

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

| APRIL 2024 |

| PRESENTED BY |
BARBARA BREWER-WATSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

| PREPARED BY |
DEVYN FORQUER
LEONEL B. JARAMILLO



NEW BUSINESS LICENSES



APRIL 2024

Auto Elite Inc. 4/08

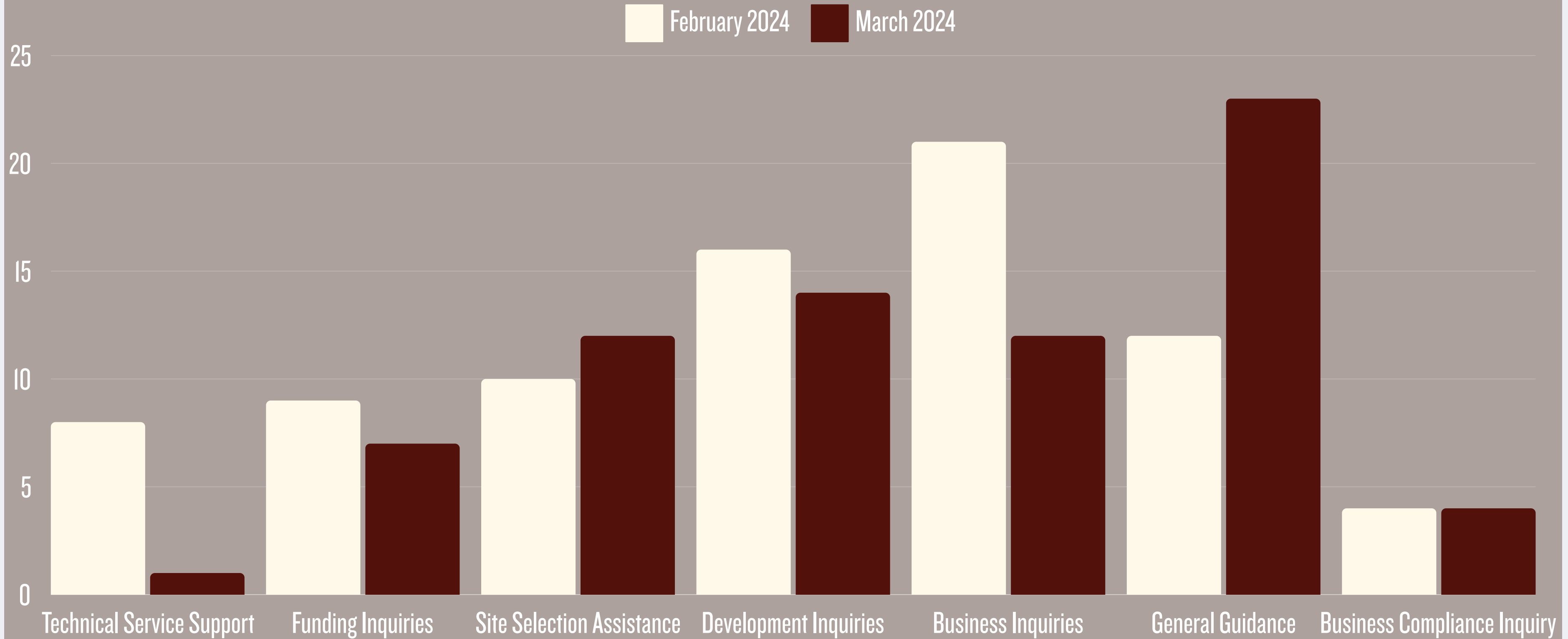
Duncan Homes 4/08

Sixx Lawn Care 4/11

Pathfinder 4/11

- RENEWALS STARTED 4/1
- FY 24-25

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NAVIGATOR REPORT



| **OUTREACH** |

A starting a business packet is available in our office with a easy to follow brochure of the business start up checklist.

ATTRACTION REPORT

| **DEVELOPMENT INQUIRIES** |

23 NEW INQUIRIES

**12 NEW BUSINESS - CAFÉ, RESTAURANT (2), DAYCARE,
BANQUET HALL, MECHANIC, RETAIL**

**9 LAND - COUNTY SITING PROCESS, FIRE CODE, ZONING,
CONDITIONAL USE, SITE SELECTION (2), SITE PLAN
REVIEW, SPECIFIC AREA INTEREST (2)**

1 RELOCATION - BRADLEY

1 OUT OF CITY - GRANT PARK

| **NLC CIE COMMITMENT** |

Committing for a third year to NLC's City Innovations Ecosystem. Kankakee is committed to develop an operational strategy for the business incubator. We were awarded a \$15,000.00 grant in 2022.

