

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

| M A Y 2 0 2 4 |

| P R E S E N T E D B Y |  
BARBARA BREWER-WATSON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

| P R E P A R E D B Y |  
DEVYN FORQUER  
LEONEL B. JARAMILLO



# NEW BUSINESS LICENSES



# APRIL 2024

Auto Elite Inc. 4/08

Duncan Homes 4/08

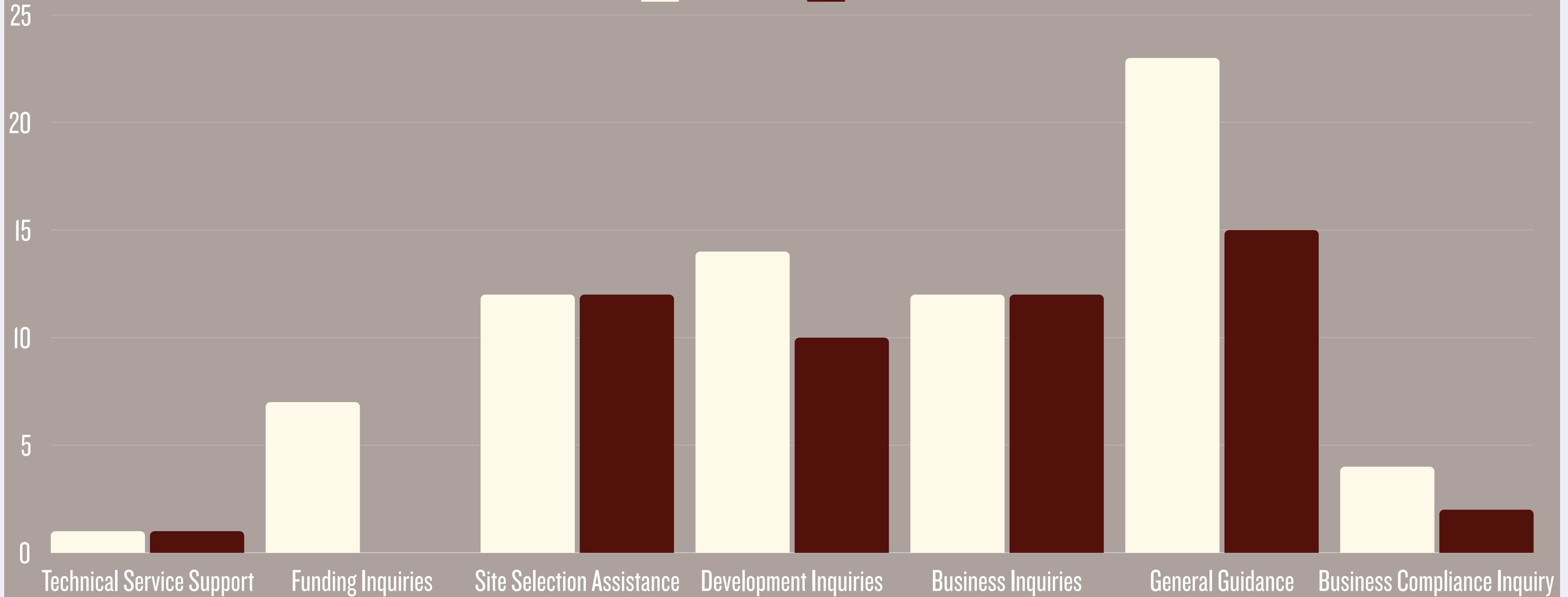
Sixx Lawn Care\* 4/11

Pathfinder 4/11

\*indicates home-based

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NAVIGATOR REPORT

March 2024 April 2024



## | **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** |

**30 NEW INQUIRIES**

**21 NEW BUSINESS - VAPE SHOP, CAFÉ (3), RESTAURANT (4), DAYCARE, BANQUET HALL (2), ENTERTAINMENT, RESALE SHOP, BEAUTY SALON, RETAIL**

