



WAYNE COUNTY

Strategic Investment Plan





Wayne County is the Eastern Gateway to Indiana. Since its establishment by the territorial legislature in 1811, Wayne County has been an important commercial and transportation hub for the Eastern Indiana and Western Ohio region.

The confluence of the Whitewater River and the National Road in Wayne County gave early settlers the incentive to make Wayne County their permanent home rather than just one more stop along their journey. The river became a source of power to fuel a manufacturing economy that made Richmond famous while the National Road became the means to transport both manufactured goods and agricultural products to market.

Through a consistent economic development program, today Wayne County has a diverse economy that includes numerous industry sectors including food processing, advanced manufacturing, and healthcare. Globally recognized brands have facilities in Wayne County including General Mills, Colgate-Palmolive, and Land O' Lakes. Continued investment in two industrial parks has resulted in an increase in expansions, as well as new companies choosing to locate in Wayne County. This investment activity demonstrates Wayne County has the infrastructure in place to attract and retain employers. To continue this economic growth, we need to be able to attract and retain a skilled workforce.

Wayne County's participation in OCRA's Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program is a collaborative effort to redevelop the historic architecture and amenities of Wayne County, as well as create new ways residents and visitors can enjoy what the county has to offer. The cooperation engendered between Wayne County, the City of Richmond, and the towns of Cambridge City, Dublin, East Germantown, Economy, Milton, and Spring Grove will become the new standard that defines future endeavors.

This Strategic Investment Plan embodies the work of hundreds of Wayne County residents. It is a realistic representation of our collective desire to rebuild and reinvigorate our important heritage as we invest in a brighter future for our current and future residents and employers.

David M. Snow
Mayor of Richmond

Jeff Plasterer
President, Wayne County Board of Commissioners

Doug Brenneke
President, Spring Grove Town Council

Steven W. Sorah
President, Cambridge City Town Council

John R. Noland
President, Milton Town Council

Bruce Moles
President, Dublin Town Council

Stephen E. Mills
President, East Germantown Town Council

Shirley Williams
President, Economy Town Council



WAYNE COUNTY
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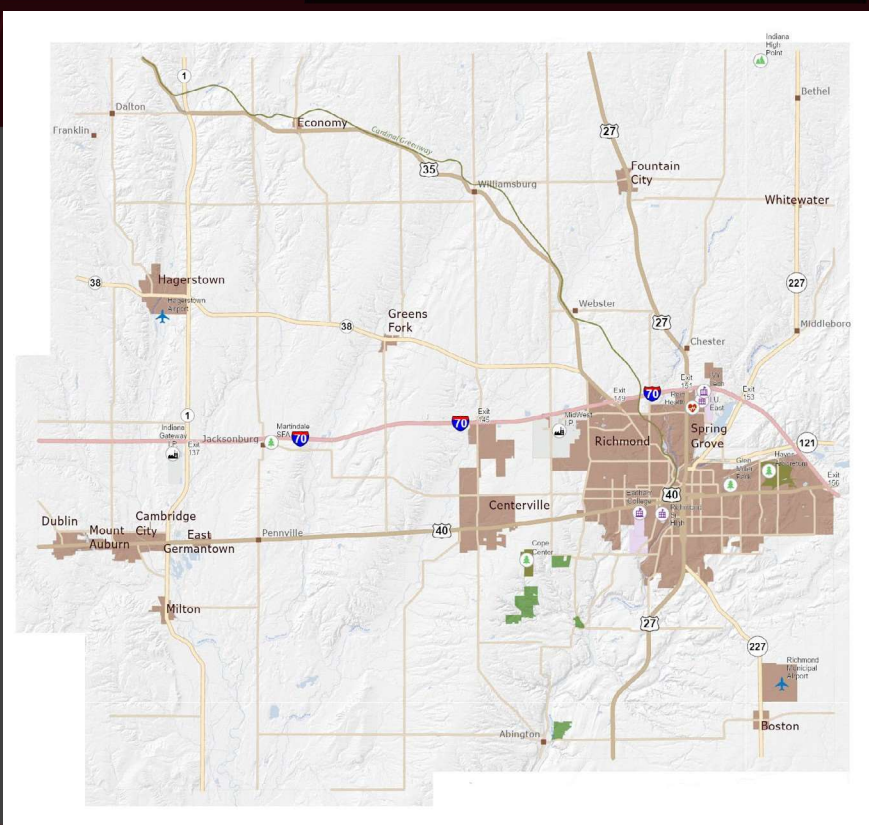
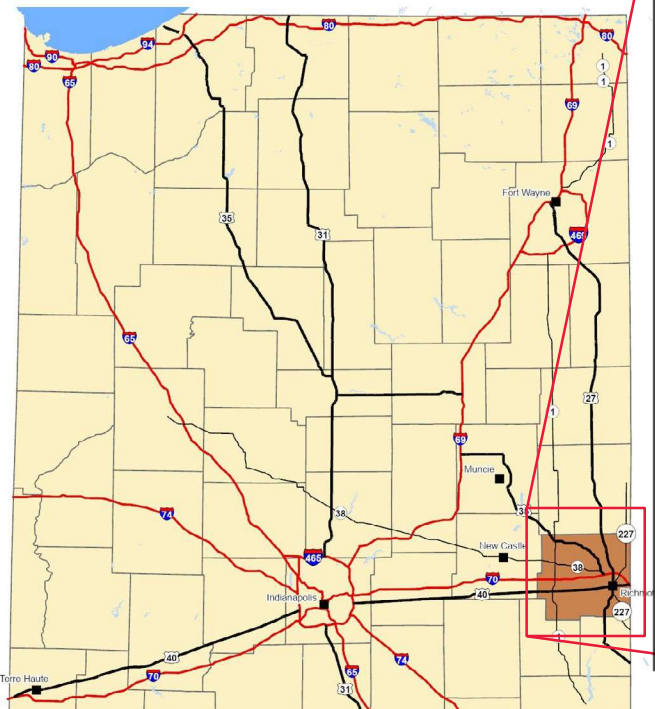
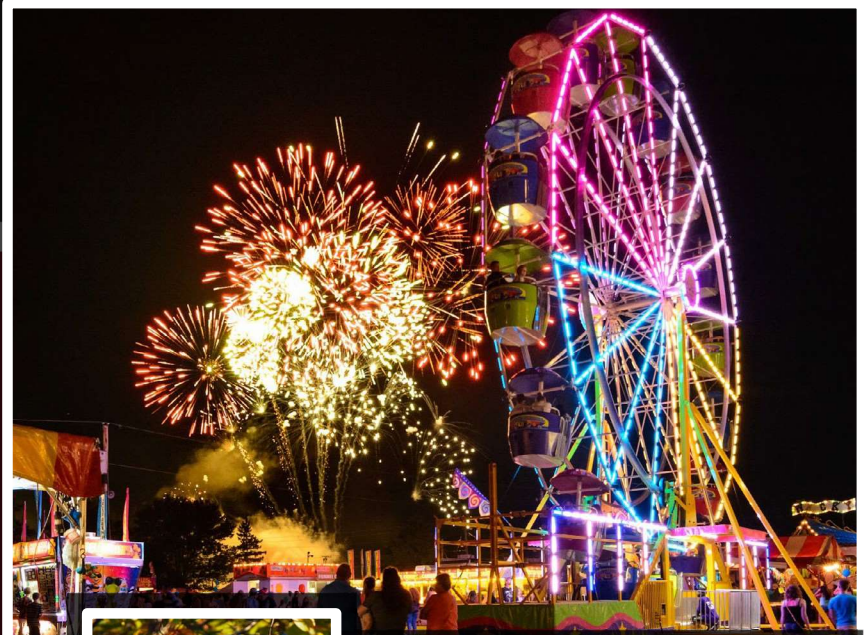
INTRODUCTION



Wayne County, Indiana

Located in the heart of the Midwest in east-central Indiana. Wayne County will be your first Indiana destination as you travel westbound on I-70, as we share the border with Ohio. Our rich farmland and unique geography encouraged early settlers to make their home here as early as 1806. Today, agriculture remains an important factor in the local economy, and area businesses continue to benefit from Wayne County's central location. Wayne County is divided into 14 communities: Boston, Cambridge City, Centerville, Dublin, East Germantown, Economy, Fountain City, Greens Fork, Hagerstown, Milton, Mt. Auburn, Richmond, Spring Grove and Whitewater.

We proudly share our amazing history via multiple museums and outstanding historic architecture. Our active citizens, along with our elected and business leaders, remain focused on creating a future-focused community that will continue to benefit our citizens for years to come.



Liberation Labs Holdings, Inc.

Liberation Labs will build its first commercial-scale, purpose-built precision fermentation biomanufacturing facility on a 36-acre lot in the Midwest Industrial Park in Richmond. The new facility will create 45 new full-time jobs and will be operational by the end of 2024.

Investments

\$115,000,000	\$250,000	\$50,000	\$114,700,000
<i>Total</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Private</i>

Johns Manville Expansion

Johns Manville invested in new equipment and training, retaining 107 existing full-time employees and adding two new FTE's.

Investments

\$28,050,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$28,000,000
<i>Total</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Private</i>

Vandor Group Expansion

Vandor Group is adding a new product line to its Richmond location, adding 28 new full-time jobs.

Investments

\$6,538,000	\$38,000	\$0	\$6,500,000
<i>Total</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Private</i>

Midwest Industrial Park Expansion

The City of Richmond and Wayne County partnered to acquire 335 acres to establish Phase III of the Park.

Investments

\$4,400,000	\$4,400,000	\$0	\$0
<i>Total</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Private</i>

Richmond Municipal Airport

Rehabilitation of Runway 15-33 to improve safety of airport runway and increase longevity.

Investments

\$2,539,285	\$152,357	\$2,386,928	\$0
<i>Total</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Private</i>

Connect the Cardinal Greenway Trail with the Gorge Trail

Connect the Cardinal Greenway Trail with the Gorge Trail to create connectivity between emerging areas of recreation.

Investments

\$1,020,000

Total

\$170,000

Local

\$850,000

Grant

\$0

Private

Beard Road Bridge 225 Over Martindale Creek in Economy

A new, 100 ft single span, two lane concrete I-beam structure replaced the 108 year old 120 ft, single span, one lane bridge. This included new piling, end bents, beams and bridge deck.

Investments

\$662,914

Total

\$348,007

Local

\$274,907

Grant

\$0

Private

National Road Heritage Trail

Improve connectivity in the community and greater access to the trail network.

Investments

\$350,000

Total

\$150,000

Local

\$200,000

Grant

\$0

Private

Cambridge City Crosswalk Upgrades

The Foote, Walnut and Center Street crossings were reworked and repaved and brought to ADA compliance.

Investments

\$163,425

Total

\$120,201

Local

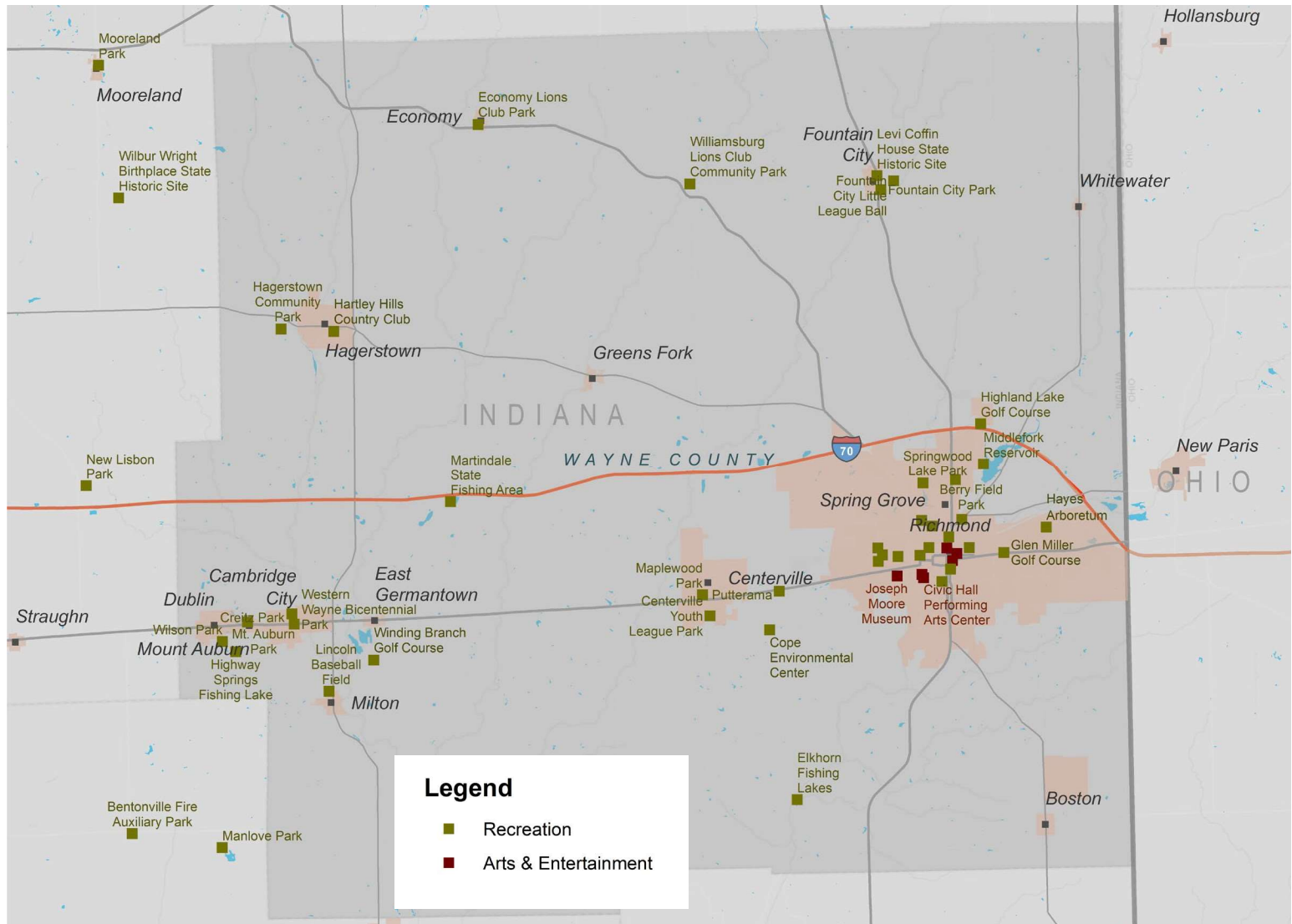
\$43,224

Grant

\$0

Private





LOCATION

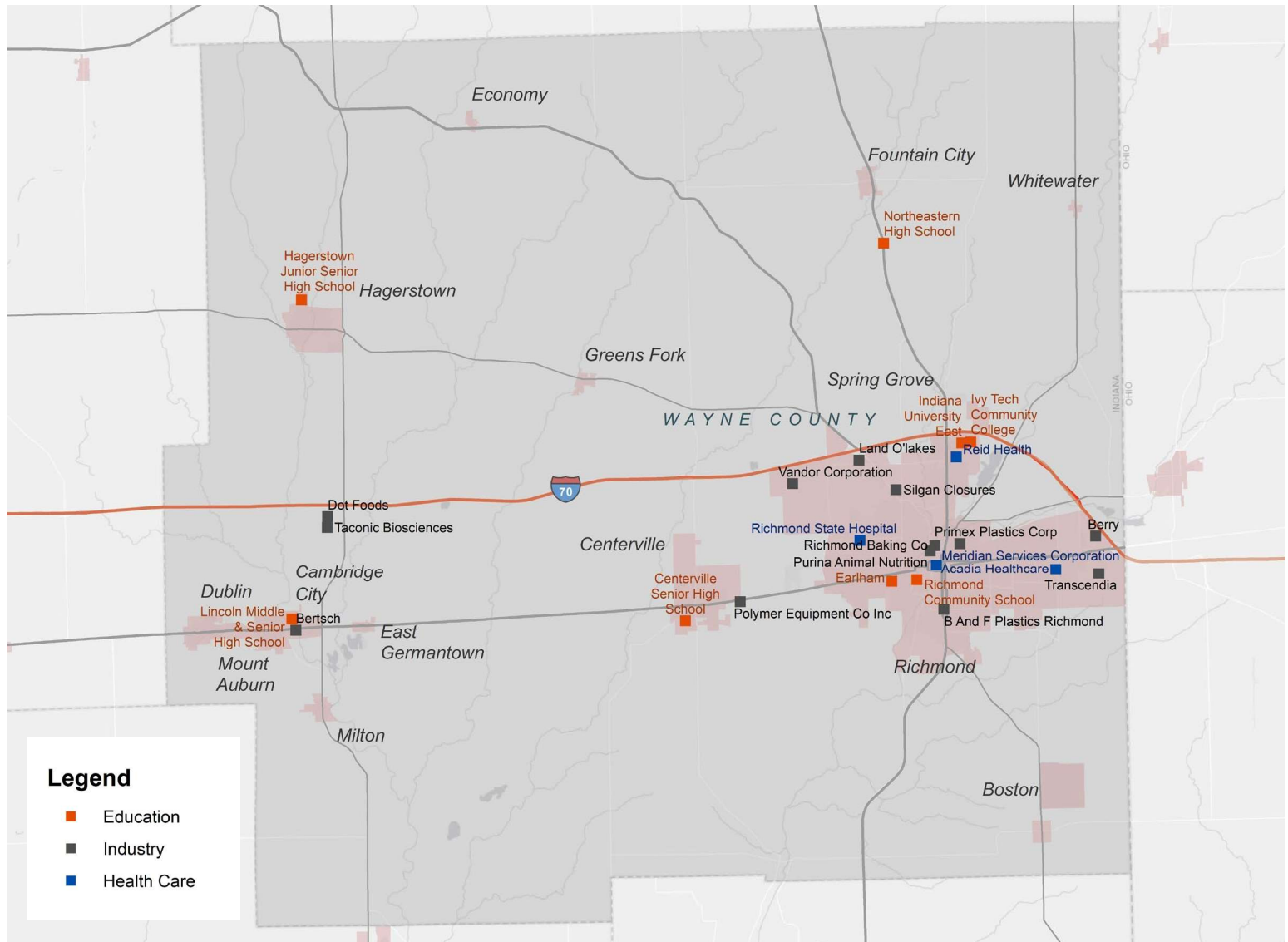
Wayne County is situated directly on the I-70 Corridor between Dayton, Ohio and Indianapolis, Indiana. The County is serviced by Dayton, Indianapolis and Cincinnati International Airports, as well as the local Richmond Municipal Airport. The municipal airport has both a 5,000 and 5,500 feet runway and has hangar space available.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

How many small communities have a Civic Theatre, Symphony Orchestra, Art Museum, Historical Museum and a Performing Arts Center? Richmond, Wayne County Indiana has all of these attractions and more. There is an active culture of arts and entertainment with Bloom and Glow and Shakespeare in the Park, a Model T Museum, Joseph Moore Museum, Overbeck Pottery Museum, and numerous annual festivals, such as Canal Days, the Winter Meltdown, the Fourth Street Fair.

