 | 60,653 | 58,498 |
| Blackhawk Hills Region | 227,213 | 235,689 | 233,802 |
| State of Illinois | 11,430,602 | 12,419,293 | 12,830,632 |

Projects in Whiteside County

- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Plan
- Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities Program
- Envirothon
- Five-County Economic Study and Recovery Plan
- Heritage Woods Community Garden
- Illinois Broadband Opportunity Partnership - Northwest (iFiber)
- Illinois Department of Transportation Inventory and Assessment
- Illinois Energy Now Energy Efficiency Visits
 - Merrill School in Rock Falls
 - Whiteside County Highway Department
- Tri-County Conservation Day
- Website Assistance Program
 - Fulton
- Western Whiteside Business Climate Analysis

| Subject | 2010 |
|---|-------------|
| Median Age (years) | 41.8 |
| Total Labor Force | 24,549 |
| Percent Unemployment | 10.40% |
| Mean Travel Work (minutes) | 20.2 |
| Total Number of Companies | 4,063 |
| Total Family Households | 16,005 |
| Median Household Income (dollars) | \$46,444 |
| Average Household Size (people) | 2.42 |
| Percent of Families Below Poverty Level | 11.70% |

| Housing | 2010 |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Total Housing Units | 25,770 |
| Occupied Units | 23,740 |
| Vacant Units | 2,030 |
| Owner-Occupied | 17,692 |
| Renter-Occupied | 6,048 |
| Homeowner Vacancy Rate | 1.90% |
| Homes for Sale | 338 |
| Rental Vacancy Rate | 9.20% |
| Available for Rent | 616 |

| Educational Attainment | 2010 |
|---|-------------|
| Less than 9th Grade | 3.30% |
| 9th to 12th Grade, No Diploma | 8.00% |
| High School Graduate (includes equivalency) | 36.70% |
| Some College, No Degree | 25.50% |
| Associate's Degree | 8.60% |
| Bachelor's Degree | 11.30% |
| Graduate or Professional Degree | 6.40% |

| Employment by Industry Classification | Total | Percent |
|--|--------------|----------------|
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| Manufacturing | 4,410 | 20.10% |
| Wholesale Trade | 490 | 2.20% |
| Retail Trade | 2,257 | 10.30% |
| Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities | 901 | 4.10% |
| Information | 263 | 1.20% |
| Finance, Insurance, Real Estate, and Rental and Leasing | 1,282 | 5.80% |
| Professional, Scientific, Management, Administrative, and Waste Management | 1,462 | 6.70% |
| Educational Services, Health Care, and Social Assistance | 5,210 | 23.70% |
| Arts, Entertainment, Recreation, Accommodation, and Food Services | 1,583 | 7.20% |
| Other Services, Except Public Administration | 1,236 | 5.60% |
| Public Administration | 527 | 2.40% |

Statistical data obtained from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Fact Finder at www.census.gov.

Memberships and Associations

Illinois Rural Partners
Friends of the Chicago Rockford International Airport at Rockford
IL Association of Regional Councils (ILARC)
IL Association of RC&Ds
IL Development Council (IDC)
IL Highway 30 Coalition
Midwest High-Speed Rail Association
National Association of Development Organizations
National Association of RC&Ds
Tri-State Alliance (Highway 20)

Board Representation by Staff and Council

Driftless Area Initiative
iFiber Broadband Board
Lee County Tourism Council
Local Workforce Investment Boards (WIB)
Northwest IL Broadband eTeam
Tri-County Opportunities Council (TCOC)
Quad Cities Regional Economic Development Authority (QREDA)
Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce
University of IL-Extension
Whiteside Area Career Center (WACC) Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities (CEO)

Working Partnerships

Bi-State Regional Planning Commission
Blackhawk Waterways Convention and Visitor's Bureau
East Central Intergovernmental Association (ECIA)
Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunities (DCEO)
Greater Dubuque Development Corporation
Greater Rochelle Economic Development Corporation (GREDCO)
Highland Community College
IL Institute for Rural Affairs, WIU
IL Finance Authority
Jo-Carroll Local Redevelopment Association (LRA)
Local, State and Federal Legislators
Local, State and Federal Economic Development Funding Organizations
Kishwaukee Community College Business & Industry Development Center

Midwest Community Development Institute
North Central IL Council of Governments (NCICG)
Northern IL University (NIU)
Northern IL Land Use Council
Northwest IL Development Alliance (NIDA)
Northwest IL Grazing Committee
Regional Engineering/Planning Firms
Regional Economic Development Professionals
Regional Community and County Development Committees & Corporations
Regional Utility Providers
Rockford Region Economic Development District (RREDD)
Sauk Valley Community College (SVCC)
South West Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SWWRPC)
Tri-County Economic Development Alliance (TCEDA)
Upper Mississippi River International Port District (UMRIPD)
University of Wisconsin-Platteville

Acknowledgements

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council would like to thank the following groups and organizations for their continued support and assistance to the economy of the region:

U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration
Federal and State Legislators
IL Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
IL Department of Transportation
USDA/Rural Development
Mayors/Village Presidents
County Boards & Staff
Soil and Water Conservation Districts
County CEDS Committees
Local Economic Development Professionals
Local Engineering Firms
Local Utility Companies
Local Colleges and Universities
Local Chambers of Commerce
Citizens of the Region

Updated Objectives for the Upcoming Year

The overall objective for the upcoming year is to continue to implement the adopted Goals found in our 5-Year CEDS Document, which is now approaching to be 5 years old. All appropriate projects contained in the CEDS will be pursued by the various entities in our region, and a complete list of the projects is attached at the very back of this document. Furthermore, we will collaborate regionally on those goals in addition to the updated objectives listed below:

Goal 1 – Utilize long-term planning to improve the conditions, strategies and problem solving capabilities of the District to stay economically competitive. The following objectives have been included:

- Improve quality of life for residents and business leaders in economically distressed and underserved communities;
- Explore opportunities with IDOT for the coordination of various forms of transportation planning, specifically trails and bike route designations.