Retention Visits

- **Retention Visits for businesses in Ward 2 conducted on 03/21/2024**
- **Retention Visits for businesses in Ward 3 scheduled for 04/23/2024**

RETENTION REPORT

2nd WARD RETENTION VISITS REPORT

BUSINESS SPECS

43.2

AVERAGE AGE
of businesses surveyed

85 Y/O

OLDEST
of businesses surveyed

3 Y/O

NEWEST
of businesses surveyed

7

RENTERS/OWNERS
of businesses surveyed

EMPLOYEE SPECS

8

AVERAGE #
of employees

25

HIGHEST #
of employees

2

LOWEST #
of employees

5

STABILITY/QUALITY/AVAILABILITY
of employees on a scale of 1-5

CITY ASSETS

POLICE FOR SECURITY,
SAFETY, AND SPEED OF
SERVICE; FIRE FOR
PROFESSIONALITY AND
SPEED OF SERVICE

CHALLENGES

GETTING AHOLD OF
ALDERMEN, NO FOLLOW UP
ON NEARBY BUSINESSES
FROM CODE; LOITERING
AROUND COMMUNITY

UPCOMING PLANS

MAJORITY DO NOT HAVE PLANS TO
RENOVATE, EXPAND, OR RELOCATE

PROJECT MANAGER UPDATE

| **MARKETING** |

WEBSITE SUBPAGE DESIGN UNDERWAY
BRAND IMPLEMENTATION STARTED

| **E.D. SOCIALS** |

PROMOTING 'RISING' LOGO ON ALL ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT POSTS - WORKING E.D. MEDIA STRATEGY

| **PATHFINDER CONTRACT** |

IN PRODUCTION: STRUCTURE ANIMATION,
OUTREACH, CDBG VIDEOS
ON DECK: HEALTHY HOMES & LEAD INFO VIDEOS

| **KANKAKEE WORKS** |

APPLICANT RECEIPT SUBMISSIONS UNDER REVIEW
& VERIFICATION

| **LUNCH N LEARNS** |

'HOW TO START A BUSINESS IN KANKAKEE' WITH
LAURIN STAUFFENBERG @ THE LUSH VINE
SUCCESSFUL - 14 ATTENDEES
'HOW TO BECOME CERTIFIED MWBE' WITH
ALEJANDRA NATERA FROM IL HISPANIC CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE MAY 7 - SOLD OUT, NOW ON WAITLIST