PARKS & RECREATION

Wayne County has acres of public park open spaces, including the Cope Environmental Center and Hayes Arboretum, both free and open to the public for miles and miles of hiking. Richmond has a robust Parks Department and the various city parks offer plenty of opportunities for golf, walking, hiking, bicycling, swimming, tennis, pickleball and disc golf. Middlefork Reservoir has a ramp for boaters, and rentals for paddle boats, kayaks and canoes for water exploration. Want to hike or bike a trail? Creitz Park in Cambridge City is a nearly 28-acre park, complete with 3 ball diamonds, a horse arena, 3 shelters, and a pedestrian suspension bridge that spans the west fork of the Whitewater River. It recently became the summer gathering spot for lively outdoor concerts. The 62-mile Cardinal Greenway Trail has eight trailheads in Wayne County in three different communities: Economy, Williamsburg and Richmond.



EDUCATION

Wayne County is home to five higher education learning institutions: Earlham College, Indiana University East, Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana, Purdue Polytechnic Institute of Richmond and Bethany Seminary. In addition, Wayne County has five public school corporations and several private schools.

INDUSTRY

Richmond and Wayne County host several industry sectors, including plastics and food processing. Midwest Industrial Park is 218.3 acres owned by the City of Richmond with nine tenants that employ a total of 800, and has many shovel-ready sites. Indiana Gateway Industrial Park, located just south of I-70 on St. Rd. 1 is owned by Wayne County Government. Tenants of the park currently include Taconic Bioscience, DOT Foods and Sugar Creek Packaging, providing more than 700 jobs. The parks are poised for growth, offering strong infrastructure and plenty of acreage available.

HEALTH CARE

Reid Health, a nonprofit, 223 bed, accredited regional hospital serves the residents of Wayne County. Reid Health is one of Wayne County's largest employers, employing over 2,500. Wayne County is also served by four Federally Qualified Health Centers: Centerstone Health Services, Meridian Health Services, Neighborhood Health Center and Well Care Community Health.

POPULATION



Population (2022)

66,273



Age demographics (2022)

Under 25	33%
25-44	25.7%
45-64	24.9%
65+	16.4%



Median age

38.1

ECONOMICS & HOUSING



Cost of living index

70.9



Owner-occupied housing

68%



Real median household income (2021)

\$50,569



Renter-occupied housing

32%



Avg. earnings of manufacturing employees

\$71,853



Median owner-occupied home value

\$105,500



Top industries

Manufacturing

Health Care & Social Services

Retail

Government



Largest job counts

Office Admin

Sales & Related Occupations

Production

Food Prep & Serving



PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

in

WAYNE COUNTY



Enhancing Quality of Place

Student Community Engagement Programs

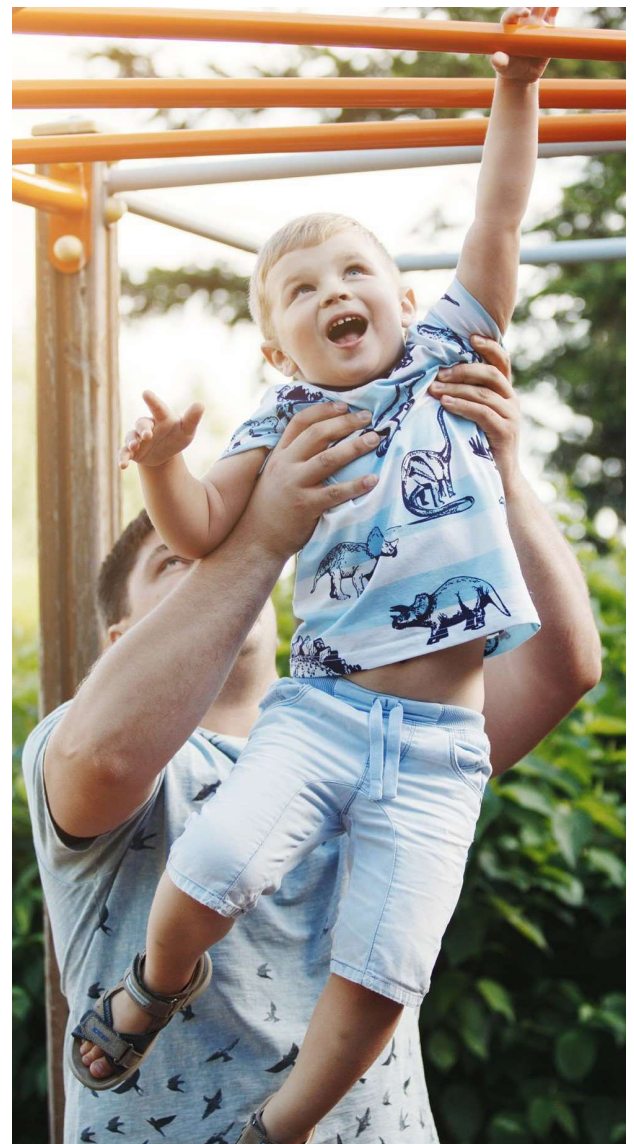
(My Community, My Vision)

Each of the five school systems in Wayne County will create programming for their students to learn about their communities, themselves, and their neighbors. Using a combination of classroom discussion, mentorship from the communities, and interaction with school and community leaders, the participants from each school will develop a project or projects that will improve their communities for themselves and future generations.

Students will learn project management as they engage their community in the design and implementation of their own projects. Fundraising will also be a component of this program.

Each school will be eligible to apply to the IHEDA to participate in the matching grant program known as My Community, My Vision. However, they will not be required to in order to participate in this program and be eligible to receive project funding from other sources.

Budget	
Projected Cost	\$250,000
Projected Funding	
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$50,000
Private	\$200,000

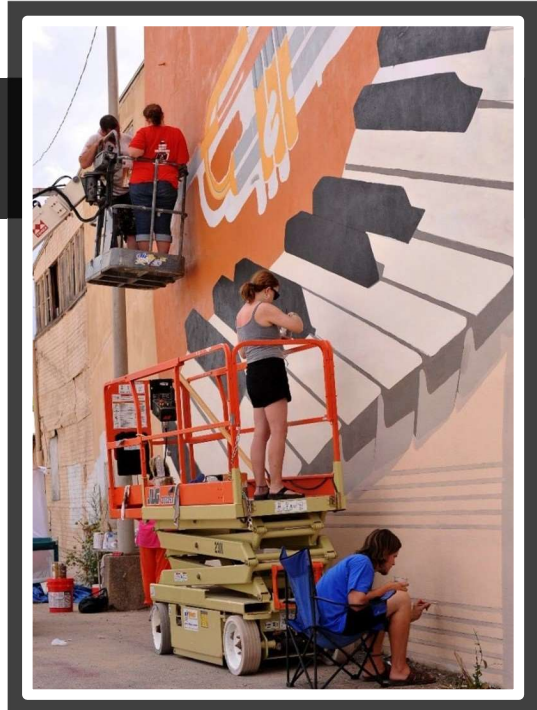


Enhancing Quality of Place

2024 Wayne County Murals Project

The 2024 Wayne County Murals project would establish up to ten (10) creative, 20' tall by 30' wide, one-of-a-kind, public art murals to be placed throughout Wayne County, to include Richmond. In addition, the Wayne County Murals project would include developing one (1) "Community Engagement" Mural for all Wayne County youth & residents to participate in regardless of their art skills - location TBD. This Wayne County murals project is all about bringing residents, both young and old, together through unique community engagement projects such as this. Choosing Mural wall locations will be dependent upon several things to include, but not limited to, 1) the condition of the proposed walls, 2) any advanced prep work that may need to be completed by each wall owner and 3) securing a signed contractual agreement with each of the prospective walls' owner(s).

This project would greatly enhance Wayne County's image as a culturally enriched, highly creative and diverse county whose tremendous, enduring appreciation & commitment to the creative arts would be on display 24/7, while fully demonstrating our County's strong support & encouragement for cultural projects such as this. This project provides an interactive, educational and creative venue for artists, residents and especially for our youth. Individually, these murals have the innate ability to elevate each of our communities' quality of place among its residents through the immediate integration of art and beauty, along with the tangible, intrinsic benefits of energizing additional beautification efforts within each community where murals are located, and an inclusive, heightened sense of pride within our residents and our youth.



Budget	
Projected Cost	\$115,000
Projected Funding	
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$75,000
Grants <i>TBD</i>	\$20,000+
Private <i>Wayne County Tourism</i>	\$20,000

Timeline

- 30-60 days – "Call for Walls" throughout Wayne County, to include Richmond
- 60 days – "Call for Artists" local, regional and national
- 30 days – Chosen artists assigned to wall owners, finalize design concept
- 2-4 weeks – Implementation / completion of (10) Wayne County Murals
- 2-5 days – Implementation / completion of (1) Community Mural
- Entire Project – Project Manager oversees project details from start to finish



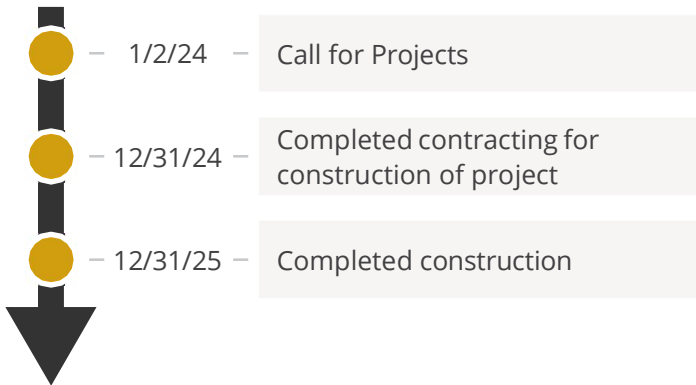
Strengthening Local Economies

Infrastructure for Market-Rate Housing in Unincorporated Area

A regional housing study that included five counties, plus the City of Richmond, determined the top ten current housing challenges, and among the top ten were: poor availability of housing/shortage of housing, single family housing demand and local infrastructure (such as public water, sewer, utilities and roads) serve as barriers to those in the market for housing. A strategy to remove one barrier is to aid in the construction of infrastructure.

Therefore, one potential project would be for Wayne County to pay for the for the extension of water lines to an already designated location with a signed development agreement with a developer who agrees to build a minimum number of units within a specified time period.

Timeline Targets



Budget

Projected Cost	\$800,000
Projected Funding	
County HELP Commitment	\$800,000



Strengthening Local Economies

Expansion of Childcare Seats in Richmond-Wayne County

The Richmond Family YMCA conducted a market study to determine areas of expansion for the local chapter. One high need identified for Wayne County is the creation of an early learning childcare center on either the north side or west side of Richmond. Since the completion of the study in November 2022, the YMCA has identified a location on Richmond’s west side that can support the care of 60-70 children ages 0-4 during the hours of 6:00 am until midnight Monday through Friday. This proposed development will only partially meet the demand of new seats needed to support local residents, which total 327 for both infants and toddlers, however, this new early learning childcare center will help us meet demand for some of our residents in need. The project scope of \$300,000 includes up to \$200,000 for building renovations and \$100,000 for furniture and staff training.

Budget		Timeline	
Projected Cost	\$300,000		1-2 months – Obtain bids for center improvements
Projected Funding			
County* <i>HELP Commitment</i> <i>*Only needed if FSSA grant is denied</i>	\$300,000		5-6 months – Construction completed
State <i>FSSA grant application submitted</i>	\$300,000		
Private Donations <i>Local employers can secure guaranteed seats per month</i>			



Strengthening Local Economies

Housing Infrastructure for Single Family Homes

One potential project contains 28 buildable lots within the Meers Estates subdivision. The Meers Estate and Wesleyan Heights subdivision, which began development in the 1970's, contains 47 lots. All 28 lots range between one-third and one-half acre area for single family homes ranging in size from 1,500 and 2,500 square feet, with a price range anticipated between \$275,000 to \$325,000. These 28 lots would be the only subdivision lots in Cambridge City available for new construction, and there have been few lots available in Cambridge City in fifteen years. Barriers to development costs have driven up lot costs which has hindered development of new construction homes. The investment requested is for water and road infrastructure costs, which will lower the lot cost. The subdivision plat has primary and secondary plat approval and part of the subdivision has some infrastructure in place.

Timeline



Budget

Projected Cost	\$339,000
Projected Funding	
County HELP Commitment	\$260,800
County EDIT	\$28,200
Private Donation Sugar Creek	\$50,000

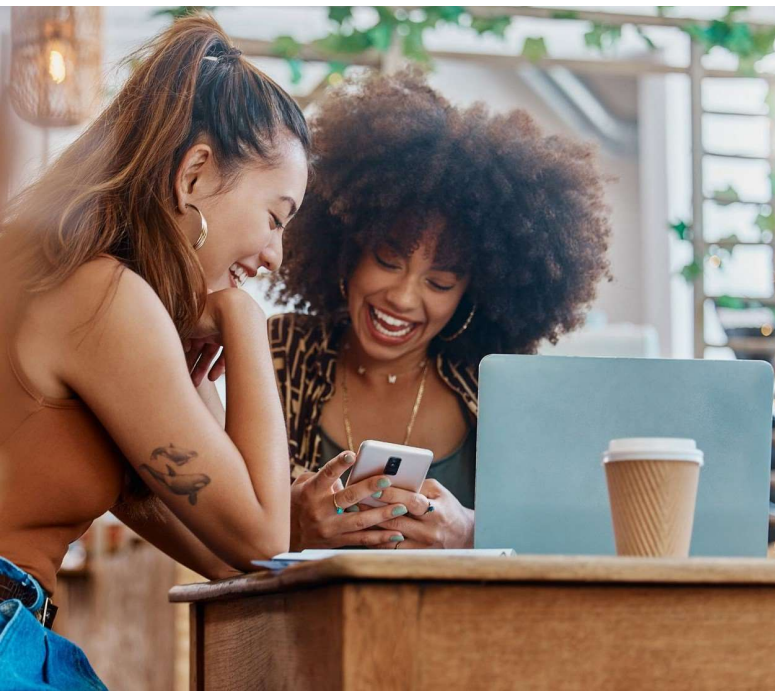


Advancing E-Connectivity

Public Wifi Expansion In Parks & On Main Street Corridors

This project will provide Wifi expansion in East Germantown, Milton, Dublin, Cambridge City, and Economy. Four of the five communities have a low to moderate (“LMI”) income rating of 51% or higher. For Cambridge City, Wifi will expand from the Main Street Corridor to Creitz Park, a popular gathering space in the city.

