

IN 15 is on the grow...

We would like to welcome our two newest members to the Commission team. Indiana 15 RPC continues to grow in response to the needs of our six-county region.



Theresa Criss-Hartwig serves as Project Administrator Specialist, develops and manages EDA Public Works grant projects, manages Crawford County's revolving loan funds, and facilitates newly elected official's training sessions for the region. She has worked with regional government districts in south central and central Kentucky and now in Indiana. In addition, she has worked for the City of Owensboro. She is a graduate of Western Kentucky University with a Bachelors of Arts in Government and Business Administration. She has been with Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission since June of 2002.



Tom Mosley serves as the Technical Assistant, working with regional and local mapping. His duties include development, transportation, community planning and environmental mapping. Prior to his arrival at Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission, he was the Coordinator for the Patoka South Fork Watershed Steering Committee; a grass-roots citizen group. He has previous experience including environmental work, mapping of electrical and gas utilities, as well as experience with different geographic information systems (GIS), database management and the global positioning system. He is a member of the Association of American Geographers. He began working at Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission in June of 2002.



Calendar of Events for 2002

- Aug. 14 CFF Application Workshop (Round II)
- Sept. 6 CFF Applications Deadline (Round II)
- Sept. 28-Oct. 1 NADO's 35th Annual Training Conference -Promoting Regional Prosperity
- October IDNR Division of Historic Preservation
- October 22 Indiana 15 RPC Executive Board meeting
- November Build Indiana Fund requests submitted
- November 26 Indiana 15 RPC Annual Dinner
- Dec. 13 INDOT Trans. Enhancement deadline

NASA Grant

Indiana 15 is the recipient of NASA funds to use aerial imagery flown by NASA for rural applications. The aerials are 30 meter resolution for applications such as showing the historical growth of communities at points in time.

The photography can also be used for forest cover and mining land uses as well. Another component of the grant is to place the GIS maps upon the Commission's web site. The web site will have a Map Images button for static maps such as industrial park maps used for specific projects. The GIS button will include various data layers over the USGS aerial photography. The POLIS CENTER at IUPUI is assisting with the GIS placement on the web site and will host the site for a year. This will enable access to a multitude of geographic data. The first two layers will be aerial photography at 1 meter resolution and road centerlines. The community maps of Chrisney, Dale, Grandview, and Cannelton will also be made available. As additional communities are mapped they will also be made available.

Special thanks goes to Ms. Amy Gehlhausen, Indiana 15's Planning Intern, for her many contributions to the Commission. Amy has now completed the development of IN 15's web site. She was also responsible for the design and development of the Commission's Regional Quarterly Newsletter. You may visit Amy's completed web site for IN 15 at: www.ind15rpc.org

Thank you Amy and Good Luck from the IN 15 staff!

SUMMER 2002

INDIANA 15 Board Members for 2001

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 Ms. Diane Gehbard * 547-2758

* Executive Board Member

Questions and Comments

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City & Zip: _____
 Phone: _____

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Indiana 15 RPC at the above listed phone or fax number, address, or e-mail address.

The 2002 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Annual Report is to provide information about the six-county district, as well as to present information about the Commission and its proposed priority projects within the six counties. Once the 2000 Census data is released, the Commission will be providing a five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) report as required by the Economic Development Administration. Debra Beavin, Executive Director of Indiana 15 RPC will be visiting County Commissioners and elected officials to discuss future project prioritization and goals pertinent to our six-county region during the months of August and September. Additionally, during these next few months, the staff members of IN15RPC will be visiting your communities to present the many diverse services provided by the Commission to the communities within our district, as well as be available to discuss your community's needs and future plans.

The priorities of the Commission are not only reflected in the staff's project activities, but are also driven by the Commission's mission statement which has served us well for the past several years, and genuinely reflects our role in local government and community development assistance.



Community Focus Fund Grants

Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission worked with the Crawford County Commissioners on a Community Focus Fund (CFF) grant from the Indiana Department of Commerce. The CFF grants are for a maximum of \$500,000 with a minimum match of 10%. There are two rounds of CFF funding per year. The first round of grant applications had proposals due on January 25, 2002, and the final application due on April 1, 2002. To be eligible for funding, your community must have a low-to-moderate income (LMI) rate of 51% or greater. The LMI rate can be determined by U.S. Census data or a certified income survey.

Crawford County successfully applied for a new Emergency Management Services (EMS) facility to house their EMS staff and equipment. They are currently renting space from the Marengo-Liberty Township Fire Department, but the space is not of adequate size to meet the State regulations an EMS facility must abide by.

The second round of grant applications had proposals due on July 12, 2002. The final application are due on September 6, 2002.

The town of English is applying for a new Community Center Building. The Community Center will be located in "new" English, where there are no facilities available to provide for functions of a large nature. The facility could be used by the public for functions such as girl scout meetings, wedding receptions, family reunions, and other local meetings.

The town of Leavenworth is applying for grant funds to address problems with their water system. They need a new well to replace an old well that is inefficient. The existing clear well also needs minor repairs. The third and final component of their project is the construction of a new 12-inch transmission main from the well site to the clear well.

The town of Marengo is applying on behalf of the Marengo-Liberty Township Fire Department for a new pumper/tanker truck. The new truck will replace a 1978 model truck. It has become difficult and costly to maintain the existing 1978 truck.

The town of Milltown is applying for a grant to provide ADA compliant sidewalks and gutters, improve storm sewers and ditches, and provide guardrail improvements throughout the town.

The Orange County Commissioners are applying for a grant to construct a new Community/Learning Center to serve all of the citizens of Orange County.

The next round of CFF applications will have proposals due January 2003. Please contact Jeff Pruitt, Senior Project Administrator, regarding potential projects your community has in mind.



Jeff Pruitt, Senior Project Administrator, setting up a traffic count in Pike County.



Cory Howell, Technical Assistant Intern, setting up a traffic count on County Road 1100 S. west of St. Henry.

Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission is partnering with the Indiana Department of Transportation to provide rural transportation planning needs for the district.

The Commission completed a Rural Transportation Plan, April 2002. This plan includes:

- 1) INDOT Project Listings;
- 2) County Issues and Concerns;
- 3) County Road Classification Maps;
- 4) Traffic Counts; and
- 5) Economic Growth Area Maps

A part of the planning process includes the establishment of the Advisory Task Force. Twenty-one members representing INDOT, local government, county highway personnel, planning departments, and economic development met to discuss local issues and needs relating to transportation.

The Commission was given notification this March that the 2003 proposal was approved. The efforts proposed for 2003 include:

- 1) Traffic counts near where railroads and county roads intersect. These counts were requested by INDOT to include in the State Railroad Inventory Report. The counts are nearly complete.
- 2) The alignment of the CENSUS 2000 Tiger Line roads over the USGS Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quads which is an intensive task will also be undertaken in 2002-2003 for all six counties. INDOT is very supportive of this task as it will provide a base map for all six counties with aerials and county roads to further build upon various layers as funding allows such zoning, parcel mapping, flood plain, and other such layers. Crawford and Dubois Counties are twenty-five percent complete.
- 3) The Commission will also meet with the Advisory Task Force to further identify local transportation needs.

Contact Lisa Gehlhausen regarding Transportation issues for your area.