SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

FUNDED APPLICATIONS

2026 FUNDED

- DUKE ENERGY FOUNDATION - REGIONAL OOR PROGRAM
$33,000
CONTACT: MARY
- OCRA METAMORA UTILITY PLAN - Q1 PLANNING 2026
$60,000
CONTACT: MARY
- OCRA OSGOOD COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - Q1 PLANNING 2026
$50,000
CONTACT: KILEY
- OCRA MADISON OOR - Q1 2026
$350,000
CONTACT: PATTY
- OCRA WESTPORT WATER IMPROVEMENT- $451,223
CONTACT: VICTORIA
- OCRA WALDON WATER (SHELBY CO) IMPROVEMENT- $750,000
PROJECT CONTACT: KILEY
- OCRA RYKERS RIDGE SEWER (JEFFERSON CO) - $750,000
CONTACT: PATTY
- OCRA VERSAILLES WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT - $750,000
CONTACT: MARY

2026 running total = $3,194,223



OCRA TOWN OF VERSAILLES WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT R1 2026



AIM WEBINARS

AUGUST 20: Hot Topic Workshop: Data Centers

SEPT 29- OCT 1: AIM Summit in French Lick

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

PENDING APPLICATIONS

Q2 PLANNING

- OCRA MORRISTOWN UTILITY PLAN
  AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS: AUGUST 2026
  CONTACT: VICTORIA

- OCRA CITY OF SHELBYVILLE UTILITY PLAN
  AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT: AUGUST 2026
  CONTACT: KILEY

Q3 PLANNING

- OCRA BROOKVILLE MASTER UTILITY PLAN
  AWARD ANNOUNCEMENTS: DECMEBER 2026
  CONTACT: VICTORIA



PARK PLANS IN PROGRESS

- **TOWN OF MOORES HILL MASTER PARK PLAN 2028-2031**

- **CITY OF BATESVILLE MASTER PARK PLAN 2028-2031**

UNDER DNR REVIEW

- **CITY OF AURORA MASTER PARK PLAN UPDATE 2027-2031**

COMPLETED

- **TOWN OF WESTPORT MASTER PARK PLAN 2027-2031**









SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

Arts & Culture Opportunities Announcements

- ARI Integrated Cultural Campus Initiative by Archaeological Research Institute, Inc. – $424,545

The Archaeological Research Institute (ARI) in Lawrenceburg is transforming its downtown campus into a fully integrated, publicly accessible cultural destination through a three-project initiative – an outdoor Cultural Gardens featuring public art, a large-scale augmented reality mural and 24/7 interpretive installations; an interior facility renovation creating ADA-accessible labs, immersive technology zones and expanded educational capacity; and a comprehensive immersive exhibit design and development program engaging Indiana artists, designers and technology professionals.

- Expand Oldenburg Arts and Culture Programming via Maibaum Pavilion & Artistic Wall Mural by Oldenburg Freudenfest, Inc. – $148,000

READI 2.0 Arts & Culture funding will support construction of the Maibaum Performing Arts Pavilion and a new 195-foot, hand-painted mural that will transform the park into a dynamic gathering place for artists, residents and visitors.

- Start Local – Dillsboro Studio Residency: Mentoring Indiana Artists by Dillsboro Arts Inc. – $40,300

o The Dillsboro Arts Friendship Gallery will create the Dillsboro Studio Residency, a community artist-in-residence program for young artists that supports the local creative economy while expanding access to the arts.

- Union Square Pavilion by Union County Foundation, Inc. – $1,000,000

The Union County Foundation will develop the Union Square Pavilion, a three-season, open-air venue that will serve as a year-round destination for arts, culture, music, recreation, and community events in the heart of downtown Liberty.

=$1.6 million dollar investment



Visit the following for more information:
southeastindiana.org
https://www.indianareadi.com/resources

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

Indiana Arts Commission Opportunities

- (August 15) Artlink Winter Market
- (Rolling Deadline) CERF+ Craft Artists Emergency Relief Grants
- (Rolling Deadline) Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grants for Artists
- (Rolling Deadline) Musicians Foundation Financial Assistance Grants
- (Rolling Deadline) Adolph & Esther Gottlieb Emergency Grant
- (Rolling Deadline) Foundation for Contemporary Arts Emergency Grants
- (Rolling Deadline) Columbus Area Arts Council Poetry & Literary Arts Micro-Grants

Mobility For All Food Pantries as a Web of Care

READ MORE

This report presents Mobility as a Social Service, a project that aims to understand hunger and care within pantry systems and explores the potential of autonomous (self-driving) vehicles accordingly. While this technology might have positive impacts on community life, opportunities to explore their applications in community settings are rare. Since 2024, our team of students and community weavers has worked to bridge this gap by studying food pantry systems and examining how self-driving vehicles could support them.

