

| AUGUST 2025 |



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

| PRESENTED BY |
BARBARA BREWER-WATSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

| PREPARED BY |
DEVYN FORQUER
LEONEL B. JARAMILLO

NEW BUSINESS LICENSES | JULY 2025



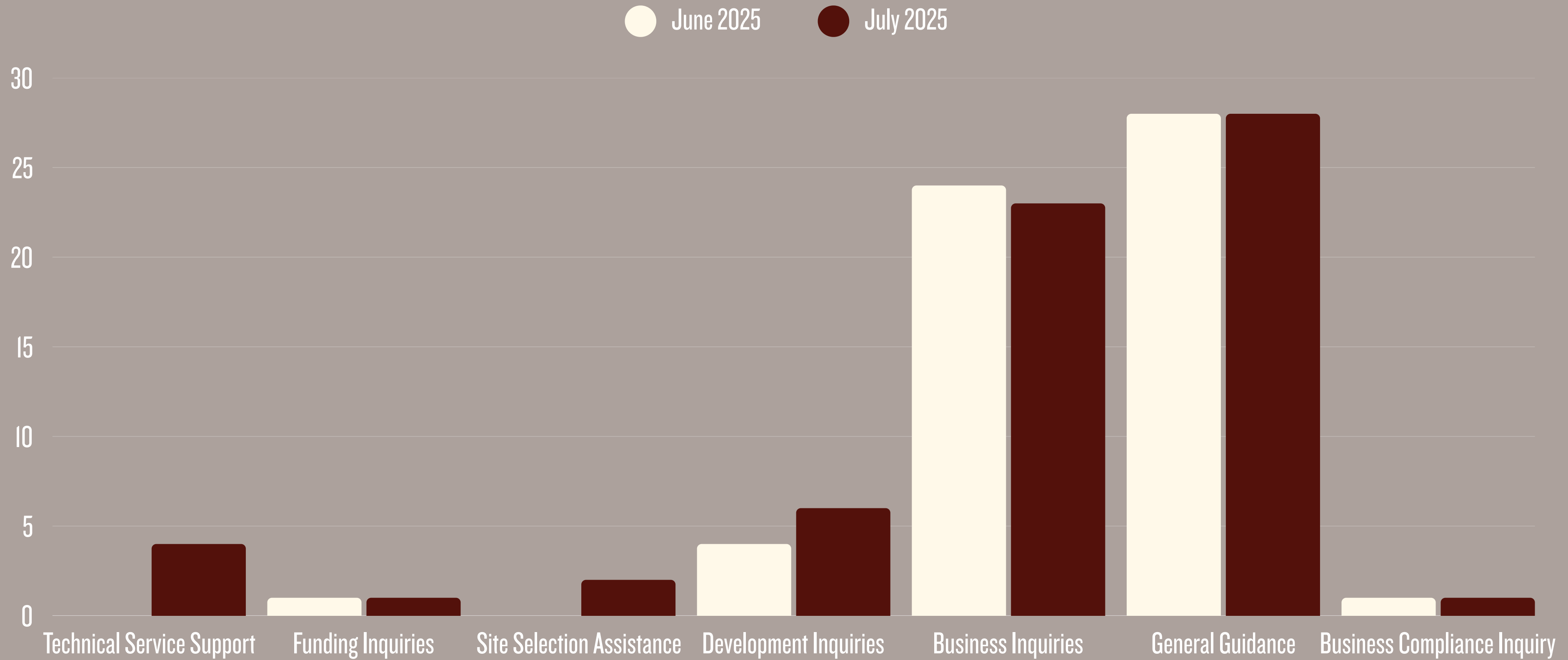
- Align Light Yoga | 7/10
- Prime Healthcare Home Care and Hospice, LLC | 7/10
- St. Mary's Hospital - Kankakee, LLC | 7/10
- Resilience Wealth Management | 7/10
- T. Rowland Financial Services | 7/10
- Olivia Sproul Designs | 7/10
- *Manny Mobile Repairs | 7/10
- *Luzmas Cleaning Solutions | 7/24
- Kankakee Spikeball Inc. | 7/24
- Moments Hospice of Kankakee LLC | 7/29



23 TOTAL TO DATE

*indicates home-based

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NAVIGATOR REPORT



| **DEVELOPMENT INQUIRIES** |

- 7 NEW BUSINESS INQUIRIES
 - RETAIL
 - NONPROFIT (2)
 - RESTAURANT
 - MECHANIC (3)
- 2 LAND
 - CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT PROCESS (2)

| **NLC CIE COMMITMENT** |

Working on MOU with Chamber and Community Foundation to distribute the grant funds to the CEO program and the student membership program.