Through our community engagements, the need for increasing equity and access for internet services was mentioned in several of our community meetings. The additional Wifi expansion will serve LMI residents, students of all ages, small businesses, churches, schools, emergency personnel, farmer’s markets, art groups, and other community clubs.



Timeline



Budget

Projected Costs per Community	
East Germantown	\$2,520
Milton	\$1,000
Dublin	\$3,700
Cambridge City	\$4,700
Economy	\$2,520
Projected Cost	\$14,440
Projected Funding	
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$14,440

Advancing E-Connectivity

Emergency Communications Review & Needs Assessment

Wayne County Emergency Communications Department (“WCECD”) is the consolidated Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) responsible for receiving all 911 emergency calls for service and dispatching the appropriate public safety agency, e.g. law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical service agencies in the county. As technology for public safety has advanced, Wayne County and the City of Richmond have made significant financial contributions to provide the necessary radio resources for law enforcement personnel, while the land-mobile radio infrastructure utilized for other public safety agencies has not.

WCECD tones and dispatches 12 volunteer fire departments in the county using aging VHF radio infrastructure located in 3 dispersed locations (Centerville, Hagerstown, and Richmond) which creates significant land-mobile radio coverage in northeastern and southwestern Wayne County.

WCECD, all law enforcement agencies and the private ambulance service all utilize the Integrated Public Safety Commission (IPSC) trunked 700/800 MHz Motorola statewide system. WCECD, by design, is restricted to one IPSC tower, located on West Main Street in Richmond, Indiana. During high-volume incidents, the Richmond tower is overloaded by subscribers which diminishes voice communications to emergency responders.

Land-mobile radio technologies have advanced significantly in recent years which allows Wayne County the opportunity to upgrade their VHF and 700/800 MHz infrastructure to improve voice communications for all public safety agencies.

Wayne County officials have determined that the priority is to commission a comprehensive assessment of the existing communication infrastructure, to include coverage testing and simulcast system prediction, in-building coverage surveys, site surveys, system loading analysis, licensing documentation and Federal Communication Commission (FCC) ULS Database reviews, and stakeholder interviews. The comprehensive assessment will provide officials with the necessary information to make informed decisions on future land-mobile radio infrastructure upgrades, replacement, and expansions.

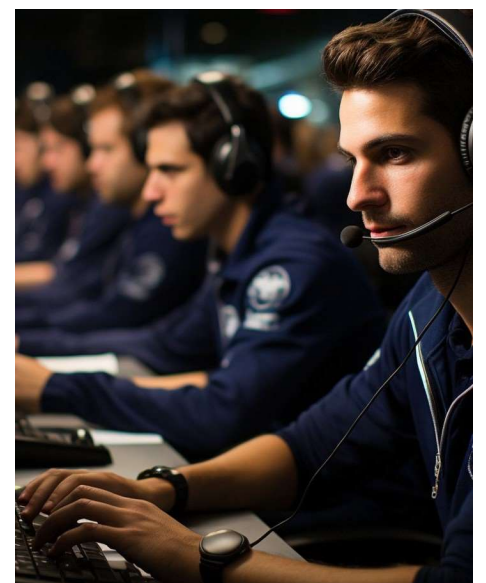
Relying on the data, industry standards, and best practices, elected officials will be utilizing taxpayer money in the most appropriate manner to improve emergency communications countywide. The assessment will assist emergency personnel, police departments, fire departments (paid and volunteer) and local cities and towns.

Budget	
Projected Cost	\$81,800
Projected Funding	
County	\$81,800



Timeline

Reporting - Within 240 days of contract award. Final LMR System Assessment Report is provided to the County.



Advancing E-Connectivity

Emergency Communication Towers

Public Safety officials in Wayne County have self-reported to the Wayne County Emergency Communications Department (WCECD) that they are experiencing significant “dead-spots” in land-mobile radio communications. WCECD system users have identified limitations in both paging and voice communications on the VHF systems used to communicate with volunteer fire departments.

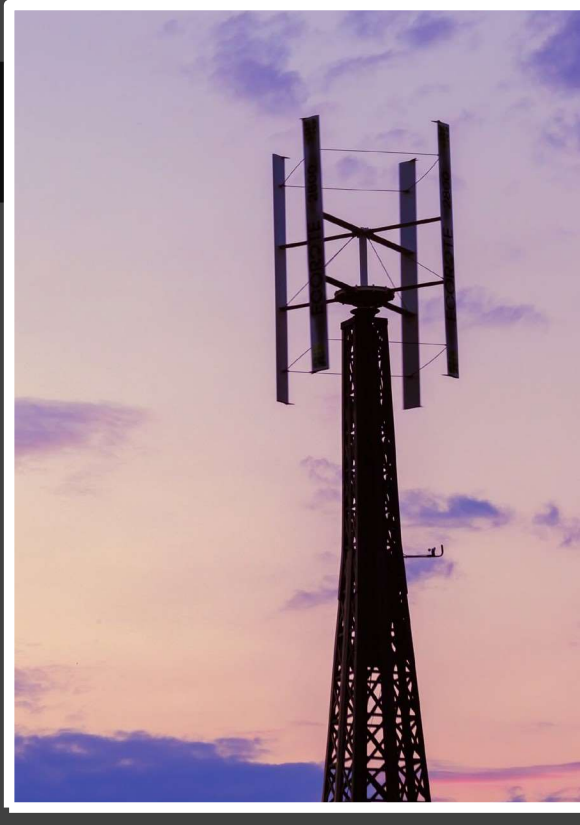
WCECD, all law enforcement agencies and the private ambulance service all utilize the Integrated Public Safety Commission (IPSC) trunked 700/800 MHz Motorola statewide system. WCECD by design is restricted to the one IPSC tower located on West Main Street in Richmond. During high-volume incidents, the Richmond tower is overloaded by subscribers which diminishes voice communications to emergency responders.

Public safety officials have prioritized adding one or more communication towers and required infrastructure in strategic locations in Wayne County to improve VHF coverage and add redundancy to their 700/800 MHz systems. The number of tower sites and locations will be determined through the comprehensive land-mobile radio communications assessment project.

Emergency Communication infrastructure (towers) have the availability to share space for much needed voice and data communication requirements in rural Indiana. Consideration will be given to sharing tower space in underserved areas.

The Project Budget is an estimate based on previous industry projects. A final budget estimate would be available through a county initiated RFP process. The specifications for the RFP will be developed from the information provided by the Assessment Report.

Considerations will be for one tower in the Northeast and one in the Southwest. These are current dry spots that need to be remedied. However, what the assessment reveals will be the final determinations. The additional towers will assist emergency personnel, police departments, fire departments (paid and volunteer) and local cities and towns. Cost estimate is \$750,000 per tower.



Timeline



Budget	
Projected Cost	\$1,500,000
Projected Funding	
County HELP Commitment	\$1,500,000

Enhancing Quality of Place

Blight Elimination in the County

Estimated cost:
\$780,000



Strengthening Local Economies

Grant Administration Services for CDBG-CV Grant

Estimated cost:
\$100,000



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN SUMMARY

Wayne County identified and reacted to the challenges of engaging the diverse populations within our HELP Regional Group. We prioritized inclusivity at all levels, and determined the most effective means of engaging our citizens was to focus on three strategies: a community survey; one-on-one, in person meetings; and building on information gleaned from prior planning processes within our community. The HELP Program and our Community Engagement Plan was introduced by way of newspaper articles and interviews on our local radio and public television stations. Keeping with our plan, we hosted seven, in-person community meetings throughout Wayne County, as well as offered an online survey. The survey was also available in all five Wayne County public libraries. The end result was a total of 932 completed surveys. All survey comments were tabulated and shared with participants who provided their e-mail address.

EASE OF BUSINESS PROCESS

Wayne County has contracted with the Economic Development Corporation to provide economic development services for the county and most of the towns. Our EDC is the gateway for new business development in our community, with up-to-the-minute information on availability of buildings and sites, available infrastructure and utility providers, and knowledge of incentives available from a variety of local sources, including city and county revolving loan funds, TIF districts, opportunities for EDIT grants and tax abatements. Our cities and towns have up-to-date comprehensive plans and work collaboratively with the EDC and each other to provide an environment that is open to business growth.





PROJECTS & PROGRAMS

in

RICHMOND & WAYNE COUNTY



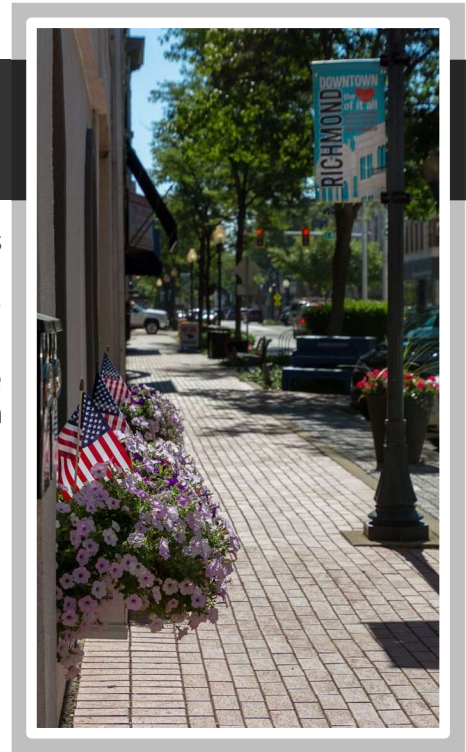
Enhancing Quality of Place

Main Street Revitalization Programs

Wayne County will establish a portfolio of Main Street Revitalization Programs to help support economic development and community revitalization efforts in our Wayne County Main Street Communities. The programs offer a variety of building improvement activities, including mixed-use, façade, construction, electrical, and plumbing for building restorations identified in Forward Wayne County’s Main Street Structural/Feasibility Study. This study assessed 60 Main Street buildings county-wide..

Key goals of the Main Street Revitalization Programs are:

- To strengthen Wayne County’s retail and commercial base of its Main Streets.
- To encourage and incentivize upper-story residential development on Main Street.
- To provide opportunities for owners and tenants to participate in the revitalization of their properties by stimulating private investment in Wayne County.
- To generate additional revitalization by focusing the investment on improvements visible to customers, neighboring merchants, and residents.
- To increase business by making downtown living and individual businesses more attractive.
- To increase property values, increase the profile and density and increase patronization of Wayne County Main Streets.



Budget	
Total Projected Cost	\$2,000,000
Projected Funding	
City <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$1,000,000
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$1,000,000
Private <i>Owner Match Up to</i>	\$2,000,000



Enhancing Quality of Place

Animal Welfare

Richmond and Wayne County have a responsibility to address the issue of stray animals in Wayne County. Although there are not-for-profit animal shelters in our area, they are largely at capacity. Wayne County currently contracts with the Animal Welfare League and City of Richmond contracts with the Henry County Animal Shelter to house stray animals picked up by our Animal Control Officers.

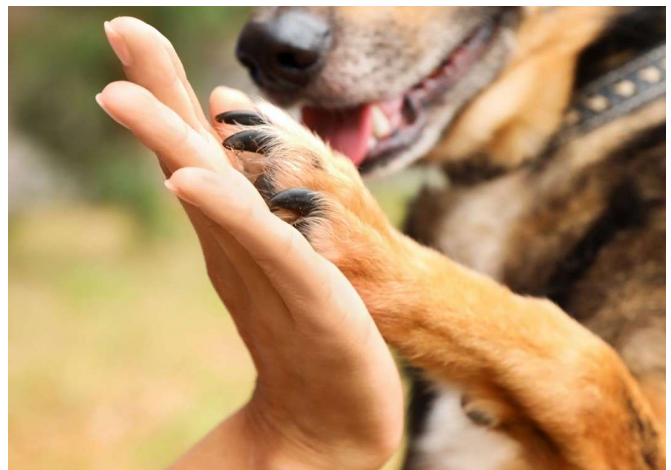
The City and County will work together to commission a needs assessment study for the care of stray animals in our communities.



Timeline



Budget	
Total Projected Cost	\$100,000
Projected Funding	
Local Richmond <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$50,000
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$50,000



Enhancing Quality of Place

Whitewater Gorge Activation

The Whitewater Gorge Park, one of the City's largest park properties, is a 146-acre regional park located between Test Road and Waterfall Road. The gorge area features several natural and man-made destinations along the way, including numerous quarries, vertical cliffs, Thistlethwaite Falls, the National Road Bridge, Starr Piano Company, Gennett Recording Studio, and the Test Woolen Mill site. Today, the park connects many different small recreational areas and neighborhoods to the Whitewater River and the regional Cardinal Greenway. It also serves as a backdrop to regional tourism attractions including the Starr Gennett Walk of Fame, the Whitewater Gorge Trail, the Whitewater Valley Fossil Hunt, and Thistlethwaite Falls.

Community Vision

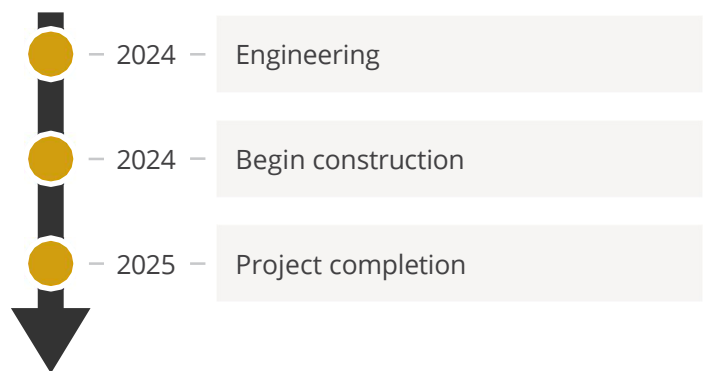
Through strategic recreation improvements and thoughtful community programming, Whitewater Gorge Park will become a signature recreation destination, providing unique experiences that tie visitors to the local community, the region's history, and the natural environment.

Improvements to the nearly 50-acre Whitewater Gorge South will preserve and protect the Gorge by creating a destination atmosphere that encourages visitors to explore the historical, geological, and natural assets of the Gorge.

- Improvements to existing amenities including an enhanced parking lot and entryway, trail resurfacing, enhanced split-rail fencing, pedestrian rest nodes, and interpretive trail signage are intended to create a renewed interest in the area by welcoming visitors into the space in a safe and inviting way.
- New recreational amenities are intended to capitalize on river views and transform the area into an "Adventure Hub" with the addition of nature-inspired amenities to encourage outdoor recreation and exploration.
- Proposed development in the Whitewater Gorge includes park wide enhancements and amenities such as picnic tables and shelters, multi-use trails, large and small treehouses, zip lines, canopy tours, aerial challenge courses, kayak/canoe launches, public art and comprehensive park and trail signage.
- Improvements to the Whitewater Gorge between Test Road and the Starr-Gennett Area will build a strong foundation for destination activities by maintaining and repairing existing amenities and implementing new features for the community and regional visitors.



Timeline



Project Scope

The US Treasury FAQ states that "Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds" can be used for the following purposes for outdoor space/parks:

1. To improve spaces in areas that have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. This provision refers to projects in a "Qualified Census Tract" and can include improving park space that will benefit the health and wellness of these communities.

2. Maintenance and upkeep issues because of the increased use parks saw during the pandemic. Addressing these issues are allowable expenses under the ARP.

It goes on to indicate that funds may be used in parks for purposes of improving, renovating, and/or installing trails, fencing, walls, utilities, picnic shelters, maintenance sheds, bridges, bike racks, light poles and signage. This project is located in a QCT and saw increased use during and after the pandemic.

Budget	
Total Projected Cost	\$2,650,000
Projected Funding	
County-HELP Commitment	\$1,400,000
City-HELP Commitment	\$200,000
State-IDNR	\$500,000
Richmond Redevelopment Commission	\$500,000
Tourism Bureau	\$ 50,000

Promoting Community Wellness

Wayne County Family Resource Center

The Wayne County Family Resource Center is being created as a partnership with the Indiana Department of Child Services, Firefly Children and Family Services, and a bigger collaboration with Wayne County Agencies. The goal is to provide stigma free services to families in need in Wayne County ultimately preventing child abuse and neglect, entry into the child welfare system, and entry into the juvenile justice system. Wayne County was chosen based on data points and research from the IUSSW, and funding has been secured for a majority of the operational costs. The Indiana Department of Child Services is funding the project for the next two years.

