PLANNING COMMISSION

221 E First Street Ferdinand, IN 47532 812-367-8455 Fax: 812-367-8171 staff@ind15rpc.org



Board Members

<u>CRAWFORD COUNTY</u>
Mr. Morton Dale
Mr. Bill Breeding
Ms. Patricia Hahus
Mr. Michael Benham
*Mr. R. Whitney Timberlake
Mr. Michael Haverstock

DUBOIS COUNTY

Mr. Bill Byrd

Mr. Nick Hostetter Ms. Charmian Klem Mr. Larry Altstadt *Mr. Paul Lorey Mr. Clyde Huff *Ms. Beverly Schulthise

*Mr. Michael V. Ellis

ORANGE COUNTY

Mr. Don Brewer *Mr. Rudy Freeman Mr. Matt Henderson Mr. Jim Springer Mr. Mike Fields Mr. Gary Barnett Mr. John Harrison

*Executive Board member

APPOINTED BY

County Commissioners County Council Town of Alton Town of English Town of Leavenworth Town of Marengo Town of Milltown

APPOINTED BY

County Commissioners County Council City of Huntingburg City of Jasper Town of Birdseye Town of Ferdinand Town of Holland

APPOINTED BY

County Commissioners At-large County Council Town of French Lick Town of Orleans Town of Paoli Town of West Baden Springs

APPOINTED BY

PERRY COUNTY Mr. Larry R. James County Commissioners *Ms. Tara Damin At-large Mr. Calvin B. Cash III At-large *Mr. Tom Hauser County Council City of Cannelton Mr. Joe Hermann Mr. Chris Cail City of Tell City Mr. Bernard Linne Town of Troy

PIKE COUNTY

Mr. Ryan Coleman County Commissioners Mr. Ion Craig At-large Mr. Ieff Nelson At-large Mr. Todd Meadors County Council City of Petersburg *Ms. Fran Lewis Mr. Ronald Beadles Town of Spurgeon Town of Winslow Mr. Jeff Bolin

APPOINTED BY

APPOINTED BY

County Council

City of Rockport

Town of Chrisney

Town of Grandview

Town of Santa Claus

Town of Dale

County Commissioners

SPENCER COUNTY

*Mr. Al Logsdon Mr. Todd Ruxer *Ms. Gay Ann Harney Mr. Mason Seay Mr. Don Wertman Ms. Angie Fischer Mr. Michael Johannes

GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEE

*Mr. Stephen Bartels

STATE

Lisa Gehlhausen Nathan Held Cheri Taylor Nick Goodwin Jenny Matheis Lindsey Hoffman **Executive Director** Senior Project Administrator Financial Administrator **Technical Services Specialist Project Assistant** Administrative Assistant

lisa@ind15rpc.org nathan@ind15rpc.org ctaylor@ind15rpc.org ngoodwin@ind15rpc.org imatheis@ind15rpc.org lhoffman@ind15rpc.org





INDIANA 15

2018

Year In Review

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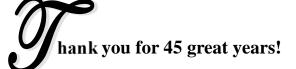
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Executive Director's Notes



We wish to send a heartfelt thank you to those who have made 2018 such a success. None of this would be possible without the cooperation among the local units of government, our Board of Directors and each of you.



Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission strives to help our local governments and communities strengthen our region in relation to community and economic development. This newsletter reviews some of the projects we partnered on during the past year.

A sincere thank you to all our Board of Directors, listed on the back of this newsletter, and especially Al Logsdon, appointed by Spencer County, for serving as Chairperson for 2018.

The Board of Directors is made up of 43 members appointed by units of local government in the counties of Crawford, Dubois, Orange, Perry, Pike, and Spencer. Our Executive Board meets monthly and our Full Board meets quarterly. Members are appointed annually with the terms expiring December 31 of each year. The majority of the board is local elected officials. We want to recognize the Boards' unique commitments to helping Indiana 15 and their respective communities.

Again, thank you for a great 2018! We see many reasons to be hopeful about the future of this region and look forward to serving you in 2019. Everyone at the Commission wishes you a happy and prosperous new year!

> Lisa Gehlhausen Executive Director



New Employees



Joining Indiana 15 in March of 2018, Jenny Matheis serves as a Project Assistant. She is currently working toward certification as a grant administrator with the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs. In her role at Indiana

15, Jenny will be responsible for CDBG grant writing and administration, conducting income surveys, verifying labor standards and environmental reviews. Jenny holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from the University of Southern Indiana and is a life-long resident of Spencer County. Prior to her arrival at Indiana 15, Jenny worked in local schools and in Adult Education.

