

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

| NOVEMBER 2023 |

| PRESENTED BY |  
BARBARA BREWER-WATSON  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

| PREPARED BY |  
DEVYN FORQUER  
LEONEL B. JARAMILLO





# NEW BUSINESS LICENSES

## NOVEMBER 2023



**SHARP CUTS**  
LAWN CARE

Fall Cleanup Specials!  
**\$20 OFF**  
FULL SERVICE

Ask about the Fall Fertilizer

Licensed, Bonded & Insured • Lee LaMontagne  
**815.592.5441**

We Trim Bushes! Best Price In Town! Guaranteed!



Sharp Cuts Lawn Care 11/15

Dunkin' Donuts 11/17

Healthy Medical Inc. 11/20

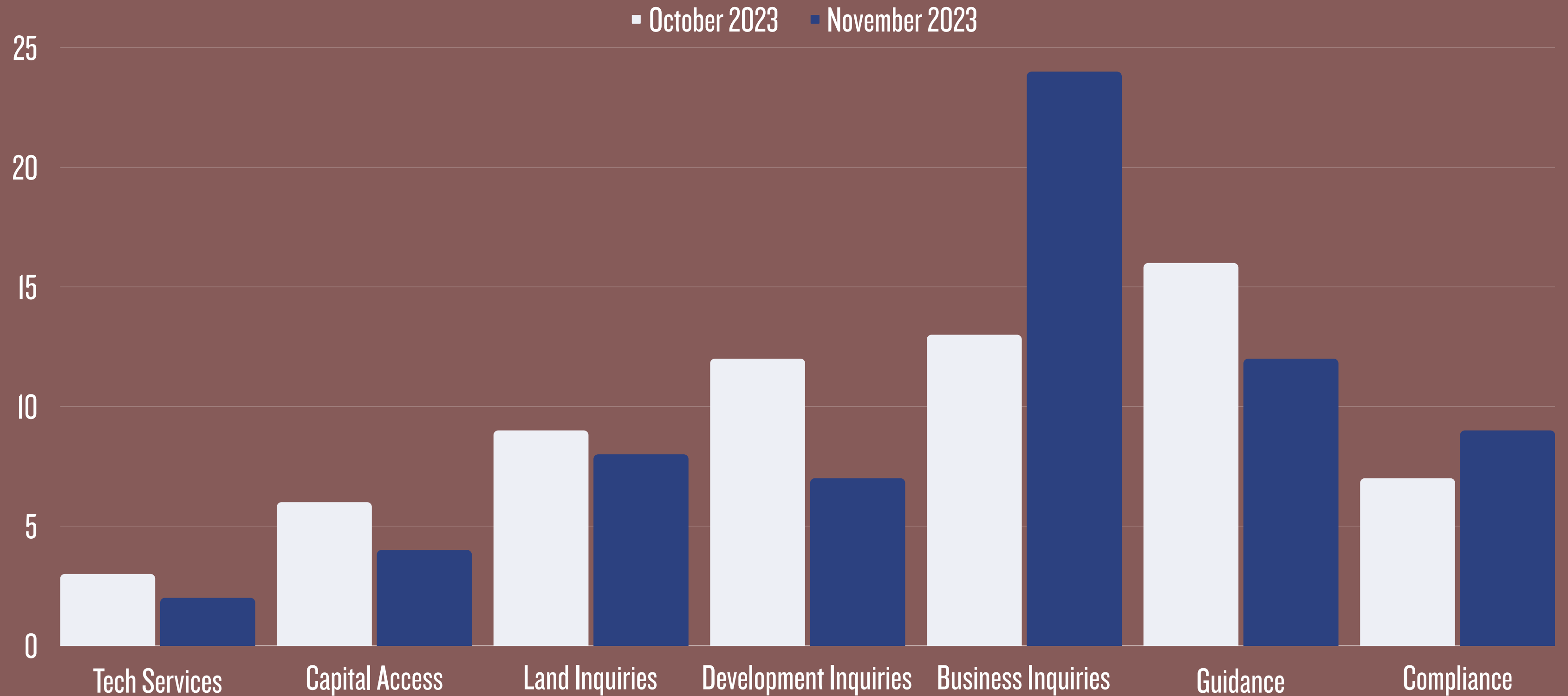
Bella Brows 11/20

Tax Complete 11/20

**45 TOTAL TO DATE**

\*indicates home-based

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NAVIGATOR REPORT



# ATTRACTION REPORT

## | **MARKETING** |

Finishing touches being made to the developer prospectus. A "For Businesses" page is being developed for the city webpage.

