

Clinton Regional Development Corp.

News from CRDC

February 2008

In This Issue...

[CRDC Participates in "Des Moines Day"](#)

[Leadership Class Participates in "Des Moines Day"](#)

[Clinton Representatives Attend TIME-21 Transportation Tour](#)

[Industry Survey - Coming Soon Activity Score Card](#)

Quick Links...

[Our Website](#)

[News & Events](#)

[About Us](#)

[CRDC Staff](#)

[Contact Us](#)

CRDC PARTICIPATES IN "DES MOINES DAY"

Steven Ames - President & CEO: sames@clintondevelopment.com

Over sixty local business leaders from Clinton County, converged on Des Moines Wednesday, February 13, to participate in the annual Clinton County trip to the Capitol. The group presented a variety of topics including: transportation, education, healthcare, and cultural affairs. We had appointments with our local legislators, and also with majority and minority leaders of the Senate and House.

Steve Ames was able present ranking members of the Senate Economic Growth and Transportation Committees with approval by Union Pacific of our plan for access to the Lincolnway Railport. He also impressed upon them the need to increase funding for the Transportation Department's Rail Revolving Loan and Grant Program, from which the Clinton region has received \$1.5 Million toward our project. In addition, we advocated for funding of the TIME-21 Initiative, meant to provide a much needed resource for making transportation related improvements within the state.

Mr. Ames, along with Chairman Tom Determann and Board Member Pete Clausen, spent the afternoon with Iowa Department of Economic Development (IDED) marketing staff to discuss the Lincolnway Railport and the many economic advantages our region has to offer. IDED staff had questions about whether our new regional sewer system will serve the railport, as "wet industries" are some of the fastest growing projects across the country, and that a sewer system with excess capacity will position us well to attract them.

This annual trip to Des Moines is important, because it allows us to bring local, state and nation-wide issues to the attention of our state legislators. Our legislators need to know what is going on in our region and hear the concerns we have regarding new bills and legislation.

LEADERSHIP CLASS PARTICIPATES IN "DES MOINES DAY"

Karen Mooney - Marketing/Research Specialist: kmooney@clintondevelopment.com

The Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce Leadership Institute class was fortunate to take part in Clinton County's "Des Moines Day" annual trip to the capitol. For those who don't know, the Leadership Institute is a program established to identify and develop future community leaders. Over the course of the program, participants have the opportunity to experience sectors of the local community, from healthcare, to the legal system, to media and economic development. The visit to Des Moines was this year's session on government affairs.

The class was able to attend the full contingent's meetings with Senate Minority Leader Ron Wieck and Senate Majority Leader Michael Gronstal. Senator Larry Noble, ranking member of the Senate Transportation Committee, was gracious enough to speak with our group about the lobbying process; and our own Representative Polly Butka also took time out for an informal Q & A. To end the day, we were joined by the DeWitt Chamber Choir on the guided tour of the capitol building. Let me just say, acoustics in the dome are fantastic for four-part harmony.

I would encourage everyone to take the opportunity to visit your State Capitol and see your government in action. It was a great education for our group. I would also pass on the advice we received from each of the legislators with whom we had the honor of meeting - that they are your voice in state government, and the way to have your voice heard is to contact them with what is important to you.

Here are links to the Illinois and Iowa state legislatures.

Illinois: <http://www.ilga.gov/>

Iowa: <http://www.legis.state.ia.us/>

CLINTON REPRESENTATIVES ATTEND TIME-21 TRANSPORTATION TOUR

Steven Ames - President & CEO: sames@clintondevelopment.com

Transportation is a major concern for the State of Iowa, and economic development is unavoidably tied to Iowa's transportation network. Improvements to this network are imperative if the state is to effectively compete globally for good jobs and economic growth.

To gauge support for funding TIME-21, an initiative to create a \$200 million fund to improve and maintain the condition of Iowa's bridges, highways and roads, Iowa State Senators Tom Rielly and Larry Noble, Chair and Ranking Member, respectively, of the Senate Transportation Committee, have spent the last several weeks of February on a tour of ten Iowa Cities to entertain questions and hear opinions or concerns about funding TIME-21.

On Friday, February 22, Clinton representatives attended three of the ten stops (Brooklyn, Davenport, Dubuque) to convey the need to fund TIME-21. Many of us encouraged raising of the gasoline tax as one method of funding the initiative. CRDC and its Board of Directors passed a RESOLUTION in favor of funding TIME-21 at its March 2007 meeting, and we have been advocating ever since.

INDUSTRY SURVEY - COMING SOON

Karen Mooney - Marketing / Research Specialist: kmooney@clintondevelopment.com

The CRDC Board of Directors has formed a committee to evaluate the processes we have in place for conducting visits with local business and industry. Each year, staff meets with several companies to receive updates on their local operations and learn what opportunities may exist for us to help grow the region. The current format involves collecting data from each company prior to a visit so that we may research such opportunities and discuss them during the visit.

At the request of the committee, I have been working on an electronic version of the survey which we hope to roll out in the near future. The electronic survey incorporates much of the same information we have collected in the past, but in a user-friendly format. As always, the information we receive is completely confidential and used only for the purpose of matching companies with programs or services to help everyone reach their full potential.

When you receive the survey, please take a few moments to participate, and help us help you grow your business.

It's Almost Time - The Excitement Mounts!

Ed O'Neill - Resource Development Specialist: eoneill@clintondevelopment.com

Yes! Yes! The end to cabin fever is near! It's time again for the annual Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce Washington D.C. Trip. So mark your calendars for May 4-7th, write up your favorite project, grab some comfortable shoes, and head to the airport.

Seriously, this trip is very important for our region. At this time we have bigger projects, with large infrastructure demands, and a lot of competition for the same dollars. Both political parties have vowed to limit appropriations, so funds may be scarce. We need to be organized, unified, and have a large turn out. Karen Mooney is organizing the book for the trip, so look for her e-mails and communications during the

next weeks.

Over the past seven years, these trips have been very successful, directly connected to the return to this region of over \$53,000,000.00, supporting such projects as the Marina Project (\$2,055,196.00), Vision Iowa (\$3,300,000.00), Liberty Square (\$13,600,000.00), just to name a few.

So mark down the dates and plan on participating.

See you there!

Activity Score Card



Since 1953, the Clinton Regional Development Corp. has offered professional, client-driven site selection services. Our goals are to enhance the regional business climate, attract new investment, expand existing industry, and encourage quality new jobs.

A "scorecard" tracking our sales and marketing activities is available to our investor on our website:

www.clintondevelopment.com

User ID: crdcnbr

Password: crdcweb

Investors who would like more details about our current project mix, please contact Steve Ames at 563-242-4536 or

sames@clintondevelopment.com

[See the Scorecard...](#)

✉ **SafeUnsubscribe®**

This email was sent to kmooney@clintondevelopment.com, by

mail@clintondevelopment.com

[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Clinton Regional Development Corporation | The Armstrong Building | 144 - 8th Avenue South | Clinton | IA | 52732

Email Marketing by