Welcome to the team Jenny!

CDBG Training

Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission has three Community Development Block Grant certified grant administrators on staff—Lisa Gehlhausen, Nathan Held, and Cheri Taylor. Jenny Matheis is currently in the process of obtaining her certification. Our continued accreditation ensures proper implementation and administration of the Office of Community & Rural Affairs' federally-funded CDBG program and benefits the six-county region.







Lindsey
Hoffman joined
the Indiana 15
staff in June of
2018. She
serves as the
Administrative
Assistant of
Indiana 15
Regional
Planning
Commission.

Lindsey greets visitors to our

office, answers the phone, maintains all board records, backups, and website. She also assists with codifications and the newsletter, conducts inventory control, and provides additional office support for all staff.

Welcome to the team Lindsey!





2018 College Intern



Ben Hunley, from Nashville, TN, attends Purdue University. He is majoring in Civil Engineering through the College of Engineering.

Ben completed a 2018 summer internship with Indiana 15 RPC.

During his internship, he assisted in the final stages of the Milltown Base Map and also the beginning of the French Lick Base Map.

The Commission appreciates all of Ben's help and hard work this summer.

CEDS

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is prepared by Indiana 15 RPC to analyze the economy of the region. This strategy is used to define goals and objectives of our communities. The CEDS is designed to develop a regional plan of action by integrating the region's human and physical capital planning in the service of economic development. This planning provides the flexibility to utilize unique regional advantages to maximize economic opportunity for residents.

A CEDS must be the result of a continuing economic development planning process developed with diverse public and private sector participation, and must set forth goals and objectives necessary to solve economic development problems of the region and clearly define the metrics of success. Indiana 15 will be appointing a CEDS Strategy Committee to represent the main economic interests of the Region soon. Private sector, public officials, community leaders, workforce development, higher education, minority and labor groups, and private individuals are being sought to represent the Region. Please give us a call if you are willing to serve on the CEDS Strategy Committee.

Various funding agencies look at the CEDS for a prioritization process of regional needs. The CEDS is used to assess where the region is economically, where we want to be, and how we get there.

The 2019 Annual CEDS Performance Report is due April 30, 2019. Each community is being requested to submit prioritized projects before February 14, 2019.

The Office of Community and Rural Affairs offers additional points when scoring applications to projects that are listed in the CEDS document.



System Award Management

SAM numbers are <u>FREE</u> and extremely important!

Applications for grant funds require communities to have a System for Award Management (SAM) number. SAM.gov is the official *free*, government-operated website to obtain this number. There is **NO** charge to register your entity on SAM.gov.

If your community already has a SAM number, it needs to be updated annually. *The process changed for 2018. The change included the need for a notarized letter designating an administrator of each SAM.gov account. Please check the status of your number well in advance of the grant application submission deadline since it may need to coincide with city/town/county meetings.

Not sure if your community has a SAM number? A search engine is available on the official website - https://www.sam.gov. Please have your DUNS number readily available before you start the registration process.

For help registering for a SAM number, please contact the Federal Service Desk at https://www.fsd.gov/or call 866-606-8220, or call our office.

EPA Brownfields

Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission is very pleased to receive a 2018-2021 award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The Commission has achieved impressive brownfield assessment, remediation and witnessed substantial redevelopment in the recent past as a result of completed 2008-2011 and 2013-2016 EPA Brownfield Assessment programs.

We look forward to reaching redevelopment goals for underutilized properties by conducting Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments throughout the six-county region with this new award.

Lisa Gehlhausen or Nick Goodwin, can be contacted at 812-367-8455 for more information about assessing potential brownfields.

2018

2018

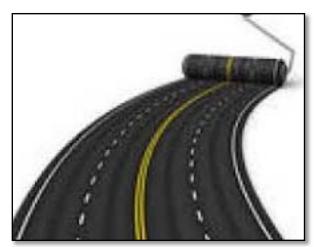
Community Crossings Matching Grant

283 Indiana cities, towns and counties received a total \$100 million in Community Crossings funds in 2018. Communities in the Indiana 15 RPC region was awarded \$5,453,750 of the \$100 million.

