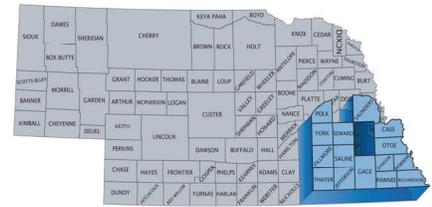


SEND D

Southeast Nebraska Development District



SEND D Community Highlights

Instead of highlighting a single community this month, we are shining a spotlight on item(s) from each of our 15 SEND D area counties:

Cass: SEND D staff & a local citizen's advisory committee in Plattsmouth are working through the 6-month long process to identify needs for Phase I of their Comprehensive Investment Strategy grant.

Fillmore: Five lots in the Geneva FCDC Industrial Park were recently sold. Winfield Solutions LLC and Chaney Chemical Inc. both plan to start construction late this fall on the lots they purchased. Chaney Chemical is a local company who is expanding the seed side of their business. Stoker Enterprises, LLC who finished construction in September on their building, purchased the adjacent lot for future growth. The Stoker Enterprises, LLC conducts auctions and will rent their building for special events. Received a Down-Payment Assistance grant with 2013 NAHTF project funds.



Gage: The City of Blue Springs is working on an Income Survey of its residents to see if they can become eligible for CDBG Public Works and/or CDBG Water/Waste Water projects. By census they are 50.1% Low & Moderate Income, and you must be 51% or more to be eligible for these grant funds.

Jefferson: In the Diller and Steele City area it appears that the majority of the 44-turbine Steele Flats Wind Farm have been completed. Previous communications noted that the construction firm NextEra Energy Resources had planned to have them in operation by the end of December, 2013. The Village of Jansen is in the design phase of a CDBG-funded wastewater improvement project.

Johnson: Doug Goracke, Tecumseh Economic Development Coordinator & City Utility Foreman, reports that he will be conducting business retention and expansion interviews with local businesses in the coming weeks. The BR&E visits are viewed as an important opportunity to connect with local entrepreneurs to listen for opportunities to foster growth and to sustain existing operations.

Nemaha: Peru State College and the City of Peru are continuing work on a CDBG Public Works application to improve the main entrance to the city and PSC campus. They are re-working some aspects of the application after receiving feedback on the 2013 application that did not receive funding.



Otoe: The Palmyra Village Board voted last month to enter into a Nuisance Enforcement Support contract with SEND D. Nebraska City is working on the Needs Assessment portion of their CIS grant with SEND D Staff and a local advisory committee.

Pawnee: Local donations financed a new Veteran's Memorial located on the Courthouse lawn. The dedication was held Sunday, November 10th.

Polk:

The Osceola Town Square LLC has purchased a downtown building and has begun renovations of the roof and interior to ready it for a new business in downtown. Voting shares can be purchased for \$2,500 contributions or donations of sweat equity are always accepted and appreciated.

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SEND D Community Highlights (cont.)

Richardson: On December 19th Falls City EDGE will be hosting an informational luncheon regarding the Intern Nebraska (InternNE) program which connects college students and employers. The program allows interns to gain valuable business experience that will help them in future careers while successful internships help businesses fill skilled positions. The InternNE grant program provides financial assistance, up to \$5,000 per eligible internship, to companies in Nebraska that are willing to participate.

Saline: The City of Crete recently completed a Blight & Substandard study and a General Redevelopment Plan. Community leaders hope to use these as a springboard to trigger improvement projects that need tax increment financing.

Saunders: Doug Watts of the Wahoo Economic Development reports that a recent ED project in Wahoo was the reopening of the Wahoo Locker. After starting an expansion project, a fire side-tracked those plans, but in mid-October the home of the "Wahoo Wiener" re-opened in an impressive, expanded facility, selling a wide range of meats. The Wahoo Economic Development office assisted the project with a Rural Development grant revolving loan.



Seward: The City of Seward continues to unfold the vision for a rail-served industrial campus. A County-wide entrepreneur leadership program, Unite16, is matching high school students with business mentors. Seward County is also working on a county-wide housing study.

Thayer: Jeremy Voss and Thayer County Economic Development Alliance hosted over 25 people interested in community and economic development at the quarterly Southeast Nebraska Resource Network (SERN) meeting in Hubbell on Nov. 6th. The quarterly gathering rotates into the 4 corners of the SEND D area and is open to any persons interested in sharing ideas and hearing updates on activities that various ED leaders are pursuing.



York: The City of York is currently constructing a new civic center. During the week of Nov. 18th, Lisa Hurley, Executive Director of the York County Economic Development Corporation is joining other Nebraska economic development leaders in Chicago for the FABTech (metal industry) trade show. Utility providers and state representatives team up with local leaders to market Nebraska as a good place to do business at this type of national industry tradeshow.

SE NE Partners for Progress Meeting—December 3rd

The Southeast Nebraska Partners for Progress group will meet on December 3rd at 5:30 p.m. at the Auburn City Hall. RSVP to Stephanie Shrader at (402) 873-4293.

MINK Meeting—December 5th

The MINK (Missouri-Iowa-Nebraska-Kansas) Missouri River Corridor, Inc. will be meeting on December 5th at the Highland Community College, Klinefelter Barn Conference Room, 1774 230th Street, Hiawatha, KS. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m., with a catered lunch at 12:15 p.m. The afternoon feature program will begin at 1:00 p.m. The feature program will be a 4-state panel presentation on "Delivery of Entrepreneurship Support Services." Speakers from each state will talk about the services they provide to enhance or sustain local business opportunities in communities. Janelle Moran of the Rural Enterprise Assistance Project will address the group for Nebraska. Contact Gary Satter, Glacial Hills RC&D at (785) 608-8801 for more information or to reserve your spot.

NDED Briefing—December 12th

The Nebraska Department of Economic Development (NDED) will be holding their 2013 briefing in Lincoln at the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications (NET), 1800 N. 33rd Street, in the NET boardroom on December 12th from 9:00—1:00 p.m. (CST), with lunch provided by the Nebraska Public Power District.

This is an informational and educational session geared to new economic developers and others interested in economic development programs and services. Staff will discuss the components that make up the state's economic growth and development, including existing business retention and expansion, housing, community development, and innovation and entrepreneurship. You must RSVP by Thursday, Dec. 5th with Lori Cole at lori.a.cole@nebraska.gov.