



GREATER WABASH REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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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.



Welcome Executive Director, Angela Peyton

Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission (GWRPC) would like to welcome the New Executive Director, Angela Peyton. She is a graduate from Carmi White County High School and studied business/accounting at Southeastern Illinois college. She holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from University of Cumberlands, Kentucky. Angela is a Certified Community Action Professional with experience in economic workforce growth and community relations. The first at large region project for the new Executive Director will be updating the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) plan. Angela looks forward to collaborating with community leaders, private sector, public sector, and the community in the planning process. The Planning Commission's main objective is to assist in building regional capacity through infrastructure, that in return contributes to communities' success.

Contact

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

It is time to plan, and we want to hear from you! The CEDS plan is our economic development strategy for the Greater Wabash Valley region that is published every five years. To develop this plan, we will be holding meetings in each county to identify goals, strengths, weaknesses, concerns, and ideas. These meetings allow us to hear from community members with an interest in growing this region. Be on the lookout for a meeting near you!

[Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy \(CEDS\) | U.S. Economic Development Administration \(eda.gov\)](#)

Current Projects

CDBG Grants

- Grayville Waterline Replacement
- West Salem Lagoon
- Albion Sewer Lines
- Lawrenceville Waterline
- Oblong Sewer Lagoon
- Hutsonville Sewer Treatment Plant
- Olney Sanitary Sewer Relining
- Grayville Waterlines
- Geff Water System Improvements
- Olney Storm Sewer

Body Worn Camera Grants

- Norris City Body Camera

FEMA Grants

- Edwards County EMS
- Olney Fire Department

Upcoming Projects

- CDBG
- Delta Regional Authority
- States Economic Development Assistance Program (SEDAP)

Body Worn Camera Grant Opportunity

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) seeks applications for funding law enforcement agencies, prosecutors' offices, and correctional agencies performing law enforcement functions to purchase or lease body-worn cameras (BWCs) to establish or expand comprehensive body-worn camera programs with a specific and demonstrated plan to implement this technology to maximize the benefits of BWCs. Funding under this program also supports agencies with existing BWC programs that are seeking to improve the management, sharing, and integration of digital evidence generated from BWCs; optimize how prosecutors leverage BWC footage to improve operations; or use BWC footage to enhance officer training or constitutional policing practices. This program furthers the DOJ's mission by promoting the safe and fair administration of justice. **If you would like to apply, contact us.**

DOJ, OJP, and BJA Grant Applications are still open grants.gov applications are due April 4th and JustGrants application is due April 11th.

As a reminder, the SRT BWC program is a Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) funded initiative, operated by Justice & Security Strategies (JSS). The purpose of this initiative is to provide funds and technical support to small, rural, and tribal agencies to implement body-worn cameras. Norris City has submitted an application, **applications are closed.**



Assistance to Firefighters Grants

FEMA grants are available to fund critically needed resources to equip and train emergency personnel, enhance efficiencies and support community



Community Development Block Grant Program

CDBG grants are available for public infrastructure and community development projects. Many current projects

resilience.

We currently have submitted applications for Edwards County and Olney.

Applications are currently closed.

[Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program | FEMA.gov](#)

If any of these projects apply to your community, make sure to contact us at Greater Wabash, so we can fill you in on all the grants available.

[Community Development Block Grant Program | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development \(HUD\)](#)

Meet Grant Administrator, Mike Gill

Michael Gill is a retired Civil Engineer who has been working at Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission for approximately four years. He retired from Lamac Engineering Company located in Mt. Carmel Illinois after a 46-year career there. He was president of Lamac Engineering at the time of his retirement. He was registered a Professional Engineer and Professional Land Surveyor in both Illinois and Indiana. He has a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Missouri Science and Technology, in Rolla, Missouri and a master's degree in Geographic Information Systems from Penn State University. He has extensive engineering experience in the planning, design, and construction observation of sanitary and storm sewer systems, water treatment and distribution, and roads and streets. His work at Greater Wabash Regional Planning had been the areas of Grant Applications and Administration.

During his time at Lamac Engineering he has known most of the engineers in the Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission's service area. This familiarity allows him to effectively interact with the local engineering community. He also brings extensive contract experience to his work at Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission.



Contact

Illinois Basin Funding Review

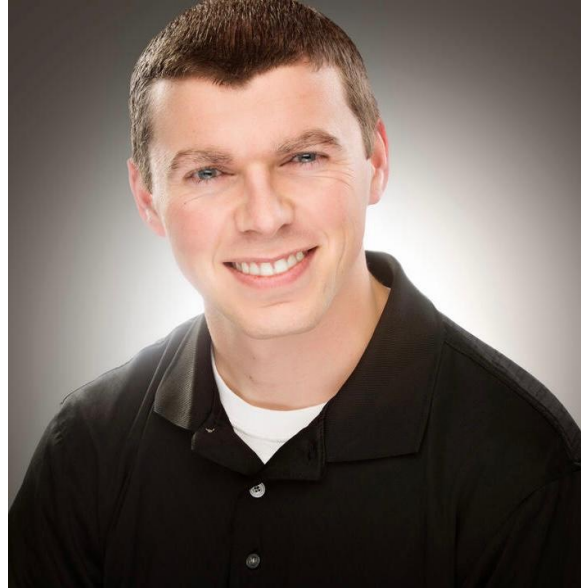
The Illinois Basin Funding Review (IBFR) is a unique approach to connecting community economic development projects with government funding and technical assistance. It is being organized by the Illinois Basin Rapid Response Team as part of the Interagency Working Group for Energy Communities (IWG) which was created in response to President Biden's Executive Order on addressing climate change.

The Executive Order directs twelve federal agencies to target communities transitioning away from fossil fuel production or reliance with opportunities for funding. These federal agencies are partnering with State of Illinois agencies on the Rapid Response Team to provide in-person funding reviews and workshops to assist rural communities.

The first meeting, on March 7th, will include White and Wayne counties and Norris City will be presenting. On March 8th, the committee will share their project with attendees. In June, Crawford, Lawrence, and Richland counties will have the opportunity to present as well.

Meet Community Development Coordinator, Jeff Vaughan

Jeff Vaughan joined the Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission in July of 2022. A 2010 graduate of Fairfield Community High School, he has lived in the GWRPC service area for his entire life on farmland southeast of Fairfield; Vaughan graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Southern Indiana in Evansville in 2013 with a bachelor's degree in Radio/Television. Past jobs include working on his family's farm, reporting for the Wayne County Press, and broadcasting news and sports on WFIW/WOKZ Radio in Wayne County.



Contact

Save the Date!

- The BJA Body Camera grant applications are due April 1st. If you are wanting to apply, call the office or send us an email.
- GWRPC Board of Directors dinner meeting will be on March 23rd at Coco's in Lawrenceville at 6:00pm.

Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission (gwrpc.com) Meeting Dates

Community Development Coordinator, Taegan Garner

Taegan Garner is currently a student at the University of Southern Indiana, majoring in Sociology and Political Science. Taegan is from Olney, IL and plans to return to the Greater Wabash region after graduation. At USI, Taegan is Student Body President, running The Student Government Association. Also, her interest in rural development has driven her research in rural migration and development. Currently, Taegan works part-time for the commission as she finishes her degree at USI.



Contact

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