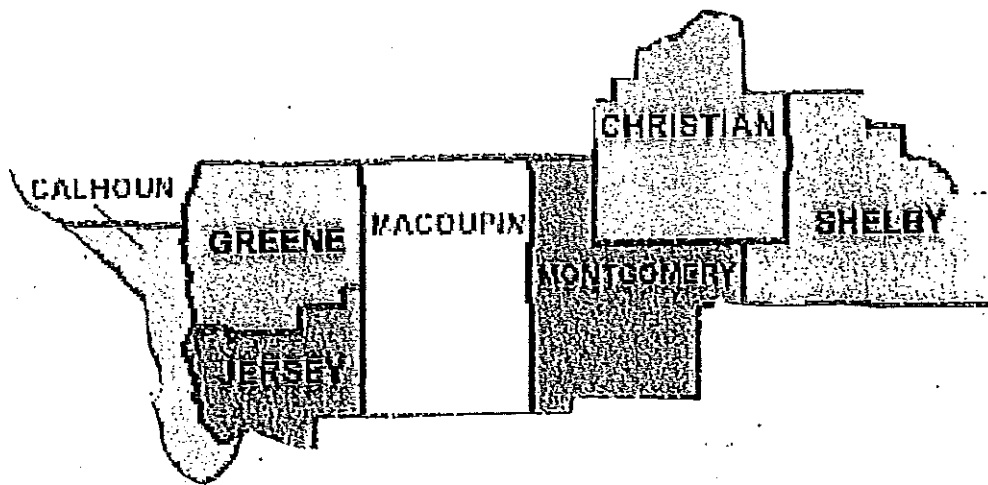


Annual Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Plan
Economic Development Administration (EDA)
West Central Development Council, Inc.

August 2008 - September 2009



WCDCDD
West Central Development Council
Development District

116 South Plum Street
Carlinville, Illinois 62626
Phone: 217-854-9642
Fax: 217-854-8082

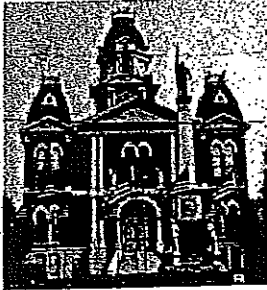
COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

*Strategic Planning for the Economic Development District
Comprised of Calhoun, Christian, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Montgomery, and
Shelby Counties*

ANNUAL REPORT

August – 2008 - September 2009

*Developed and Prepared by the
West Central Development Council, Inc.*



Shelby County
Shelbyville, Illinois 62565

WEST CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the West Central Development Council, consisting of the seven counties of Calhoun, Christian, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Montgomery, and Shelby was created for the purpose of comprehensive planning and development assistance and for the benefit of the citizens of the seven counties; and

WHEREAS, United States Economic Development Administration grants are available to multi-county regions to provide long-range planning and development activities to reduce unemployment and promote industrial, agricultural, tourism and other retail Economic Development activities, and

WHEREAS, the Federal Economic Development Administration requires a multi-county regional council to be designated as an Economic Development District prior to an application for federal funds for Economic Development planning grants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the **Shelby County Board** that **Shelby County** hereby supports the application of the West Central Development Council for Economic Development comprehensive planning activities.

SIGNED this 14th day of October, 2009

Shelby County Board Chairman

Seal:

ATTEST: Shelby County Clerk

WEST CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

116 South Plum Street

PO Box 260

Carlinville, IL 62626-0260

Phone: 217/854-9644

FAX: 217/854-4765

Michael Sherer
Executive Director

WCDC
Policy Board

Andrew Manar
Chairman

WCDC
Board of Directors

Darrell Bellm
Chairman

West Central Development Council, Inc.

