

QUAD-CITY Business Journal

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Cover Story

QUARTERLY ECONOMIC REPORT: Clinton steers down road to the future

By Steven Martens | [✉ Email this story](#) [🖨 Print this story](#) [💬 No comments posted.](#)

CLINTON, Iowa — Two major road construction projects — Liberty Square and the expansion of 19th Avenue North, are expected to be key factors in the future economic development in Clinton.

Sewer work is under way on the Liberty Square project, which will create a couplet of one-way streets from 25th Place to South 4th Street, with Camanche Avenue carrying the westbound traffic and a reconstructed Liberty Avenue carrying the eastbound traffic. The area in between the two parallel streets, about 220 acres, will be developed for commercial, retail and light industrial use.

Clinton Mayor Rodger Holm said traffic will be moved from Camanche Avenue to the new Liberty Avenue by the end of the year, allowing workers to lay down new stripes on

Camanche Avenue for use as a one-way street and begin the streetscape work. Holm said there is about \$16 million in funding yet to be allocated for the Liberty Square project, which is expected to cost \$40 million to \$50 million by the time it is complete. Holm said the project will greatly improve the look of the U.S. 67/U.S. 30 corridor through Clinton.

"It's going to be a nice entrance to the city," Holm said.

Steve Ames, president and CEO of the Clinton Regional Development Corporation, said the enhancement of the Liberty Square area and the improvement of the city's transportation infrastructure will help attract new businesses and industries to the area.

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The extension of 19th Avenue North west to Mill Creek Parkway is expected to help spur development on the west side of Clinton, Holm said. The road, which turns into Iowa/Illinois 136 and the city's North Bridge over the Mississippi River, currently terminates at Randall Court. This year, the road will be expanded from Mill Creek Parkway to Springdale Drive, with the project expected to be completed in 2010 or 2011, Holm said.

The project is expected to cost about \$7 million. The city recently received \$1.1 million in federal economic stimulus funds for the project, but about \$2.9 million still has not been allocated, Holm said.

"We're very confident in finding those funds," he said.

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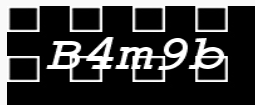
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