Goal 2 – Assist with the improvement of community infrastructure (water, sewer, roads, telecommunications) to provide for new economic growth, as well as support existing businesses. The following objectives have been included:

- Determine our fullest potential use of the new Broadband Infrastructure being installed in our region as a result of our recent NTIA grant;
- Create a stronger relationship and partnership with local and regional utility companies to promote business development and expansions;

Goal 3 – Work with and assist economic development professionals and organizations in our region. The following objectives have been included:

- Diversify local industry and create jobs to reach global competitiveness through the Northwest IL Manufacturing Growth Alliance ;
- Continue to provide any assistance and regional coordination to the Federal Bureau of Prisons to bring light to the use of the Thomson Correctional Facility;
- Explore the idea of securing a Revolving Loan Fund for partners in our region and help them gain experience in administering a successful program.

Goal 4 – Encourage local economic and community development initiatives by providing necessary support and assistance as needed. The following objectives have been included:

- Continue to work with the entities currently submitting applications to EDA for funding in our region;
- Continue to promote the benefits of the iFiber project to public institutions as well as private business leaders as a way to leverage economic development opportunities and diversification in our region;

- Strengthen our collaborative public/private partnerships through collaborative efforts being made with SVCC and the CEO Program;
- Aggressively promote our agency's ability to write and administer grants through regular promotion and announcements of state, federal and foundation funding opportunities to our constituents;
- Secure EDA funding for our partnership in the Northwest IL Manufacturing Growth Alliance which will include the following activities:
 - Implementation of a Foreign Direct Investment and Supply Chain Portal for Region, including the Global Partner Search program and Regional Matchmaking.
 - Implement a Qualified Sites Program across the region to successfully compete for business expansions and relocations.
 - Establish an International Soft Landing Center that will focus on attracting foreign-based entrepreneurs seeking to relocate to the U.S. market.
 - Establish an Engineer in Residence (EIR) Program to help grow local engineering students.
 - Coordinate the formation and implementation of Regional Manufacturing Roundtables, using Rockford area's successful roundtable and cluster models.

Goal 5 – Facilitate and participate in regional networking activities to better promote project collaboration. The following objectives have been included:

- Strengthen our collaborative regional partnerships
- Introduce new ideas, create a web component and improve membership in the E&I Club to help re-energize the group and help reach out to youth;
- Continue to push for the implementation of the youth Creating Entrepreneurial Opportunities (CEO) Program in the local high schools;
- Promote cross-regional collaboration with our neighboring district to explore opportunities for greater regional initiatives and project ideas.

Goal 6 – Update and maintain the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) document. The following objectives have been included:

- Focus on the structure and process of updating our new 5-Year CEDS document to be submitted in May of 2014.
- Incorporate new elements into the 5-Year CEDS such as a comprehensive transportation inventory, regional disaster plan overview, industrial park readiness inventory and a new comprehensive project inventory.

Goal 7 – Promote and encourage sustainability focused activities that conserve land, manage water resources, and stimulate energy efficiency projects. The following objectives have been included:

- Aggressively promote renewable energy and environmentally sustainable development, being mindful of land conservation and water management;
- Secure a subcontract with DCEO and the IACBMC to provide application assistance to our local governments for the IL Energy Now Program;
- Partner with SVCC to promote and facilitate the Illinois Power Pack Program for our region.

| Alphabetically Listed | | 2013 CEDS Project List | | | | Updated 5/30/13 |
|--|----------------|---|---|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Project Name (& Champion) | Estimated Cost | 50% Local Match Source | Purpose | Possible Start Date (Year) | Potential Job Creation/Retention | Project Summary |
| Amboy: Green River Industrial Park Infrastructure | | | Technical Assistance | | | Creation & implementation of a plan for public works and facilities at site |
| Amboy: Storm Water System Improvements | | | Technical Assistance | | | Upgrade the current system and land of holding areas in city to properly drain, old or slow the water runoff |
| Amboy: Park Upgrades and Additions | | | Provide technical assistance and seek funds for the parks | | | Improvements to existing parks in town & addition of new park space to the north side |
| Apple River: Public Works and Facilities | | | Technical Assistance | Anytime | | Water system upgrades, sewer system, study and 80,000# road upgrades throughout town |
| Byron: Mill Rd.-Colfax St. to City Limits | \$1,500,000 | Anticipated 50% | Upgrade rural cross section to curb and gutter with bike path | Fall 2015 | Temporary Construction Crews | Existing roadway is badly deteriorated due to traffic. Needs storm sewer system, curb and gutter and bike path to provide safety for kids walking and riding bikes to school |
| Byron: Third St. – Lafayette St. to Route 2 | \$3,000,000 | MFT Funds | Upgrade major street with curb and gutter, sidewalk and infrastructure | 2013 | Temporary Construction Crews | Existing roadway is badly deteriorated due to traffic. Needs storm sewer system, curb and gutter and sidewalk |
| Byron: Luther Drive – Mineral Street to Route 2 | \$100,000 | MFT Funds | Maintenance project with bituminous overlay | Fall 2013 | Temporary Construction Crews | Existing roadway is badly deteriorated due to traffic. Needs bituminous overlay to prevent total failure of the street |
| Byron: Rose Meadows Subdivision | \$300,000 | MFT Funds | Micro Surface existing streets for maintenance | 2013 | Temporary Construction Crews | Existing roadway is badly deteriorated due to traffic. Needs bituminous overlay to prevent total failure of the street |
| Byron: Alley between Walnut Street and Union Street and 2nd and 3rd Streets | \$125,000 | MFT Funds | Reconstruction with bituminous overlay of existing alley | 2013 | Temporary Construction Crews | Existing roadway has failed due to heavy traffic. Needs total reconstruction and drainage improvements |
| Chadwick: Generator for Sewer System | \$20,000 | Village General Fund or water/ Sewer Fund | | 2013 | | |
| Chadwick: Water Main Replacement | \$100,000 | Village General Fund or Water/ Sewer Fund | Need to replace water main on Calbert between 1st and 4th | 2013 | | |
| Dakota: Main Street – Route 75 to Dakota Road | \$1,500,000 | MFT funds | Reconstruction of existing high volume street that has failed | 2013 | Temporary Construction Crews | Existing roadway badly deteriorated due to traffic, need storm sewer system, curb/gutter/bike path to provide safety for kids getting to school |
| Dakota: Water System Improvements | \$1,500,000 | MFT funds | Upgrade existing water system with improve-ments to the distribution system, elevated tank and wells 1 and 2 | 2013 | Temporary Construction Crews | Existing system is deficient in providing fire protection for the Village |
| Dakota: Lift Station Upgrades | \$150,000 | Sewer Funds | Maintenance project to recondition existing lift stations with pump, high efficiency motors and telecom system for monitoring | Fall 2013 | Temporary Construction Crews | The existing lift stations are in need of maintenance of the pumps and motors and the control systems for monitoring the alarm levels |
| Dixon: Industrial Park Drive Infrastructure | | | Technical Assistance | Anytime | | Public works and facilities for Industrial Park Dr. east to IL Rt. 52 for future development needs |

| | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|--|---|------|-----------|--|
| East Dubuque: Donna Drive Water & Sanitary Sewer Extension | \$80,000 | \$40,000 | Public Safety | 2013 | 12 | Extend water service to newly annexed property which has an existing restaurant business and potential for additional Commercial Development. |
| East Dubuque: Extension of Water and Sanitary Sewer to Commercial/ Industrial Properties along Highway 35 | \$1,381,770 | \$690,885 | People, Work, Opportunity | 2013 | 200 | The engineering is completed for this project. This project is part of the largest business expansion project of the City. Extension of infrastructure consisting of 7800 l.f. sanitary sewer, 3500 l.f. water main along with the installation of a booster pump station. |
| East Dubuque: Flood Levy Road (6th St) Reconstruction | \$500,000 | \$250,000 | Public Safety | 2013 | 20 | The engineering is partially completed for this project. 6 th St. is the primary access to the East Dubuque Harbor. Rebuilding the road to a higher standard of 80,000 lb. capacity. |
| East Dubuque: Frentress Rail Relocation & Overpass Construction | \$5,000,000 | \$2,500,000 | Public Safety | 2013 | 200 | Major business development project along Hwy 20 is absolutely at a standstill because of conflicts with rail traffic. |
| East Dubuque: Highway 20 Access | \$600,000 | \$300,000 | Public Safety | 2013 | 50 | Project is for the engineering and construction of an intersection required for commercial/industrial access along Hwy 20. |
| East Dubuque: Levy Rip Rap Project | \$35,000 | \$17,500 | Public Safety | 2013 | 2 | This project is for continued flood protection to residents in the Flats and Shore Acres subdivisions located adjacent to the Mississippi River. |
| East Dubuque: Loop Water Systems | \$250,000 | \$125,000 | Public Safety | 2013 | 10 | This project is for preliminary engineering to loop together the water systems connecting the North and the East systems. |
| East Dubuque: Municipal Parking Facility | \$300,000 | \$150,000 | Public Safety | 2013 | 6 | This project would be to construct a parking facility for joint use of municipal services and library services. |
| East Dubuque: Realign Intersection of Hwy 20, Wall St. and 6th Street | \$100,000 | \$50,000 | Public Safety | 2013 | 6 | Provide a safer access to Hwy 20 for businesses and citizens and at the same time provide space for expansion of an existing business. |
| East Dubuque: Rehabilitation Well Number One | \$150,000 | \$75,000 | Public Safety | 2013 | 3 | This project is part of another project, a new well far outweighs the cost to rehabilitate Well #1 |
| East Dubuque: SCADA for Water & Sewer Systems | \$60,000 | \$30,000 | Public Safety | 2013 | 2 | This project is for an automated system to evaluate and control operations of City Wells and Sanitary Sewer Facility. |
| East Dubuque: Water Meter Reading System | \$60,000 | \$30,000 | Public Safety | 2013 | 2 | Update current system which is not compatible with billing software, thus creating reading error. |
| East Dubuque: Water Tower(s) Rehabilitation | \$250,000 | \$125,000 | Public Safety | 2013 | 4 | This project is for preliminary engineering to estimate the cost to for East Dubuque and Frentress Water towers. Recent inspections highly suggest immediate repairs to both water towers. |
| Elizabeth: Additional Digester at Wastewater Treatment Plant | \$550,000 | Sewer, TIF, DCEO, USDA, IEPA | Increase digester capacity at wastewater facility | 2013 | 0 | Construction of an additional digester at the wastewater treatment plant |
| Elizabeth: New Municipal Well | \$750,000 | Water, TIF, DCEO, USDA, IEPA | An additional water source for the Village | 2014 | 0 | Construction of a new municipal well to increase the water system's capabilities. |
| Elizabeth: Improvements to Old School Buildings | \$2,000,000 | TIF, USDA, DCEO, IEPA Brownfields, EDA | To provide rental space for offices, park district and other community -type services | 2013 | 50 to 100 | Renovate and upgrade the old school buildings to promote economic development |

| | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|---|---|---------|-------------------|---|
| Elizabeth: Pleasant Street Road Repairs | \$500,000 | Motor Fuel Tax, TIF, Jo Daviess County Road & Bridge Fund, DCEO, USDA | To repair heavily traveled street to Nursing Home. | | 0 | Complete tear out and replacement of existing street, new water and sewer mains and new sidewalk |
| Elizabeth: South Madison Street Road Repairs | \$750,000 | Motor Fuel Tax, TIF, Jo Daviess County Road & Bridge Fund, DCEO, USDA | To repair street and provide an improved road | | 0 | Reconstruct three blocks of roadway with new storm sewer, curb and gutter, and sidewalks |
| Elizabeth: Sanitary Sewer Extension to Pleasant Hill Subdivision | \$650,000 | Sewer Fund, Bonding, USDA, IEPA | To extend the Village limits and get subdivision on Village sewer | | 0 | Extend sanitary sewer to subdivision - abandon private septic systems |
| Elizabeth: Sanitary Sewer Extension to West Side along Highway 20 | \$1,500,000 | Sewer Fund, Bonding, USDA, IEPA | Encourage development along the highway and annex in subdivision that is on private septic systems. | | 0 | Extend sanitary sewer and construct a lift station to provide sewer service to the west side of the Village |
| Elizabeth: Water System Improvements - Phase III, IV, V | \$1,000,000 | Water Fund, Bonding, CDAP, USDA, IEPA | Improve the water system throughout the Village | | 0 | Extend water mains and replace undersized mains throughout the system to improve water service |
| Elizabeth: Walking Trails | -- | DNR, DCEO, IDOT's Safe Routes to School | Provide recreational activities for the residents | | 0 | Construct walking trails within the Village and to the River Ridge School. |
| Elizabeth: Downtown Streetscape Project | | USDA, TIF | Present a more inviting downtown to attract more businesses and visitors to downtown | 2013 | 0 | Reconstruct new sidewalks and install historical street lighting |
| Elizabeth: Turn Lanes - Route 20 West | | IDOT, DCEO, TIF, Private Investment | Provide safer roadway access to Route 20 on the west side of town | 2013 | 0 | Construct turn lanes on Route 20 on the west end to assist local business expansion effort |
| Forreston: Water System Upgrades | | | Improve the water system throughout the Village | | | Replacement of water main from Balsam to North Walnut and upgrade existing treatment plant |
| Franklin Grove: Public Works Upgrades | | | Technical Assistance | | | Upgrade current systems to increase capacity and support future growth |
| Freeport: Agricultural Entrepreneurship Center/Commercial Kitchen (planning project) | \$100,000 | \$20,000 (in-kind) | Provide business opportunities for agricultural producers | 2013 | | Complete planning portion of project in 2012 |
| Freeport: Amtrak Station | | | | Ongoing | | |
| Freeport: Boat launch at Tutty's Crossing | \$209,000 | \$15,000 | Provide recreational access to Pec River | 2013 | Construction jobs | Build boat launch on Pecatonica River at Tutty's Crossing trailhead |
| Freeport: Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup grants | \$1,400,000 | \$200,000 | Prepare properties for development | 2013 | | Assess and cleanup environmentally contaminated properties to prepare them for redevelopment |
| Freeport: Clearwell Inspection and Sealing | \$25,000 | | | 2013 | | |
| Freeport: Comprehensive Plan Update | \$97,000 | \$67,000 | Update the City's comprehensive plan | 2013 | | Complete the City's first plan update since 1980. |
| Freeport: Elevated Water Storage Improvements | \$1,585,000 | | | 2013 | | |
| Freeport: Expansion of Public Transportation | \$600,000 | | | 2013 | | |
| Freeport: Housing rehabilitation grants | \$904,979 | \$0 | Improve properties to sustain City's tax base | 2013 | | Rehabilitate properties owned or occupied by low-to-moderate income residents |

| | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|--|---|---------|-------------------|---|
| Freeport: Jane Addams Trail – Section B Construction (Freeport, Stephenson County, Freeport Park District, and Orangeville) | \$3,250,000 | \$650,000 | | 2013 | Construction Jobs | Construction of Section B of Jane Addams Trail from Tutty’s Crossing west to the Wes Block Trailhead |
| Freeport: New Water Source - Well No. 9 and Building | \$800,000 | | | 2013 | | |
| Freeport: Construction of structures for Pecatonica Prairie Path (Freeport, Stephenson County, and Freeport Park District) | \$1,500,000 | \$300,000 | | 2013 | Construction jobs | Construction of three structures, including a bridge over the Pec River at Tutty’s Crossing |
| Freeport: Rawleigh Redevelopment Complex | | | Support efforts for redeveloping the site | Ongoing | | Continue efforts to rehab site to a multiuse facility and ED incubator area |
| Freeport: Storm Sewer Construction - Rawleigh, Bidwell, Blackhawk, Cottonwood, Arcade Streets | \$1,850,000 | | | 2013 | | |
| Freeport: Streetscape Improvement on East Stephenson Street | \$267,500 | \$0 | | 2013 | | Streetscape improvements to East Stephenson Street west of the Pecatonica River Bridge (HUD-EDI Grant) |
| Freeport: Water Main Improvements | \$500,000 | | | 2014 | | |
| Freeport: Water Treatment Plant Vulnerability Assessment Compliance | \$25,000 | | | 2013 | | |
| Freeport: WWTP Phosphorus Removal | \$11,825,000 | | | 2013 | | |
| Freeport: Amtrak Station | | | | Ongoing | | |
| Milledgeville: Main Avenue Road Repair | \$750,000 | Motor Fuel Tax, TIF, USDA, DCEO, IDOT | Repair street - provide improved entrance to Village | 2013 | 0 | Reconstruct three blocks of existing road that leads to downtown district; does have heavy truck traffic |
| Milledgeville: New Industrial Park | \$2,500,000 | IDOT EDP, DCEO, EDA | To provide improved lots for small business creation | 2013 | 150 | Create a new Industrial Park, complete with water, sewer, gas, electric and broadband. |
| Milledgeville: Old Mill Street Road Repair | \$925,000 | Motor Fuel Tax, TIF, USDA, DCEO | Reconstruct street to address storm sewer issues | 2013 | 0 | Reconstruct six blocks of existing road with curb and gutter, storm sewer and new sidewalks |
| Milledgeville: Water Main Looping / Replacement Projects | \$1,100,000 | Water Fund, DCEO, USDA, IEPA | To provide improved water service, increased pressure and improved fire flow | 2013 | 0 | To eliminate undersized and dead-end water mains for an improved water system |
| Morrison: Railroad Crossing | | | Address Railroad Safety Issue | ASAP | | Provide alternative routes across UP tracks for safety issue |
| Mt. Carroll: Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements | \$4,500,000 | Sewer Fund, TIF, Bonding, DCEO, USDA, IEPA | To address identified problems at the wastewater treatment plant | | 0 | To address identified improvements needed at the wastewater treatment plant to prolong the life of the facility |
| Mt. Carroll: Commercial Street Infrastructure Extension | \$130,000 | | | 2013 | | |
| Mt. Carroll: Benton Street Road Repair | \$200,000 | Motor Fuel Tax, TIF, IDOT | Repair street to provide an improved roadway entrance to City | 2013 | 0 | Grinding, milling and repair of roadway base from Route 52/64 to Clay Street |
| Mt. Carroll: Brick Street Replacement | \$1.5 million | IDOT, General Fund, TIF, Historical Programs | To enhance and protect the City’s existing brick streets - promote historical setting | Ongoing | 0 | To replace/improve the existing brick streets in the historic downtown district. |

| | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|---|--|-------------|---------------------|---|
| Mt. Carroll: Commercial Street Extension | \$90,000 | Sewer & Water Fund, General Fund, TIF, DCEO, USDA | Provide infrastructure for a new commercial business | 2013 | 6 to 8 | Installation of 370' of water and sewer lines and roadway improvements for new business. |
| Mt. Carroll: Galena Street Bridge Repair | \$200,000 | IDOT, Carroll County Bridge & Road, General Fund | To make the bridge structurally sound | 2013 | 0 | Structural report identified recommended improvements necessary to comply with IDOT standards. |
| Mt. Carroll: New Industrial / Business Park | \$1,500,000 | TIF, bonding, DCEO, IDOT | Create new industrial / business park to provide land for new business development | Ongoing | 50 to 100 | Proposed new Park will be located along Route 52/64 and have highway access. Develop 25-acre parcel; extend water, sewer and construct interior roadway for 10 improved lots. |
| Mt. Carroll: North side Residential Development | \$475,000 | TIF, bonding | Create new residential subdivision | | | Extend water and sewer to northeast side of City; annex in land for new residential subdivision |
| Mt. Carroll: Phase 2 Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project | \$1,300,000 | Sewer Fund, General Fund, DCEO, USDA, IEPA | To address problems in sanitary sewer collection system | | 0 | Repair and construct identified sanitary sewer mains throughout the collection system. |
| Mt. Carroll: Sidewalk Replacement | \$300,000 | IDOT's Safe Routes to School, USDA | To encourage more people and kids to walk and bike more. | | 0 | Construct new sidewalks along identified route from Middle School to Point Rock Park. |
| Mt. Carroll: Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Plan | \$50,000 | Sewer and General Fund | To study future needs for a new wastewater facility | | 0 | An extension study of the existing wastewater treatment plant to provide recommendations for a future facility. |
| Mt. Carroll: Water Main Looping / Replacement Projects | \$1,500,000 | Water Fund, DCEO, USDA, IEPA | To provide improved water service, increased pressure and improve fire flow | 2014 | 0 | To eliminate undersized and dead-end water mains throughout the City for an improved water system |
| Mt. Carroll: Renovation of the Campbell Center | | | Provide assistance with development needs for site | | | To renovate to a multi-use community & ED opportunity for region |
| Mt. Carroll: Renovation of the Kraft Building | | | Provide assistance with development needs for site | | | To renovate to a multi-use community & ED opportunity for the downtown |
| Mt. Morris: Community Facility Improvements | | | Technical Assistance | Anytime | | Improvements to municipal campus, band shell, Coliseum Building and museum |
| Mt. Morris: Park Upgrades | | | Technical Assistance | Anytime | | Includes upgrades to existing 4 parks, as well as Coliseum shower/rest room improvements |
| Mt. Morris: Public Works Upgrades | | | Technical Assistance | Anytime | | Upgrade current systems to increase capacity and support future growth |
| Mt. Morris: Street-Scape | \$250,000 | Grant, MFT | Downtown Improvements | 2013 | | Improve the appearance of Downtown Business District to enhance the area. |
| Orangeville: High Street Lighting (Village Board) | \$80,000 | DCEO EECBG TIF General Fund | Public Safety, Conserve Energy, Enhance Tourism | Fall 2013 | 1 | Replace lighting from Church to Mill with decorative LED fixtures and new poles & bases |
| Orangeville: Water Tower Park Playground (A Community Together (ACT), Village Board) | \$2,000 | Possible donated labor | Recreation | Fall 2013 | | Grade area add suitable substrate purchase/assemble equipment |
| Orangeville: Covered Bridge (ACT, Northwest Illinois Trail Foundation (NWITF)) | \$2,000 | Donated labor and materials | Recreation Tourism | Summer 2013 | 2 | Construct structure over existing JAT bridge |
| Orangeville: Sidewalk Replacement (Village Board) | \$17,000 | General Fund/ TIF | Public Safety/ Livability | Summer 2013 | Construct Contracts | Replace at abandoned or depressed properties |
| Orangeville: Downtown Facade Improvement (Village Board) | unknown | Landowner/TIF share | Economic Dvlpmt Tourism | 2013 | Construct Contracts | Cost Share downtown façade upgrade IAW historical look/master plan |
| Orangeville: 2012 Street Improvement (Village Board) | \$52,700 | Motor Fuel Tax | Public Safety/ Livability | Summer 2013 | Construct Contracts | Remove paving, recrown, curb & gutter High St. Main to Mill |