ATTRACTION REPORT

BUSINESS RETENTION VISITS REPORT

COMPANIES SURVEYED:

- OUR HOME SNACKS
- EL MEXICANO RESTAURANT
- LABEAU BROS., INC.
- 2 RIVERS AREA CREDIT UNION
- 5 STAR WINGS & MORE, LLC
- RUBBER ROSE BOOKS & PRINT
- J.R. EDWARDS BRUSHES & ROLLERS

HIGHLIGHTS:

CITY ASSETS

COMMUNITY EVENTS, INFRASTRUCTURE, PRO-BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT, STRONG LOCAL SUPPORT, PUBLIC SAFETY, FAIR PROPERTY TAXES & COST OF LIVING

CHALLENGES

PERCEPTIONS, LIGHTING, PARTICIPATION FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS, HIGHER UTILITY COSTS, RENT RATES & SALES TAXES

UPCOMING PLANS

MAJORITY DO HAVE PLANS TO RENOVATE, EXPAND, OR RELOCATE



| MARKETING & ATTRACTION |

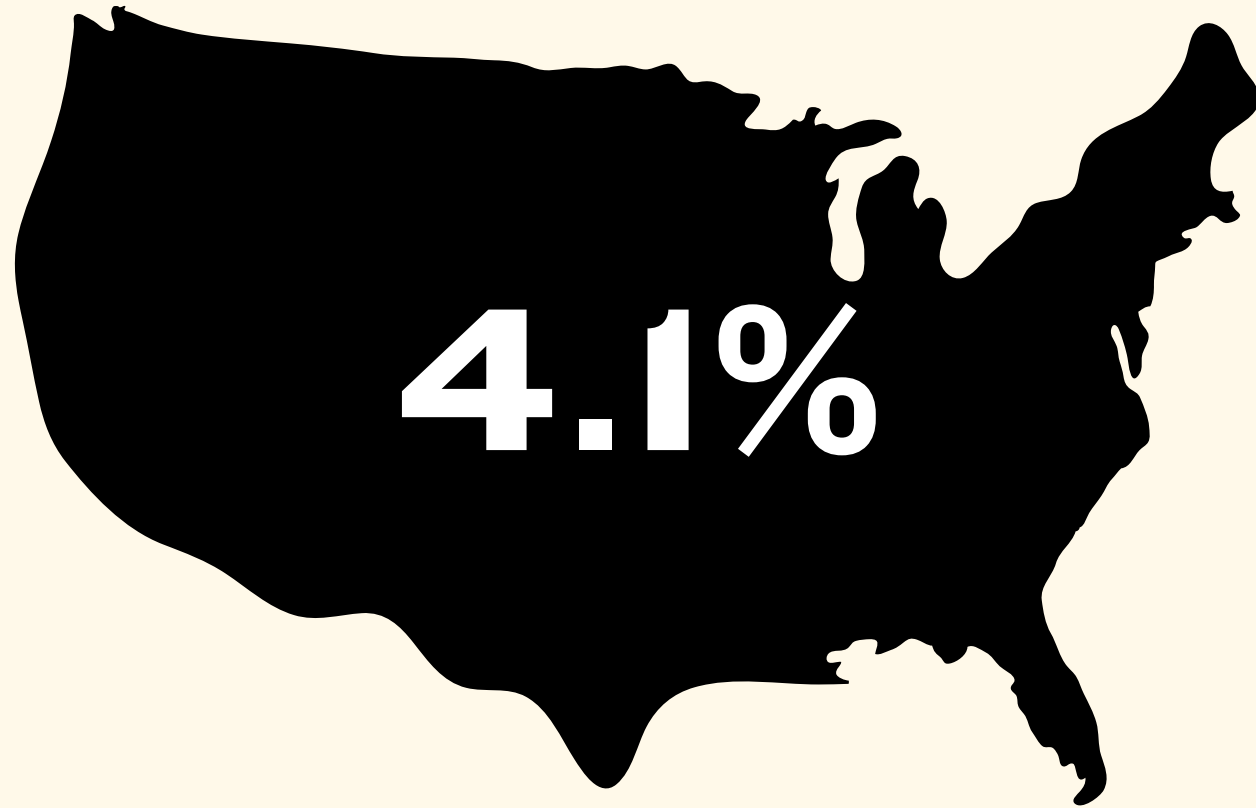
- ICSC@Midwest Prep - 10/9 - Morgan MFG, Chicago
 - Scheduling meetings with target companies
- 2026 Luncheon planning underway
- Lunch n' Learns
 - Upcoming Lunch n' Learns
 - September 17: Succession Planning - Partnered with Chamber of Commerce
 - October 7: Pitch Competition
- Working to organize site visits with 3 companies
 - 2 retail; 1 hospitality
- Working with Director King to create Zoning videos
 - "In The Zone" intro video to release in August
- "I Am Kankakee" recruitment concepts and survey created - working on recruitment
 - Kevin Smith, KFD - May feature
 - Eric Lawrence, ASIP Local 150 - June
 - Vince Clark Jr. - August
- Social media content in progress
- Website is live
 - Creating new page for businesses & developers
- LinkedIn Company Page created - 102 followers (8/26)
 - City of Kankakee, Illinois (City Rising Logo)