**8 LAND - ZONING(3), CONDITIONAL USE (2), SITE SELECTION (2), BUILDING PERMITS**

**1 RELOCATION - BRADLEY**

# | **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 3 conducted on 4/23/2024
- Retention Visits for businesses in Ward 4 scheduled for 5/21/2024

# **RETENTION REPORT**

# 3rd WARD RETENTION VISITS REPORT

## BUSINESS SPECS

26

**AVERAGE AGE**  
of businesses surveyed

54 Y/O

**OLDEST**  
of businesses surveyed

3 Y/O

**NEWEST**  
of businesses surveyed

4/3

**RENTERS/OWNERS**  
of businesses surveyed

## EMPLOYEE SPECS

5

**AVERAGE #**  
of employees

15

**HIGHEST #**  
of employees

2

**LOWEST #**  
of employees

3-5

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

## CITY ASSETS

POLICE, FIRE & DPW;  
BUSINESS LICENSING  
PROCESS; FARMERS'  
MARKET, FESTIVALS & MSMF

## CHALLENGES

OUTSIDE COMPETITION,  
QUALITY OF STREETS,  
RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES  
NEED CLEANING UP,  
BUILDING & CODE

## UPCOMING PLANS

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

# PROJECT MANAGER UPDATE

## | LUNCH N LEARNS |

'HOW TO BECOME CERTIFIED MWBE' WITH ALEJANDRA NATERA FROM IL HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MAY 7 - SOLD OUT - WAITLIST OF 17

'HOW DOES ZONING AFFECT MY BUSINESS?' WITH MIKE HOFFMAN OF TESKA - JUNE 4

## | LUNCHEON |

SPONSORSHIP FLYER DRAFT IN PROGRESS - MAJESTIC AS VENUE SPONSOR SO FAR - SEEKING LUNCH/ENTERTAINMENT/MEDIA SPONSORS

## | WEBSITE |

CODING IN PROGRESS WITH I.T.  
- PREVIEW ON NEXT SLIDE(S)

## | ICSC LAS VEGAS |

OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT WITH RETAILERS NATIONWIDE. FOLLOW UP IN PROGRESS WITH FOUR HOTELS, TWO RETAILERS, AND ONE GROCERY STORE. WE SHARED THUMB DRIVES WITH INFORMATION REGARDING OUR DEVELOPMENT ZONES, TIF DISTRICTS, AND OUR 'INTRO TO ECDA' VIDEO. EVERY MEETING WENT VERY WELL AND WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING BACK FROM EACH BUSINESS.





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## CITY OF KANKAKEE ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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## OUR MISSION

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## OUR MISSION

The City of Kankakee Economic and Community Development Agency (ECDA) is a local government agency whose mission is to improve the lives of Kankakee residents and enhance the economic vitality of communities through housing, economic development and community development. The ECDA administers programs that serve the neighborhoods and residents of the City of Kankakee provided by federal, state, and local funding.

## DOLLARS INVESTED

**\$11.1**  
MILLION  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**\$11.1**  
MILLION  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## QUICK LINKS



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## DOLLARS INVESTED

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**\$11.1**  
MILLION  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## QUICK LINKS

[Pre-Application Form](#)

[Business License Application](#)

[Maps/GIS](#)

[Blog](#)



### Contact Us

City of Kankakee ECDA  
275 E. Court St.  
Kankakee, IL 60901

815-933-0506

[yourvoice@citykankakee-il.gov](mailto:yourvoice@citykankakee-il.gov)

### Quick Links

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### Helpful Links

[Maps/GIS](#)

[Planning/Zoning](#)

[Site Map](#)