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| Orangeville: Sidewalk Replacement (Village/School Boards) | \$178,000 | SRTS TIF General Fund | Public Safety/Livability | Fall 2013 | Construct Contracts | 4 Locations providing routes to Elem and Middle Schools |
| Orangeville: Richland Creek Flood Mitigation (Village Board) | Variable, especially land acquisition | Possible disaster mitigation grant COE | Public Safety (Flood Control) Recreation (fish habitat) | Spring/Summer 2013 | Construct Contracts | Acquire flood plain property, stabilize stream bank |
| Orangeville: Richland Creek Wetlands Overlook (ACT, NWITF) | \$4,500 | Memorial Gift/Some donated labor | Education and Recreation | Spring/Summer 2013 or earlier | Tourism, 2 jobs | Construct overlook platform/blind to observe wetlands wildlife |
| Orangeville: Canoe Launch (ACT, NWITF) | | Donated labor | Recreation Tourism | Spring/Summer 2013 | Tourism, 2 jobs | Construct a parking area, access ramp, and floating canoe launch on site of old sewage plant |
| Orangeville: Gazebo (ACT NWITF) | \$5,000 | Donated labor | Recreation Tourism | Spring/Summer 2013 | | Construct a gazebo on the capped aeration tank of the old sewage plant |
| Orangeville: 2012 Street Improvement (Village Board) | \$50,000 | Motor Fuel Tax | Public Safety/Livability | Summer 2013 | Construct Contracts | Cyclical Seal Coating |
| Orangeville: 2013 Street Improvement (Village Board) | \$50,000 | Motor Fuel Tax | Public Safety/Livability | Summer 2013 | Construct Contracts | Cyclical Seal Coating |
| Orangeville: 2014 Street Improvement (Village Board) | \$50,000 | Motor Fuel Tax | Public Safety/Livability | Summer 2014 | Construct Contracts | Cyclical Seal Coating |
| Oregon: Public Works Facilities | | | Public Works Assistance | Anytime | | Includes water, sewer, and street improvements to service industries in community and extensions to the northeast area |
| Oregon: Roadway Upgrade | | | Technical Assistance | | | Upgrade of 1st Street to a 120,000# roadway |
| Oregon: Street Improvements | | | Technical Assistance | Anytime | | Improve streets, including curb, gutter, and sidewalks |
| Oregon: Downtown Façade Upgrades | | | Technical Assistance | Anytime | | Improve the appearance of Downtown Business District to enhance the area. |
| Paw Paw: I-39 Development Opportunities | | | Technical Assistance | Anytime | | Extend water and sewer to I-39 along Chicago Road to enhance ED opportunities |
| Prophetstown: Genesis III | \$300,000 | No | Business Expansion | 2013 | 5 | |
| Prophetstown: Lyndon Road Improvements | \$300,000 | USDA, State of IL, MFT | Public Works replacement | 2013 | 8 | Long overdue replacement of Lyndon Road. |
| Prophetstown: New Warehouse Construction | \$400,000 | No | Business Expansion | 2013 | 5 | Construction of a new warehouse for Sterling-Multi Products. |
| Prophetstown: Street-Scape | \$250,000 | Grant, MFT | Downtown Improvements | 2013 | | Improve the appearance of Downtown Business District to enhance the area. |
| Prophetstown: Water and Sewer Separation | \$800,000 | CDAP | Public Safety | 2013 | 5 | |
| Rochelle: Jack Dame Road Overpass/City of Rochelle | \$14,000,000 | City of Rochelle, IDOT, ICC | Grade Separation over 4 Railroad tracks, safety issue. | ASAP | 200-300 | Connects Rte. 38 to I-39 and the Global III Intermodal Park |
| Rochelle: City Airport Runway Extension/City of Rochelle | \$7,000,000 | FAA, City of Rochelle | Extend Airstrip to 5000 ft. | 2013 | 100+ | Runway extension will allow larger planes to land and be serviced in Rochelle |
| Rochelle: City Industrial Rail Extension/City of Rochelle | \$6,600,000 | City of Rochelle, Developer, IDOT | Extend rail service to over 2000 acres | 2013 | 200+ | Rail System connects to both the UP and BNSF mainlines |
| Rochelle: Ext. of Water & Sewer lines/City of Rochelle | \$3,400,000 | CDAP grants, Developer, | Provide Utility services to new Industries | 2013 | 200+ | Provide water/sewer to industrial/commercial projects |
| Rochelle: I-88/Thorpe Rd. Interchange/Ogle County | 35-40,000,000 | IDOT, FHWA, Tollway Authority | Access on to I-88 from Intermodal Pk. | 2013 | 100+ | New interchange will reduce traffic in to City and improve truck access to I-88 |