| **NLC CIE COMMITMENT** |

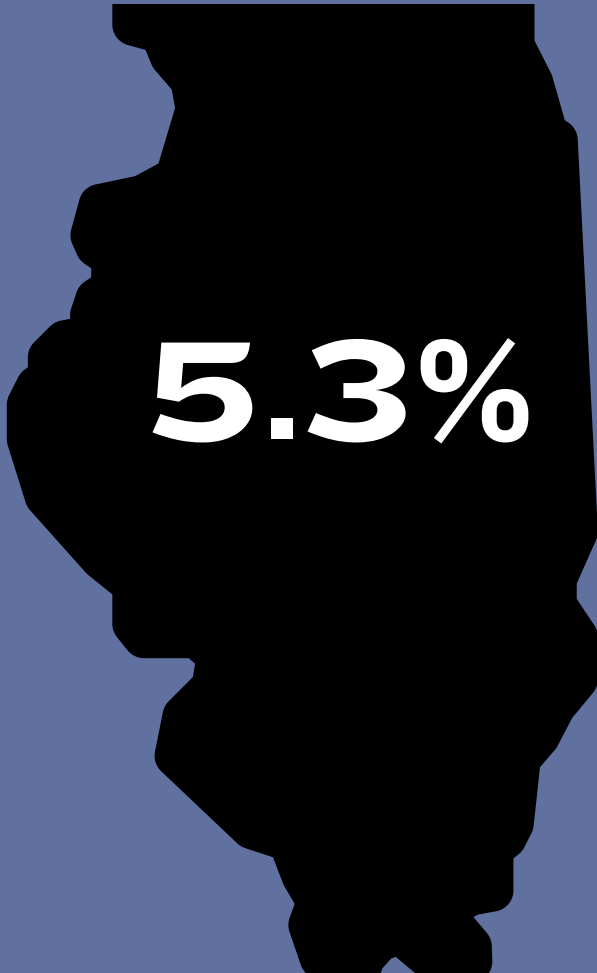
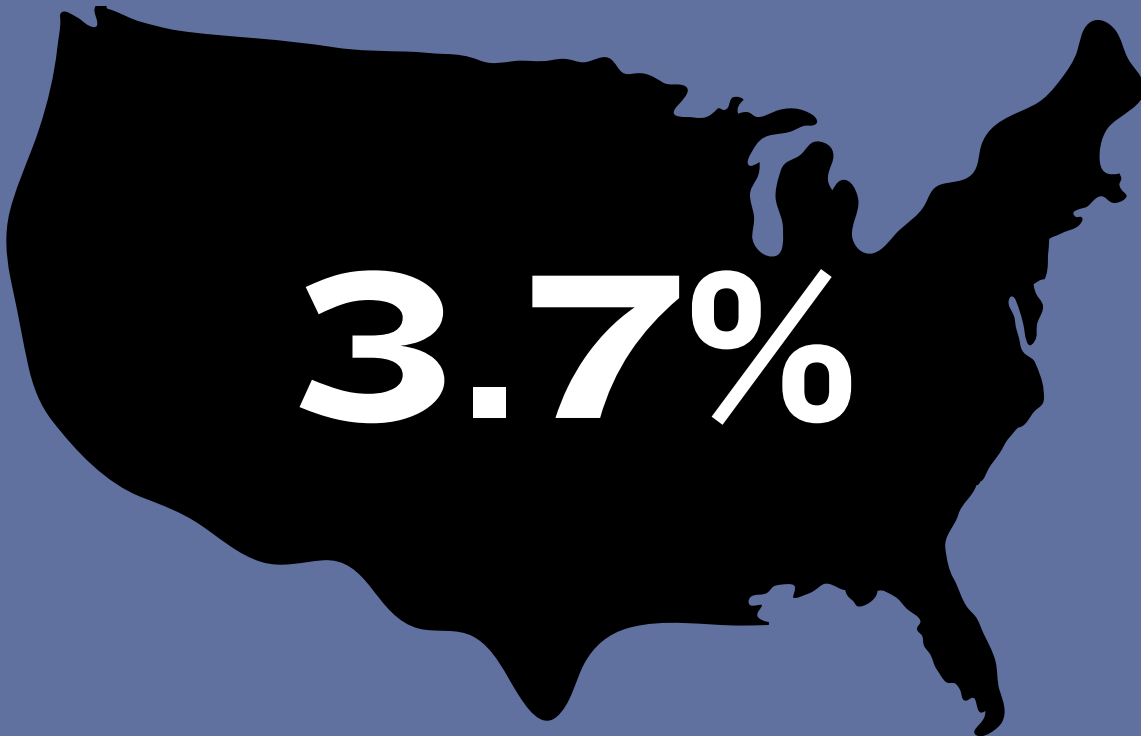
KCC PARTNERSHIP MOU IN PROCESS
REVIEWING KCC DRAFT BUDGET
WORKING TO SCHEDULE INTERVIEW TIMES WITH FACILITATORS

| **LUNCHEON** |

BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

UNEMPLOYMENT DATA

LAST UPDATE **FEB 2024**



9.4%



KANKAKEE COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU (KCCVB)

| Board of Directors Meeting |

3rd Wednesday of each month | 4pm

Economic Alliance of Kankakee County Board Room

| Executive Committee Meetings |

2nd Wednesday of each month | 9:30am

KCCVB Board Room

**KCCVB City Representative
Alderman Dave Baron**



KANKAKEE RIVERFRONT SOCIETY (KRS)

Priority notes from Executive Director, Bill Yohnka (September 2023):

- \$27,500 pledged in donations
- Working on Community Fundraising Events
- Working on DOT RAISE Grant

| Board of Director Meetings |
2nd Tuesday of each month | 11am
Meeting Locations Vary

KRS City Representative
Alderman Mike Cobbs

Barbi Watson is the Chairperson.