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

WHEEL TAX AND VEHICLE EXCISE TAX

OVERVIEW MINI QUICK GUIDE: WHEEL AND VEHICLE EXCISE TAX

• The municipal wheel tax and vehicle excise tax are local options available to all municipalities with a population of 5,000 and above.

• If a municipality adopts a wheel tax, it must also adopt a vehicle excise tax and vice versa.

• Revenue may be used for capital expenses associated with road projects

• Counties may also adopt these taxes; part of county revenue is distributed to underlying municipalities.

• All wheel tax and vehicle excise taxes are collected through registration fees during the annual regis tration process by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. HEA 1461 (2025) UPDATES

• Established the Lane Mile Direct Distribution (LMDD) program, allowing an additional annual distribution to eligible counties, cities, and towns.

• Eligible counties, cities, and towns will automatically receive an annual distribution based on their share of the reported lane miles

• To be eligible, a local unit must: o Adopt a qualifying wheel tax and vehicle excise tax by September 1st (beginning on May 1, 2026) o Adopt and submit a Transportation Asset Management Plan (TAMP) to Purdue Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) o Report lane mileage as required by INDOT/Purdue (LTAP) For more information on TAMP, lane mile reporting, and LMDD requirements, please refer to Purdue LTAP Resources.

ALLOWABLE USES

• The revenue generated by the wheel tax and vehicle excise tax can be used to: o Construct, reconstruct, repair, or maintain streets and roads; and o Provide matching funds for the Community Crossings Matching Grant fund.

• The definition is similar to the restrictions on the Motor Vehicle Highway (MVH) restricted fund and is reserved for capital expenses, not normal maintenance or personnel costs associated with maintaining a road system.

LEARN MORE

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

AIM 2027 BUDGET BULLETIN

The 2027 Budget Bulletin is published by Aim (Accelerate Indiana Municipalities) as a service to its members. The Association thanks the Department of Local Government Finance (DLGF) and Baker Tilly's Paige Sansone for their assistance in the preparation of this bulletin. This publication is designed to assist city and town officials with the responsibility of developing and adopting a budget. The first section of this publication is a narrative that discusses some generalities of the Indiana mu nicipal budget process, including how to determine expenses and revenues, and how to balance the budget. The text organizes the budget process into the logical steps that a municipality would take to reach the final adoption of a budget. Supplements follow to help with specific components of a municipal budget. All munic ipalities may not need to use the information provided in every supplement to complete a budget.

LEARN MORE

STORM RECOVERY RESOURCES FOR HOOSIERS

Contact:
Officer in Charge: Tracey Green
Cell:571564-0247
Email:
Tracey.Green@sba.govdy

Incident Period:August 11 and continuing
Disaster Declaration: IN21807
Approval Date:August 25, 2026
Physical Deadline: October 25, 2026
Economic Injury:May 25, 2027

Primary Counties (21):Carroll, Dearborn, Decatur, Delaware, Fayette, Franklin, Hamilton, Hancock, Henry, LaPorte, Lake, Madison, Marion, Morgan, Porter, Pulaski, Randolph, Rush, Tipton, Union, Wayne
Contiguous Counties (35): Indiana (26) Bartholomew, Blackford, Boone, Brown, Cass, Clinton, Fulton, Grant, Hendricks, Howard, Jasper, Jay, Jennings, Johnson, Marshall, Monroe, Newton, Ohio, Owen, Putnam, Ripley, Shelby, St. Joseph, Starke, Tippecanoe, White Illinois (3) Cook, Kankakee, Will Kentucky (1) Boone Michigan (1) Berrien Ohio (4) Butler, Darke, Hamilton, Preble

STATE

August 20, Expedited Presidential Declaration requested by the Governor
August 25,Governor's request is approved
State plans to open "One Stop Shops" for recovery centers

FEMA

August 27, FEMA conducted an initial strategy meeting with OIC and State representatives
IOF will be located at State EOC at302 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