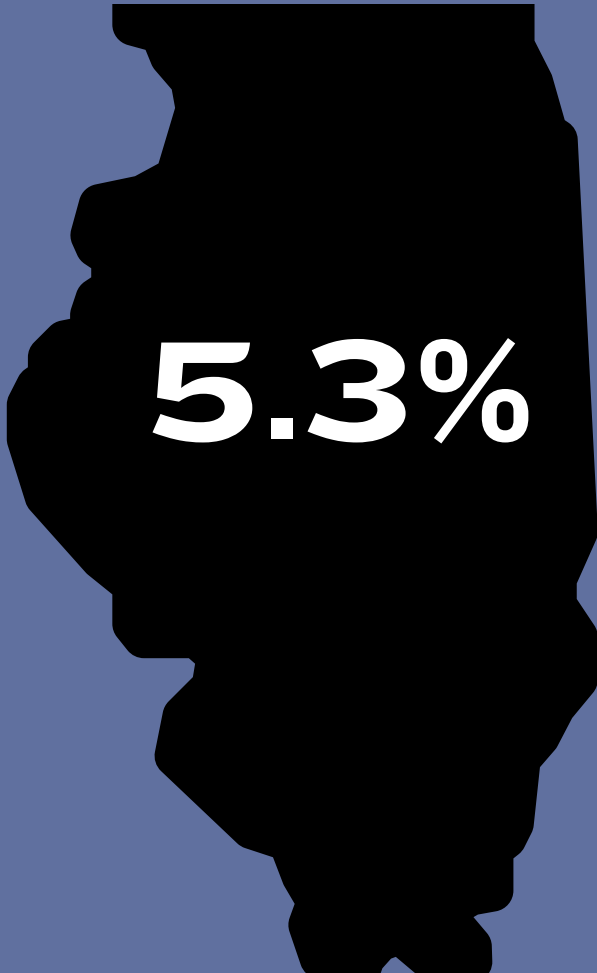
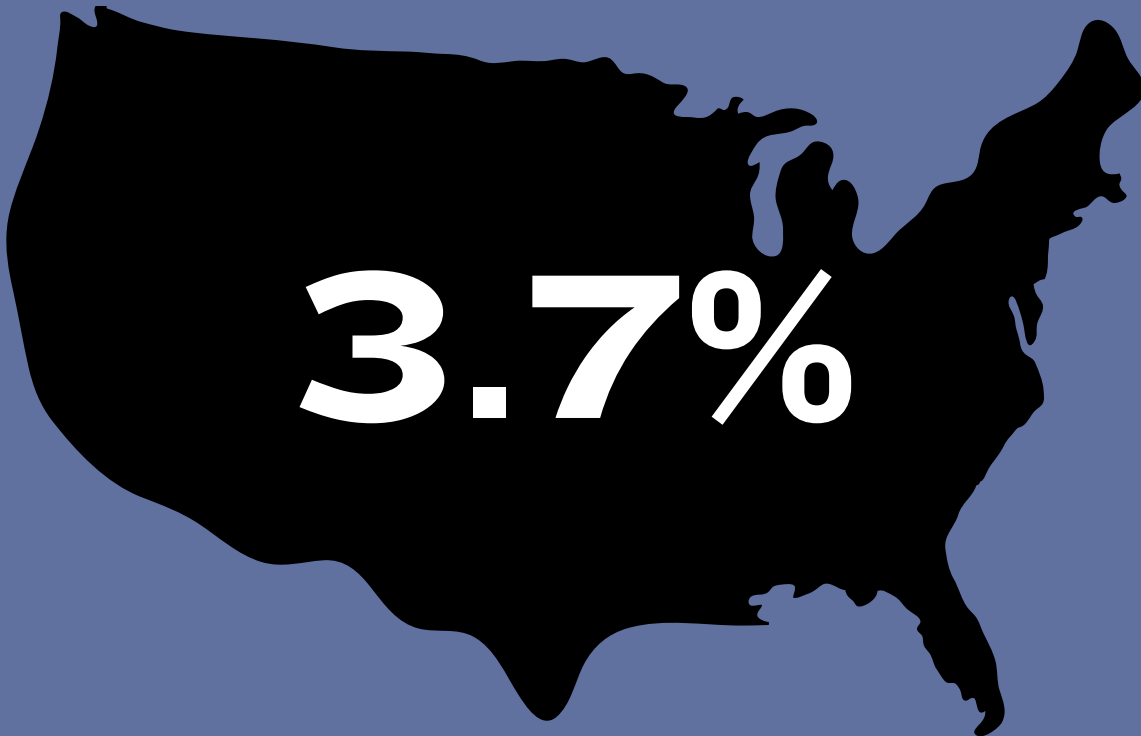
[Fair Housing](#)