RESOLUTION

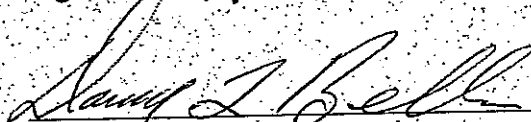
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Whereas, United States Economic Development Administration grants are available to multi-county regions to provide long-range planning and development activities to reduce unemployment and promote industrial, agricultural, tourism and other retail Economic Development activities; and

Whereas, the Federal Economic Development Administration requires a multi-county regional planning commission to be designated as an Economic Development District prior to an application for federal funds for Economic Development planning grants,

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the WCDC Board that it has reviewed, discussed and accepted the CEDs document prepared by the WCDC Strategy Committee and the Council hereby supports the application of the West Central Development Council for Economic Development comprehensive planning activities.

Signed this 17th day of SEPTEMBER 2009.



WCDC Chairman

ATTEST: *Kenneth Bask*

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CALHOUN COUNTY
P.O. BOX 187 HARDIN, IL 62047

Ph# 618-576-2351
Fax# 618-576-2895

Wanda Tepen, Chairman
Wm. Jerry McKinnon, Commissioner
Joseph J. Swan, Jr., Commissioner

WEST CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

RESOLUTION

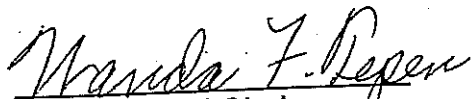
WHEREAS, the West Central Development Council, consisting of the seven counties of Calhoun, Christian, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Montgomery and Shelby was created for the purpose of comprehensive planning and development assistance and for the benefit of the citizens of the seven counties; and

WHEREAS, United States Economic Development Administration grants are available to multi-county regions to provide long-range planning and development activities to reduce unemployment and promote industrial, agricultural, tourism, and other retail economic development activities; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Economic Development Administration requires a multi-county regional planning commission to be designated as an Economic Development District prior to an application for federal funds for Economic Development planning grants,

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Calhoun County Board that it has reviewed, discussed and accepted the CEDS document prepared by the WCDC Strategy Committee and that the Council hereby supports the application of the West Central Development Council for Economic Development comprehensive planning activities.

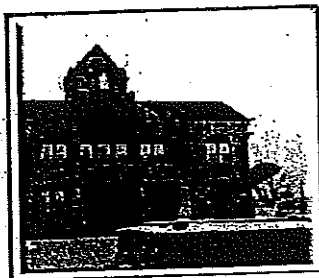
Signed this 17th day of August, 2009.


County Board Chairman

DEBORAH BANGHART

COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER
GREENE COUNTY

519 N. Main St.
Carrollton, Illinois 62016-1033



Greene County
Joe Nord, County Board Chairman
Greene County Courthouse
519 North Main
Carrollton, Illinois 62016

West Central Development Council, Inc.

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the West Central Development Council, consisting of the seven counties of Calhoun, Christian, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Montgomery, and Shelby was created for the purpose of comprehensive planning and development assistance and for the benefit of the citizens of the seven counties; and

Whereas; United States Economic Development Administration grants are available to multi-county regions to provide long-range planning and development activities to reduce unemployment and promote industrial, agricultural, tourism and other retail Economic Development activities; and

Whereas, the Federal Economic Development Administration requires a multi-county regional planning commission to be designated as an Economic Development District prior to an application for federal funds for Economic Development planning grants,

Now, Therefore, **Be It Resolved** by the Greene County Board that it has reviewed, discussed and accepted the CEDS document prepared by the WCDC Strategy Committee and that the Council hereby supports the application of the West Central Development Council for Economic Development comprehensive planning activities.

Signed this 9 day of Sept 2009.


County Board Chairman

ATTEST: 

**Christian County
P.O. Box 647
Taylorville, Illinois 62568-0647**

WEST CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

RESOLUTION

R2009 CB 09

WHEREAS, the West Central Development Council, consisting of the seven counties of Calhoun, Christian, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Montgomery, and Shelby was created for the purpose of comprehensive planning and development assistance and for the benefit of the citizens of the seven counties; and