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| Rochelle: North Dement Road/Extension/City of Rochelle | \$1,500,000 | City of Rochelle, Developer, IDOT | Expansion of the Rochelle Tech Park | 2013 | 50+ | North Dement is a gravel road which needs upgrading |
| Rochelle: Dement Road Extension/City of Rochelle | \$5,500,000 | Developer, IDOT, City of Rochelle | Connect Industrial Park to I-39 via overpass | 2013 | 200-300 | Truck access directly to I-39 w/o going through town |
| Rochelle: Southwest Truck Loop/Ogle County | \$3,500,000 | City of Rochelle, Developer, IDOT | 120,000# Truck Route | 2013 | 100+ | Connect Intermodal Park to sites to breakdown overweight loads to legal limits |
| Rock City: Water System Improvements | \$350,000 | Water Funds | Upgrade existing water system with improvements to the distribution system and well 1 and construction of a backup well | 2013 | Temporary Construction Crews | Existing system is deficient in providing fire protection for the Village and has no backup well in the event of an emergency or the failure of Well 1 |
| Rock City: Main Street Improvements from Route 75 to Jefferson Street | \$250,000 | MFT Funds | Improvements to Main Street including drainage, curb and gutter and new pavement | Fall 2013 | Temporary Construction Crews | The existing lift stations are in need of maintenance of the pumps and motors and the control systems for monitoring the alarm levels |
| Rock Falls: East Second Street Extension | | | Extension of East Second St. from Wood Ave. to Avenue A | | | |
| Rock Falls: McNeil Road | | | Upgrade of Existing Road | | | |
| Rock Falls: Water and Sewer Extension | | | Extension to McNeil Road from Industrial Park | | | |
| Rock Falls: 5th Avenue Overlay | | | Provide safe and secure roadway from schools to Route 30 | Anytime | Construction jobs, Preserve retail | Overlay to protect access to high density population area providing access to schools and shopping. |
| Rock Falls: West 12th Street Drainage | | | Improve Street with severe drainage problems. | Anytime | Construction jobs, Preserve retail | Rebuild to provide safe and flood-free route for high density area including seniors to underutilized shopping centers from 1st Avenue to 5th Avenue. |
| Rock Falls: West 13th Street Improvement | | | Improve Street between retail shops that depend on traffic for survival. | Anytime | Construction jobs, Preserve retail | Rebuild to provide safe and flood-free access to retail area of 1st Ave. (Rt. 40). |
| Savanna: North 4th Street Road Rehabilitation Project | \$230,000 | \$80,000 CDAP and \$150,000 City Funds | | Summer 2013 | | |
| Savanna: North East Water Main | \$420,000 | | | 2013 | | |
| Savanna: Sewer Lining Project | \$350,000 | CDAP and City Funds | | 2013 | | |
| Savanna: Super 8 Water Main Extension Project | \$925,000 | | | 2013 | | New city main to benefit city and Sullivan's Property |
| Savanna-LRA Depot: Road Upgrades | | | Road upgrades to county standards in order to become public access roads. | 2015 | | 2 roads will need to be upgraded to county standards before county will take over possession and maintenance. |
| Savanna-LRA Depot: Infrastructure Upgrades | | | Upgrades need to be made to include water and sewer extensions, lift stations improvements, and natural gas access. | Anytime | | Upgrades and extensions need to be implemented to support existing businesses and attract new business development to the park. |

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| Savanna-LRA Depot: Barge Loading and Unloading Facility | | | Establishment and installation of barge loading & uploading sites along the Mississippi River shore area of the LRA, lying within USFWS National Refuge area. | 2015 | | Establishment and installation are critical to gaining access to barge traffic for many of the current and potential businesses at the LRA. |
| Savanna-LRA Depot: Railroad Extension | | | Extension of existing rail to service a grain handling facility currently located and expanding at LRA. | Anytime | | Upgrades and extensions will need to be made to support further growth and optimize the business opportunities of companies located at the LRA. |
| Scales Mound: Improvements to storm and sanitary sewers as well as the water system | | | Improve existing system for residents and development | Anytime | | Repair sewer lines to reduce clean water infiltration and provide services to new areas and increase water pressure in existing areas. |
| Scales Mound: Development of Charles Mound | | | Technical Assistance | Anytime | | Obtain land acquisition and development of Charles Mound site as a tourist destination |
| Sterling: Public Works and Facilities for Industrial Parks | | | | | | |
| Sterling: Riverfront Project Development for Multi-Use Facilities and Infrastructure | | | | | | |
| Sterling: Broadband Access in Industrial Parks | | | | | | |
| Stockton: Dollar Store | ? | TIF | Provide retail store with a variety of goods for local residents | | ?? | Attract a dollar store to the Village that sells merchandise at a low cost and provides reasonably priced clothing |
| Stockton: DURA Road Project | \$2,500,000 | Jo Daviess County Road & Bridge, TIF, IDOT (secured), DCEO, Bonding | Provide weighted street through new Industrial Park for redirected truck traffic from Carpenter Ave. | 2013 | 200+ | Construct a new road from Simmons to Route 78 through new Industrial Park area to handle truck traffic from DURA Automotive |
| Stockton: East Carpenter Avenue Road Improvements | \$400,000 | Motor Fuel Tax, Jo Daviess County Road & Bridge, IDOT | Repair street, redirect truck traffic and add sidewalks to provide a better and safer road | | 0 | Large volume of heavy truck traffic. Complete tear out and rebuild of road from Route 78 to Simmons; construct new sidewalk. |
| Stockton: New Community Building | \$750,000 | General Fund, Bonding | To provide a community building for community events | | 0 | Construct a new community building that could house 200 to 300 people. Provide open meeting space with kitchen facilities. |
| Stockton: New Industrial Park | ? | General Fund, TIF, Bonding | To create a new Industrial Park to provide land for light manufacturing | | 100 to 200 | The new proposed Industrial Park area is located at the south side of the Village near existing industry. The DURA roadway project will provide a new road through Park area. |
| Stockton: North Stockton Street Roadway Improvements | \$500,000 | Motor Fuel Tax, Jo Daviess County Road & Bridge, IDOT | Provide weighted street for truck traffic | | | Roadway improvements at intersection of Route 20 and N. Stockton Street; accommodate heavy truck traffic from Stockton Travel Center |
| Stockton: Roadway Improvement Projects | \$400,000 | Motor Fuel Tax, Jo Daviess County Road & Bridge, IDOT | Repair streets to provide improved travel safety | 2014 | 0 | Roadway repairs on East Benton Avenue, East Front Avenue, Rush Street and Simmons Street |
| Stockton: Senior Housing Complex | ? | TIF, Tax Credits, Bonding | Provide senior housing living facilities for the elderly | | ?? | Construct a senior housing facility near existing nursing home. Provide apartments and assisted living facilities |

