

Clinton Regional Development Corp.

News from CRDC

July 31, 2008

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Partnering For Success!

Sylvia Banes - Business Relations Manager: sbanes@clintondevelopment.com

Thanks to the many individuals that I have met the last three months. As a person who is not acquainted with companies in the region, it has been overwhelming to meet great people who are willing to share information about their business. The histories of the companies are varied and unique with many different reasons for locating in this part of the Midwest.

The purpose of these visits is to learn about the companies, thereby identifying concerns for future development at the present site, and to learn how Clinton Regional Development Corporation (CRDC) can respond and be more effective to a company's needs. Several companies expressed concerns about the future availability of skilled workers and the aging workforce to fill management positions. These are national problems that many communities have identified and are trying to develop responses to solve these problems. There are different local programs being developed as well as other planning to learn how to do address workforce issues.

Most companies are doing well and negotiating good contracts to continue making a profit. Several are optimistic, but the current economy is hurting sales of their products. Of this group, all believe the economy will turn around providing better sales and continued profitability for their businesses.

One of our most important roles at Clinton Regional Development Corporation is to assist companies in their growth and ability to achieve success in the region. When your company plans an expansion, remember to contact CRDC as the budget is developed. We can provide information and identify resources to decrease costs for the project. If a project is started without completing the process to obtain state and local benefits, companies, more than likely, will not have access to those additional resources. Many state and local programs have guidelines that, when known, can easily be fit into the planning of an expansion project.

For those whom I have not met, please set aside some time to share with me about your company when I call. For others, all information you have shared is important for future planning of this position.

RAILPORT PLAN MOVES FORWARD

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

President and CEO Steven Ames signed the contract to proceed with the final engineering of the rail into the Railport on July 17, 2008. We are excited about moving forward on the Railport, and we are very grateful to the City of Clinton's funding commitment to this phase of development.

The contract allows IIW Engineers & Surveyors, PC, in partnership with Via Rail Logistics, to proceed with the final design of the conceptual rail plan that was approved by Union Pacific Railroad (U.P.) at the end of last year. We anticipate final design work to be done by late September or early October of this year. The final engineering drawings will then be submitted to U.P. for their review and approval. We anticipate a two- to three-month turnaround from U.P. which will put us into early 2009. Once approved by U.P., we can move forward with constructing the rail into the Railport. If everything flows smoothly, we anticipate the construction phase to be completed by late 2010 or early 2011. The City of Clinton has earmarked funds for the project, and we are working with the Clinton County Board of Supervisors to do the same.

We mentioned in previous newsletters that a Master Plan of the Railport is underway. In March of this year we signed a contract with Shive-Hattery (architecture and engineering firm) to do the Master Plan, which will be completed sometime next month. The Master Plan will provide sales and marketing materials that will be used to generate interest in the Railport. Overlays on sewer, water, gas, electric and rail will provide valuable information to those industries who might be interested in locating in the Lincolnway Railport & Industrial Park. Costs associated with getting water and sewer to the site will be evaluated and documented, and road improvements and access points to the park will be explored. Once the Master Plan is complete, I will be hitting the road again and marketing the Railport.

Not On Vacation!

Mary B. Paul - Administrative Assistant: mpaul@clintondevelopment.com

You may have noticed that our CRDC July Newsletter is shorter than usual, and this may give you the impression that we don't have much to do. On the contrary, it is just the opposite! We are extremely busy here in the CRDC office--***Economic Development does NOT take a vacation!***

We have received several leads in the past month. Staff has promptly and efficiently responded to these leads, and several site visits have followed as a result. It is a very exciting time for our entire Region of Illinois and Iowa, and we here at CRDC are all proud to be part of it.

Please remember that our economic development team is a "one-stop shop" for quick access to all key information in the Region. We serve the communities of Clinton, Camanche, and Low Moor on the Iowa side, and Fulton, Albany, and Thomson across the main channel in Illinois. So when you read this Newsletter, whether long or short, know that the CRDC team is always working for YOU. **Give us a call-we're here to serve.**

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: crdcubr

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...](#)



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