SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
10/14/2026

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

2026 running total = $3,254,223

- 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
- OCRA CITY OF SHELBYVILLE STORMWATER/WASTEWATER UTILITY PLANNING GRANT- $60,000
CONTACT: KILEY



OCRA CITY OF SHELBYVILLE STORMWATER/WASTEWATER UTILITY PLANNING GRANT PROJECT Q2 2026

AIM WEBINARS

OCT 14: ROUND TABLE @MADISON, IN

OCT 15: STRONGER COMMUNITIES THROUGH TOURISM

NOV 17: PLACEMAKING WEBINAR

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
10/14/2026

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

PENDING APPLICATIONS

R2 CONSTRUCTION

OCRA ST.PAUL WASTEWATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
FULL APPLICATION DUE: DECEMBER 13
CONTACT: VICTORIA

*OCRA has suspended Planning Q3 2026. Planning will resume in 2027.



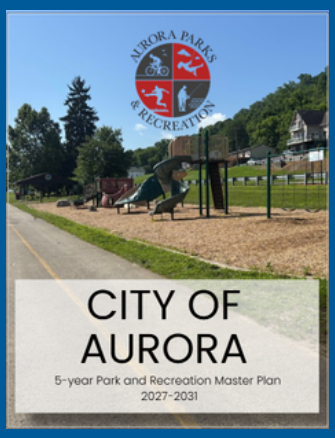
PARK PLANS IN PROGRESS

- TOWN OF MOORES HILL MASTER PARK PLAN 2028-2031
- CITY OF BATESVILLE MASTER PARK PLAN 2028-2031

COMPLETED

- TOWN OF WESTPORT MASTER PARK PLAN 2027-2031
- CITY OF AURORA MASTER PARK PLAN UPDATE 2027-2031











SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
10/14/2026

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
10/14/2026

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

Indiana Arts Commission Opportunities

FY2027 Indiana Cultural District Certification and Re-Certification

The process for communities looking to certify or re-certify as an Indiana Cultural District is now open. Nonprofit organizations or units of local government can apply for new certification and existing IAC cultural districts can apply for recertification.

FY2027 Program Timeline

Letter of Intent Opens: September 29, 2026
Informational Webinar: October 2, 2026, 10:00 AM ET (Register to attend the webinar.)
Letter of Intent Deadline: October 15, 2026, 11:59 PM ET
Invitation to Apply Sent: October 30, 2026
Application Open: October 30, 2026
Application Deadline: December 31, 2026, 11:59 PM ET
Certification Notification: March 15, 2027
Grant Application Open: March 15 – April 15, 2027
Grant Implementation Period: April 30, 2027 – March 31, 2028
Final Grant Report Due: April 14, 2028, 11:59 PM ET

Governor's Arts Awards

Governor Mike Braun announced this month nominations are open for the 2026 Governor's Arts Awards, the highest honor the state gives in the arts.

In addition to the award nominations, the IAC is seeking an artist or artist teams to submit qualifications for the creation of seven custom works of art to be presented to the 2026 Governor's Arts Awards awardees. There are no restrictions on content, medium, or style, but each piece must reflect the purpose of the Governor's Arts Awards to recognize outstanding achievement and contributions to arts and creativity in Indiana.

Read the Request for Qualifications and submit by October 30, 2026.

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
10/14/2026

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

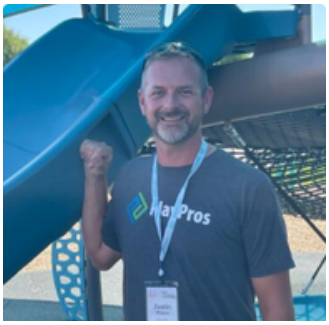
CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
10/14/2026

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
10/14/2026

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

Lilly Community Parks Initiative

Indiana Community Development Projects, Inc. (ICDP) is pleased to announce the Community Parks Initiative (CPI). The aim of this new initiative is to help invited cities and towns in Indiana enhance local park systems across Indiana through the development and implementation of community-driven plans to improve quality of life, place, and connection. ICDP has allocated nearly $400 million in grant funding from Lilly Endowment for this two-phase, multi-year initiative providing funding for noncompetitive planning grants and competitive implementation grants.

List of Cities & Towns

	Max Planning Award	Max Grant Award
• Batesville	$50,000	$1,000,000
• Decatur	$100,000	$2,750,000
• Greensburg	$100,000	$2,750,000
• Madison	$100,000	$2,750,000
• North Vernon	$50,000	$1,000,000
• Shelbyville	$100,000	$2,750,000

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
10/14/2026

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

Quarterly Housing Survey

SICPDC needs to hear from residents and local businesses about housing, environmental concerns, and other issues affecting our communities. A short survey will be posted each quarter to identify changing needs, establish priorities, and develop a community involvement plan that reflects the ideas of the people who live and work in our eight-county region. Quarterly surveys will be posted at the end of March, June, October, and December. Thank you for taking the time to fill out our short (estimated 3-5 minute) survey.

Survey: Fall 2026 https://forms.gle/wPsx38p8mViws2Fv6
or visit
https://www.sirpc.org/

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
10/14/2026

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
10/14/2026

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

Opportunity Zones 2.0

Congratulations Town of Brookville and City of Aurora!!

Under the Opportunity Zone 2.0 program, state governors may nominate up to 25% of their state's eligible census tracts every ten years for U.S. Treasury certification as Opportunity Zones. Indiana's census tract nominations were submitted on September 25, 2026 and, after federal certification, these Opportunity Zones will be in effect from January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2036.

The 2027-2036 Opportunity Zones are part of a new federal designation cycle, separate from the Opportunity Zones designated in 2018. For information about the 2018 zones and differences between the two program cycles, see the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Qualified Opportunity Zones webpage or its Opportunity Zones Resources. Additionally, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has developed a helpful chart highlighting the differences between the two Opportunity Zone programs, available here.

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
10/14/2026

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

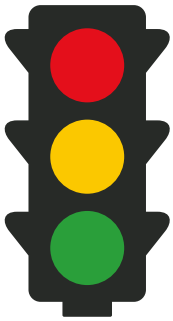
CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
10/14/2026

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

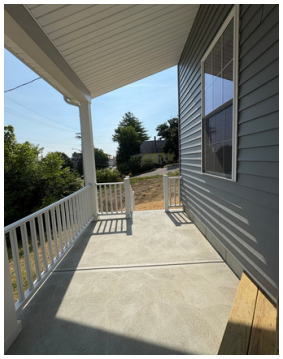
WEDNESDAY
10/14/2026

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

SICPDC

Homebuyer Program

622 Marmot Lane Aurora, IN





Complete

Homebuyer

Moores Hill Lot



Coming Soon

North Dearborn Village Apartments Expansion



The North Dearborn Village Apartments Expansion will add 11 accessible, single-level apartments for adults age 55 and older, extending an established community where residents have access to activities, on-site management and nearby senior services.

In Progress



Tara Hagan
Executive Director
tara.hagan@sicpdc.org
Visit:
https://www.sirpc.org/sicpdc

Southeastern Indiana Community Preservation & Development Corporation

SOUTHEASTERN INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

CORRESPONDENCE

WEDNESDAY
10/14/2026

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