What is a Family Resource Center: A One Stop Shop and a safe place for families to go to receive concrete supports, social connections, connection to resources, and other needed services. A family friendly Family Resource Center use the Protective Factors to strengthen families, develop goals, and keep kids and families safe. It is a place for families to seek help without the stigma or involvement from the child welfare or legal systems. A place that normalizes asking for help.



Budget	
Total Projected Cost	\$325,000
Projected Funding	
Local <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$25,000
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$25,000
State <i>DCS</i>	\$275,000 <i>per year</i>

Timeline

Firefly Children and Family Alliance has been awarded the funding through contract to support the project for the next two years. We have hired a coordinator, and a social worker. We will also hire 4 part time Community Navigators. We are currently in search of a building and would like to be open by October 1, 2023. We are currently looking for around 3000 square feet, with ample parking, with a conference room big enough for family fun events, outside space for family fun events, and at least 5 rooms. The rooms will be used for co-located services, Susy's Store(food and safety items), computer labs, and for individual appointments. We are interested in buying/renting as it deems appropriate. The cost of this will be dependent on the market. The cost of rent and/or purchasing a building is unclear at this time, as we haven't found an appropriate space. While we wish to collaborate and partner with any agency willing and connect and share resources, having a free standing building will promote a stigma free environment, and will welcome families that are in need. The building will not be branded as Firefly Children and Family Alliance, only as the Wayne County Family Resource Center. We wish for the community to help us invest in caring for its residents.

We are also interested in purchasing a van so the Family Resource Center can be mobile. We would like to be able to take events, concrete supports, and services to families that live in Wayne County but do not reside inside the Richmond City Limits.



Strengthening Local Economies

Richmond Rising Downtown Market Rate Apartments

Estimated cost:
\$38,000,000

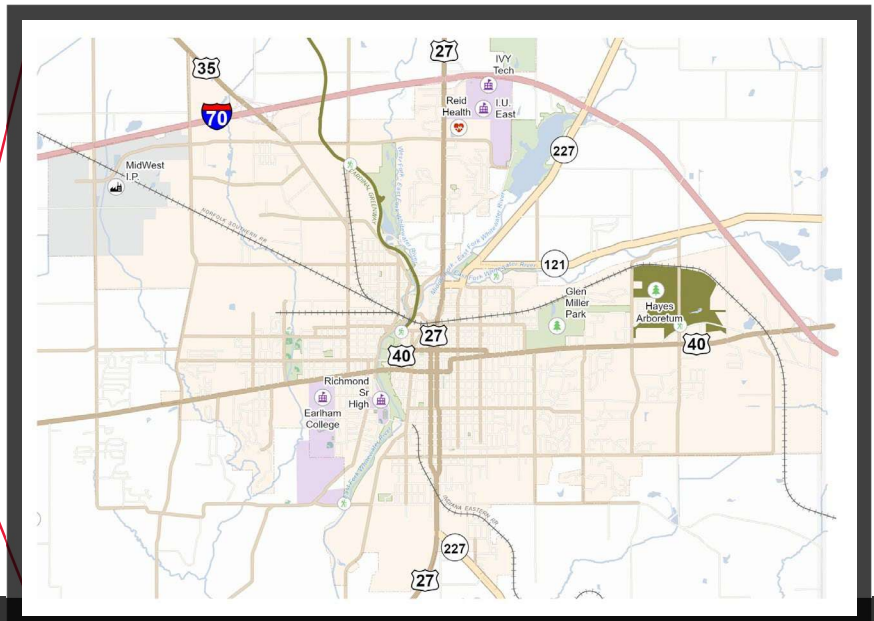
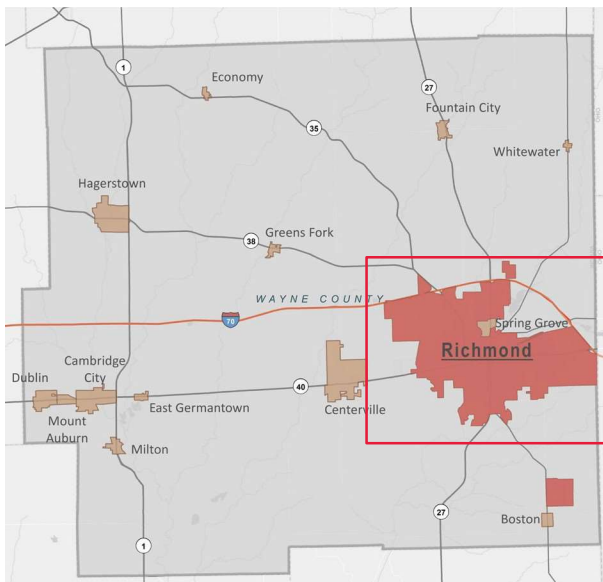


CITY OF RICHMOND



Richmond is on the Rise

The City of Richmond is rising to become a vibrant community where there are opportunities for education, entertainment, and employment. Richmond's growing quality of life stems from its diverse people, supportive environment, welcoming neighborhoods, and cultural amenities.



Richmond, Indiana is a business-friendly community with a deep cultural history tied to art, music, and architecture. The city of Richmond provides residents with a great balance between work and life. Richmond promotes a strong commercial and industrial sector, supporting a variety of employment opportunities, low residential taxes, high-quality amenities, and abundant opportunity for business growth. In addition, Richmond is a state leader in economic development and redevelopment practices. With natural resources, a centralized regional location near six major highways and four interchanges on I-70, public utilities and land, and a dedicated staff, the City of Richmond is committed to business attraction, retention, and expansion.

Noted for its rich collection of historic homes and other architecture, Richmond has been formally recognized by historians and architects. Richmond has five large historical districts and several individual buildings listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the Historic American Buildings Survey, and the Historic American Engineering Record. Moreover, Richmond is a Stellar Community (community that has been designated by the State of Indiana as a place that has identified comprehensive and collaborative plans for economic and community development), and effectively leverages being in the heart of the Crossroads of America.

Home to five higher education institutions: Earham College, Indiana University East, Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana, Bethany Seminary and the Purdue Polytechnic Institute of Richmond. The area also features Richmond High School, which includes the Richmond Art Museum and Civic Hall Performing Arts Center on the high school campus.

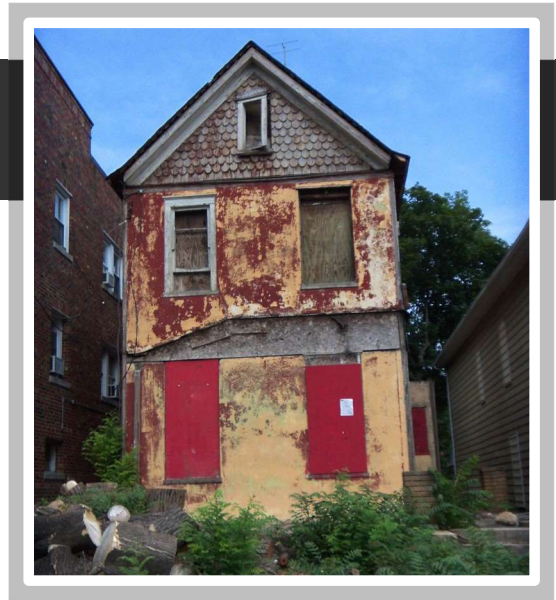
Richmond's art and music environment brings a unique, rich authentic experience to residents and visitors. From local plays at the Civic Theatre, to live music from the Richmond Symphony Orchestra and famous artists at the Richmond Art Museum, the area provides a unique environment to appreciate the arts. Known as the "cradle of recorded jazz," Richmond's robust music history features the Gennett Walk of Fame and the former home of the Starr Piano Company.

Enhancing Quality of Place

Mitigating Neighborhood Blight

Elimination of blight was a recurring comment received during our in-person, community engagement meeting, as well as a repeated suggestion via the online survey results.

Neighborhood blight and the presence of vacant and abandoned properties have profound negative impacts on affected communities. Blighted properties decrease surrounding property values, erode the health of local housing markets, pose safety hazards, and reduce local tax revenue. Funds will be used to increase the capacity of the Unsafe Building Commission to address vacant and abandoned properties.



Timeline



Budget

Total Projected Cost	\$343,776
Projected Funding	
Local HELP Commitment	\$343,776

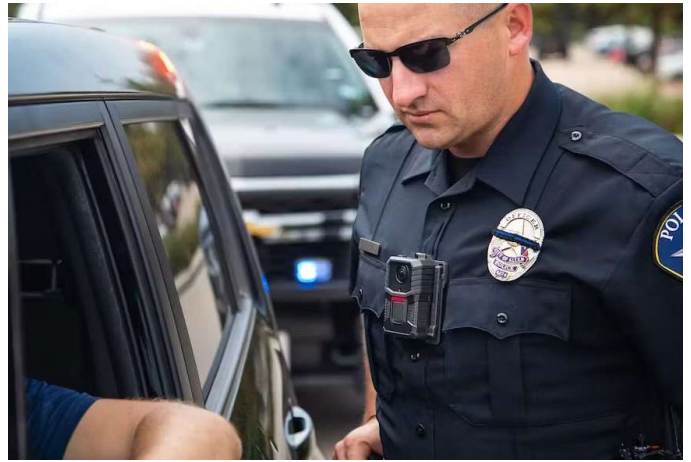


Enhancing Quality of Place

Public Safety - Rescue Vehicle/Body Cameras

Purchase a BearCat (Ballistic Engineered Armored Response Counter Attack Truck) armored rescue vehicle. The BearCat rescue vehicle is specially designed for law enforcement and is widely used by Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), homeland security and rescue teams. BearCats are armored rescue vehicles of refuge that serve to protect police and civilians. The BearCat rescue vehicle will serve as a de-escalation tool, protect officers during the exchange of gunfire, help civilians and wounded officers get out of an area safely and navigate treacherous and/or impassable roads during a weather event or natural disaster.

Purchase of body cameras for RPD officers. Now becoming a new normal in policing, body-worn cameras can help make officers' jobs easier. As an educational and investigative tool, they allow officers to review, articulate, and demonstrate evidence that officers would otherwise be without. Body-worn cameras can also be beneficial to departmental evaluation of training and policy.



Budget	
Projected Costs	
BearCat Armored Rescue Vehicle	\$340,000
Body Cameras	\$385,000
Total Projected Cost	\$725,000
Projected Funding	
Local HELP Commitment	\$725,000



Enhancing Quality of Place

EG Hill Rose Garden Renovation

The Richmond Parks and Recreation Department is the tenant and owner of the beautiful, 194 acre, Glen Miller Park. The park has been an attraction since 1885, as visitors from abroad have enjoyed scenic travels through the park. The park has continued to evolve over time, offering intriguing, new, beauty featuring many amenities. While restoring and preserving the park attractions, a goal of the Richmond Parks and Recreation Department is to find more ways to bring people together to experience its ambiance.

Located on the grounds of the park are unique features and gorgeous gardens. While the gardens are separate, both The All American Rose Garden and EG Hill Rose Garden have been a cultural icon in the community for decades. The All American Rose Garden was dedicated in 1987 and has been maintained by our wonderful partners, The Rose Garden Committee and countless volunteers. Over the past few years they have been able to make some great new improvements to The All American Rose Garden and now it's the Parks time to do our part.

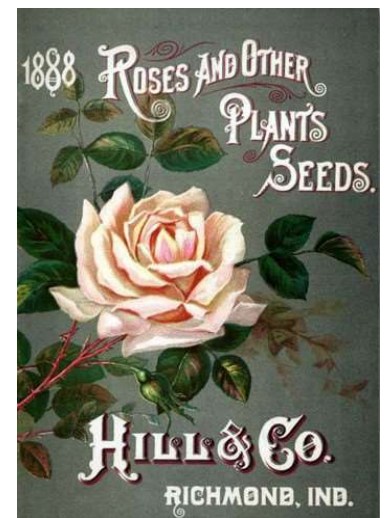
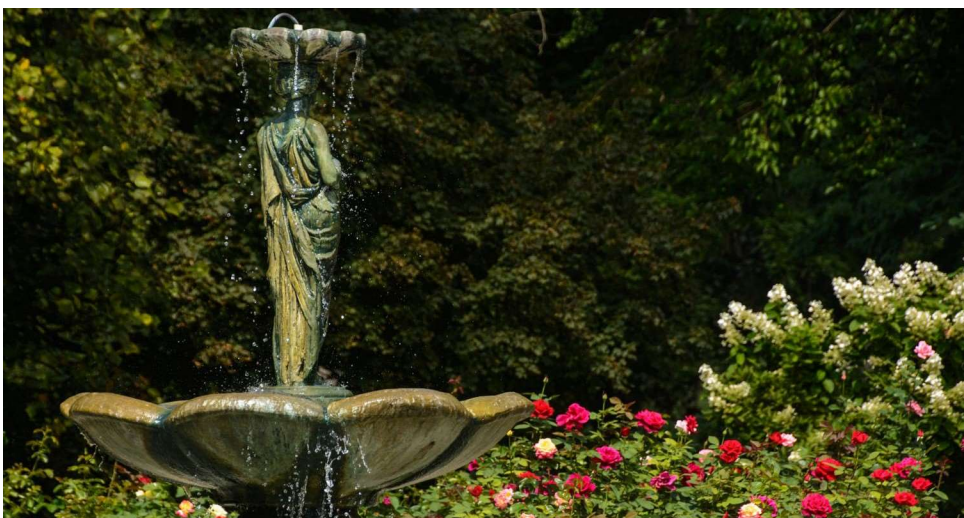
The E.G. Hill section, dedicated in 1937, is maintained solely by the Richmond Parks and Recreation Department. This historical garden is in need of renovation and the expert team in the Park Floral and Landscape Division have a plan of attack.

1. Restore the Fountain to its original state from 1937 when the Fountain was dedicated in Edward Gurney Hills' name
2. Re-work walkways to ensure ADA accessibility and crushed granite as they were when the garden was first dedicated
3. Re-plant roses that have outlived their prime and identify roses that would have been planted in the 1980's for replacements
4. Install drip irrigation and mulch all beds
5. Construct and Install an arbor, gate, and fence that can also be closed for private events when necessary
6. Provide proper signage and labeling
7. Remove three identified hazardous trees for both gardens and for proper light for rose growth

Timeline

Research Phase - The Park Floral and Landscaping Team has been in the research phase for the past year, 2022-2023. They have been meeting with Local Indiana Limestone on sourcing options for the fountain restoration, Longwood Gardens, Saversystems, and Kettler Inc, and Scott Bartle for proper guidance on fountain restoration. The team has been contacting a number of field experts for rose health including State Rosarians, Purdue University Plant Pathologists, and visiting other gardens throughout our state and county to determine any needs and ideas that could benefit our Historical E.G. Hill Rose Garden.

Budget	
Total Projected Cost	\$100,000
Projected Funding	
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$10,000
State <i>CreatINg Places</i>	\$50,000
Private Donations <i>Patronicity/Crowd Funding</i>	\$40,000



Strengthening Local Economies

Townsend Townhomes

Townsend Townhomes will be a 50 unit affordable apartment development on the former Nicholson School Site at the intersection of N 13th Street and North G Street in Richmond Indiana. The funding for this project will mostly come from IHEDA through Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC). Ownership would be later determined as an agreement between the developer and the Richmond Housing Authority who currently owns the vacant land of the site to be developed for Townsend Townhomes. This development aims to target individuals within our population, struggling to take advantage of opportunities in our community due to many barriers in navigating through these opportunities. Many of these individuals face challenges in sustaining the cost of living including rent, child care and transportation while trying to pursue training and education. In addition, it will be a catalyst to future investment in the North Richmond Neighborhood to encourage more individuals to live in the center city neighborhoods and improve the urban core.

Redevelopment of the former Nicholson School site was a topic of interest during our community engagement process. This project also addresses the need for additional housing in our community, particularly for the low to moderate income levels.

Budget	
Total Projected Cost	\$15,000,000
Projected Funding	
Local Richmond <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$50,000
State <i>IHCDA, LIHTC</i>	\$12,500,000
Developer	\$2,450,000

Timeline



Advancing E-Connectivity

Public WiFi Expansion In the Parks

Wifi expansion in three Richmond parks: Starr Park (East), Mary Scott Park (West), and Test Road Gorge Park (South). All three areas have high LMI. Parallax systems has provided quotes.

This identifies a community need of increasing equity and access for internet services. The additional wifi expansion will serve lower to moderate income level residents, students of all ages, small businesses, churches, schools, emergency personnel, farmer's markets, art groups, and other community clubs.

Timeline

Project completion by April 2026 or sooner.

