

| J A N U A R Y 2 0 2 5 |

# 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

# DECEMBER 2024



Larry & Cathy Breeck [STR] 12/06

JM Construction K3 Corp. 12/06

Guardian Concepts LLC  
& Titan Tactical 12/13

Mr. Ficus Experience\* 12/13

Village Realty, Inc. 12/13

Wags To Riches 12/26

Rosewood Acres 12/26

44 TOTAL TO DATE

\*indicates home-based

JM CONSTRUCTION  
General Contractor



- Remodeling

- Drywall

- Flooring

- Kitchens

- Bathrooms

- Construction

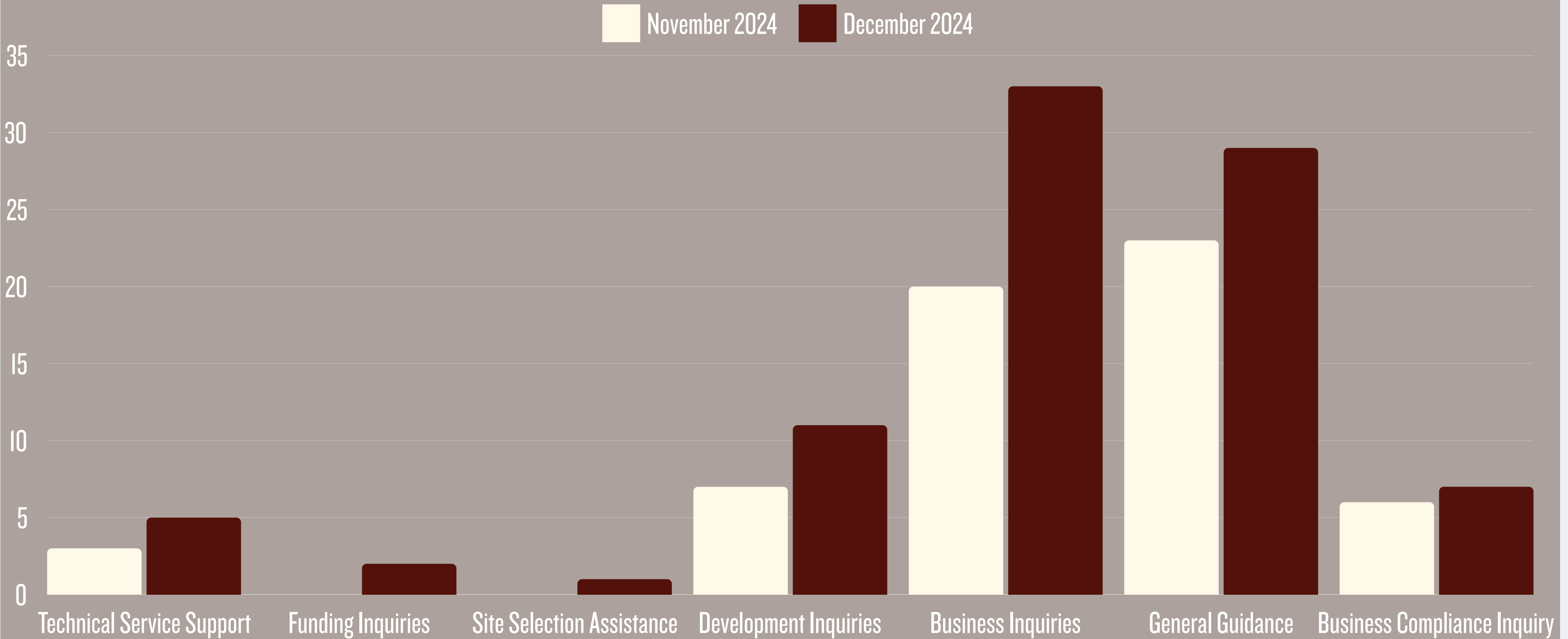
- Painting

- Framing

- Basements



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NAVIGATOR REPORT



## | DEVELOPMENT INQUIRIES |

16 NEW INQUIRIES

14 NEW BUSINESS - RETAIL x2,  
NONPROFIT x2, RESTAURANT,  
MECHANIC, FINANCIAL SERVICES,  
GROCERY/CONVENIENCE STORE, TATTOO  
SHOP, LAUNDROMAT  
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  
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 2025 in planning process
- Monthly Goal includes visiting 1 Top Employer, 1 Restaurant/Food Establishment, 1 Home-Based Business, 1 Landlord/Realtor



# **RETENTION REPORT**



# PROJECT MANAGER UPDATE

## | MARKETING & ATTRACTION |

- YOUTUBE PAGE IS ACTIVE
- WEBSITE LIVE
- YEAR-END BUSINESS SURVEY - RECEIVED 3 REPLIES
- PLANNING LUNCH N' LEARNS & 2025 PARTNERSHIPS
- PLANNING 2025 RETENTION SOCIAL MEDIA (BREW)
- SOURCING/PRICING NEW SWAG
- LUNCHEON PLANNING - SAVE THE DATES, SPONSOR REQUEST LETTERS, PUBLIC SPONSOR REQUESTS, ETC.
  - MAILING SAVE THE DATES MID-FEBRUARY
- TAX WORKSHOP 2/4 & 2/20 - 6 SIGN UPS SO FAR
- KRS GROUNDBREAKING PHOTOS