The individual funds received for use on roads and bridges are:

Cannelton—\$151,735 Chrisney—\$18,969 Crawford Co.—\$768,041 French Lick—\$1,000,000 Gentryville—\$85,676 Grandview—\$55,467 Marengo—\$54,124 Orleans—\$88,239 Orange Co.—\$477,962 Orleans—\$387,534 Paoli—\$405,032 Perry Co.—\$515,457 Petersburg—201,917 Richland—\$103,187 Santa Claus—\$323,606 Tell City—\$218,953 West Baden Springs—\$510,911

Winslow-\$86,940



English Police Car



The Town of English received \$65,674.00 in funding from the United States Department of Agriculture for a new police vehicle.

The grant funds were matched with \$17,000.00 in local funds. The new car replaces a 2010 Dodge Charger police car. The old vehicle was experiencing wiring problems.

IARC Award

Indiana 15 RPC was awarded the 2018 Advancing Redevelopment Award at the Indiana Association of Regional Council's (IARC) Annual Conference. Indiana 15 was recognized for their efforts in assisting Redevelop Old Jasper Action Coalition (ROJAC) with the cities redevelopment along the riverfront of historic downtown "Old Jasper" area.

Indiana 15 RPC has assisted the City of Jasper with many projects including construction of a brick sidewalk and stormwater improvements to 4th Street. Prepared an environmental review and an INDOT application for the construction of the Welcome Center Grist Mill. Using EPA Brownfield funding, environmental assessments on the former Jasper Cabinet and Hoosier Desk properties were accomplished at no cost to the City. A Labyrinth was constructed using Community Foundation, PBIF, and local donations for this project. Indiana 15 wrote and administered a grant from IHCDA to the City to acquire and demolish a few homes and businesses in a flood plain. The Astra Theater was preserved through OCRA funds within the Historic Downtown Square. ROJAC continues to promote the redevelopment of downtown Jasper.



Pictured are: Terry Seitz-Mayor of Jasper, Lisa Gehlhausen-Executive Director of Indiana 15 RPC, Bill Schmitt-Former Mayor of Jasper/ ROJAC member, and Greg Jones-IARC President.

45th Anniversary Dinner Meeting

Indiana 15 had a wonderful turnout for the 45th Anniversary Dinner Meeting held October 23 at the Ferdinand Community Center with 145 people attending. The attendees consisted of board members, staff and invited guests, who reflected upon successes from past years and had the opportunity to celebrate those accomplishments while recognizing and congratulating all those involved.

Following a brief business meeting of both the Executive and Full Board, special guests were celebrated. Don Crockett, one of Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission's original board members,



was present and received a gift basket from the Commission in appreciation for his service. Bill Shaneyfelt, attorney for Indiana 15, was recognized and received a gift basket for his long time service to the Commission. Mr. Shaneyfelt will be missed as he is retiring at the end of 2018.

David Dahl, former Midwestern Engineers employee, was the speaker of the evening. He is writing a history of the Patoka Lake Regional Water and Sewer District and described what he learned through his research. Awards were given to members of the Board for their dedicated years of service and meeting attendance to the Commission.

The Board surprised Ms. Lisa Gehlhausen with a plaque in appreciation to her 40 years of dedicated service to Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission. It is through her hard work and "how can I help" attitude that makes our six counties thrive and succeed. Thank you to all that attended for your continued support to Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission.



Attendance Awards

Pictured are: Tara Damin-Perry County, Whitney Timberlake-Leavenworth, Rudy Freeman-Orange County, Mike Ellis-Holland, Bill Byrd-Milltown, and Don Wertman-Dale.



Years of Service Awards

Pictured are: Mike Ellis-Holland, Bill Byrd-Milltown, Beverly Schulthise-Ferdinand, Rudy Freeman-Orange County, Jim Springer-French Lick, Al Logsdon-Spencer County.

2018

2018



Orange County First Chance Center received \$568,600 in CDBG funds to rehabilitate their facility.

The Center

reconstructed restrooms and administration offices, installed hand railings, reconfigured entryways, and added a new laundry training facility.

A local match of \$148,000 was contributed. This project completed in 2018.

Code Book Updates

Dale, Ferdinand, and Jasper received updates to their respective code books by Indiana 15 in 2018.

If your community would like a quote on Indiana 15 RPC updating your Code Book, please call Lisa Gehlhausen at 812-367-8455.

Dale Comprehensive Plan

The Town of Dale is developing a Comprehensive Plan to identify objectives for development and to project future land use. The Comprehensive Plan will address economic issues and factors as well as any impediments to growth. The plan will also address issues of the overall quality of life for the citizens and the continued improvement of those factors to insure a strong population. Also examining the infrastructure, transportation, public safety, education, medical facilities, other public facilities housing and environment of the community.