Budget	
Projected Cost	
Starr Park Fiber	\$6,500
Mary Scott Park Fiber	\$5,000
Test Road Fiber	\$4,500
Total Projected Cost	\$16,000
Projected Funding	
Private Donations <i>Wayne County Foundation/ Forward Wayne County</i>	\$16,000



Strengthening Local Economies

Single Family Housing Infrastructure

Estimated cost:
\$3,700,000



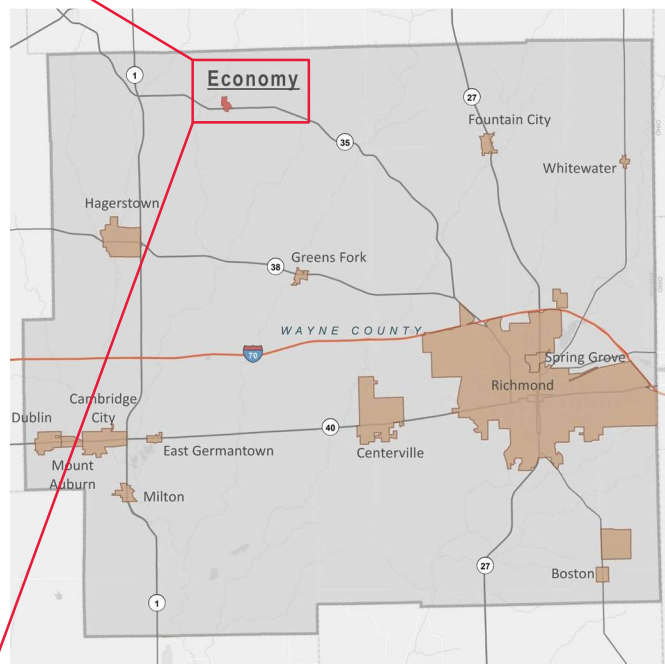
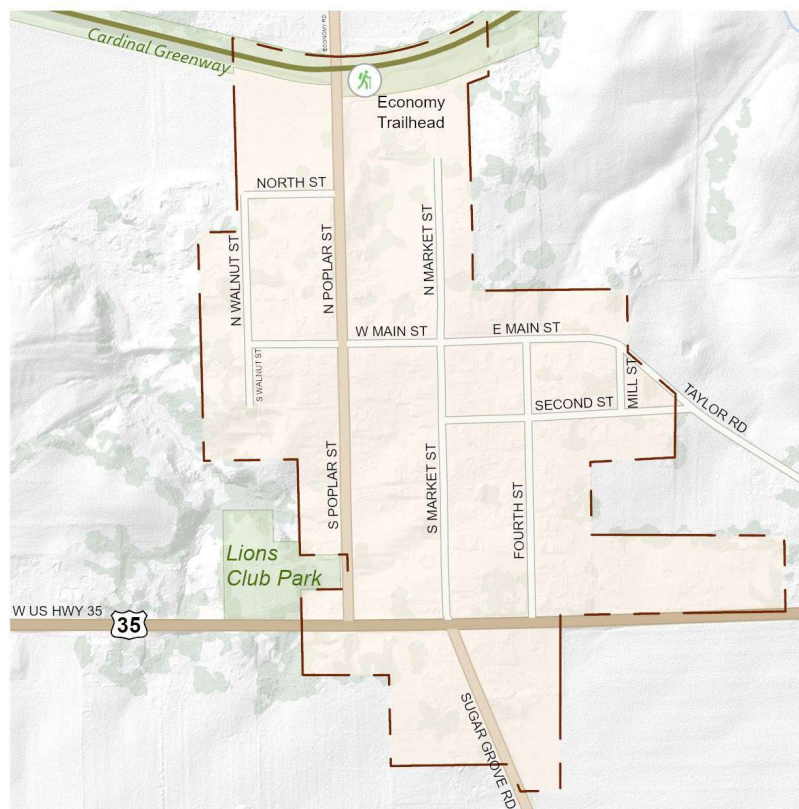
TOWN OF ECONOMY

Economy is located in the northwest section of Wayne County and is in Perry Township. Economy was platted in 1825 and named by the original landowner, Charles Osborn, who laid out the town into lots as the most "economical" way of selling off his property.

Economy is located on US 35 and just east of St. Rd. 1, making the town a convenient location for commuters. Although the Economy Cardinals consolidated with Hagerstown in 1962, the school gymnasium has lived on as a Community Center and is believed to be one of the oldest wood structured high school gyms in Indiana. The old school grounds is a place where local youth and adults can play basketball and most recently pickleball.

The community members in Economy take pride in their community events. The Halloween Carnival has been in existence at the gym for 70 plus years. The Economy Town Festival is making a comeback this year with community wide garage sales, breakfast, parade, and lunch provided by the Lion's Club and the Volunteer Fire Department. The United Methodist Church Outreach has also been serving around 90 free meals every other month.

Economy is home to H & H Design & Tool Inc. and Economy Equipment. Perry Township has a large population of the Amish Community and many family-owned farms. Economy remains a hidden gem and the true essence of small-town America.



Enhancing Quality of Place

Playground Updates

The Town of Economy will update the current playground to provide children and adults with a safe and engaging play environment. The playground is located on a 2.32 acre lot that includes a 1378 sq. ft. building that serves as Economy's Community Center. The center hosts a variety of public events, meetings, and gatherings. The project will involve removal of the old equipment, installing the new equipment on the west side of the park, repair or replacement of the 40 feet of fence, relining the outdoor basketball court, and painting the pickleball courts, hopscotch, and four-square surfaces. Painting will be an easily affordable upgrade that will make a large impact to the image of the park. Finally, additional flood lights will be installed to provide added safety. The complete project will engage the community in family-friendly, outdoor recreation.

Location & Ownership

11150 N. US Highway 35
Economy, IN 47339

Property Owned by Perry Township

Budget

Total Projected Cost	\$101,000
Projected Funding	
Local <i>Town of Economy, HELP Commitment</i>	\$1,000
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$10,000
State <i>CreatINg Places</i>	\$50,000
Private Donations <i>Patronicity/Crowd Funding</i>	\$40,000

Timeline



Enhancing Quality of Place

Perry Township Community Building

The Economy Gymnasium is used as a community building that serves Perry Township, Economy, and the surrounding areas. This building is a circa 1930 wood frame gymnasium that is one of the oldest currently still in use in the state of Indiana. Partial rehabilitation of a circa 1930 wood frame school gymnasium over a full basement needs to be addressed to keep this historical building from falling into ruin. The initial phase is to correct the moisture issue in the basement.

Water seeping through the foundation walls has, in the past, left standing water on the basement floor. This creates a high level of humidity in the basement. While some remedial action has taken place in recent years, there is more to be done to stop the problem. The source of the water is most likely due to surface/run-off water saturating the soil and then penetrating the block foundation.

Action steps to be taken:

1. Improving perimeter drainage to carry water away from the foundation, if needed.
2. Sealing the basement walls from water penetration.
3. Improving air circulation in the basement to help maintain a low level of humidity.



Timeline



Location & Ownership

309 South Poplar Street
Economy, IN 47339

Property Owned by Perry Township

Budget	
Total Projected Cost	\$36,000
Projected Funding	
Local <i>Town of Economy, HELP Commitment</i>	\$11,000
Perry Township <i>Rainy Day Funds</i>	\$5,000
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$20,000

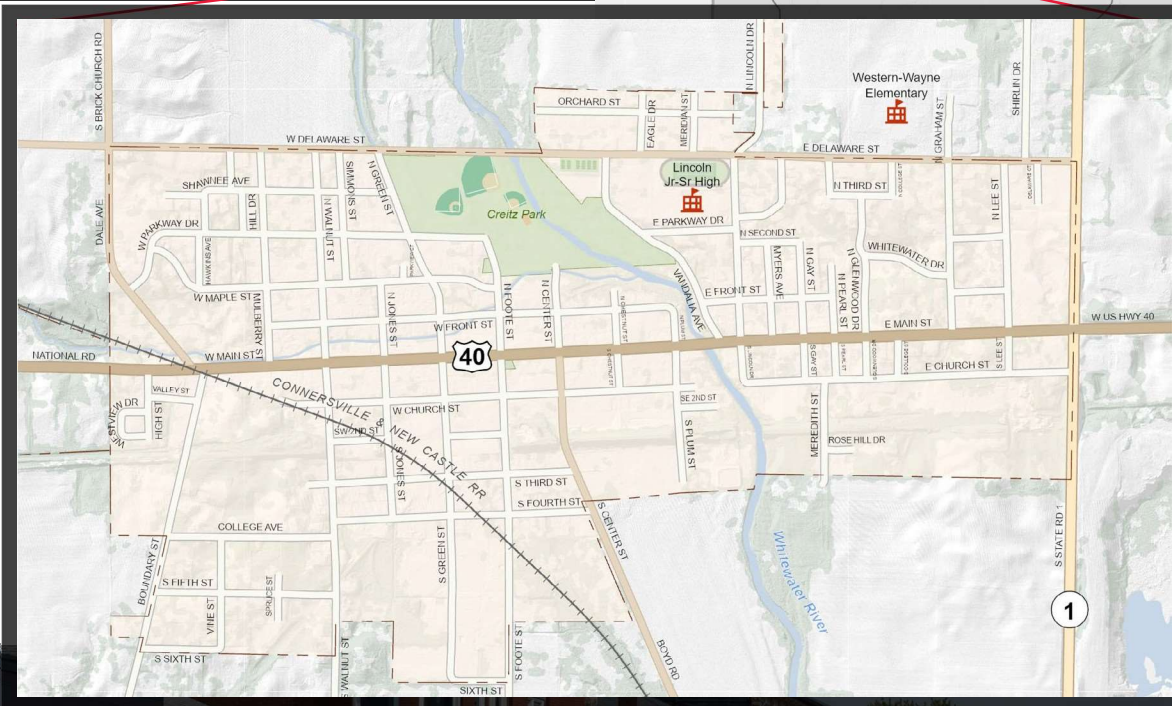
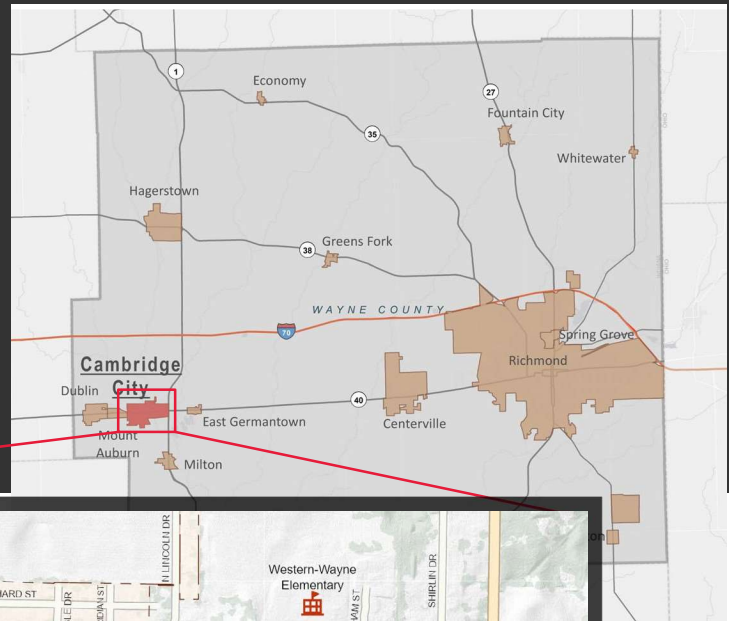


CAMBRIDGE CITY



Cambridge City was platted in 1836 and is located just south of I-70. The Gateway Industrial Park is located in Cambridge City, which holds Taconic Bioscience, Dot Foods and Sugar Creek Packaging Co. The City's Main Street is on Historic National Road 40 and is a hot spot for antique seekers. The community of just under 2000 people draws a large crowd each September, as they work together to celebrate Canal Days to commemorate the importance of the Whitewater Canal to the formation and growth of Cambridge City.

The leadership of Cambridge City recently adopted a new Comprehensive Plan, as the Town has experienced significant redevelopment in the downtown and creation of the industrial park, and is prepared for future advancements of their community.



Enhancing Quality of Place

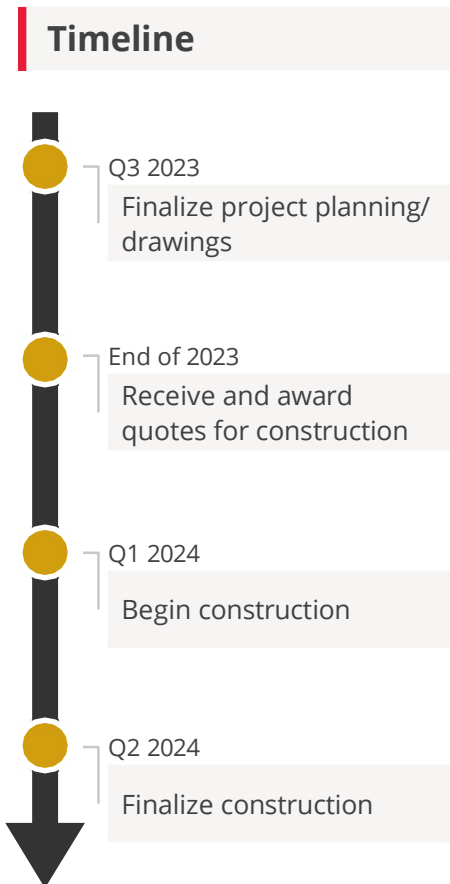
Creitz Park Gathering Space/Performance Venue - Phase I

In the Cambridge City Comprehensive Plan the Parks and Recreation vision plan states “Improve the Town’s park and recreation system to improve quality of life, support economic (re)development, modernize facilities, and provide additional recreation opportunities to Town residents and youth”.

One recommendation to do this is creation of a flexible gathering space that can support small performances, movies on the lawn, and community events. This Project would begin that process. There is a rendering in the Comp Plan for a completed project, that would cost much more than current available monies. The Park Committee is recommending building this area in stages, beginning with the performance stage, a dance surface, and an adult gathering space. Some modifications may need to be made to fit the current budget – such as removing the game area.

Further improvements will be made over time, as will be set forth in the Parks Master Plan.

Budget	
Total Projected Cost	\$650,000
Projected Funding	
Local Cambridge City <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$119,000
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$450,000
Private Donations	\$51,000
Sugar Creek	\$25,000
Tourism Bureau	\$ 5,000



Creitz Park Concept North of Cambridge City Volunteer Fire Department

Enhancing Quality of Place

Creitz Park New Inclusive Playground

In the Cambridge City Comprehensive Plan, Creitz Park is noted as an underutilized asset to the community. One of the recommendations was to upgrade playground equipment and provide accessibility upgrades within Creitz Park. This was also lifted up in the community meeting as a need. The Town Council has resurrected the Park Committee and is working toward a 5-year Park Plan (as recommended in the Comprehensive Plan). An inclusive playground will be included in that plan for year one.

Budget	
Total Projected Cost	\$100,000
Projected Funding	
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$10,000
State <i>CreaitNg Places</i>	\$50,000
Private Donations <i>Patronicity/Crowd Funding*</i>	\$40,000

* Any crowd-sourcing above \$50,000 will also be rolled into the project.

Timeline



Strengthening Local Economies

Industrial Park Water Tower & Main Looping Phase II

Construct a new 1,000,000 gallon elevated storage tank to provide more storage to the Gateway Industrial Park to meet current and future storage needs.