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| Stockton: Sidewalk Construction / Replacement Program | \$200,000 | General Fund, IDOT's Safe Routes to School | Construct new sidewalks and repair existing to provide a safer walking environment | 2013 | 0 | Construct new sidewalk along Carpenter from Route 78 to Simmons; new sidewalk along Railroad from Route 78 to Post Office; new sidewalk along Rush Street. |
| Stockton: Water Main Replacement Program | \$1,100,000 | Water Fund, DCEO, USDA, IEPA | To provide improved water service, increased pressure and improved fire flow | 2013 | 0 | To replace undersized and dead-end water mains throughout the Village for an improved water system |
| Stockton: West Railroad Avenue Road Improvements | \$400,000 | Motor Fuel Tax, Jo Daviess County Road & Bridge, IDOT | Provide weighted street for trucks and safer road for pedestrians | | 10 | Complete tear out and rebuild to 80,000 lb roadway from Route 78 to North Rush Street; widened with storm drains and add sidewalk |
| Sublette: Public Works Upgrades | | | Technical Assistance | | | Upgrade current systems to increase capacity and support future growth |
| Sublette: Street Improvements | | | Technical Assistance | Anytime | | Improve streets, including curb, gutter, and sidewalks |
| Thomson: Technical Assistance with Facility Upgrades for Potential Ethanol/Biodiesel Plant | | | Compile Planning Information for preparation of future development needs | TBA | | Provide assistance with planning to upgrade public works at edge of town to enhance development opportunities |
| Thomson: Sand Ridge Road Upgrade to 80,000 lb. | \$1,400,000 | IDOT, EDP, TARP | Upgrade of the road to support truck traffic | 2013 | 35-40 | Upgrade Sand Ridge Road to an 80,000 lb. road to support potential truck traffic associated with BioMass Plant |
| Thomson: Sewer Lining | \$70,000 | Village General Fund or Water/ Sewer Fund | | 2013 | | |
| Warren: Demolition of old water tower | \$30,000 | | Demolish of old water tower and haul away of material. | Anytime | | Water tower was replaced in 2004. Much of materials will be recycled, keeping the cost relatively low. |
| Warren: Water System Upgrades | \$391,000 | ARRA/DCEO Grant & In-Kind Labor Match | New Water Meters and Repair to Well #4 | 2013 | | |
| Warren: Sewer System Upgrades | \$468,762 | DCEO Grant with a match | System Improvements | 2013 | | |
| Warren: Water Tower Project | \$50,000 | Second half of 2012 Grant | Demolition or Refurbishment of Old Water Tower | 2013 | | |
| Warren: Highway 78 Improvements | \$1,380,000 | IDOT and Village | Resurfacing of Highway 78 | 2013 | | Resurfacing of parking lanes, manholes and inlets. |
| White Rock Township: Construction of Sanitary Sewer System | \$30,000 Engineering Fees \$2,000,000 Project Cost | | Construction of lift station and force-main from Rochelle | Spring 2013 | | Community currently lacks a functioning sewer system and needs funds to construct system. |
| Whiteside County: US Highway 30 and Route 2 Infrastructure Upgrades | \$1,600,000 | | Provide adequate infrastructure along Route 30 near Walmart Distribution Center. | Anytime | | Implementation of infrastructure needs along Route 30 and Route 2 to provide service to future business. |
| Whiteside County: Land Use/Strategic Planning for County Development Needs | \$75,000 | Match by Whiteside County Enterprise Zone Management Organization | Compile Planning Information for preparation of future growth needs | Anytime | | Completion of a Planning Process to improve development opportunities throughout the County |
| Whiteside County: Black Road | \$950,000 | MFT Funds | Reconstruct Black Rd. over Drainage Ditch | | | Need reconstructed to carry 80,000# loads. Truck route for Hyponex Corp & Markman Peat Corp. |
| Whiteside County: Black Road | \$950,000 | MFT Funds | Reconstruct Black Rd. over Rock Creek | | | Need reconstructed to carry 80,000# loads. Truck route for Hyponex Corp & Markman Peat Corp. |
| York Township: Road for Future JCE BioMass Plant | | | To construct 80,000 # Road to the BioMass Plant | 2013 | | Upgrade road to support 80,000# truck traffic |

BLACKHAWK HILLS Regional Council



Jo Daviess • Stephenson • Carroll • Ogle • Whiteside • Lee

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

Whereas, the Blackhawk Hills Regional Council (formally known as Blackhawk Hills Resource Conservation and Development Council) serves the six Northwest Counties of Illinois as an official U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development District;

Whereas the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) report assesses existing conditions, formulates a development strategy and recommends the implementation of said strategy;

Whereas the 2013 CEDS Annual Report Update includes a variety of projects and activities identified as priorities for our region;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED on this 30th day of May, 2013, that the Blackhawk Hills Regional Council hereby adopts this resolution in support of the development strategies and projects outlined in the 2013 CEDS Annual Report Update and strongly recommends the implementation of said projects.

Passed this 30th day of May, 2013.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Colson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Ron Colson, President
Blackhawk Hills Regional Council

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glen R. Kuhlemier". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Glen Kuhlemier, Secretary/Treasurer
Blackhawk Hills Regional Council

Blackhawk Hills Regional Council would like to thank our financial supporters:



Carroll County, Illinois



Jo Daviess County, Illinois



Lee County, Illinois



Ogle County, Illinois



Carroll County SWCD



Soil and Water Conservation District



Whiteside County SWCD



If you would like Blackhawk Hills Regional Council to be involved in a program or project, or if you would like to invest in Blackhawk Hills Regional Council, please contact us.

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