## | **DEVELOPMENT INQUIRIES** |

**33 NEW INQUIRIES**

**19 NEW BUSINESS - RESTAURANT, LANDSCAPING, TATTOO SHOP, RETAIL, SENIOR CARE**

**8 LAND - ZONING (1), SITE SELECTION (6), PERMITS (1)**

**5 OUT OF CITY - CHICAGO, PEMBROKE, FRANKFORT, BOURBONNAIS, MOMENCE**

**1 RELOCATION - JAMAICA**

## **| 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 have been awarded another \$15,000.00 grant.**

## **| EASTSIDE SPECIAL SERVICE #5 |**

**Preliminary work was completed to re-establish a non-profit organization to manage the East Court St. Special Service #5. This NPO would behave similarly to the downtown Kankakee Development Corporation for Special Service Area #1. Now focused on setting interest meeting to establish a board of directors to partner with the City to manage this SSA.**

# **RETENTION**

# **REPORT**

# PROJECT MANAGER UPDATE

## | **MARKETING** |

BRANDING GUIDE IN PROGRESS

RECRUITING FOR CITY-WIDE CAMPAIGN PARTICIPANTS

## | **PATHFINDER CONTRACT** |

ARPA VIDEO COMPLETE

IN PROGRESS: BRANDING VIDEO

ON DECK: STRUCTURE VIDEO

## | **ECDA WEBSITE** |

WEBSITE COMB THROUGH UNDERWAY FOR UPDATES,  
EDITS, FORMATTING, AND GENERAL REDESIGN.

## | **NLC CIE COMMITMENT** |

APPLICATION DEADLINE: DEC 15

WORKING ON FINDING PROGRAM FACILITATOR

## | **E.D. SOCIALS** |

TRANSITIONING INTO PROMOTING LOCAL  
BUSINESS EVENTS AND PROJECT PROGRESS

## | **KANKAKEE WORKS** |

ON HOLD UNTIL DATES ARE FINALIZED  
DOWN THE PIPE: SOCIALS/WEBPAGE/APPLICATION



# PROJECT MANAGER UPDATE

| BOOKLET  
PREVIEW |





# PROJECT MANAGER UPDATE

| CENSUS |

Utilizing the Comparison of 2020 and 2010 Census Map, I was able to create a formula to show data based on the estimated loss of individuals due to a decrease in units and/or increase in vacancies. I hypothesized: If housing units decrease, then population will decrease; and if housing units increase, population will increase. My intention was to show the decrease in population from qualifying census blocks in each ward and the increase in population in each ward, presuming I would find the difference in other blocks and/or wards. If I could locate these individuals in another ward, then a miscount was likely.

Categories noted for each census block in each ward include: Total Population, Housing Units, Occupied Housing Units, Vacant Housing Units, and Change in Population (According to GIS Map) between 2010 and 2020. With these numbers, I was left to calculate Average People per unit, Total Housing Units Lost between 2010 and 2020, Total Lost Housing + 2020 Vacant Units, Average Population per unit, and Estimated Average Lost Population Due to Change in Units. Parameters for the loss study were 'Total Population Change  $<-15$  and Total Housing Units Change  $<2$ '. Parameters for growth study were 'Total Population Change  $<3.9$  and Total Housing Units Change  $<2$ '.