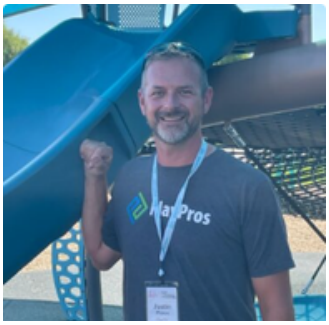
CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

Guest Spotlight





Greg Aaron
Business Development Manager Coordinator
greg@playpros.com

Justin Moos
Vice President, CPSI
justin@playpros.com

Visit: www.playpros.com



DNR Park Plan Services

The fee for preparation of a Parks and Recreation Master Plan will be determined based on the number of parks within the jurisdiction.

Community Type	Fee
Communities with **1–3 parks**	**$5,000.00**
Communities with **4 or more parks**	**$10,000.00**
County park systems	**$15,000.00**

These fees include all services described in this Scope of Work including public engagement activities, plan preparation, presentations, and coordination with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources review process.



SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

PCRD Regional Clusters

The economic landscape is evolving at a remarkable pace. As the global economy continues shifting from industrial production to specialized services and onward into the knowledge economy, regions must understand not only what industries they have, but also what skills and knowledge their workforce brings to the table.

READ MORE

BEAD Update

As you may know, Indiana's Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) awards have been approved by the federal government and all awardees have received next steps from the Indiana Broadband Office.
The IBO has requested required pre-execution documentation, including updated GIS files, before we can begin subgrant agreements within the next month. Remember, all information must be submitted to the IBO via IndianaBroadband@iot.in.gov as soon as
possible. As we approach contract execution, internet service providers have submitted redlines, comments and revision requests to the IBO Subgrant Agreement. To ensure contracts are executed within the federally-mandated deadline, the window to submit is now closed. We appreciate your time and effort in sending these to our office. Also, you may have received an email from our IBO Permitting Liaison William Hollis regarding your submitted EHP/NEPA milestones. Please respond to him as soon as possible so we can make sure everything we need is accurate and updated before we sign subgrant agreements.
Coming Soon: The IBO is also excited to announce that an insurance expert will be joining the team to answer all questions regarding insurance, including your questions about the Certificate of Insurance, etc.

Reminder: Resources available for BEAD Subgrantees:

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and the IBO have a number of resources for subgrantees to prepare for BEAD Subgrant Agreements. NTIA resources include; BEAD FAQs, NEPA resources, and more.

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

Nine Years of Rural Indiana Stats: A refreshed look and new broadband data

Road School Industry Awards
Nearly all of the 130+ variables available on the new Rural Indiana Stats website have been refreshed with the latest data. These updates continue to strengthen and expand the online data platform.

READ MORE

UEDA Webinar

Kick off your UEDA Summit experience with the first webinar in our pre-Summit series! Join the Purdue University Center for Regional Development for Economic Competitiveness in the United States: An Industry, Knowledge, and Skills Clusters Framework. Learn how new industry, knowledge, and skills cluster frameworks, developed through a U.S. Economic Development Administration-funded project, help communities identify regional strengths, workforce needs, and growth opportunities. Featuring metrics for more than 400 Economic Development Districts, this session offers practical insights for anyone working with regional economic development partners.

REGISTER NOW

PCRD Digital Education

READ MORE

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

PCRD UPDATES

Road School Industry Awards

New this year, the Purdue Road School Transportation Conference & Expo is proud to launch our Road School Industry Awards program recognizing excellence, leadership, and innovation in public works and street operations throughout Indiana. In partnership with the American Public Works Association (APWA) Indiana Chapter and the Indiana Street Commissioners Association (ISCA), we invite agencies, consultants, and peers to submit nominations for outstanding projects and professionals.

Awards include APWA's Public Works Project of the Year (one award to be presented for projects under $5 million, and another award to be presented for projects that were $5 million or higher) and Public Works Leader of the Year, as well as ISCA's Project of the Year, Project of the Year (In-House), and Street Commissioner of the Year.

Click here (Industry Awards/Road School Industry Awards.html)
for more details and instructions on how to submit your nomination.

CLICK HERE

Research and Policy Insights:

Indiana's Economic and Workforce Regions: Educational Attainment and Workforce

READI regions have become the official footprint for state-level regional development efforts. This report focuses on eight variables related to educational attainment and workforce.