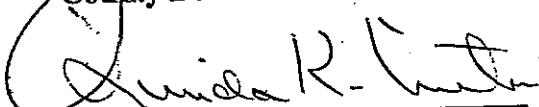
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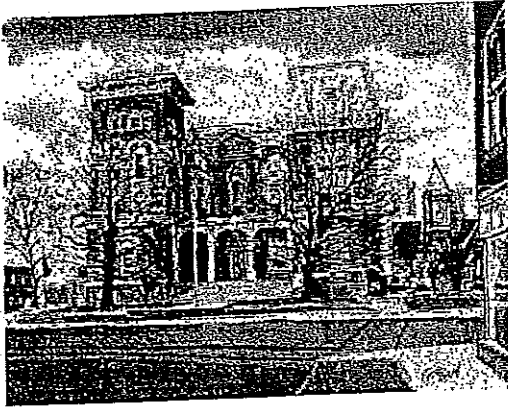
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Christian County Board that Christian County hereby supports the application of the West Central Development Council for Economic Development comprehensive planning activities.

SIGNED this 15th day of September, 2009


County Board Chairman


ATTEST: County Clerk

Seal:



Montgomery County

1 Courthouse Square
Hillsboro, Illinois 62049

WEST CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

RESOLUTION


Whereas, the West Central Development Council, consisting of the seven counties of Calhoun, Christian, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Montgomery, and Shelby was created for the purpose of comprehensive planning and development assistance and for the benefit of the citizens of the seven counties; and

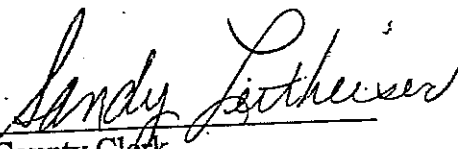
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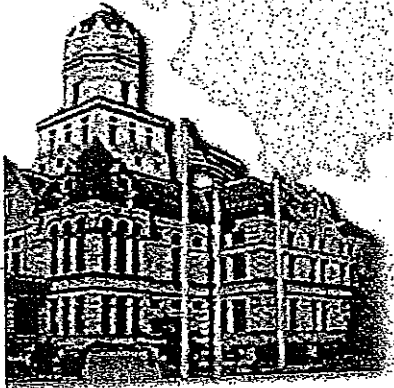
Whereas, the Federal Economic Development Administration requires a multi-county regional planning commission to be designated as an Economic Development District prior to an application for federal funds for Economic Development planning grants,

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Montgomery County Board that it has reviewed, discussed and accepted the CEDS document prepared by the WCDC Strategy Committee hereby supports the application of the West Central Development Council for Economic Development comprehensive planning activities.

Signed this ^{8th} day of September, 2009.


County Board Chairman

ATTEST: 
County Clerk



Jersey County Board
200 North Lafayette
Jerseyville, Illinois 62052

RESOLUTION

JERSEY COUNTY BOARD

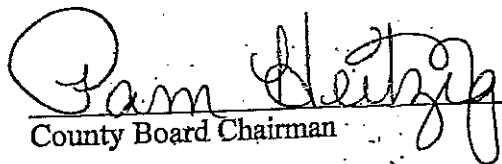
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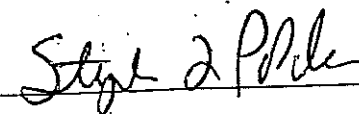
Whereas, United States Economic Development Administration grants are available to multi-county regions to provide long-range planning and development activities to reduce unemployment and promote industrial, agricultural, tourism and other retail Economic Development activities; and

Whereas, the Federal Economic Development Administration requires a multi-county regional planning commission to be designated as an Economic Development District prior to an application for federal funds for Economic Development planning grants,

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Jersey County Board that Jersey County hereby supports the application of the West Central Development Council for Economic Development comprehensive planning activities.

Signed this 17th day of August 2009.


County Board Chairman

ATTEST: 

WEST CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

116 South Plum Street

PO Box 260

Carlinville, IL 62626-0260

Phone: 217/854-9644

FAX: 217/854-4765

Michael Sherer
Executive Director

WCDC
Policy Board

Andrew Manar
Chairman

WCDC
Board of Directors

Darrell Bellm
Chairman

West Central Development Council, Inc.