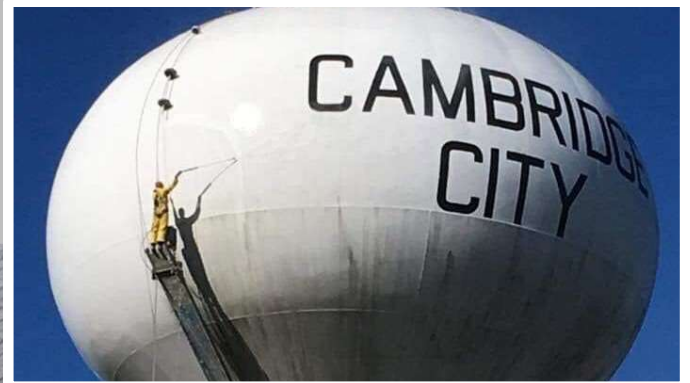
Estimated cost:
\$8,467,000



Enhancing Quality of Place

Creitz Park Gathering Space/ Performance Venue Phase II

Estimated cost:
\$200,000

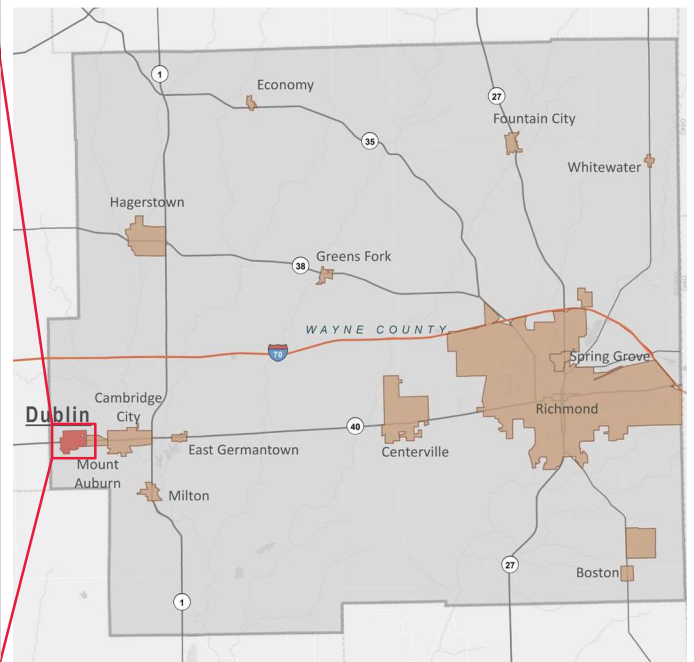
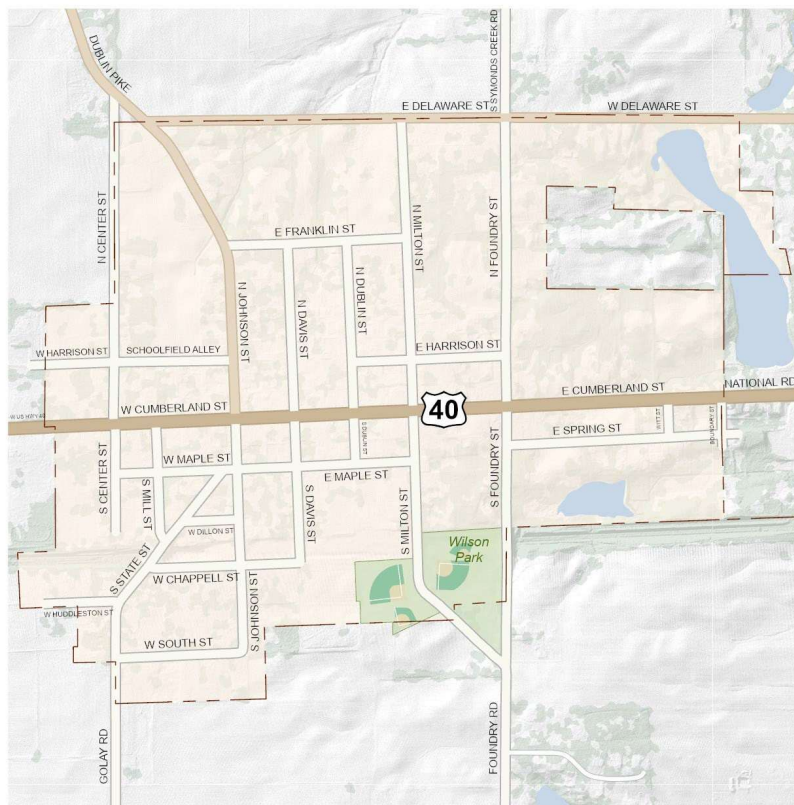


TOWN OF DUBLIN

The Town of Dublin was founded in 1830 and incorporated in 1937 and located on the far west side of Wayne County. Dublin is a community that boasts of its quiet, peaceful lifestyle and strong sense of community. The name is still a mystery to this day. Some say it was named because you had to have a double team of oxen to get up the hill from the east, others say it was named after the Double INN east of town and homes built with double entrances. Another theory is that the town was named by the first landowner, Harmon Davis (who purchased the land for \$500.00). Mr. Davis was originally from Dublin, Maryland and could have possibly named it after his hometown. To date, there have been no verification of any theories, leaving everyone to ponder their own theory!

The population of Dublin is 800, yet it is well known for the Dublin Community Club's indoor skating rink and Wilson Park, home of Western Wayne Girls Softball. And you must see Gary's Pen Collection at the Dublin Public Library. Residents and visitors alike, love our main street with its rolling hills, antiques, and string lighting which may be enjoyed after the sun goes down.

Dublin leaders continue to prepare for future residents and industry. Currently, the water infrastructure and Wilson Park upgrades are underway as the town is actively working with an engineering firm to accomplish the tasks.



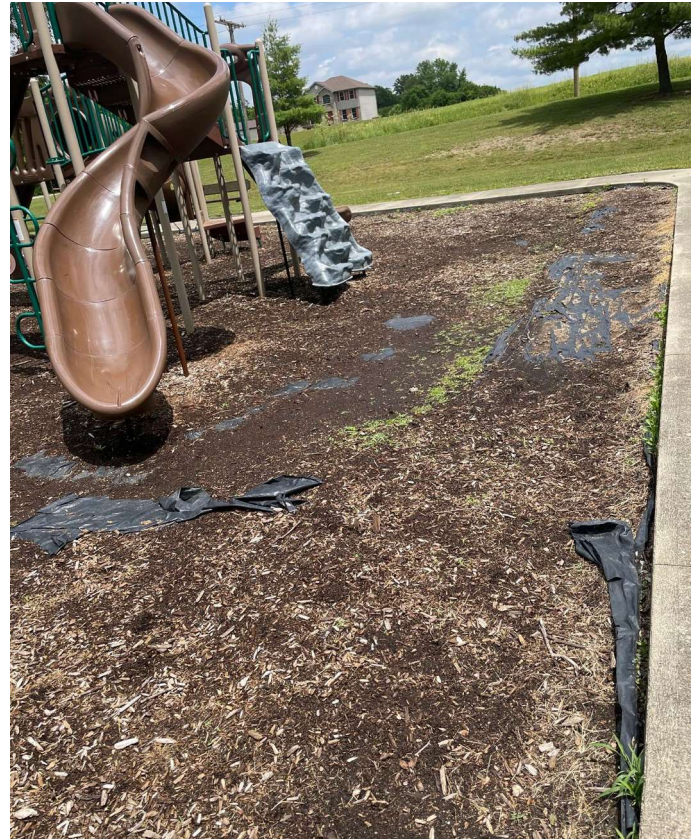
Enhancing Quality of Place

Wilson Park Upgrades - Phase I

Wilson Park in Dublin has two play areas. Both playgrounds are on a base that is no longer a safe cushion for a child’s play area. The larger playground had a base of mulch, much of which has eroded, with weeds growing up through the mulch which is unsightly as well as unsafe.

Installation of rubber poured, safe ground space for our playground, as well as new playground equipment, is estimated to be a \$245,000 project.

For this stage of the project, we are focused on one large area and a few smaller areas for upgrading the playground that includes an ADA compliant, safe, rubber poured in base.



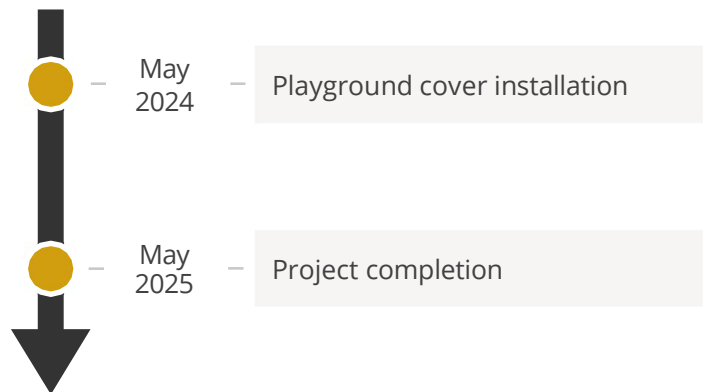
Location & Ownership

163 S. Milton Street
Dublin, IN 47327

Property Owned by the Town of Dublin

Budget	
Projected Costs	
Large Play Area	\$90,000
Small Play Area	\$10,000
Total Projected Cost	\$100,000
Projected Funding	
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$10,000
State <i>CreAtINg Places</i>	\$50,000
Private Donations <i>Patronicity/Crowd Funding</i>	\$40,000

Timeline



Enhancing Quality of Place

Sidewalk Upgrades Projects - Phase II

Dublin is replacing all existing sidewalks and ramps to be ADA compliant and is working on sidewalk upgrades in phases. Community leaders have secured funding for a portion of the project through Community Crossings Grant Funds, and are working on three streets, funded by CCMG, and all include ADA ramps. In addition, we have included three more street ADA ramps in another CCMG project, estimated at \$22,720 slated for 2023 construction. The total sidewalk project is estimated to be \$964,487.00.

For this portion of the project, we are extending the sidewalk on South Milton Street to link the town with Wilson Park on the southwest side of Milton Street. Currently, our residents who walk to the park have to walk in the street, as the current sidewalk does not extend to the park. We will work on 3 more streets for this phase of the project, totaling \$114,800.00, working toward our goal of replacing all existing sidewalks for the health and wellbeing of Western Wayne County residents utilizing sidewalks for health, fitness, and travel.

Timeline

Project planning, removal, rebuild/form area and replace sidewalks with an estimated completion timeline by March 2026.



Budget	
Total Projected Cost	\$114,800
Projected Funding	
Local Dublin <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$50,787
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$64,013

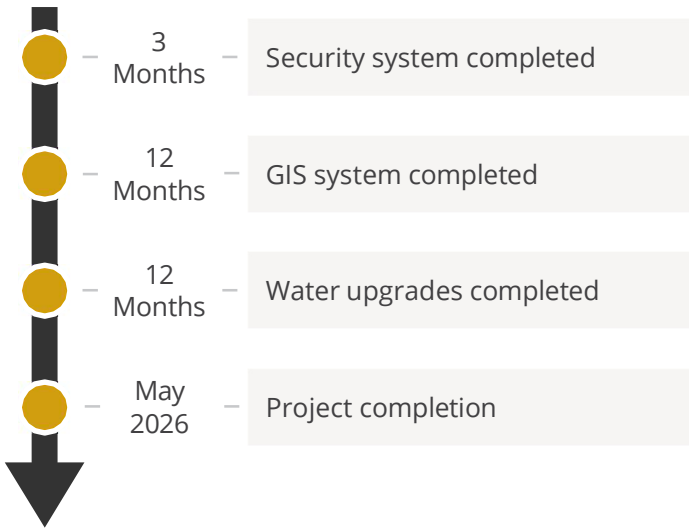


Strengthening Local Economies

Water Infrastructure Project

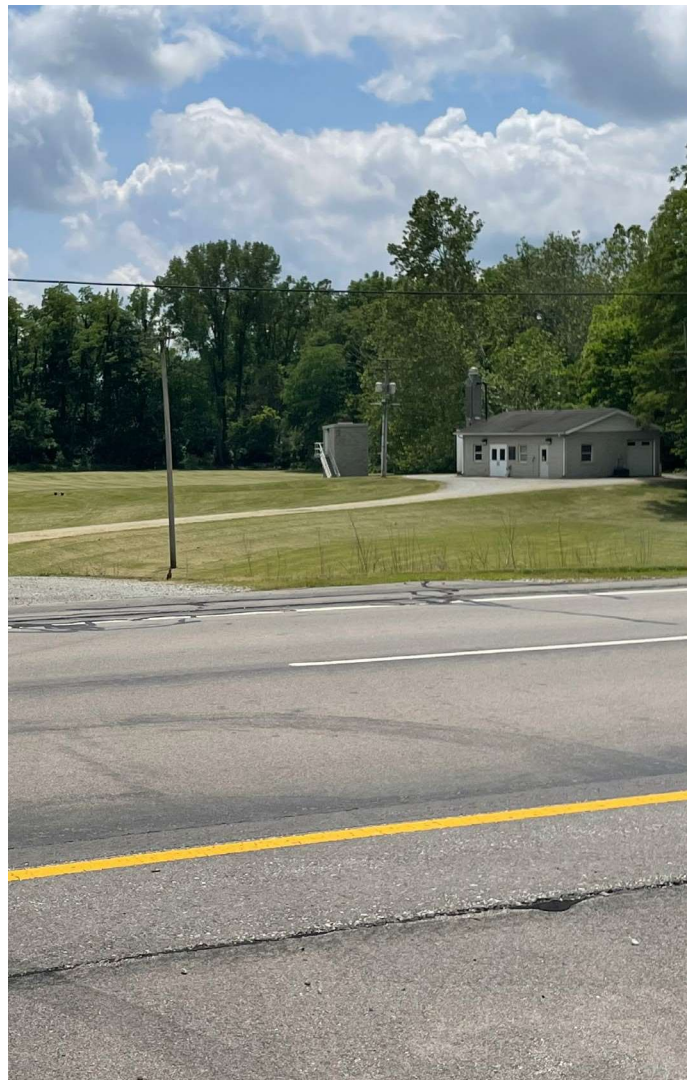
The Town of Dublin owns and operates the town water system, supplying water to residents and businesses. As part of Dublin’s ongoing water infrastructure upgrades, we have submitted a USDA grant application. A preliminary engineering report has been completed, and there are several, lower level priority items that will not be included in the larger grant. Those items, listed above, could be completed at varying stages, based on the funding that is available for the project. Dublin will replace as many of the meters and valves as money is available. Any remaining upgrades will be completed in additional phases of the project at a later date.

Timeline



Project Scope

To improve, prepare and prevent COVID-19 and future health issues through the water system upgrades including terror concerns all of which can cause health and safety issues.



Budget

Total Projected Cost	\$635,000
Projected Funding	
Local	\$55,000
County	\$ 30,000
Grants <i>CDBG-CV</i>	\$550,000

*Budget based on preliminary engineering report.

Enhancing Quality of Place

Basketball Court Upgrades

East Germantown provides a basketball court for youth in the community. Located on the property of the former Pershing Elementary School, the basketball court is aged and in need of repair. When repaired it will also be used by the local Boys and Girls Club, also located in the former school. The upgraded basketball court and play area will be well used by the youth of East Germantown and the Boys and Girls Club. The project scope will include improvements to the basketball court area, resurfacing, replacing the goals and nets, and installing fences around the area. In addition, playground equipment will be purchased and installed to enhance the now under-utilized area.

Location & Ownership

519 Queen Street
Pershing, IN 47327

Property Owned by Western Wayne Schools



Timeline



Budget	
Total Projected Cost	\$100,000
Projected Funding	
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$10,000
State <i>CreatINg Places</i>	\$50,000
Private Donations <i>Patronicity/Crowd Funding</i>	\$40,000

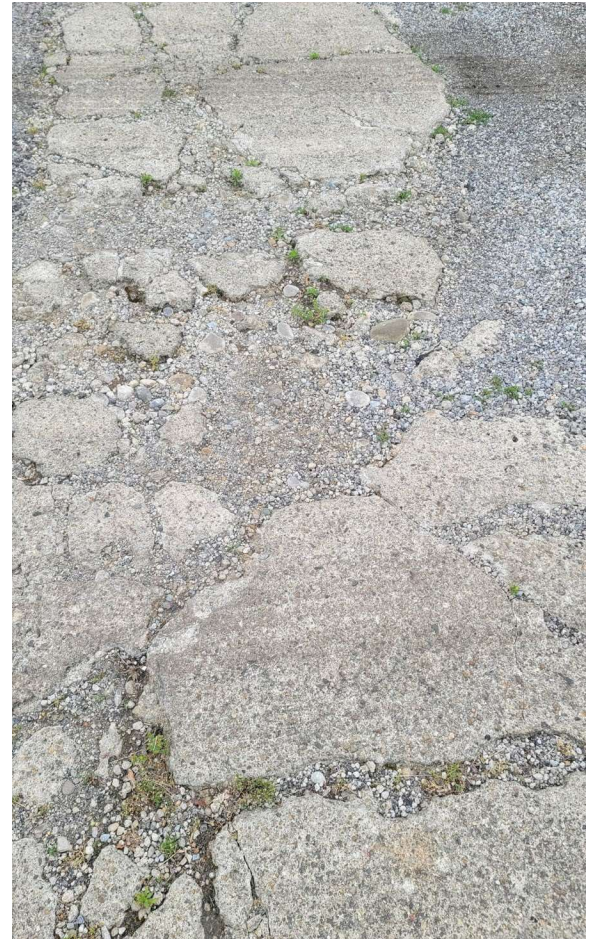
Enhancing Quality of Place

Sidewalk Replacement Project

The current sidewalks along US 40 are deteriorated and becoming unsafe to navigate. Sidewalk improvements will benefit the health, safety and pride of community members. By providing residents with safe, handicap accessible intersections, they will be encouraged to walk for recreation, not only for means of transportation. It is commonly believed that people will walk more recreationally where sidewalks are provided. Walking is not only an easy mode of achieving recommended exercise but also an affordable option.

Timeline

The project could begin as soon as funding is available.



