

| S E P T E M B E R 2 0 2 4 |

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

| 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

AUGUST 2024

Fortitude 8/07

Rise & Thrive Wellness 8/07

3KS Food, Inc. 8/22

Lia Schillinger, LCPC 8/22

MTB Pet Boutique 8/30

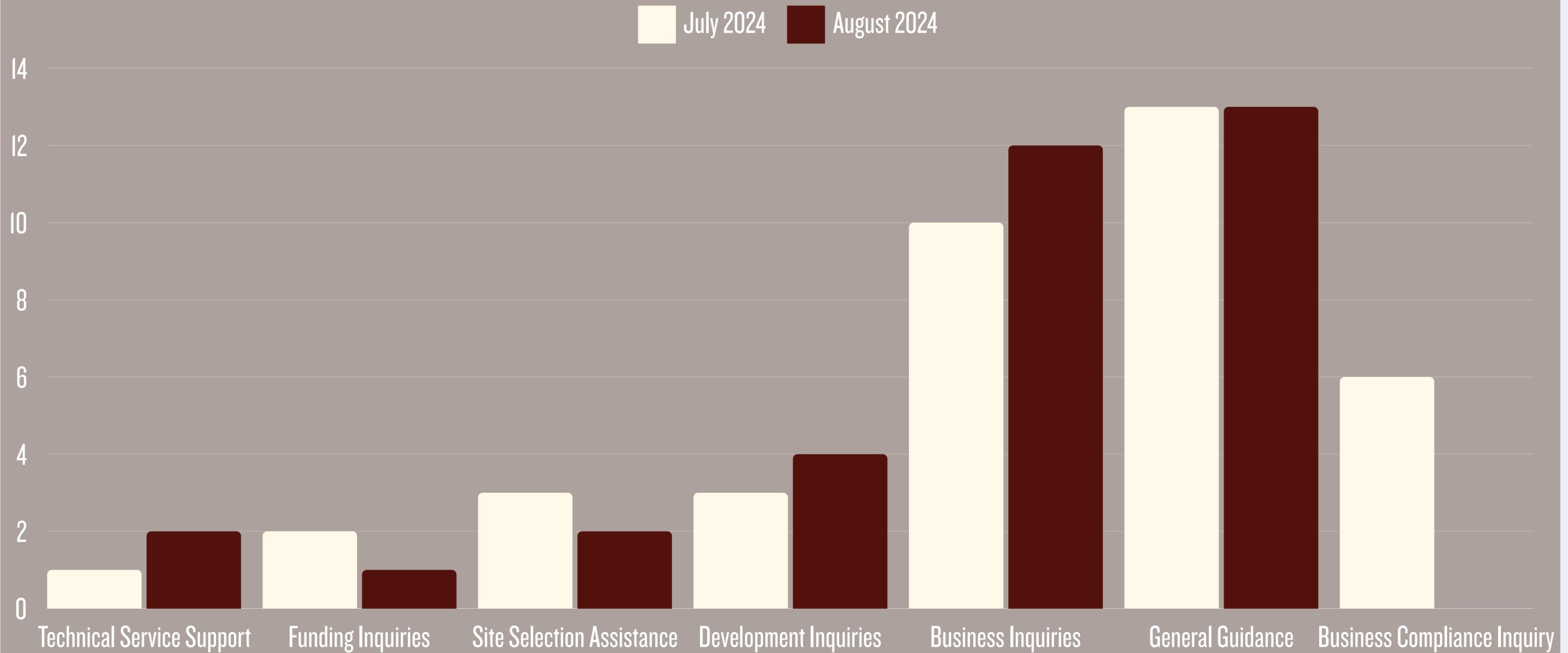
Essentials

21 TOTAL TO DATE

*indicates home-based



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NAVIGATOR REPORT



| DEVELOPMENT INQUIRIES |

12 NEW INQUIRIES

11 NEW BUSINESS - RETAIL, TATTOO SHOP, RESTAURANT x2, PERSONAL TRAINER, CLEANING COMPANY, FINANCIAL SERVICES, LAUNDROMAT
1 LAND - BUILDING PERMITS

| 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 2023.



ATTRACTION REPORT

NLC CIE COMMITMENT

Committing for a fourth year to NLC's CIE program. Kankakee is committed to enhancing a network of entrepreneurial resource partners to accelerate small business goal attainment. We were awarded a \$15,000.00 grant in 2024.