2025 ECDA LUNCHEON

- 130+ attendees
- Zachary Benedict, AIA, keynote speech: Swimming Upstream - the value of mindful placemaking and nesting habits
- Award Winners:
 - Investor of the Year: Heidner Properties
 - Advocate of the Year: Rep. Jackie Haas
 - Contractor of the Year: Midwest Environmental
 - Social Service Agency: Kankakee Forgives
- Sponsors: Home Plumbing, Heating, & Cooling, Peoples Bank, Piggush, The Majestic, Aqua, Harbor House, Re/Max, KCC
- Vendors: Busse & Rieck, PlusOne A/V, Adcraft Printers, The Majestic, Sammy's Pizza, Etched In Time, Ravenspring Media
- 19 responses to feedback survey:
 - 89.5% - Overall satisfaction
 - 68.4% - Feel well-informed about ECDA post event
 - 63.1% - Cited keynote speaker as best part
 - 100% - Would recommend this event
 - 68.4% - May be interested in sponsoring for 2026



PROJECT MANAGER UPDATE



6.3%



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

& KCCVB Board Chair
Alderman Dave Baron



Visit Kankakee County Sponsored · 

✓ Heart-pounding boat races... See more



FEEL THE ROAR ON THE RIVER!

LABOR DAY WEEKEND: AUGUST 29 - 31, 2025

KankakeeRiverValleyRegatta.com

visitkankakeecounty.com

 **Feel the roar. See the speed. Taste the weekend....**

Learn more

5-day static post campaign:

- 627 clicks on the link! = \$0.079/click!!!
- 13,721 views
- 4.57% click thru rate!!! (*over 1% is good, over 3% is excellent!, industry average is .9%*)



MARKETING SNEAK PEEK: KANKAKEE RIVER VALLEY REGATTA



WGN 3-week radio campaign
+ on-air podcast!



LODGING METRICS

CALENDAR YEAR
JANUARY 1 - JULY 31, 2025

Hotel Occupancy

60%

-3% | **61%**
% Change | Previous Year

Hotel ADR

\$109

4% | **\$104**
% Change | Previous Year

Hotel Demand

75.2 K

-5% | **78.7 K**
% Change | Previous Year

Hotel RevPAR

\$65

1% | **\$64**
% Change | Previous Year

STVR Paid Occupancy

51%

4% | **49%**
% Change | Previous Year

STVR ADR

\$162

9% | **\$149**
% Change | Previous Year

STVR Demand

10.1 K

12% | **9.0 K**
% Change | Previous Year

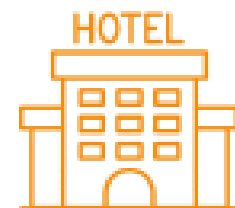
STVR RevPAR

\$82

13% | **\$73**
% Change | Previous Year



HOTEL OCCUPANCY HIGHEST FRIDAY,
SATURDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY



HOTEL
AVG. LENGTH OF STAY IN THE HOTEL IS
2.0 DAYS, INCREASE OF 3% FROM
PREVIOUS YEAR



HOTEL AVG. STAY VALUE IS \$222, 8%
INCREASE OVER PREVIOUS YEAR



SHORT TERM RENTAL OCCUPANCY
SPIKES THURSDAY THROUGH SATURDAY



AVG. LENGTH OF STAY IN STR IS 3.8
DAYS, LEVEL WITH PREVIOUS YEAR



STR AVG. STAY VALUE IS \$610, 7%
INCREASE OVER PREVIOUS YEAR

VISITOR METRICS

July 2025



68% OF VISITORS WERE FROM OUT OF STATE, 15% INCREASE FROM PRIOR MONTH



VISITORS CONTRIBUTED 7% TO OVERALL SPEND, DOWN 1% FROM PRIOR MONTH



24% OF VISITORS WERE OVERNIGHT VISITORS IN JULY

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
At KVPD Offices

KRS City Representative
Alderman Mike Cobbs

THE OUTREACH
OF KANKAKEE

PRIORITIES

2025 Q3 REPORT

- New Market Profile Released February 5
 - 2025 Kankakee County Market Profile
- Q3 2025 Report



| MEETINGS |
2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

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

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 9/9 - BAH: St. Mary's Hospital
- 9/10 - VIP Legislative Reception
- 9/16 - RC: Home Helpers
- 9/17 - Lunch n' Learn - Succession Planning in partnership with ECDA
- 9/30 - RC: The Optical Edge



AMBASSADORS: DEVYN & LEO



KANKAKEE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

AUGUST 2025 - Marketing Meeting

- MSMF Review/Feedback
- Website Transition
- Social Media Committee Initiative - Angelina, Devyn, Nina
- Sunset Stroll South Volunteer Recruiting

| MEETINGS |
2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
| MARKETING COMMITTEE |
1ST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

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

Units are occupied.

Indian Meadows

Construction on new units is underway.

Veteran's Housing

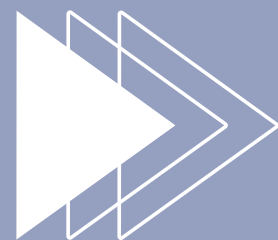
Applications are being accepted
via the Veterans Commission.

HOUSING



EAST COURT ST. DEVELOPMENT ZONE

|EXIT 312|



HOTEL IS INTERESTED IN THIS AREA

EAST COURT ST. DEVELOPMENT ZONE EAST COURT ST. DEVELOPMENT ZONE EAST COURT ST. DEVELOPMENT ZONE EAST COURT ST. DEVELOPMENT ZONE

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RIVERFRONT DEVELOPMENT ZONE

|EAST RIVERWALK|

Construction has started

WEST RIVERWALK

PROPERTY ACQUISITION PHASE

|WEST AVE|

STREETSCAPE DESIGN AND ENGINEERING PHASE

| 505 S. SCHUYLER AVE |

RIVERFRONT DEVELOPMENT ZONE RIVERFRONT DEVELOPMENT ZONE RIVERFRONT DEVELOPMENT ZONE
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CURRENTLY LISTED

The Shoppes at Meadowview Listing

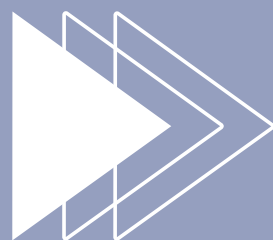
A long, covered walkway with a series of white columns supporting a white ceiling. The walkway is paved with light-colored concrete. To the right, there are large glass windows reflecting the sky and clouds. The walkway extends into the distance, leading towards a parking lot with several cars and a building in the background.



DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT ZONE

|PROJECT CATALYST|

Waiting on River Edge Redevelopment Zone Certification



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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**