



| D E C E M B E R 2 0 2 4 |

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

NOVEMBER 2024



The Banquet Room LLC 11/08

Minnie Food Truck 11/08

Essentiality Collections 11/08

Good Vibes Smoke Shop 11/12

Resilient Comfort Care 11/15

MCA Senior Adult Day Center 11/22

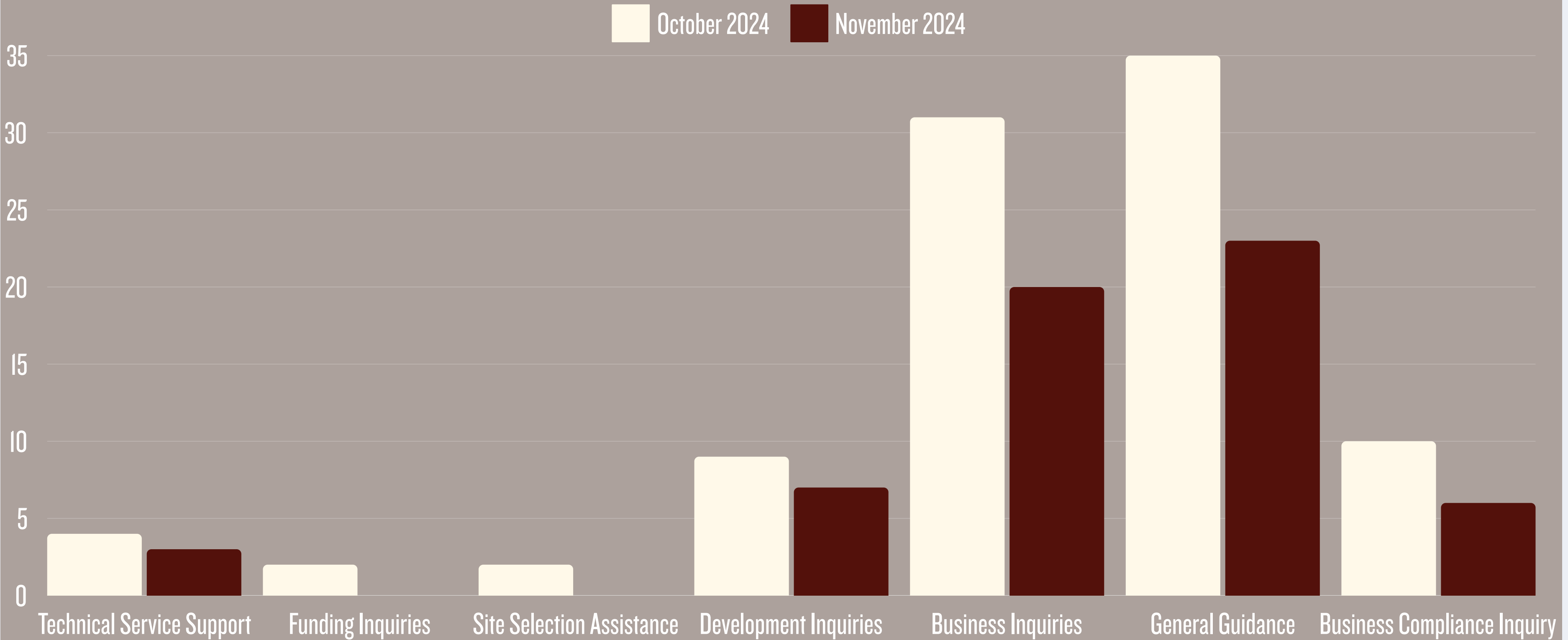
Fresh Kut's Barber Shop 11/22

Glowing Beauty by Gennie 11/26

37 TOTAL TO DATE

*indicates home-based

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NAVIGATOR REPORT



| **DEVELOPMENT INQUIRIES** |

26 NEW INQUIRIES

25 NEW BUSINESS - RETAIL x2,
NONPROFIT x3, RESTAURANT x4, USED
CAR SALES, FINANCIAL SERVICES x2,
GROCERY/CONVENIENCE STORE x2,
REAL ESTATE, TATOO SHOP
1 OUT OF CITY - HERSCHER

| **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 businesses in Ward 3 conducted on 11/19/2024
- Retention Visits for 2025 in planning process for December