RETENTION VISITS

- Retention Visits for businesses in Ward 6 conducted on 8/27/2024
- Retention Visits for businesses in Wards 1 scheduled for 9/19/2024



RETENTION REPORT

6th WARD RETENTION VISITS REPORT

BUSINESS SPECS

10.3

AVERAGE AGE
of businesses surveyed

16 Y/O

OLDEST
of businesses surveyed

3 Y/O

NEWEST
of businesses surveyed

1/2

RENTERS/OWNERS
of businesses surveyed

EMPLOYEE SPECS

39

HIGHEST AMT
of employees

4

LOWEST AMT
of employees

5

Employer's Overall Rating (Scale 1-5)
of employees

MISCELLANEOUS

CITY ASSETS

**POLICE FOR SECURITY, ALL
CITY DEPARTMENTS**

CHALLENGES

**HIGH RATE OF CRIME, CANNOT
EXPAND BECAUSE OF RESIDENTIAL
LAND LOCK, PERMITTING,
BUILDING & CODE**

UPCOMING PLANS

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

PROJECT MANAGER UPDATE

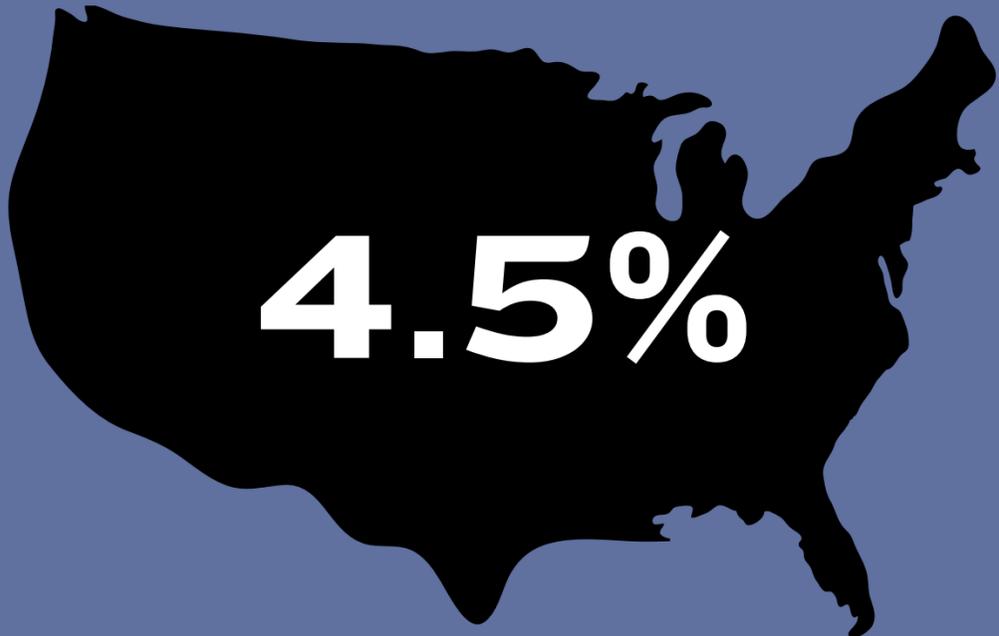
| MARKETING & ATTRACTION |

- DEVELOPING VIRTUAL SITE TOUR VIDEOS FOR EAST COURT, RIVERSTONE, RIVERFRONT, AND DOWNTOWN TIF DISTRICTS
- DEVELOPING ATTRACTION EMAIL TEMPLATES
- YOUTUBE PAGE IS ACTIVE
- WEBSITE CODING IN PROGRESS WITH I.T.; PAGES & UPDATES IN REVIEW
- ICSC SHOW SUCCESS - LOOKING TO UPDATE SWAG
- CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST - VOLUNTEER ON 9/17
- IN COMMUNICATION WITH TWO HOTEL BRANDS REGARDING EAST COURT AND RIVERSTONE
- MEETING WITH TALISMAN DEVELOPMENT GROUP - PEORIA
- DEVELOPING YEAR-END SURVEY DRAFT FOR KANKAKEE BUSINESS OWNERS
- SHIFTING SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT TO E.D. EDUCATION



UNEMPLOYMENT DATA

LAST UPDATE **July 2024**



8.3%



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 COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU (KCCVB)