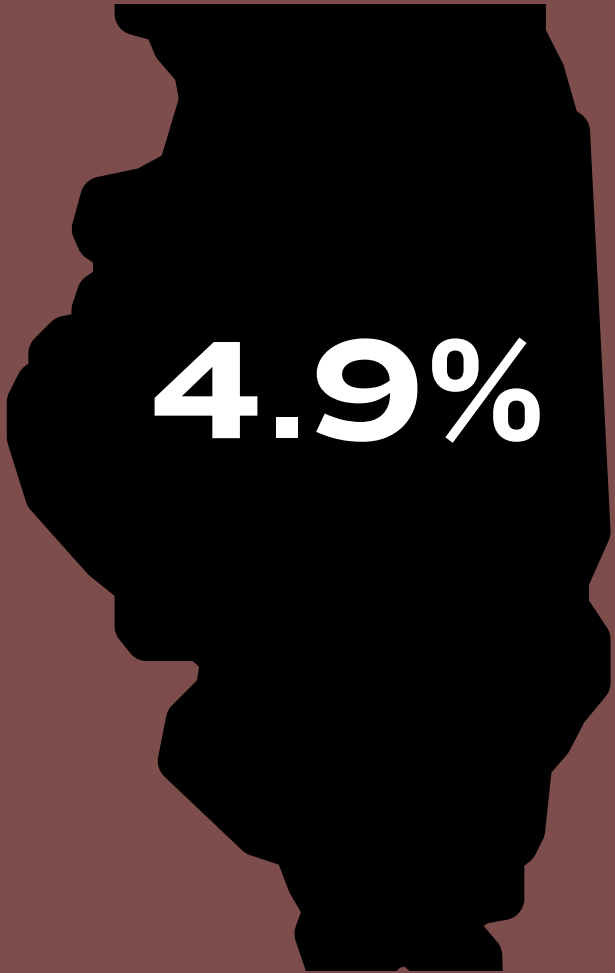
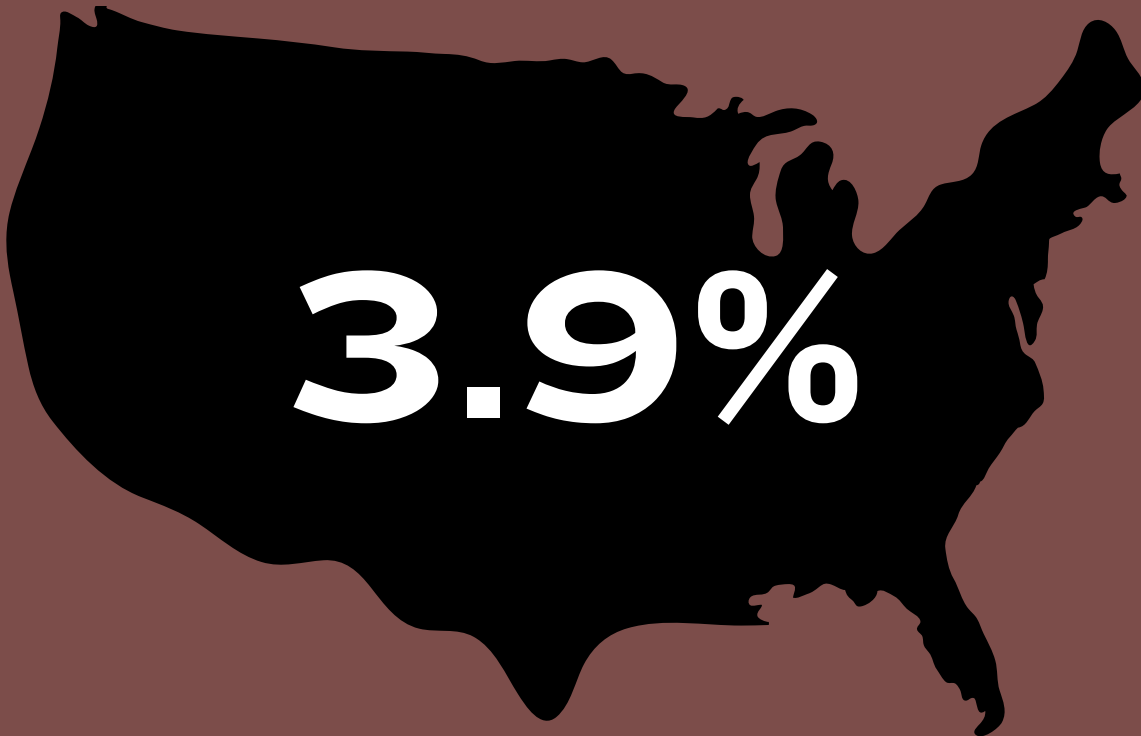
For example, the 1st Ward had a total of 52 census blocks within these parameters and saw an overall decrease in housing units by 89.4 units and an increase in vacancies by 127 units, a total of 226.4 units lost between 2010 & 2020. There was a remaining decrease of 576.1 persons According to Census Map, however, an estimated 683.37 persons were lost due to this change in housing.