RETENTION REPORT

3rd WARD RETENTION VISITS REPORT

BUSINESS SPECS

70

AVERAGE AGE
of businesses surveyed

130 Y/O

OLDEST
of businesses surveyed

16 Y/O

NEWEST
of businesses surveyed

2/1

RENTERS/OWNERS
of businesses surveyed

EMPLOYEE SPECS

18

HIGHEST AMT
of employees

1

LOWEST AMT
of employees

5

Employer's Overall Rating (Scale 1-5)
of employees

MISCELLANEOUS

CITY ASSETS

POLICE FOR SECURITY AND SAFETY,
KANKAKEE'S CENTRAL LOCATION
WITHIN REGION, ACCESS TO
INTERSTATE

CHALLENGES

PERMITTING, ATTRACTING &
RETAINING PROFESSIONAL STAFF
AND SEMI-SKILLED LABOR

UPCOMING PLANS

MAJORITY DO NOT HAVE
PLANS TO RENOVATE,
EXPAND, OR RELOCATE

PROJECT MANAGER UPDATE

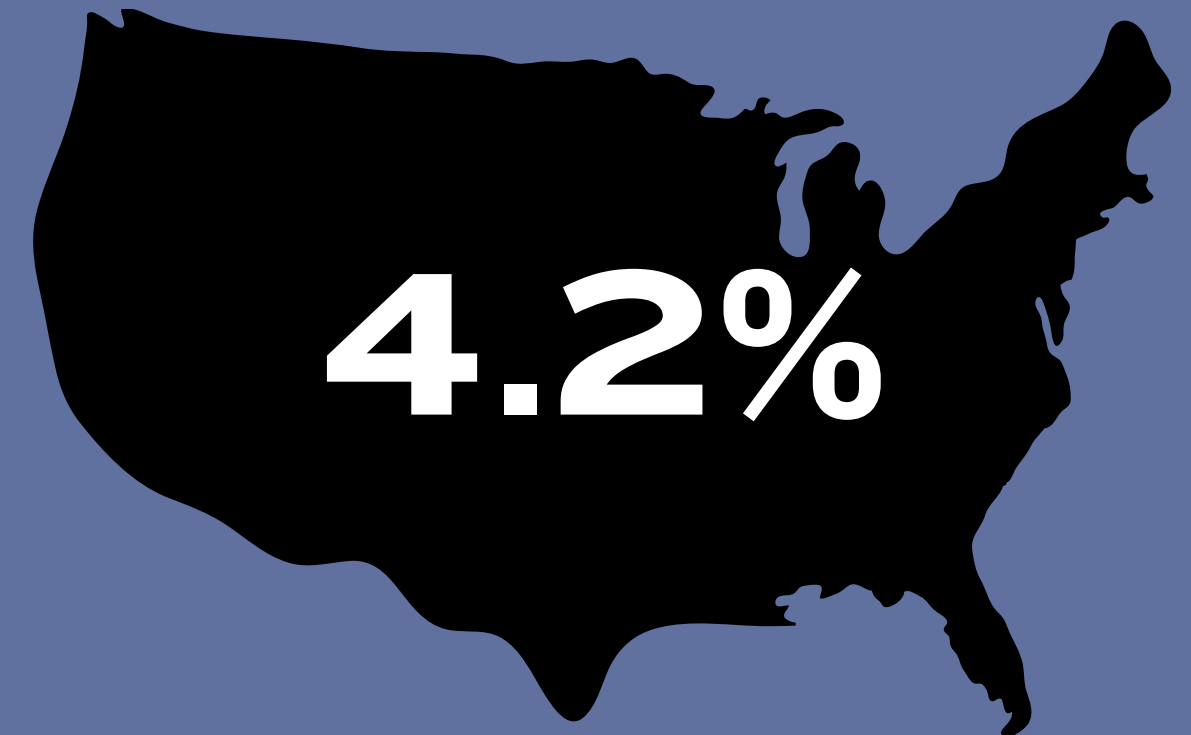
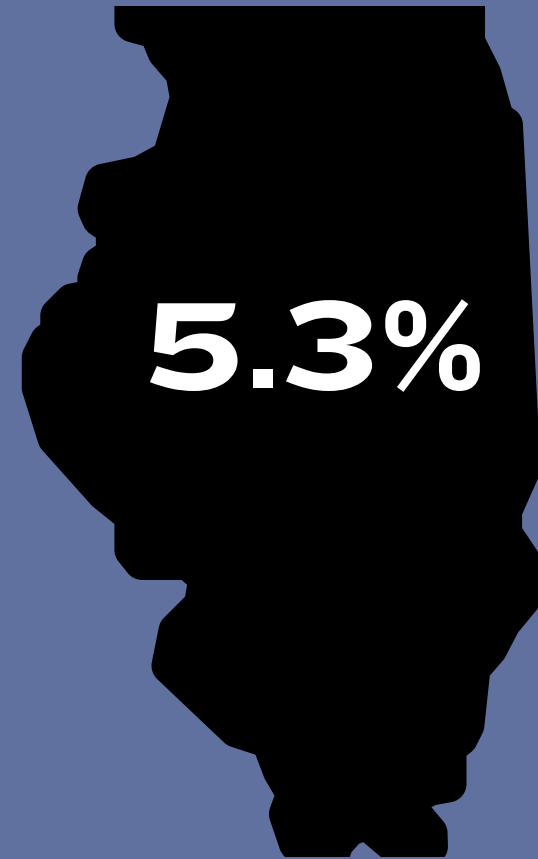
| MARKETING & ATTRACTION |