The Town was awarded a \$40,000 CDBG Planning Grant through the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs, and is contributing a local match of \$5,000.

Huntingburg Market Street Park

The Huntingburg Market Street Park Steller Project had its dedication ceremony October 12, 2018. Huntingburg Market Street Park Stellar Project cost \$4,700,000 which included \$1,700,000 of OCRA CDBG funds and \$3,000,000 in local funds.

Market Street Park is a beautiful and functional public space in the heart of downtown which will be the host many to community events in Huntingburg.

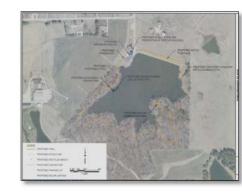
This project completed in 2018.



Ferdinand Old Town Lake Trail

Indiana 15 RPC assisted the Ferdinand Park Board in securing \$200,000 in grant funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund program. The Park Board is also providing a \$200,000 match.

The Ferdinand Park and Recreation Board will



construct a
walking path
around the
Ferdinand Old
Town Lake, add
new restroom
facilities, a
shelter and
parking area.
The Old Town
Lake is located at
East 14th Street.

Community Crossing Matching Grant Training

On August 14, 2018, Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission hosted two Community Crossings Matching Grant Program (CCMG) Information training sessions. A total of 19 people from the Indiana 15 region attended the two sessions.

Nick Goodwin and Lisa Gehlhausen gave an overview of the 2018 CCMG program for FY 19 and answered questions. A live demonstration of the new online application through INDOT's ITAP was also shown at the training.





INDOT Transportation Planning

In the spring of 2018, Nick Goodwin wrapped up the remaining traffic counts on locally maintained roads on the functional classification system in Dubois County. In total, 61 counts were completed. Also, 52 at-grade railroad crossings received a railroad inventory, and a collection of data about the rail safety features. 35 of the 52 railroad crossings also received a traffic count.

The traffic counts are part of a grant from the Indiana Department of Transportation's Small Urban and Rural Transportation Planning Grant. Traffic Counts are now underway in Crawford County for the 2018-2019 grant.

In addition, planning support to local governments as well as a base map of the Town of French Lick is included with the 2018-2019 grant. The map is currently in progress and should be complete by spring of 2019.

NSOFAR Traffic Counts

The Commission recently partnered with the Indiana Department of Transportation to provide traffic count data on the non-state-owned federal aid route stations. The contract will run through December 31, 2021 and Indiana 15 will receive \$28,290 for traffic count collection. From 2019-2021, all six counties will receive traffic counts through this contract.

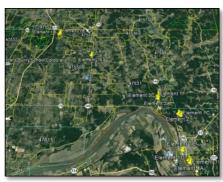


The vehicle volume and classification data is used for state planning and other activities. This traffic data can be viewed on the interactive map at:

http://indot.ms2soft.com/tcds/

Perry County Port & Rail Efficiency & Capacity Enhancement Project

The Perry County Port Authority was awarded \$2,037,600 from the US Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration to make improvements to Hoosier Southern Railway Lamar Industrial spur; reconstruction of the Santa Claus Industrial Lead; replace two spur tracks near Waupaca Foundry; installation of a "Y" at the Santa Claus interchange; construction of a new Pestalozzi Street spur; construct additional length of track to the Tell City Industrial Park; construct rail near the Tell City River Port; construct a new 600' spur at the Tell City River Port; and the reconnection and resurfacing of 4.5 miles of the main Hoosier Southern Railway at the new spur improvement locations.



This EDA project also includes water supply improvements and a rail transload facility. Tell City River Port unloading/loading and storage enhancements are also proposed. These improvements will enable the economic climate to continue to strengthen and grow in Perry and Spencer Counties. The Perry County Port Authority is contributing \$2,037,600 in local matching funds to this project.

EDA Planning Grant

Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission receives \$210,000 in planning funds from EDA for a three-year period (\$70,000 annually). This must be matched dollar for dollar by the District. The per capita fees collected by each county are used to match the EDA award. These funds are used to prepare the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), write grant applications for our member governments, pay mileage to board meetings, training, and other economic and community planning activities. The citizens and their officials in the region realize the quality and long-term benefits of regional planning.

Jasper Waterline



The City of Jasper was awarded \$1,380,000 from the US Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration. These water supply and pressure improvements are located along US 231, 6th, New-

ton, 2nd and 30th Streets.