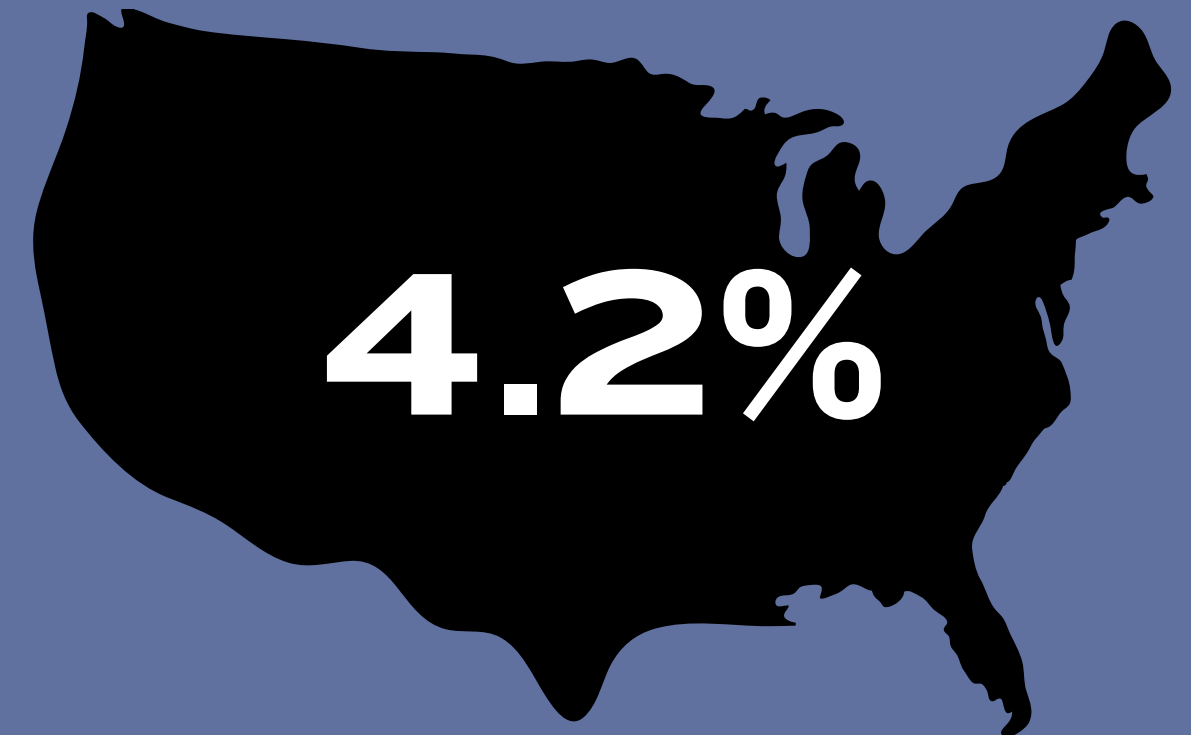
# UNEMPLOYMENT DATA

## NOV 2024

LAST UPDATE FOR CITY AND COUNTY



7.5%





# 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
- 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

## DECEMBER 2024 MEETING NOTES:

- NO MEETING IN NOVEMBER
- PREPPING FOR 2025
  - 'COFFEE & CONNECTIONS' - REBRAND ON 'FIRST FRIDAYS'
  - COMMITTEES MEETING QUARTERLY - WORKFORCE & EDUCATION FIRST MEET 12/17

| MEETINGS |  
2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

| COMMITTEES |  
WORKFORCE & EDUCATION:  
DEVYN (CO-CHAIR)  
DEI: LEO

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- DEC 11 - VISIT KANKAKEE COUNTY: RC
- DEC 18 - IVY REHAB: RC
- JAN (TBA) - WOMEN IN NETWORKING LUNCHEON

**AMBASSADORS: DEVYN & LEO**



# KANKAKEE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

## NOV 2024

- ANNUAL MEETING
- PANEL DISCUSSION WITH 4 DOWNTOWN BUSINESS OWNERS
- DEC 2024 - EXEC BOARD MEETING ONLY

| MEETINGS |  
2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

| MARKETING COMMITTEE |  
1ST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