- YOUTUBE PAGE IS ACTIVE
- WEBSITE CODING IN PROGRESS WITH I.T.
- IN COMMUNICATION WITH TWO HOTEL BRANDS REGARDING EAST COURT AND RIVERSTONE
- YEAR-END BUSINESS SURVEY NOW LIVE
- DEVELOPING MARKETING STRATEGY FOR 2025
- PLANNING LUNCH N' LEARNS & 2025 PARTNERSHIPS
- DRAFTING 2025 LUNCHEON SPONSORSHIP LETTER
- PLANNING 2025 RETENTION SOCIAL MEDIA (BREW)
- SOURCING/PRICING NEW SWAG
- SOURCING VACANT/AVAILABLE PROPERTIES FOR KDC WINDOW CLINGS PROJECT

UNEMPLOYMENT DATA

OCT 2024

LAST UPDATE FOR CITY AND COUNTY



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:

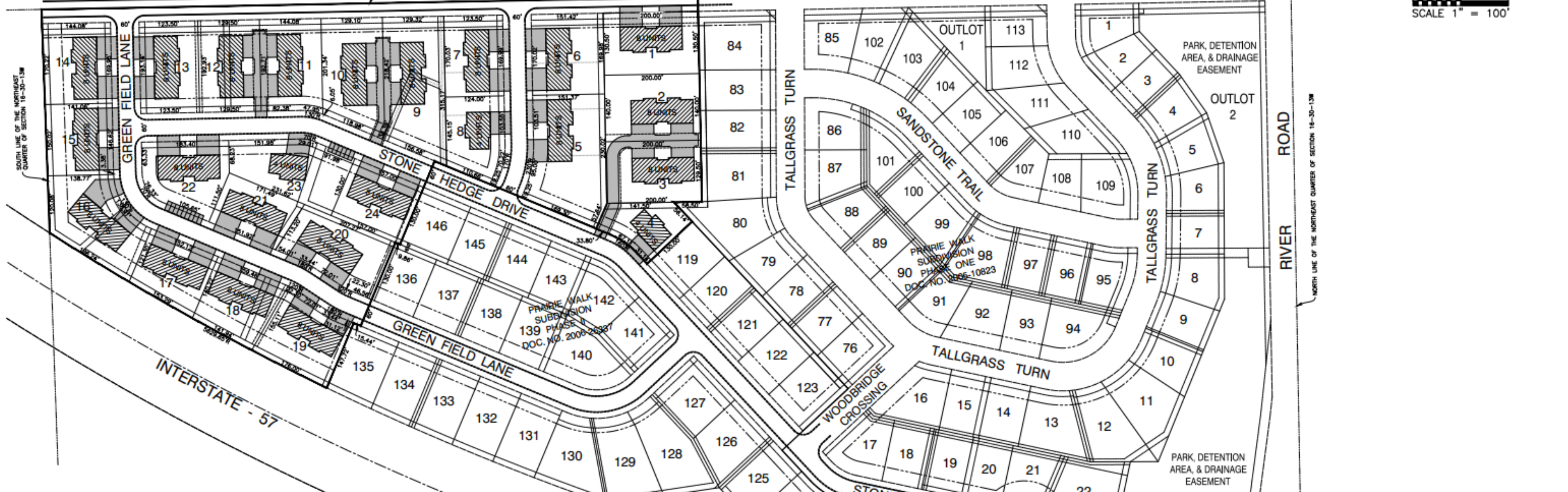
- NO MEETING - LION WREATHING & TREE LIGHTING EVENT



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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| 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 planning process started

|WEST RIVERWALK|

PROPERTY ACQUISITION PHASE

|WEST AVE|

STREETSCAPE DESIGN AND ENGINEERING PHASE

|505 S. SCHUYLER AVE|

INSPECTION PROCESS STARTED TO BEGIN RELEASE OF FUNDS

RIVERFRONT DEVELOPMENT ZONE RIVERFRONT DEVELOPMENT ZONE RIVERFRONT DEVELOPMENT ZONE
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CURRENTLY LISTED

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

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.



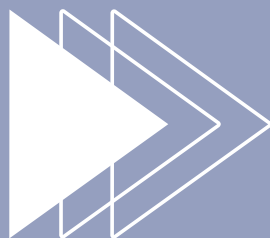
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT ZONE

|PROJECT CATALYST|

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 - BEGINNING RFP PROCESS



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**