Economic Development Plan Process

2010 County-wide Survey

Determine Current Economic Issues

Identify Key Demographic Indicators

Conduct 2nd Business Roundtable

Develop SWOT Analysis/Strategic Initiatives

Conduct Business Roundtable

County Board Approval

Conduct Public Hearing

Implement Economic Development Plan

May, 2011

Oct, 2011
## Plan Outline

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Purpose and Focus

- 2010 County-wide Survey Results
  - Lack of employment options a large issue
  - Long commute outside the County to jobs
  - High unemployment Rate

- Proposed solutions
  - Develop a 5-year Economic Development Plan
  - Focus on the Kendall Community as a whole, with emphasis on non-retail development
  - Provide support to existing local Economic Development efforts on a regional level
Regional Context

- Key components within Kendall County area
  - I-80 Corridor
  - Rail Service
    - Burlington Northern Santa Fe
    - Illinois Railnet
    - Elgin Joliet & Eastern
  - Inland Terminal Ports
    - BNSF Logistics Park – Elwood, IL
    - Union Pacific Global IV – Joliet, IL
  - Airports
    - Aurora Municipal Airport – Sugar Grove, IL
    - Morris Airport – Morris, IL
  - The Fox River
Demographic Profile

- Data provided by 2000 & 2010 Decennial Census, the 2009 American Community Survey, and 2007 Economic Census
  - Demographic analysis is used as constructive criticism rather than rating scale
  - Comparative analysis of Kendall County with neighboring Counties
  - High unemployment Rate
- Demographic Indicators include...
  - Population – fastest growing County
  - Education – best educated workforce vs. neighbors
  - Employment – social services, retail, manufacturing, professional
  - Drive time commute – 30 minutes
  - Household income - $87,000 avg.
  - Workforce – significant professional growth
Regional & Local Economic Efforts

Economic Development in other Counties

Local Economic Development Corporations

- Will County
- Grundy Economic Development Council
- DeKalb County Economic Development Corporation
- Village of Oswego
- Plano Economic Development Corporation
- Montgomery Economic Development Corporation
- Sandwich EDC
- Yorkville EDC
Determine Kendall County’s Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

Core Areas of Focus
- Location
- Infrastructure
- Environmental Resources
- Human Capital/Workforce
- Government
- Economy
- Quality of Life
Strengths

- Close proximity to Chicago, I-80, I-88, Aurora Municipal Airfield, Morris Airport, & Joliet Intermodal Inland Port
- Freight Rail
- Fox River Corridor
- Good labor supply within County
- High Education levels
- Revolving Loan Program and Tax Abatement incentives
- Strong Relationship with Local Economic Development Corporations
- Route 34/Ogden Corridor
- Numerous outdoor recreational activities
- Funding for County Road Improvements
Weaknesses

- Longer Commute to and from Chicago than other collar counties
- Limited direct interstate access
- No access to Lake Michigan water
- Loss of manufacturing jobs to surrounding areas
- High state corporate tax rates
- Unemployment rate around 10%
Opportunities

- Ways to reduce overall congestion in area
- Increase rail service
- Prairie Parkway
- Water conservation and use of surface water
- Focus on key transportation corridors for job growth
- Job training programs
- Changes in state legislation for additional economic incentives
- Improved utilities
- Promote tourism
Threats

- Preservation of Historic Downtown Areas
- Increasing number of major companies leaving Illinois
- Lack of state leadership on economic development
- Reduction of funding for job training
- Depletion of deep water aquifers
- State and Federal funding of major infrastructure improvements
- Increase in gas prices creating increase in travel costs
Kendall County will become an economically diverse, self-sustaining, and regionally integrated home to an ever expanding employment base.

- Goals
  - Provide local jobs for local residents
  - Expand access to good paying jobs
  - Support major employers
  - Exploit a strong entrepreneurial base
  - Progress through partnerships
Strategic Initiatives

- Promote Tourism & Events
  - Local link to movies (Superman, Eagle Eye, Road to Perdition)
  - Tours (movie tours, nature tours, historical tours)
  - Enhance downtowns
  - Events (County Fair, Sandwich Fair, Hometown Days, Prairie Fest)
- Conventions, Banquets, and Meetings
- Promotion of recreation
- Potential scenic train ride
Strategic Initiatives cont’d

- Improve Existing Technology & Infrastructure
  - Evaluate existing utilities
  - Implement a transportation plan focused on economic development
  - Broadband/Fiber Optic Expansion
Strategic Initiatives cont’d

- Encourage Expansion of Higher Education Facilities
  - Workforce Development
    - Work with local community colleges to provide job and skill training programs
    - Waubonsee Community College
    - Joliet Junior College
  - Expanding Local Access to Higher Education
    - Assist local colleges with long range plans of expansion
    - Northern Illinois University, DePaul, Roosevelt University, etc.
Strategic Initiatives cont’d

- Strengthen relationships with local economic development corporations and local businesses
  - Job Fairs
    - Establish county-wide job fairs using local EDCs and businesses as a resource
  - Meetings and Events
    - Hold quarterly coordinating meetings between County economic development professionals to coordinate efforts and share successes
- Conduct annual or semi-annual roundtable discussions for businesses and local EDCs
Strategic Initiatives cont’d

- Improve the promotion and marketing of County Economic Development efforts
  - Web Site
    - Develop easy to navigate website for businesses and the public
    - Utilize ‘Quick Response’ Codes for links to special webpages
  - Brochures
    - Simple, short and informative marketing materials are important to quickly tell the story of the County’s many economic development assets and opportunities
  - Trade Shows
    - Attend economic trade shows and conventions such as AIRE (Association of Industrial Real Estate Brokers) and Midwest Small Business Expo
Strategic Initiatives cont’d

- **Target Key Industry Clusters**
  - **Logistics**
    - The I-80 Corridor is an ideal area to attract additional distribution and logistics operations
  - **Manufacturing**
    - Use same factors that attracted such current businesses as Menards, Plano Molding and Caterpillar to attract additional manufacturing facilities
  - **Professional Services**
    - Promotion of entrepreneurship
    - Attract banks, engineers and architects, and other professional service firms to locate in Kendall County
  - **Healthcare**
    - Access to quality health care is critical to maintaining a high quality of life in Kendall County
  - **Green Technology**
  - **Data Centers**
Implementation Work Plan

- Level I Priorities
  - Plan Endorsement by municipalities, local EDCs, School Districts, and Townships
  - Creation and Implementation of Transportation Plan
  - Develop Website
  - Access to Fiber Optic Services
  - Create brochures
  - Tradeshows
  - Business Survey
  - Job Fair
  - Evaluate Appropriate Economic Development Structure
**Stonehill Industrial Park/**
**Stonehill Business Center**

Municipality: Village of Oswego

Nearest Major Intersection: Illinois Route 71 & Illinois Route 34

Home of:
- KR&G Excavating
- LPS Pavement Company
- Dreyer Medical

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Implementation Work Plan cont’d

- Level II Priorities
  - Promote Recreation
  - Quarterly/ Annual Meetings
  - Workforce Development
  - Legislative Initiatives
  - Promote Local Events
  - Improve Utilities
Implementation Work Plan cont’d

- Level III Priorities
  - Promote link to local movies
  - Downtown Improvements
  - Expand Higher Education Access
  - Tour Promotions
  - Support area Entrepreneurship Programs
Discussion and Public Comment

What did we miss?

Target Industries?

Action Items Priorities?
Thank you!

To view the plan in its entirety, please visit:
http://www.co.kendall.il.us_COUNTY администрация/экономическое_развитие.htm

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