Webinars & Trainings

Visit Engagement's Site

- R-STEP Solar on Your Farm: Key Insights Before You Sign
- Tools for Effective Facilitation (formerly Facilitative Leadership)
- Beginner Farmer Program
- Small Business Success Workshop Series
- Digital Skills Lessons

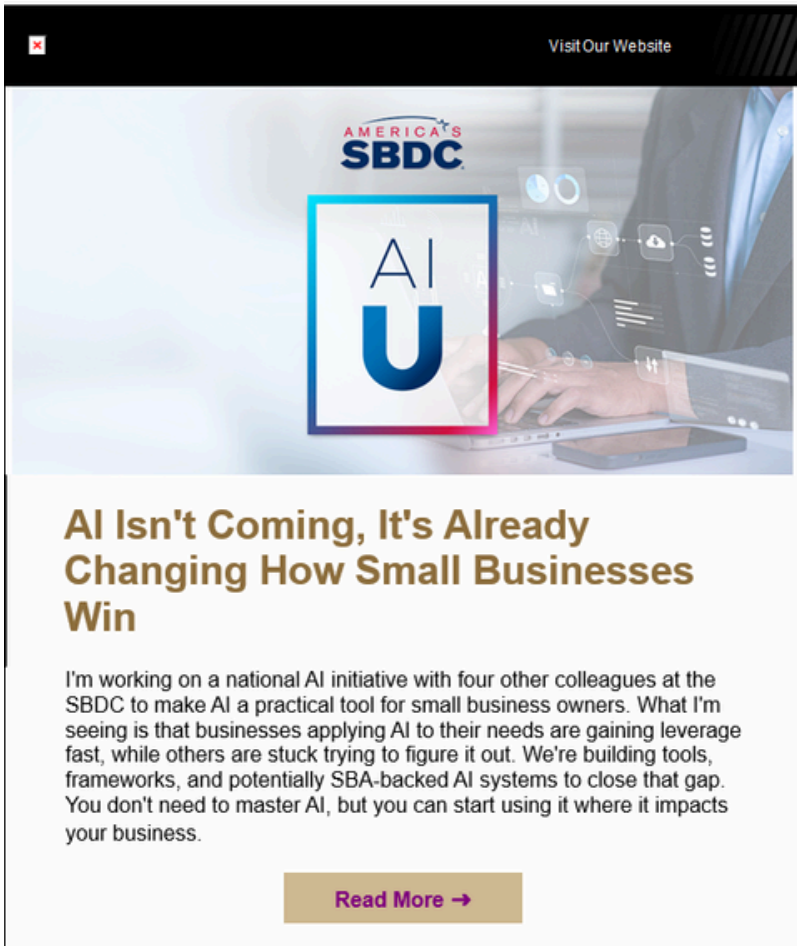
SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