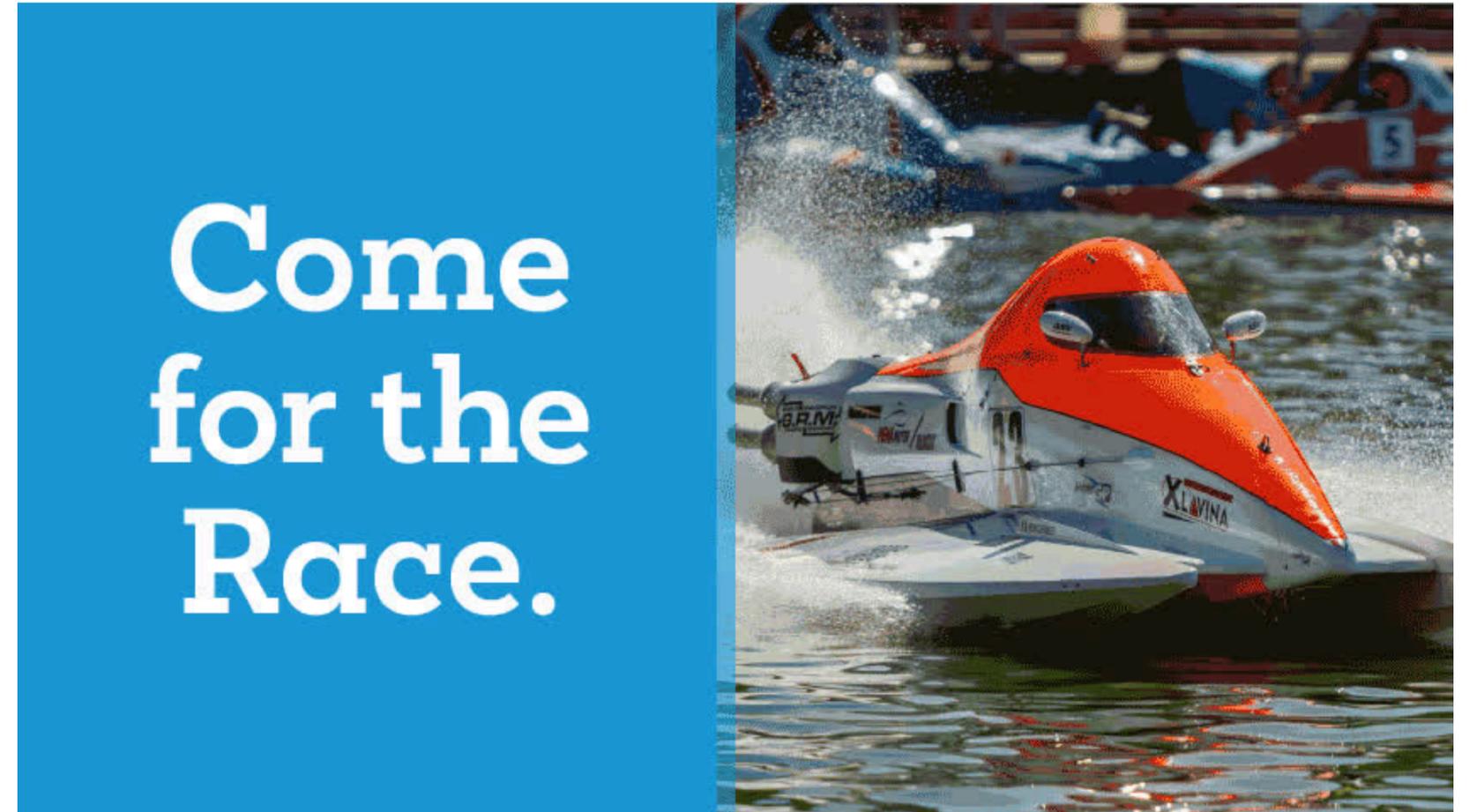
2024 Summer Regatta Market

Outside Kankakee County:

- Live Read from WGN (8/5) - replayed daily Monday-Friday
- Shared the landing page for summer campaign (included Regatta) & promoted 'Regatta Stay & Play' Package
- Included GIFs from digital summer campaign - utilized on FB, IG, Google Display Ads, billboards, Connected TV ads, Youtube Ads, & more to drive site traffic to campaign landing page
- Promoted on Milwaukee's Morning Blend & their social media/website - gained over 1200 opt-ins to e-newsletter

Locally:

- 10-day countdown to Regatta on social media stories
- 'List of 6' things to do when coming to Regatta
 - FB reached 3.6k, 105 reactions, 3 comments, 13 shares
- Blog article
- Feature on calendar of events
- 'Splash' post on social media (FB, TikTok, and IG)
 - FB reached 2.4k, 177 reactions, 22 comments, 17 shares
- Audio on Milner Media
- E-newsletter highlight (2 months)



KANKAKEE RIVERFRONT SOCIETY (KRS)

Priority notes from Executive Director, Bill Yohnka:

- Working on Community Fundraising Events
- New Goal: \$250,000.00 in fundraising

| 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

- **In-depth look at labor market dynamics in and around Kankakee County**
 - **Current labor supply**
 - **Workforce characteristics**
 - **Underemployment patterns**
 - **Commuting trends**
 - **Skills in high demand & surplus**

KANKAKEE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

AUGUST 2024 MEETING NOTES:

- PREPARING FOR LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST
 - DEVYN IS VOLUNTEERING @ REGISTRATION
- SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR STATE OF COUNTY
- REFLECTIONS ON PREVIOUS EVENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- SEPT 18 - LUNCH N LEARN @ FITNESS PREMIER
- SEPT 19 - LUNCH N LEARN @ MILNER MEDIA
- SEPT 24 - RISE & THRIVE: RC
- SEPT 25 - DEI PANEL
- SEPT 26 - THRESHOLDS: RC

| MEETINGS |
2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

| COMMITTEES |
WORKFORCE & EDUCATION: DEVYN
DEI: LEO

- SEPT 17 - LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST
- OCT 15 - STATE OF THE COUNTY
- NOV 7 - ANNUAL DINNER

AMBASSADORS: DEVYN & LEO



KANKAKEE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

SEPT 2024 MEETING NOTES:

- N. SCHUYLER MURAL PUSHED TO SPRING 2025 COMPLETION
- INCENTIVE INCREASE CONVERSATION - REALLOCATION OF FUNDING
- GARBAGE CORRALS

| MEETINGS |
2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

| MARKETING COMMITTEE |
1ST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

SEPT 2024 MARKETING MEETING NOTES:

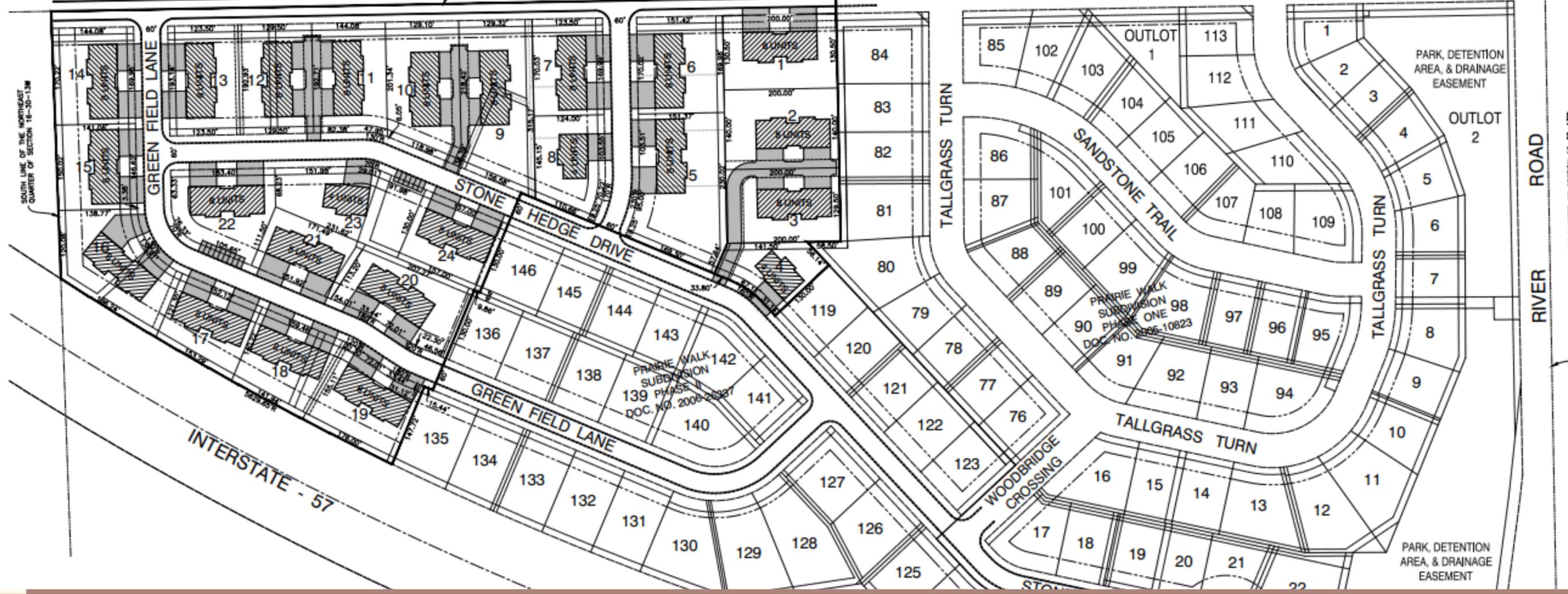
- 200 N SCHUYLER MURAL ANTICIPATED COMPLETION: SPRING 2025, EXTENSION ON CTAP
- DISCUSSION ABOUT INCENTIVE WINDOW CLINGS FOR DOWNTOWN BUILDINGS
- SUNSET STROLL SOUTH DEBRIEF
- SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT/THRIVE ADVERTISEMENT

REPRESENTATIVES: DEVYN & LEO





PROJECT UPDATES



Harbor Place

Construction is on going.

Prairie Walk

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

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

KEEP IN MIND

**RACIAL & ECONOMIC
DISPARITIES**

MOBILITY

**AGING & OBSOLETE
INFRASTRUCTURE**

**SWIFTLY CHANGING
TECHNOLOGY**

**DIVERSE & AGING
POPULATION**