## DEC 2024 MARKETING MEETING NOTES:

- NO MEETING - LION WREATHING & TREE LIGHTING EVENT



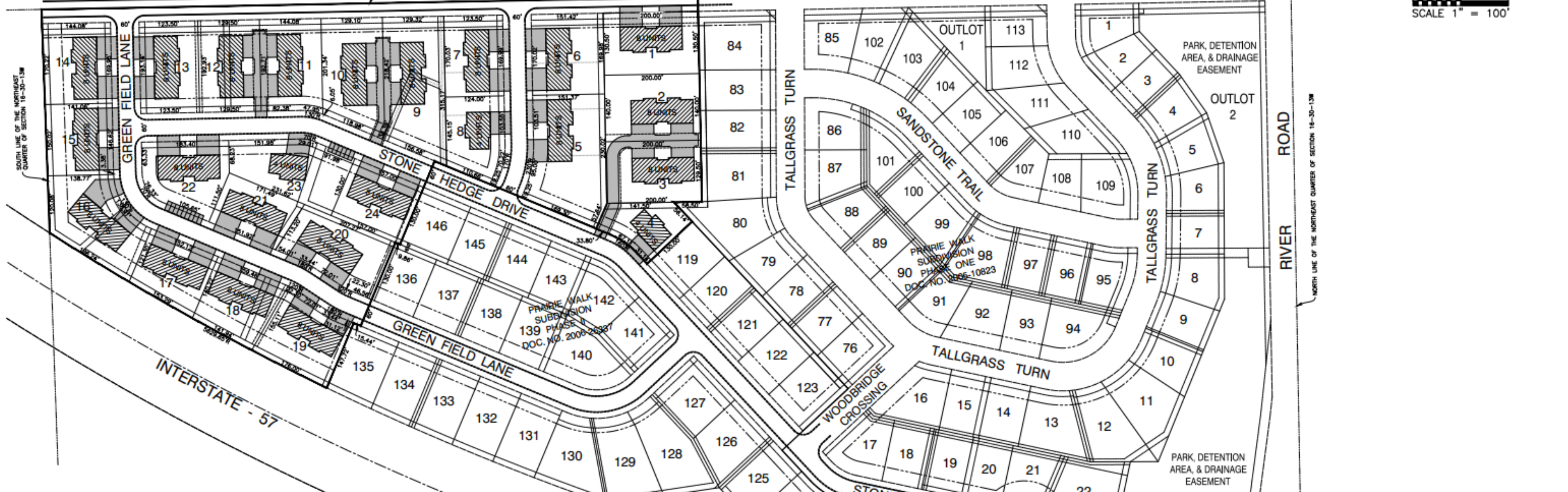
REPRESENTATIVES: DEVYN & LEO



A black and white photograph of a woman with blonde hair, wearing a hard hat and safety glasses, smiling. The hard hat has a logo that reads "CITY OF KANKAKEE EST. 1853". She is wearing a dark jacket and has her hands clasped in front of her. The background is a construction site with a large pile of dirt or gravel.

# PROJECT UPDATES





## Harbor Place

Construction is nearing completion.

## Prairie Walk

Incentive request negotiations are ongoing.

## Veteran's Housing

Applications are being accepted  
via the Veterans Commission.

# HOUSING



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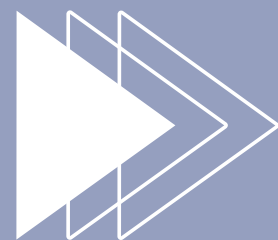






# EAST COURT ST. DEVELOPMENT ZONE

# WORK IS ONGOING



## HOTEL IS INTERESTED IN THIS AREA

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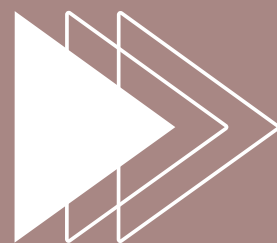


**| 1801 W. STATION ST |**

# PLANNING DEVELOPMENT STAGE

**| 1292 W. STATION ST |**

# MCA Adult Day Care open: November 2024



## > COMMERCIAL SPACE AVAILABLE ON WEST STATION STREET

**WEST COURT ST. DEVELOPMENT ZONE**



**MCA**  
SENIOR ADULT DAY CENTER





# RIVERFRONT DEVELOPMENT ZONE

# |EAST RIVERWALK|

## Preconstruction work begins Jan. 2025

# WEST RIVERWALK

## PROPERTY ACQUISITION PHASE

# |WEST AVE|

## STREETSCAPE DESIGN AND ENGINEERING PHASE

**| 505 S. SCHUYLER AVE |**

## INSPECTION PROCESS STARTED TO BEGIN RELEASE OF FUNDS

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# |CURRENTLY LISTED|

## LEE & ASSOCIATES:

<https://www.lee-associates.com/properties/?propertyId=1277830-sale&address=17-Meadowview-Center&officeId=15844>

# THE SHOPPES OF MEADOWVIEW







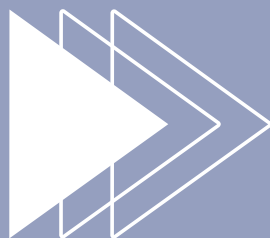
**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT ZONE**

# |PROJECT CATALYST|

TIF DEAL IN REVIEW

# |MAJESTIC BUILDING|

OPEN SPACES AVAILABLE



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**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



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**