My findings and conclusion are summarized in a four page summary report, along with a workbook for reference.

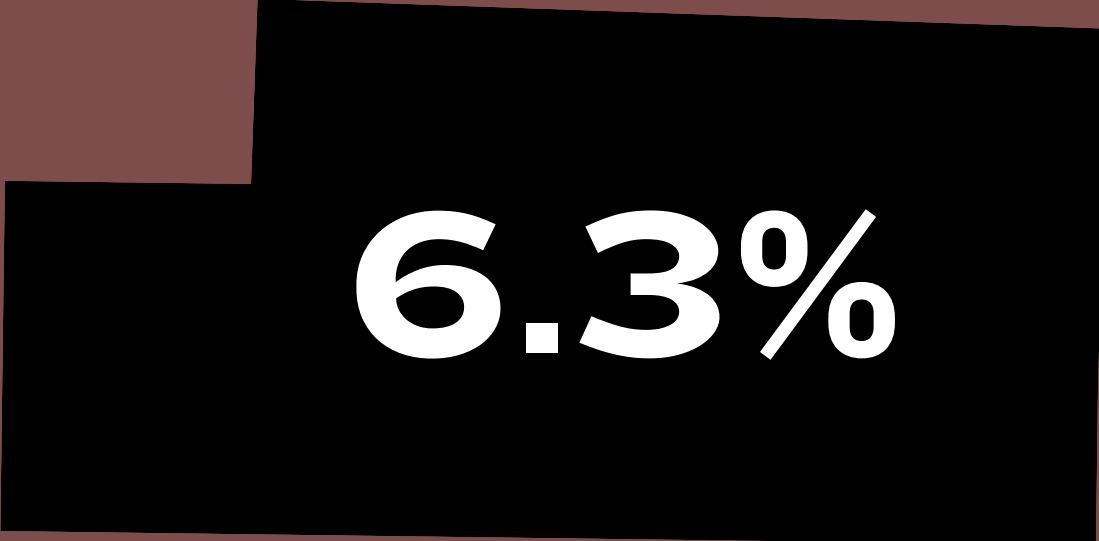


# UNEMPLOYMENT DATA

LAST UPDATE **SEPT 2023**



8.5%



# 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 (September 2023):

- \$27,500 pledged in donations
- Structural engineers evaluated the boathouse in preparation of restoration work starting
- Working on local Visit Kankakee County Community Tourism Action Grant & Midland States Bank

| 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 OUTLETS  
OF KANKAKEE**



# PRIORITIES

- **Workforce - Unemployment**
- **Housing**
  - **Lengthy discussion on incentivizing new construction in the region.**
  - **Kankakee County Residential Market Analysis housing study released February 2023**
    - **Copy & Paste the link below in a web browser to view the housing study: <https://www.kankakeecountyed.org/wp-content/uploads/2022.11-Kankakee-County-Residential-Market-Analysis.pdf>**

*To read more click on the link below.*

<https://www.kankakeecountyed.org/wp-content/uploads/Q3-2021-EAKC-Board-Report.pdf>





# PROJECT UPDATES

























# 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



# RECOVERY

BOUNCE BACK

CONNECTIONS TO RESOURCES

PROVIDE EDUCATION

# ECDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## IMPROVE

CONSISTENT RETENTION VISITS

CONSISTENT ATTRACTION EFFORTS

SURVEY

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

## REFINE

MARKETING MATERIALS

MESSAGING PLATFORMS & STYLES

BRAND MANAGEMENT

## OPTIMIZE

TIME MANAGEMENT

REPORTING MEANINGFUL DATA

USE OF INTERNS

## TRAIN

ATTEND VIRTUAL CONFERENCES

APPLY FOR TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

OBTAIN INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS

# 2023 STRATEGIC WORK



# KEEP IN MIND

**RACIAL & ECONOMIC  
DISPARITIES**

**MOBILITY**

**AGING & OBSOLETE  
INFRASTRUCTURE**

**SWIFTLY CHANGING  
TECHNOLOGY**

**DIVERSE & AGING  
POPULATION**