RESOLUTION

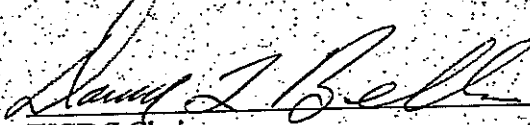
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Whereas, United States Economic Development Administration grants are available to multi-county regions to provide long-range planning and development activities to reduce unemployment and promote industrial, agricultural, tourism and other retail Economic Development activities; and

Whereas, the Federal Economic Development Administration requires a multi-county regional planning commission to be designated as an Economic Development District prior to an application for federal funds for Economic Development planning grants,

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the WCDC Board that it has reviewed, discussed and accepted the CEDs document prepared by the WCDC Strategy Committee and the Council hereby supports the application of the West Central Development Council for Economic Development comprehensive planning activities.

Signed this 17th day of SEPTEMBER 2009.


WCDC Chairman

ATTEST: *Lennith Bantz*

WEST CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.**RESOLUTION**

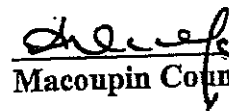
WHEREAS, the West Central Development Council, consisting of the seven counties of Calhoun, Christian, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Montgomery, and Shelby was created for the purpose of comprehensive planning and development assistance and for the benefit of the citizens of the seven counties; and

WHEREAS, United States Economic Development Administration grants are available to multi-county regions to provide long-range planning and development activities to reduce unemployment and promote industrial, agricultural, tourism and other retail Economic Development activities, and

WHEREAS, the Federal Economic Development Administration requires a multi-county regional council to be designated as an Economic Development District prior to an application for federal funds for Economic Development planning grants.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Macoupin County Board that it has reviewed, discussed and accepted the CEDS Document prepared by the WCDC Strategy Committee and that the Council hereby supports the application of the West Central Development Council for Economic Development comprehensive planning activities.

SIGNED this 8TH day of SEPTEMBER, 2009


Macoupin County Board Chairman

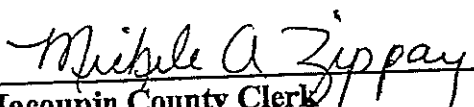

Macoupin County Clerk

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Annual Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Report

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CHAPTER I

District Organization and Administration

INTRODUCTION

The West Central Development Council is composed of the seven Illinois counties of Calhoun, Christian, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, Montgomery and Shelby. The region is located north and east of St. Louis, Missouri and south of Springfield, Illinois. Beginning in the eastern central portion of the State, the region extends westward across the prairie to the rugged hill country and rich river valleys of the Illinois and Mississippi in the westward boundary of the State.

The Region covers 4,201.3 square miles of land and water surface with a population of 179,449, as of the 2000 census. There are 14 municipalities with a population greater than 2,500, with Taylorville, in Christian County being the largest with 12,595 people. Macoupin County is the most populous county in the region with a population of 49,109 and the least populated is Calhoun County with 5,084 inhabitants. All seven counties are identified as redevelopment areas in the region according to designation by Economic Development Administration (EDA).

Regional population peaked about 1920 and has been subsequently on a slow decline since then. Only Jersey County and to some extent Montgomery County has shown a steady growth in population, primarily because of its proximity to the Metro St. Louis area.

U

DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Creation of the West Central Development Council (formerly known as the West Central Illinois Valley Regional Planning Commission) was established in 1974 by joint resolutions from the counties of Calhoun, Christian, Greene, Jersey, Macoupin, and Montgomery. Shelby County joined in 1983. In creating an area-wide association of county governments, local leaders attempted to provide an effective, and responsible method of dealing with problems caused by the complexity of modern government. The WCDC is a not-for-profit corporation funded by federal and state agencies and local share contributions by the seven member counties. West Central Development Council Board of Directors is a representative cross section of economic and social aspects of the Region with three regular members and one alternate member representing each county. The County Board Chairmen are members of the Board of Directors, with the other two regular and one alternate member from each county being chosen by the County Board Chairman with approval resting with each County Board. In total, there are 21 regular and seven (7) alternate members making up the Board of Directors, (see appendix) with each member casting one vote, giving each county a total of three votes at Council