

# GWRPC

Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission

The Commission serves the Greater Wabash District by providing local, regional, and comprehensive planning, facilitating knowledge enhancement, securing and administering funds and promoting cooperative solutions to regional issues.

 [www.gwrpc.com](http://www.gwrpc.com)  
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## Wanting to apply for a grant? Here are some tips!

1. Applications take time.... Prepare in advance
2. Make sure your SAM and GATA accounts are up-to-date.
3. Some grants require ordinances and policies, so be ready to put them in place.
4. Choose projects that are consistent with local plans.
5. Do your research! Know your utility rates, assets, or anything that may apply to the grant you are pursuing.

## Revolving Loan Fund

Looking to open a business? GWRPC provides low interest loans to area businesses to create or retain private sector jobs. Loans can be between \$10,000 and \$300,000, with one job created per every \$30,000 in loan funds.

## GWRPC Annual Dinner

The GWRPC Board of Directors held its Annual Dinner Meeting on March 28<sup>th</sup> at Smokin' Pig in Grayville. Cheryl Welge with Ameren's Economic Development Team and Seth Whitehead with the Illinois Petroleum Resources Board addressed attendees before regular business. Rob Anniss (President), David Savage (Vice President), Scott Merkle (Secretary), and Randy Hallam (Treasurer) were re-elected to their respective positions as officers, and several

members were recognized for their years of service on the Board of Directors.



## Workforce Development

### LWIA Youth/Adult Work Experience

The Youth Work Experience program is a workforce development initiative that seeks to guide young adults in our region onto good career paths and provide a pipeline of fresh talent for our local employers. LWIA Work Experience provides businesses with no-cost interns and provides an opportunity for individuals to acquire hands-on experience.

We want to welcome Katelyn Scott, who will be joining the commission through the LWIA Adult Work Experience Program. Katelyn will serve as an Assistant Community Development Coordinator.



### IECC Adult Education

The IECC Adult Education Program is committed to helping students reach their goals. They offer a friendly and caring atmosphere to adults seeking educational opportunities. Students can complete their GED or enroll in other IECC programs. IECC hosted their Adult Education Council meeting to update stakeholders on Adult Education Programs and resources.

## Recent Awards

### **DRA Strategic Planning Grant - New Harmony Bridge**

The Illinois New Harmony Bridge Authority has been awarded a Strategic Planning Grant through the Delta Regional Authority (DRA) to help cover preliminary engineering costs for renovation of the New Harmony/Harmony Way Bridge. The \$150,000 grant cannot go toward any construction activities, but the Bridge Authority has submitted and will continue to submit grant applications for funds to cover construction costs, as well. Plans generated from the awarded DRA grant funding will be used in those applications as the Illinois New Harmony Bridge Authority continues in its efforts to rehabilitate and reopen the Harmony Way Bridge.

### **Delta Regional Authority - Award Announcement**

#### **ILETSB Recruitment and Retention Grants**

Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board offered a Recruitment and Retention Grant Program with funds available for bonuses, travel, and other expenses. The following departments were awarded:

- Crossville Police Department: \$15,849.89
- Olney Police Department: \$140,000
- Robinson Police Department: \$180,000
- Norris City Police Department: \$40,000
- Mount Carmel Police Department: \$150,000
- Crawford County Sheriff's Department: \$250,000

### **ILETSB**

## IEPA

### **Lead Service Line Inventory**

For many communities, affordability is the biggest hurdle to overcome. To assist communities in meeting the inventory requirements outlined in the LSLRNA, the IEPA is making \$6,570,000 available through the 15% Local Assistance and Other State Program Set-Aside, where no more than 10% of the grant funds may be used on a single program activity. This Set-Aside will be taken from the 2022 BIL- Lead grant to fund this round (Round 4) of the Lead Service Line Inventory Grant Program for the creation of a Complete Lead Service Line Inventory meeting the inventory requirements outlined in 415 ILCS 5/17.12.

### **LSLI**

# Public Infrastructure

## Community Development Block Grants

### CDBG Project Requirements

1. Meet Low or Moderate Income Requirements
2. Document a threat to health or safety
3. Have the proper permits. To have the proper permits, an engineer must be hired, surveys must be completed, and permits must be submitted and received.

In order to submit a CDBG grant, the applicant must meet these criteria. Without this information, an application cannot be completed. We recommend planning for applications a year in advance to make sure the application will be completed on time. Applications were submitted this cycle for Albion, Grayville, Bridgeport, and Noble. The application process can be lengthy, so we recommend that planning a year in advance. Contact **Jeff Vaughan**, so we can get started on those applications!