PCRD UPDATES



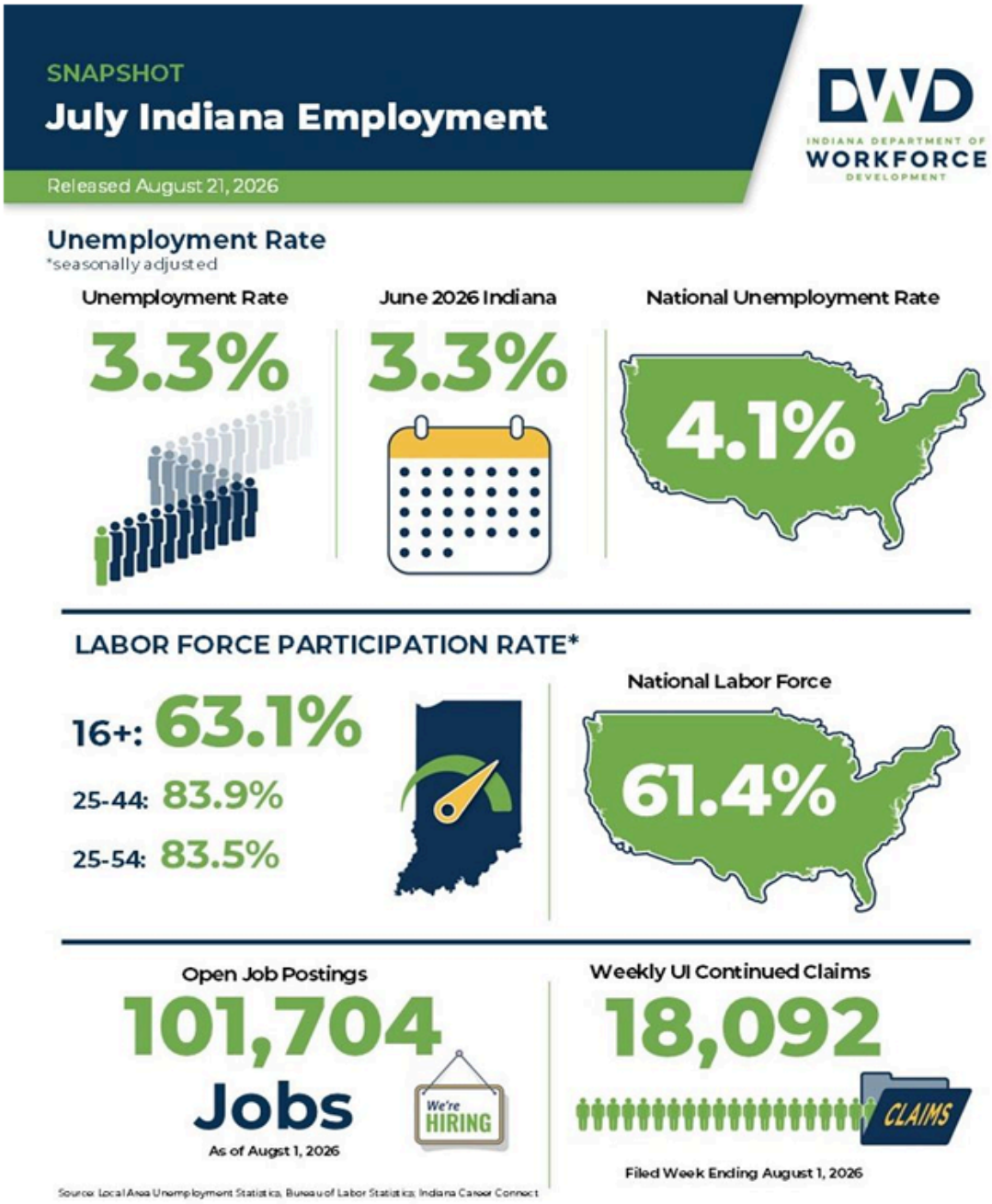


SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY



SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

Office of COMMUNITY & RURAL AFFAIRS

OCRA

Indiana Site Certified

The Indiana Site Certified program certifies sites that are ready for economic development. Communities of any size may apply for the designation through the Office of Community and Rural Affairs.

Goals of Site Certified

1. Mitigate risks and provide necessary due diligence of a site
2. Market the site to prospective developers
3. Illustrate the community's commitment to economic development

Why it matters:

- Reduces barriers for developers
- Accelerates the site development process
- Increases site competitiveness while attracting jobs and capital

Indiana Site Certified Silver

Communities looking to start their site readiness journey.

- No size limit
- support from Local Unit of Government CEO
- Clear Title - 50-year Title Search
- American Land Title Association Survey
- Topographical map using Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR)
- Aerial map
- Phase 1 Environmental Assessment
- Wetland Delineation Report
- Letter from INDOT addressing appropriate use of site
- Utility service capacity and distance defined

Indiana Site Certified Gold

Communities ready to commit to a higher level of due diligence with sites that have a clear potential for larger development.

- Size limit -20 contiguous acres
- No more than five miles from a state highway
- Zoning required
- Geotechnical study
- Seismic hazard map
- Desktop archaeological investigation
- Free of recognized environmental concerns
- Utilities extend to property line/future-build is located in public right-of-way

Indiana Site Certified Prime

Reserved for sites that have undergone the most extensive vetting and are ready for immediate, significant development.

- Size limit- 30 contiguous acres
- No more than 2.5 miles from a state highway
- Zoning requires
- Geotechnical study
- No recs or site clear
- Archaeological investigation
- Utilities extend to property line/future-build is located in public right-of-way
- Local Unit of Gov., Local/Regional EDC must own property or have agreement with property owner

ocra.in.gov/Indiana-Site-Certified

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

Indiana Mainstreet Program

Communities seeking the OCRA Downtown Affiliate Network level must submit their Letter of Intent and achieve the fundamental baseline requirement by 11:59 p.m. ET on Oct. 2. A full application will be released on Oct. 6, with a submission deadline of 11:59 p.m. ET on Dec. 31.