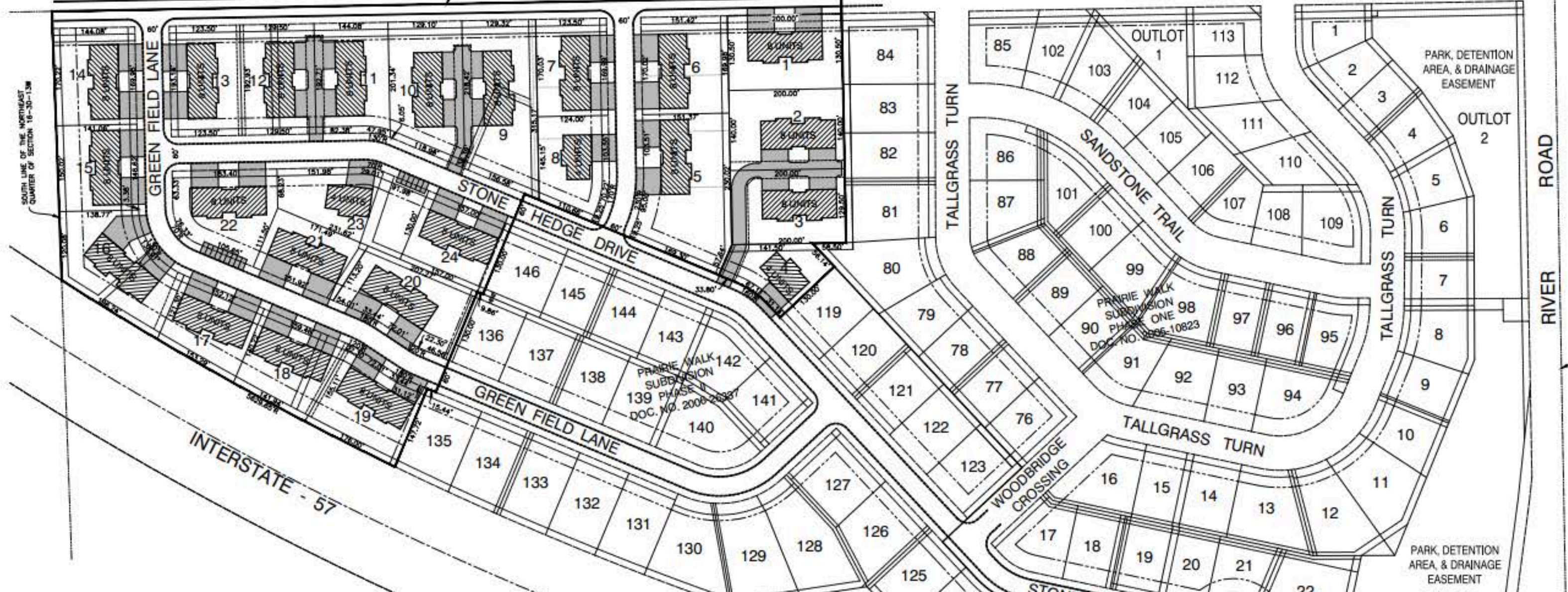
THE OUTREACH
OF KANKAKEE

PRIORITIES

- **Gotion**
- **Workforce - Unemployment**
- **Business Resources**
 - **Back 2 Business (IL State Grant)**
 - **Illinois Manufacturers' Association Training**
 - **Bettering Your Business - KCC's MITC - January 18, 7:30-9:30am**



PROJECT UPDATES



Harbor Place

Construction is on going.

Prairie Walk

RDA Negotiations

Veteran's Housing

Rehab is on going at the site.

HOUSING

BUILDING, PLANNING, & COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

|PRIORITY COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES|

|JAFFE DRUG| ON COURT STREET

|RIVERSTONE CONVENTION CENTER| PART OF PROJECT VENTURE

|SOUTHWEST| CORNER OF COURT STREET & SCHUYLER AVE

|1933 E. COURT ST| DEMO COMPLETE - BEGINNING RFP PROCESS



400 N. BLOCK OF 5th AVE
816 S. SCHUYLER AVE

RECOVERY

BOUNCE BACK

CONNECTIONS TO RESOURCES

PROVIDE EDUCATION

ECDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

IMPROVE

CONSISTENT RETENTION VISITS

CONSISTENT ATTRACTION EFFORTS

SURVEY

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

REFINE

MARKETING MATERIALS

MESSAGING PLATFORMS & STYLES

BRAND MANAGEMENT

OPTIMIZE

TIME MANAGEMENT

REPORTING MEANINGFUL DATA

USE OF INTERNS

TRAIN

ATTEND VIRTUAL CONFERENCES

APPLY FOR TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

OBTAIN INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS

2023 STRATEGIC WORK

KEEP IN MIND

**RACIAL & ECONOMIC
DISPARITIES**

MOBILITY

**AGING & OBSOLETE
INFRASTRUCTURE**

**SWIFTLY CHANGING
TECHNOLOGY**

**DIVERSE & AGING
POPULATION**