Budget	
Total Projected Cost	\$62,550
Projected Funding	
Local East Germantown <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$52,550
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$10,000



Strengthening Local Economies

Sewer Infrastructure Upgrades

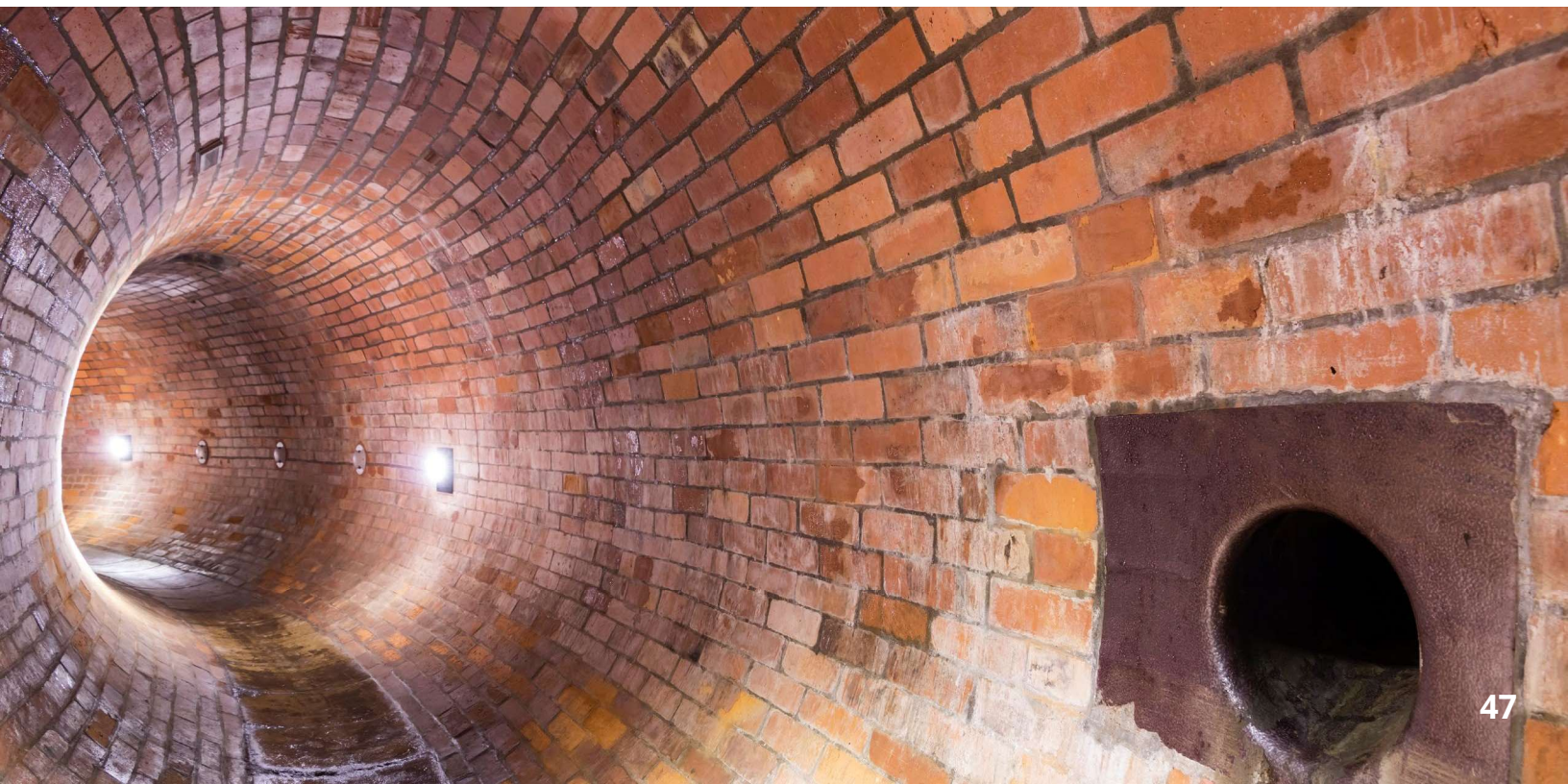
East Germantown owns and operates the current sewer system, which is more than twenty years old. The system has had no substantial repair or upgrade in the past twenty years. Keeping the system running efficiently is essential to the health and well being of the East Germantown community. Since the size of most properties in the community are too small to accommodate private individual septic systems, it is imperative to maintain the current system. Additionally, an efficient sewer system is vital to environmental and public health for maintaining safe drinking water and surface water. This project will also benefit property values of our residents.

A first priority for our current system is to replace the outdated control panel.

Timeline

The project could be completed within 12 months of obtaining funding.

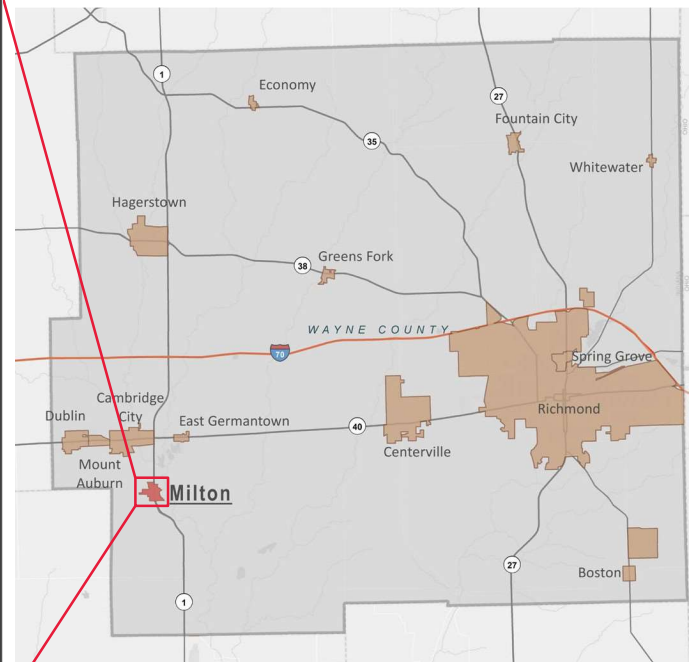
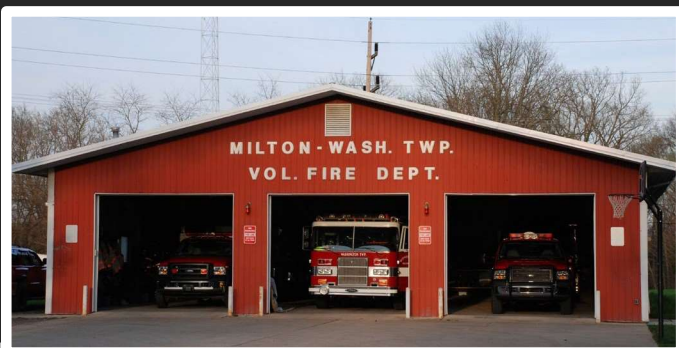
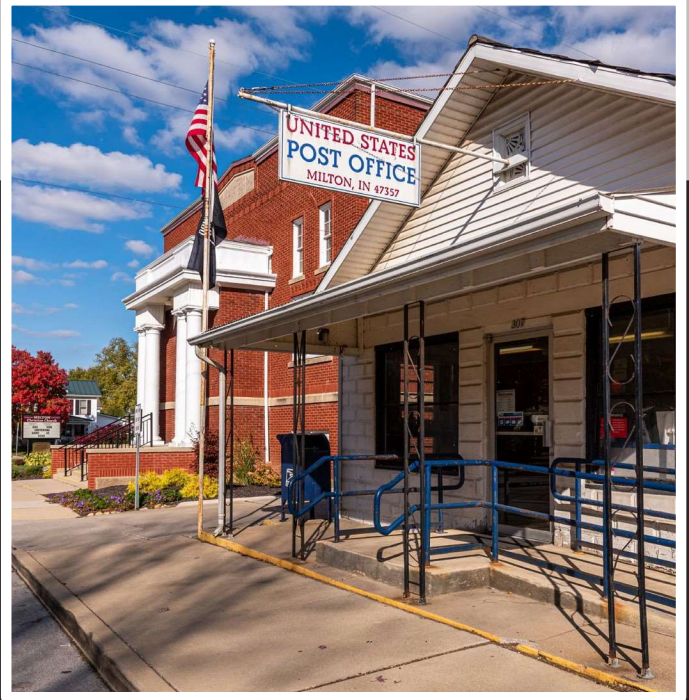
Budget	
Total Projected Cost	\$42,000
Projected Funding	
Local <i>Depreciation Fund</i>	\$21,000
County	\$21,000



TOWN OF MILTON

The community of Milton was platted in 1824. In 1825, the Milton post office opened and has been in operation since. Milton was named for the presence of several area watermills and remains a picturesque community. There is also an 18-hole public golf course and clubhouse located just minutes north of Milton.

Milton is located on St. Rd. 1 in the southwestern quadrant of Wayne County with excellent utility services and more than 84% of households have broadband access. Milton's nearly 500 residents can easily commute to Cambridge City or travel a few miles south to Connersville in Fayette County. With the convenient access to State Road 1, many residents of Milton are employed in manufacturing.



Enhancing Quality of Place

Enhancement of Basketball Court & Playground Project

Milton removed and cleared the site of an old, vacant school, located at 209 North Central Street. This created an open green space of nearly two acres for the community to enjoy. The site includes a basketball court that is usable but in much need of repairs. Milton plans improvements to the basketball court that includes resurfacing the area, replacing goals and nets, and adding a fence on the two sides of the court close to the streets.

The city block where the site is located, is central to Milton with ample undeveloped land in the area that may be expanded for additional community access. Along with improvements to the basketball court, Milton plans to enhance the area with park benches and playgroup equipment.

Youth in the community need a safe place to gather. By upgrading the basketball court and installing playground equipment Milton's youth have a place to gather with friends and claim as their own space in the community.



Location & Ownership

209 N. Central Avenue
Milton, IN 47357

Property Owned by the Town of Milton

Timeline



Budget

Total Projected Cost	\$100,000
Projected Funding	
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$10,000
State <i>CreatINg Places</i>	\$50,000
Private Donations <i>Patronicity/Crowd Funding</i>	\$40,000

Enhancing Quality of Place

Sidewalk Replacements

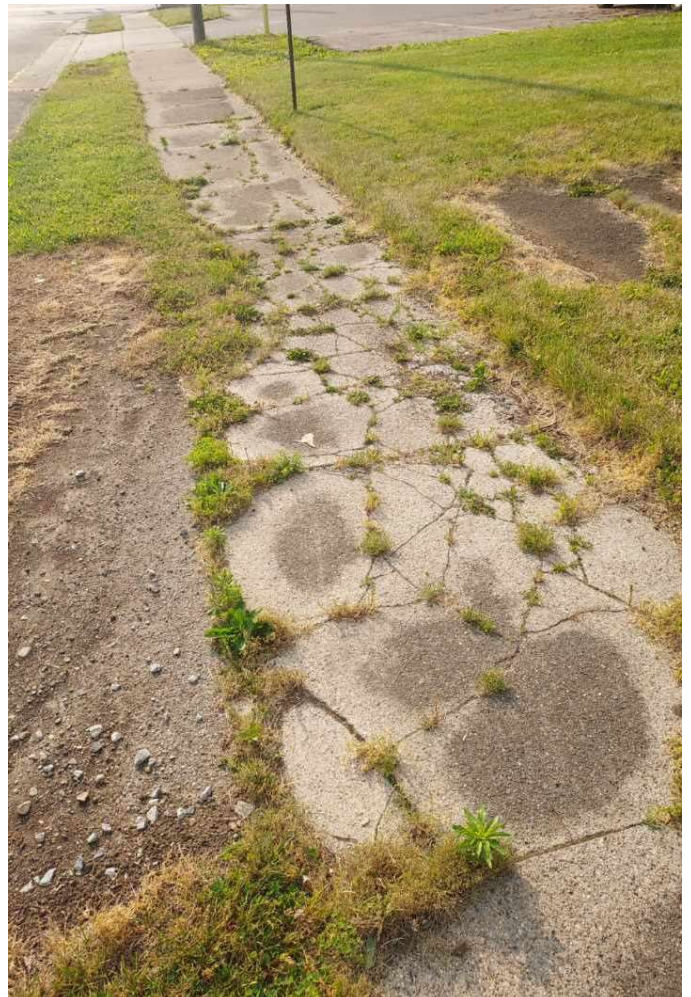
Milton is a small, closely knit community. The town hall, firehouse, basketball court, gazebo, convenience store and post office are all located within a one-mile radius. Walkability has been a topic of priority during our community engagement meetings. Members of the Milton community want improved sidewalks to enjoy walks within the heart of the community. The current cracked and separated sidewalks are unsafe. Through this project, they will be replaced to meet ADA standards for easy navigation by all citizens of varying ages and abilities.

Additionally, sidewalks will improve our property values and promote a sense of pride and wellbeing within the community.

Budget	
Total Projected Cost	\$150,000
Projected Funding	
Local Milton <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$31,000
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$89,000
Milton	\$30,000

Timeline

Project will likely take 18-24 months to complete.



Strengthening Local Economies

Sewer Upgrades Project

The Milton sewer system is in need of upgrades, as no renovations have occurred since 2009. According to a preliminary engineering report, three design alternatives were provided for consideration:

1. Lift station #1 Update Controls and alarms.
2. Lift station #2 Update Controls and alarms.
3. Replace the Magnetic Flow Meter at Lift Station #1.

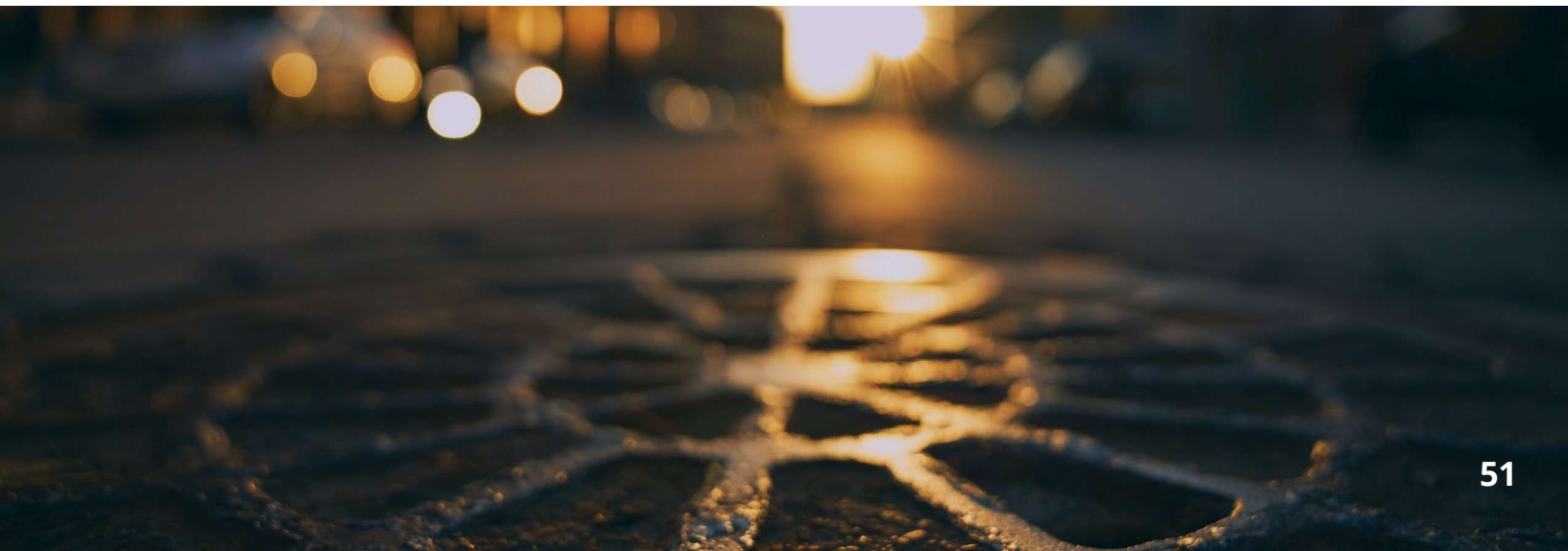
The town of Milton plans to pursue all three of the alternatives provided. Upgrades are crucial now. Other measures will proactively minimize the exposure to more extensive and certainly more costly repairs. These measures will also proactively support prevention of future problems. An efficient sewer system improves growth potential and property values. It also eliminates the need for septic tanks and leach fields, for which most lots in the community are too small to accommodate.