Communities seeking the Aspiring-Indiana Accredited Main Street level must submit their Letter of Intent and application by 11:59 p.m. ET on Dec. 31.

For more information, visit in.gov/ocra/mainstreet or reach out to the regional OCRA community liaison, which can be found at in.gov/ocra/about/community-liaisons/.



SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

USDA Single Family Housing Repair Loan and Grants

Properties must be located in an eligible rural area. You can visit the USDA Income and Property Eligibility website (available at this link: https://go.usa.gov/xzcdM) for complete details.

How can funds be used?

- Loans can be used to repair, improve, or modernize homes, or to remove health and safety hazards.
- Grants must be used to remove health and safety hazards.

How much money can I get?

- Maximum loan is $40,000.
- Maximum grant is $10,000.
- Loans and grants can be combined for up to $50,000 in assistance.

What are the terms of the loan or grant?

- Loans are repaid over 20 years.
- Loan interest rate is fixed at 1 percent.
- Full title service is required for loans greater than $25,000.
- Grants have a lifetime limit of $10,000.
- Grants must be repaid if the property is sold in less than three

Applications are available year-round as long as funding is available, and are processed in the order they are received.

How long does an application take?

Approval times depend on funding availability in your area. Talk to a state or area office-based USDA home loan specialist (a map is available at this link: https://www.rd.usda.gov/browse-state) for help with your application.

How do I get started?

Contact a USDA home loan specialist (information is available at this link: https://www.rd.usda.gov/browse-state) in your area.

What governs this program?

- The Housing Act of 1949 as amended; 7 CFR, Part 3550 (available at this link: https://go.usa.gov/xzcvG)
- HB-1-3550 - Direct Single Family Housing Program Field Office Handbook (available at this link: https://go.usa.gov/xzcvM - PDF)

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

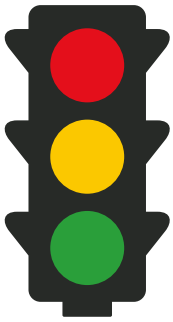
CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

Traffic

Have traffic issues, road/ pedestrian concerns, safety concerns, or developments that effect traffic patterns?
Contact Jodi Comer! Email: jodi.comer@sirpc.org or Call:812-689-5505







SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

SICPDC

Southeastern Indiana Community Preservation & Development Corporation



Tara Hagan
Executive Director
tara.hagan@sicpdc.org

Visit: https://www.sirpc.org/sicpdc

Homebuyer Program

622 Marmot Lane Aurora, IN





Complete

Homebuyer

Moores Hill Lot



Coming Soon

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
09/09/2026

DEARBORN-DECATUR-FRANKLIN-JEFFERSON-JENNINGS-OHIO-RIPLEY-SWITZERLAND-SHELBY

Resources

LTAP DIRECTORY:
https://inltaptraining.azurewebsites.net/public/directory.html

PURDUE CENTER FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT:
https://pcrd.purdue.edu/

STATS INDIANA: https://www.stats.indiana.edu/

STATS AMERICA: https://www.statsamerica.org/du/

INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION: https://www.in.gov/arts/programs-and-services/funding/

INDIANA BROADBAND OFFICE: https://www.in.gov/indianabroadband/du/

PROSPERITY INDIANA: https://www.prosperityindiana.org/

INDIANA OFFICE OF TECHNOLIGY: https://www.in.gov/iot/local-government-services/

SIRPC BROADBAND CLEARINGHOUSE:https://broadband.sirpc.org/

REGION DATA: https://www.wesleysproject.com/

STAFF

Mary McCarty
Executive Director
mary.mccarty@sirpc.org

Patty Jackson
Deputy Director
patty.jackson@sirpc.org

Jodi Comer
Administration Director
jodi.comer@sirpc.org

Kerry McConnell
Grant Administration Manager
kerry.mcconnell@sirpc.org

Gretchen Moore
Fiscal Manager
gretchen.moore@sirpc.org

Victoria Bechert
Project Developer
victoria.bechert@sirpc.org

Kiley Sparks
Project Development Coordinator
kiley.sparks@sirpc.org

Jessica Rayburn
Grant Support Technician
jessica.rayburn@sirpc.org