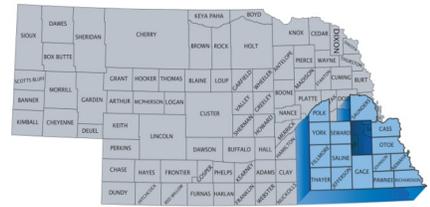


SEND D

Southeast Nebraska Development District



SEND D 40 Years & Counting

By: Director Dave Taladay

Sometimes we have to look backward to go forward. At least one great philosopher has said that better, but universal truths are just that. Last year at a garage sale, I came upon a copy of "Collier" magazine from 1954. Wow, there were some really great articles; "Colonizing Mars by 2050"; "How the new B-52 and American Airpower can prevent a war"; Cigarette advertisements galore and;

"How to fight a Local Recession" (1954)

1. Organize business, labor, and civic organizations into a single working organization to fight unemployment through economic development and diversification and mobilize the community behind them.
2. Find effective and hard driving local leaders, or hire an effective Industrial-development expert.
3. Survey the community for liabilities and determine steps to correct them.
4. Make sure your community presents an attractive appearance.
5. Solicit contributions from local businesses, organizations and individuals for promotion and capital to build new factories.
6. Begin a professionally directed promotion and publicity campaign. Advertise in newspapers and magazines and mail out literature and interview industrial leaders.
7. Develop a spirit of enterprise. With new industries like, plastics and atomic energy, Industrial expansion is inevitable.
8. Stabilize labor-management relations. Obtain co-operation of local unions to build a fine reputation for industrial peace.
9. Don't overlook expansion of industries already in the community.
10. Find out what help is available from the state and federal governments.

So, if we replace "Industrial or factory" references with new technology and emerging businesses, this sounds like up to date approaches to Economic Development. When local ED Professionals undertake "Business Retention and Expansion" (BRE) surveys and interviews, it falls right into place.

Note that exploring State and Federal assistance was just beginning in 1954 and that SEND D has been in that business since it first started as Vision-17 Area-wide Planning Agency in 1974. Note also that the emphasis on local organizing and local support as the first step has always been a key to success in Economic Development.

SEND D staff have and will lend support for member counties and communities in Economic Development, Community Development, Business Financing and Affordable Housing initiatives in our service area.

Looking forward to working with you all for our futures. Who wants to be on that trip to Mars in 2050?



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Public Participation Required

During this busy grant-writing season, SENDD staff will be working with communities/counties to meet the public participation requirements for their grant applications. Most agencies, including the Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development (NDED), require public input as part of the application process. If you are applying for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds you are required to hold a public hearing to accept public comment on the grant application and the proposed uses of grant funds.

In addition, each community/county is required to have a Citizen Participation Plan adopted by the council or board. NDED has distributed a new plan, effective January 2014, that all communities/counties must approve prior to submitting final applications. SENDD staff will prepare these plans for you as part of the grant application preparations and will ask that your local council or board approve them prior to the application due date. The plan outlines how you publicize meeting notices and where citizens can review information regarding applications for CDBG funds. The plan also contains information about how to file a complaint regarding a CDBG program or application.

Public participation is an important aspect of all your governing activities and should not be forgotten as you make decisions for your communities. It is not only a desired activity, but in many cases a required activity.



MINK Focuses on ED Projects that Cross State Lines in this 4-State Missouri River Corridor

Your SENDD staff has been teaming with other leaders from SE Nebraska in the regional economic development group referred to as MINK – Missouri River Corridor (Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas). This group met at the Klinefelter Barn Conference Room outside of Hiawatha, KS in December to focus on projects of regional importance. This quarterly gathering of this 4 - state Missouri River corridor group is part of the ongoing effort to build momentum for projects that may best succeed if we can ignore state boundaries.

Leaders from the 4-state area gathered to continue to build upon the goal of working across state lines for the good of this MINK region via projects such as the four one-day bus tours suggested by Doug Friedli of Nebraska City and Yvonne Dalluge of Pawnee City. The group heard plans to roll out potential tours under the headings of: Historic Trails, Famous People/Famous Places, Underground Railroad/Trails to Freedom, and Wind energy. Other items of discussion included the recent designation of the Missouri River as a "Marine Highway" which is bringing a renewed look at sustaining barge traffic from Sioux City to Kansas City. Janelle Moran of REAP represented SE Nebraska on a panel presentation on how the 4 states deliver support services for business startups and entrepreneurial growth.

Still in its infancy as a working group: this 4-state gathering of economic development leaders are in the middle of an effort to clarify a MINK "Scope of work" so as to better define what areas of influence the group hopes to impact. The 4 USDA Rural Development State Directors (Maxine Moul, Nebraska; Patty Clark, Kansas; Janie Dunning, Missouri; and Bill Menner, Iowa) were in attendance and they made note that the recent "Great Regions" recognition that MINK received was not awarded for what the group had done, but was given in acknowledgement of the great things this group has an opportunity to achieve. The next quarterly meeting of this 4 - state MINK group is being planned for March 2014 in Missouri.

MINK is a grass roots group, open to anyone interested in enhancing economic development along the Missouri River Corridor in this 4 – state corner. For more information regarding MINK, feel free to contact Kevin Burnison or Lisa Beethe of the SENDD Humboldt staff.

SE Nebraska Partners for Progress Meeting (P4P)

The Southeast Nebraska Partners for Progress group will be holding a meeting on Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at the Auburn City Hall at 5:30 p.m. The P4P group is a group of resource and service providers that focuses on the southeast 5 counties of Johnson, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, and Richardson. The meetings are a great way to share information and find out about opportunities that you may not have heard about.