Budget	
Total Projected Cost	\$89,000
Projected Funding	
Local <i>Sewer Depreciation Fund</i>	\$45,000
County <i>HELP Commitment</i>	\$44,000

Timeline

Preliminary work is complete. Work could begin as soon as funding is acquired.



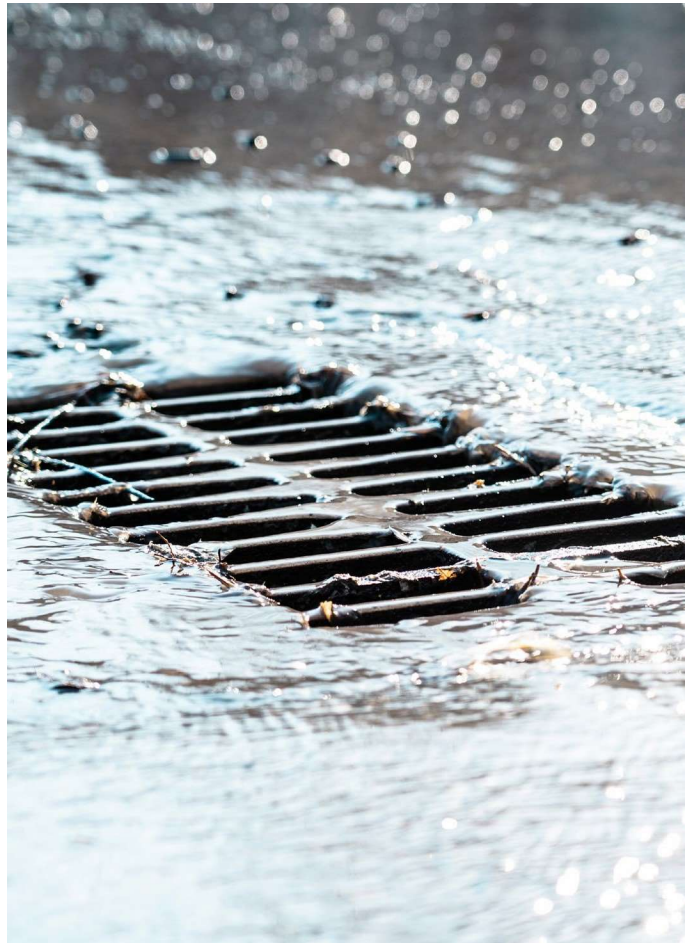
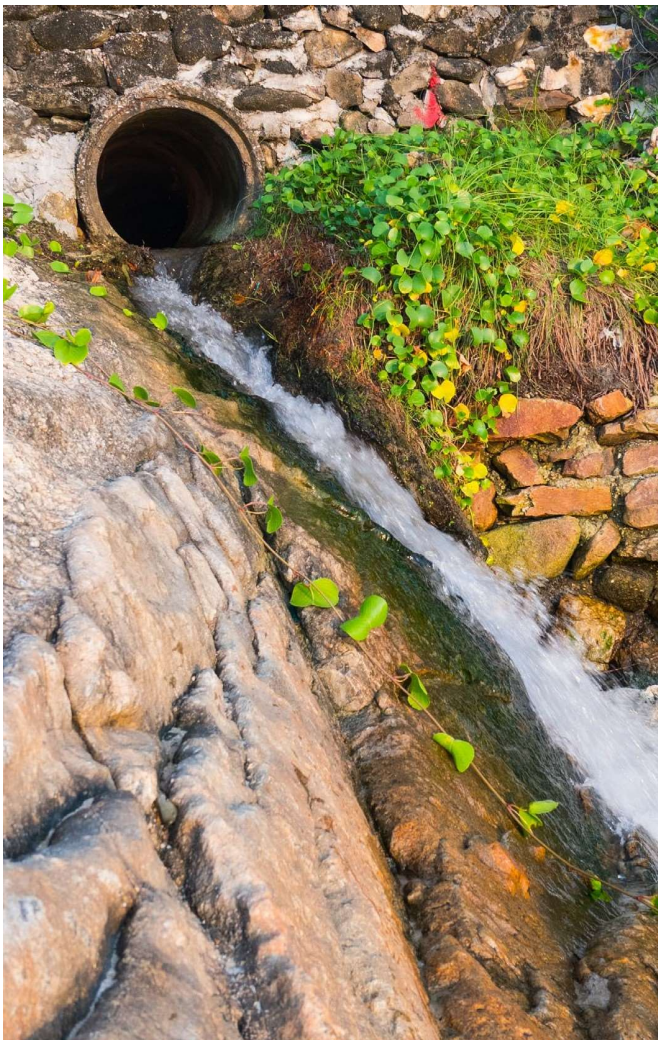
Strengthening Local Economies

Stormwater Upgrades Projects - Phase I

The Town of Milton plans to install a retention pond to alleviate flooding concerns. This is the first phase of several stormwater upgrades for the community as outlined in a Preliminary Engineering Report. The Town has experienced flooding at the Milton Drain, located at the intersections of Canal Street and Brook Street. The flooding has recently exacerbated causing residents to incur basement flooding and suffer damages. In addition, the street flooding has resulted in premature erosion of the pavement.

Timeline

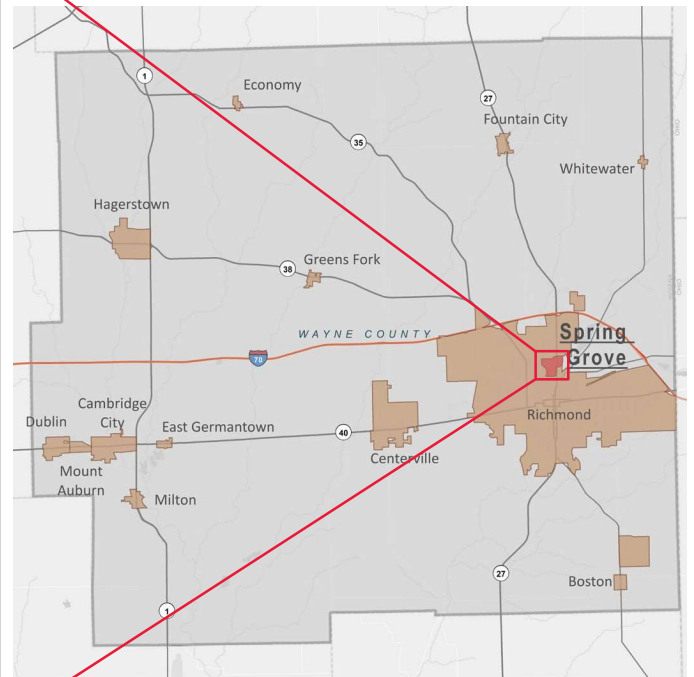
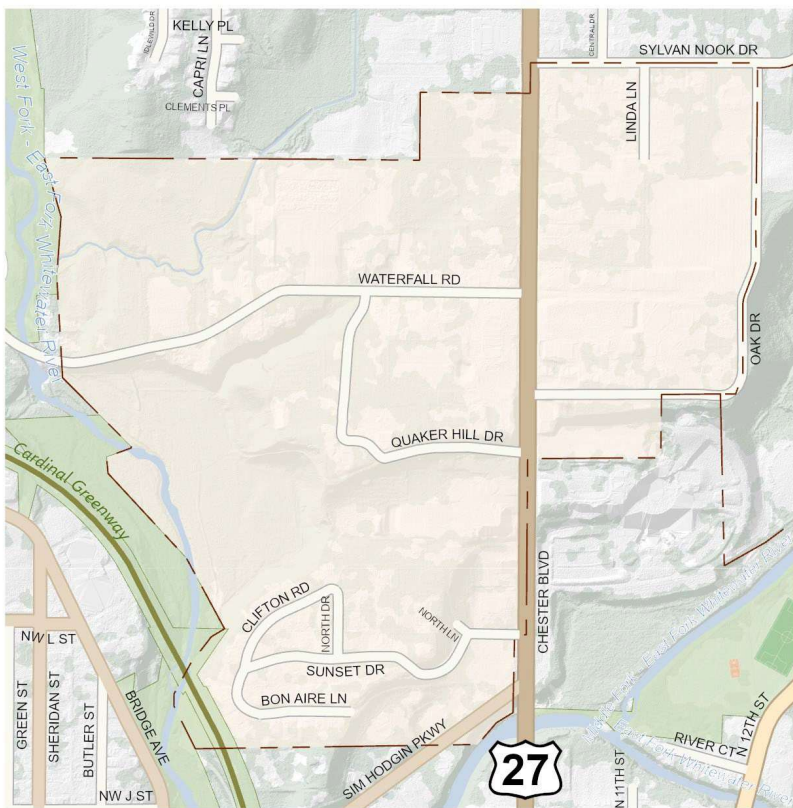
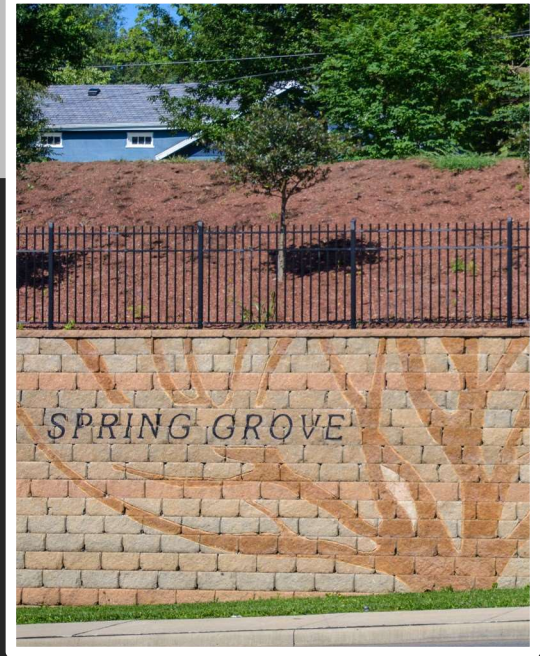
This project is phase one of a multi-phase stormwater upgrade and is expected to be completed in two years. The next phase is estimated to cost \$997,000 and will be completed in five years, based on available funding.



TOWN OF SPRING GROVE

Spring Grove is a small community that was founded in the mid-1800's by Isaac Evans, a prominent Quaker of that time. The home of Evans was built in 1855 and now serves as the Spring Grove Town Hall. The community of 400 residents is nestled just over a mile north of the City of Richmond. Spring Grove maintains its desirable small community atmosphere through zoning implementation and pursuance that lends to majority owner-occupied residential area.

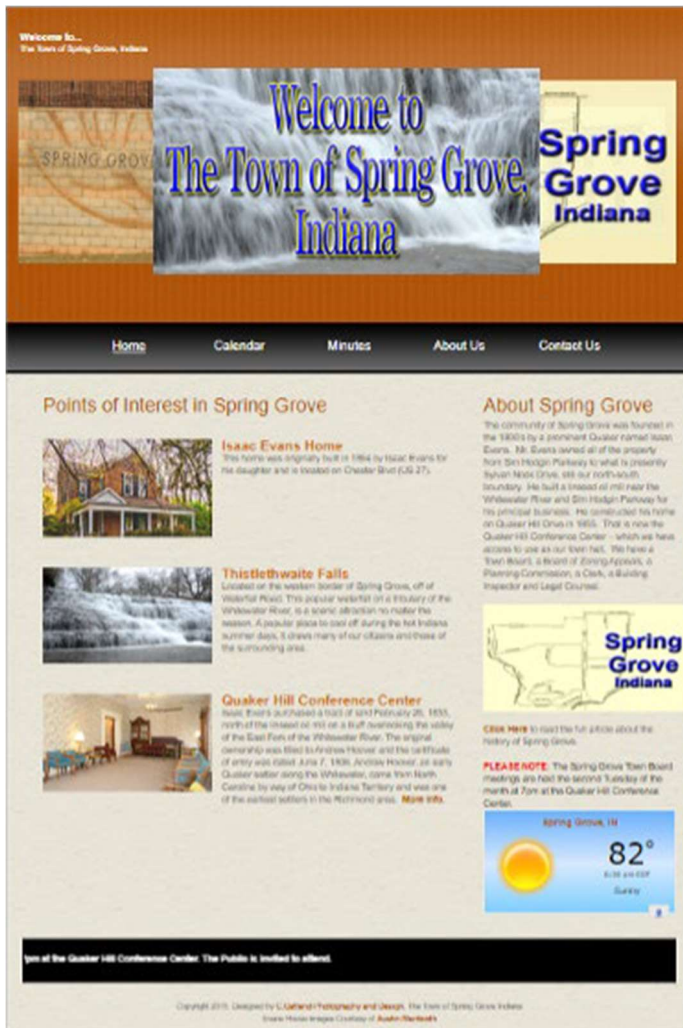
The beautiful Thistlethwaite Falls is located on the western border of Spring Grove. It is a popular scenic attraction that was voted by Visit Indiana as one of the top waterfalls in the state. Thistlethwaite Falls is an excellent location to hike and search for ancient fossils among the rock formations.



Enhancing Quality of Place

Spring Grove Website Project

The Town of Spring Grove website is used as the primary mode of communication with the community and Wayne County. The website is the source for public meetings, events, activities, and other important information. The website is out of date and inefficient, therefore, currently ineffective for the purpose intended. The Town of Spring Grove has retained a web developer in the county who has been working closely with the board on this project. The design and implementation process is under way. The project will include hosting and launching the site as well as training to board members for maintaining and updating the site.



Timeline



Current Website

<http://springgroveindiana.com/index.html>

Budget	
Total Projected Cost	\$75,000
Projected Funding	
Local HELP Commitment	\$65,000
County HELP Commitment	\$10,000

**Elizabeth “Beth”
Fields**

*HELP Community Coordinator,
Wayne County Government*

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Special thanks to Jane Holman and WayNet for photo contributions (©WayNet.org)



Core Team		
Name	Title	Organization
Doug Brenneke	Board President	Spring Grove
Terry Craig	Clerk-Treasurer	Town of Milton
Lee Elzemeyer		Citizen Member
Beth Fields	Director of Strategic Development	City of Richmond
Angel Gray	Director of Communication	Wayne County Tourism Bureau
Sharrie Harlin	Manager of Community Engagement	Reid Health
Steve Higinbotham	Director of Facilities & Development	Wayne County Government
Barbara Irvin	Clerk-Treasurer	Town of Economy
Dr. David Jetmore	Public Health Officer	Wayne County Government
Julia McCarty	Clerk-Treasurer	Town of Dublin
Steve Mills	Board President	East Germantown
Jeff Plasterer	President	Wayne County Board of Commissioners
Michelle Satterfield	Service Coordinator	Independent Living Center
Gary Saunders	Council Member	Wayne County Council
Valerie Shaffer	President	EDC of Wayne County
Steve Sorah	President	Cambridge City Town Council
Acacia St. John	Program Director	Wayne County Foundation/ Forward Wayne County
Melissa Vance	President/CEO	Wayne County Area Chamber of Commerce
Mary Walker	Executive Director	Wayne County Tourism Bureau

Pathway Team Members

Enhancing Quality of Place

Mary Walker, Pathway Chair	Angel Gray	Barbara Irvin	Geri Quiroz
Terry Craig	Meg Hinkey	Beth Leisure	Denise Retz
Roxie Deer	Nathan Hogg	Theresa Lindsay	Rex Snyder
Bob Erbse	Dr. David Jetmore	Jim McLane	Jason Troutwine
Beth Fields	Monica Koechlein	Alex Painter	Melissa Vance

Strengthening Local Economies

Valerie Shaffer, Pathway Chair	Eric Eastman	Karen Lloyd	Steve Sorah
Kevin Ahaus	Beth Fields	Beth Newton	Kim Thurlow
Doug Brenneke	Tony Foster	Jeff Plasterer	Melissa Vance
Peggy Cenova	Jim King	Max Smith	

Promoting Community Wellness

Sharrie Harlin, Pathway Chair	Lisa Felsman	Dr. David Jetmore	Patrick Ripberger
Dani Arthur	Michael Gross	Martha Loring	Rob Robinson
Jay Barbre	Patricia Heiney	Jessica Przbysz	DeGenero Sparks
Robb Backmeyer	Thomas Hill	Susan Ream	Ashley Werner
Cassandra Brown	Nathan Hogg	Carl Rhinehart	Linda White
April Coffin	Misty Hollis	Megan Ripberger	Ben Willett
Beth Evans			

Advancing E-Connectivity

Acacia St. John, Pathway Chair	Beth Fields	Tim Love	Jeff Plasterer
Ben Burris	Steve Higinbotham	Eric Mejia	Andy Stover
Charles Crawford	Corey Knipp	Sarah Mitchell	Melissa Vance
Craig Eason	Beth Leisure	Ken Paust	Mary Walker



BALL STATE UNIVERSITY
Miller College of Business
Indiana Communities Institute