



January 2007 ED Monthly Report

Information from the Fostoria Economic Development Corporation

Congratulations and best wishes
to **Jane Kidd, AEP Ohio**
who recently retired
after 39 years of service.

Best of luck in retirement Jane!



January Meetings:

1/4/07: FEDC Executive Committee

1/12/07: Legislative Affairs

1/16/07: Glass Festival Meeting

1/24/07: Vision 2020 Board Meeting

1/25/07: State of the City Address

1/25/07: Chamber Annual Meeting

Help us welcome
our new
Designated Trustee:
**Bowling
Transportation.**

As Administrator of the
Fostoria RLF, FEDC
assisted Bowling
Transportation with a
loan to purchase the
former E & L building on
Route 12.

PROJECT UPDATES:

New Industry: Project Ethanol—FEDC continues to meet with prospective ethanol company, moving forward with the process of providing requested information.

Existing Industry: Machine Tool & Fab, Inc. Dick Kiser recently purchased business from Greg Ridge and is excited about opportunities for growing the business.

Retention & Expansion Surveys: FEDC is working with a couple local businesses on retention and expansion assistance.

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Chamber of Commerce: Reported on upcoming events, such as Dr. James Byatt's Open House—1/19/07, Chamber Annual Dinner Meeting—1/25/07, Business Connections—1/25/07.

Fostoria Community Schools: Superintendent reported on Core Curriculum, Education Week and Calendar Reminders for the month.

INFRASTRUCTURE:

City Updates: Mayor reported on Loop Road progress and upcoming round table discussion that ODOT will be scheduling in February as well as a new open dialog series: Commissioners, Conversation and Coffee. Mayor invited members to attend the State of the City Address 1/26/07.

COMMERCIAL / SERVICE INDUSTRIES:

Telecommunications: Jim Beatty, NCS International has done a great deal of work for FEDC, lining up inbound and outbound call center operations that have expressed interest in expanding their market area. Mr. Beatty has acted as a liaison, setting up initial site visits with consultants and senior partners of Fortune 500 companies.

DT Revitalization: Danielle Steinhauser, Poggemeyer Design Group will have copies of the draft plan ready for downtown steering committees and city council to review by mid February. This aggressive timeline will get the city eligible for FY07 Tier II grant program and rolling the plan out to the general public.

CURRENT ISSUES:

2007 Budget: The Board Treasurer and Executive Committee members have met to review and make recommendations to proposed budget. Membership levels were addressed; the last rate increases were made over ten years ago. The city has stepped up with their commitment to FEDC, but even with their commitment, the current budget does not allow for anything additional in terms of marketing or community projects – it's just maintaining past efforts. Membership committee to review and report back to the board.

EZA Inspections: FEDC is working with the city tax administrator, auditor and schools to schedule annual inspections to make sure industries are compliant with terms of enterprise zone agreements.

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