## Illinois DCEO Grant Opportunities

### States' Economic Development Assistance Program (SEDAP)

Strategic investments in the 252 counties and parishes served by the DRA are helping to improve the quality of life and boost economic development opportunities. The main investment tool used by DRA is SEDAP, which provides direct investment into community based and regional projects that address the DRA's congressionally mandated four funding categories:

- Basic public infrastructure in distressed counties and isolated areas of distress.
- Transportation infrastructure for the purpose of facilitating economic development in the region.
- Business development, with an emphasis on entrepreneurship.
- Job training or employment-related education, with an emphasis on the use of existing public educational institutions located in the region.

SEDAP and all other DRA funding is only available to White County. If interested, contact GWRPC.

## DRA:SEDAP

# FEMA

Lawrence, Crawford, Edwards, Wabash, and Wayne counties are in the process of updating their FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plans. The University of Illinois and GWRPC are working together to coordinate community meetings, and the next meeting dates are shown on the agenda below. If you missed the kickoff meeting, meeting notes and information are available at the link below. Also, please take the time to complete the community survey:

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/4468b42cca5449269a56992b0cf40d34>

## **BOX: Hazard Mitigation Information**

# **GREATER WABASH HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE – MEETING 2 – HAZARD PROFILES & RISK ASSESSMENT**

	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
In-Person	Wednesday May 8, 2024 9:00AM – 11:00AM	Wayne County-Bob Boyles Hall, 2 Frontier Drive, Fairfield, IL 62837
In-Person	Wednesday May 8, 2024 1:00PM – 3:00PM	Edwards County-Farm Bureau, 15 S 5 <sup>th</sup> Street, Albion, IL 62806
In-Person	Wednesday May 15, 2024 10:00AM – 12:00PM	Lawrence County-Lawrenceville City Hall, 700 State Street, Lawrenceville, IL 62439
In-Person	Wednesday May 15, 2024 2:00PM – 4:00PM	Wabash County-Mt Carmel City Hall, 631 N Market Street, Mt Carmel IL 62863
Virtual	Tuesday May 21, 2024 5:30PM-6:30PM	Zoom Link: <a href="https://illinois.zoom.us/j/85854758611?pwd=T05QeHlBQ09MZlZFeVhtMm8vR0JlZz09">https://illinois.zoom.us/j/85854758611?pwd=T05QeHlBQ09MZlZFeVhtMm8vR0JlZz09</a> Meeting ID: 858 5475 8611 Password: 565234

## **AGENDA DETAILS**

### **I. WELCOME AND OVERVIEW**

### **II. COMMUNITY SURVEY**

### **III. COMMUNITY VULNERABILITIES**

### **IV. HAZARD PROFILES AND MITIGATION IDEAS**

### **V. RISK ASSESSMENT AND ACTIVITY**

### **VI. WRAP UP**

Meeting agendas, minutes, and materials will be stored on the [Greater Wabash 5 County Plan Box Drive](#)

### **VII. ADJOURN**

# CURRENT PROJECTS

## CDBG

- Grayville Waterline Replacement
- West Salem Lagoon
- Albion Sewer Lines
- Lawrenceville Waterline
- Crawford County Sewer Treatment Plant
- Olney Sanitary Sewer Relining
- Geff Water System Improvements

## Rebuild Illinois

- Olney Storm Sewer

## FEMA

- Multi Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

## ISP NG911

- Edwards County

## Energy Transition

- White County

## PARC

- Crossville

## LSLI

- Burnt Prairie

# UPCOMING PROJECTS

## **DRA (White County Only)**

- **Strategic Planning Program**
- **States' Economic Development Assistance Program (SEDAP)**

## **EDA**

- **Public Works Economic Adjustment Assistance**

## **Illinois Department of Natural Resources**

- **Open Space Land Acquisition and Development**

## **Illinois Department of Transportation**

- **Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program**
- **Economic Development Program**

## **Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD)**

Illinois is currently trying to discover where broadband access is lacking with hopes to expand infrastructure in the near future. To do so, Illinois has released BEAD. More information on BEAD and other broadband programs can be found at the link below.

## Federal Broadband Updates

### American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Reporting for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF), a part of the American Rescue Plan, is due at the end of April. Entities who have not utilized all of their ARPA funds must obligate those funds by December 31, 2024, and funds must be expended by September 30, 2026 for Surface Transportation and Title I projects. For all other eligible uses, funds must be expended by December 31, 2026.

### Small Business Development Center

Michelle Brooks with SBDC will be at GWRPC the 4th Wednesday of the month from 1:00-4:00pm. SBDC offers free business advice for entrepreneurs.

### IECC SBDC

#### Notice!

- Check your GATA accounts to make sure ICQ's are completed!
- The GWRPC is open Monday through Friday, 7:00 to 4:30!
- GWRPC will be closed April 8th for the Eclipse.



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