[Partner Directory](#)

[Site Map](#)

# 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:

- Working on Community Fundraising Events

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

**KRS City Representative**  
**Alderman Mike Cobbs**

**Barbi Watson is the Chairperson.**

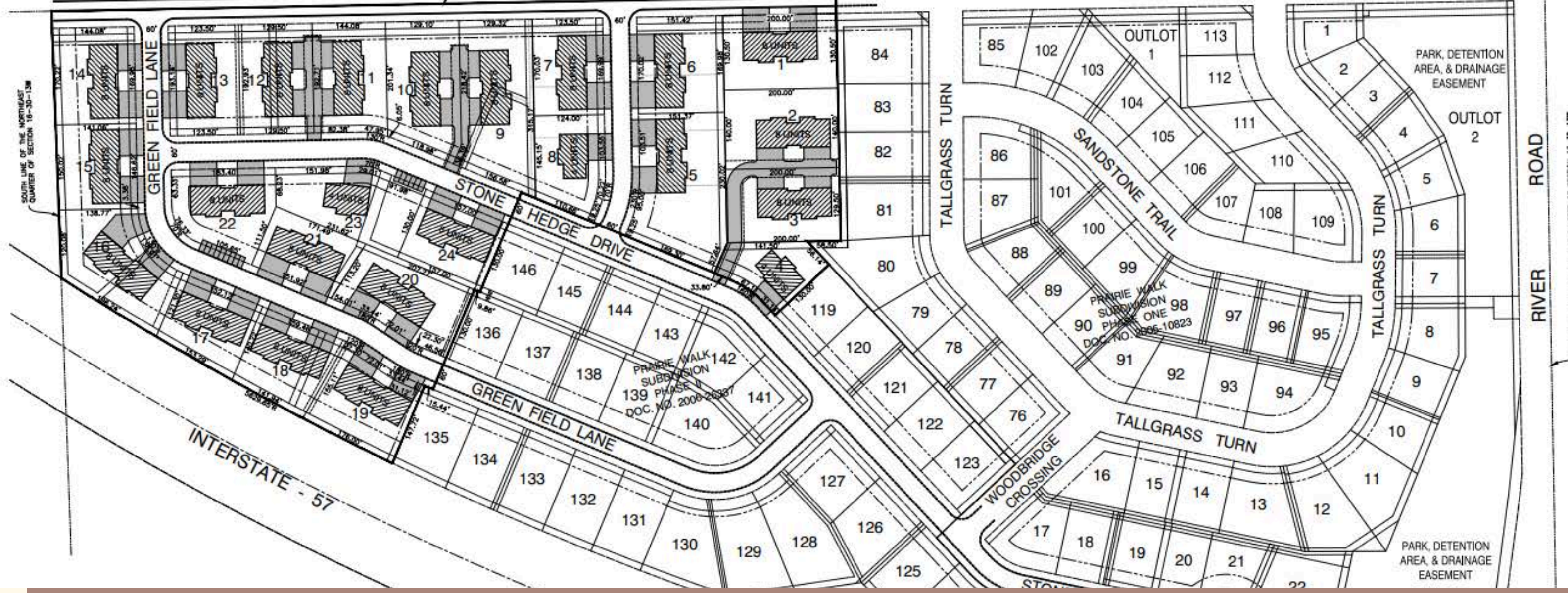
**THE OUTREACH**  
**OF KANKAKEE**

# 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

Planning Board approved the zoning for this project on Tuesday, May 21, 2024

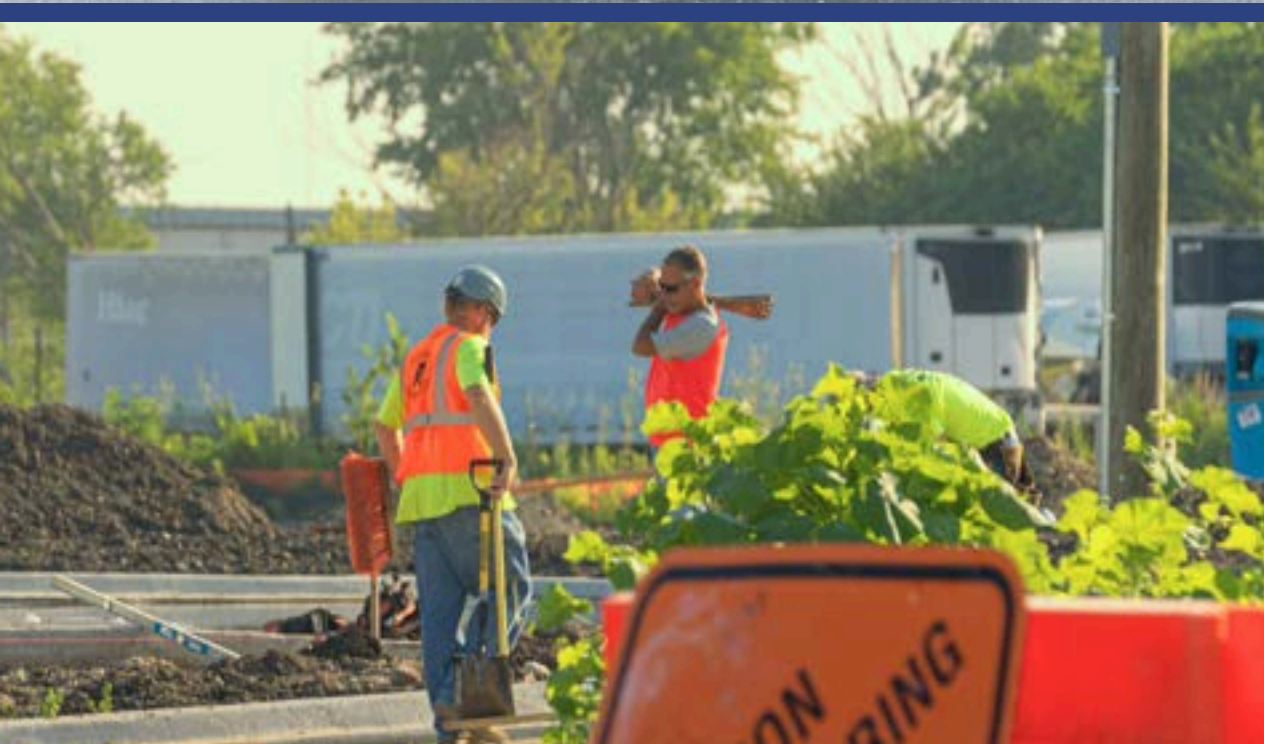
# HOUSING

## Veteran's Housing

Rehab is on going at the site.



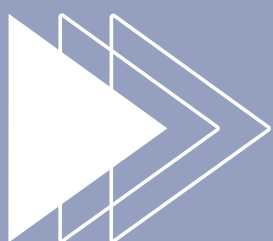




EAST COURT ST. DEVELOPMENT ZONE

# |HOBBIE AVENUE|

WORK IS ONGOING



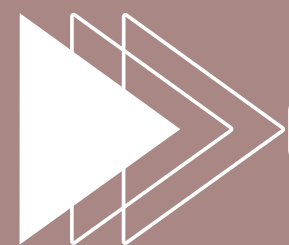
HOTEL IS INTERESTED IN THIS AREA

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# | 1801 W. STATION ST |

## PLANNING DEVELOPMENT STAGE



COMMERCIAL SPACE AVAILABLE ON WEST STATION STREET

WEST COURT ST. DEVELOPMENT ZONE









# 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**