This project will replace four inch and six inch waterlines with eight inch and twelve inch mains. The total length of the new water main is approximately 13,000 linear feet. The line will be upsized for increased pressure; improved water supply; and improved fire flow.



Pike County Entrepreneurship and Technology Center



The Pike County Progress Partners, Inc. was awarded \$787,500 from the Economic Development Administration to construct a new 9,400 (approximately) square foot Entrepreneurship and Technology Center, near Interstate 69.

The center will include co-working space, makers space, and training center with offices and a

conference room. Construction will also include water main, sanitary sewer improvements, parking lot, access roadways and related appurtenances. The center will be used for start-up companies, transition employment and entrepreneurship. Progress Partners, Inc. is also contributing \$537,500 in local funds to this project.

Regional Academy



Indiana 15 RPC and the Indiana Association of Regional Councils partnered to bring a Regional Academy to the southern part of Indiana. The three-day workshop held in March, 2018 focused on Organization Design and Leadership.

Attendees performed a self assessment for the organization as well as individually and learned strategies for improving and strengthening both.

The Indiana 15 RPC region was well represented at the training. Neighboring Regional Planning Commissions as well as some northern Commissions also attended.

Income Surveys

Income surveys by various communities are used to determine eligibility for CDBG Grant Funding. If you have received an income survey, please complete and return to our office for tabulation. These surveys are very important!

Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission is in the process of performing an income survey for the Town of French Lick/West Baden Springs in 2018.



2017 Return on Investments			
County Investment		State/Fed. Funds Awarded	
\$4,821	Crawford	\$506,624	
\$18,850	Dubois	\$3,053,408	
\$8,928	Orange	\$518,950	
\$8,702	Perry	\$2,090,950	
\$5,780	Pike	\$806,450	
\$9,428	Spencer	\$1,262,284	
\$56,509	Total	\$8,238,666	

Crawford County Revolving Loan Fund

The Crawford County Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) has assisted 24 loan clients in creating or saving an estimated 92 jobs within Crawford County. Since the RLF was founded in 1999, the fund has loaned out more than \$1,118,500 and has leveraged over \$2 million in private investment.

The RLF exists to help entrepreneurs start, expand, or retain businesses in Crawford County. RLF loan recipients are expected to increase investment and disposable revenue in the county and further enhance possibilities for related industry and job opportunities. All RLF loan recipients are required to produce or retain at least one job for each \$10,000 to \$20,000 of RLF investment.

The RLF usually provides the "gap" financing needed to induce local financial institutions to complete a financing package. RLF clients must contribute at least 10% equity, and working capital loans are limited to 50% of total project cost. RLF financing is in the form of a direct loan to an individual or business at variable rates.

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners work with Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission to administer and provide technical assistance to the fund. For more information about the program contact our office or the Crawford County Economic Development office at 812-739-4479.



INDIANA 15 REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

English Water Improvements

The Town of English was awarded \$529,000 from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs for water improvements.

These improvements included a new water tank, new monitoring

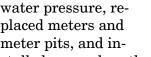
control system, replacing service meters and meter pits throughout the system, improving the existing booster station and installing a new flow booster station to enhance fire protection.



Birdseye Water

The Town of Birdseye was awarded \$450,000 in CDBG funds to improve the towns drinking water.

This project increased water pressure, replaced meters and meter pits, and in-



stalled new valves throughout the system.

The Town supplied a local match of \$128,000.

This project completed in 2018.

Rockport Historic Preservation

The City of Rockport was awarded \$500,000 in CDBG funds to historically preserve the former auto parts building located along it's Main Street. The building was constructed in 1870 as a grocery during the time of the emerging interurban railroad. Rockport matched the funds with \$53,719 in local funds and \$2,781 from the Spencer County Community Foundation.

The City of Rockport has watched four buildings torn down within two blocks of this building since the fall of 2015 due to the threat of public safety. They had a feasibility project to investigate whether this building was salvageable and was so excited to find out that it could be saved.

The building has always held a retail establishment where the community gathered and the City wants to give an entrepreneur the opportunity to bring it to life again.



Paoli Wastewater Improvements

The Town of Paoli was awarded \$500,000 in CDBG funds to rehabilitate the East and West Wastewater Interceptor.

The interceptor is divided into the West Interceptor and the East Interceptor, with the treatment plant between the two. The rehabilitation will be accomplished through the installation of Cured-in-Place Pipe liner, which is essentially installing a new pipe within the existing pipe.

The Town is contributing a local match of \$151,100.

Proctor House Preservation

Crawford County and the Crawford County Historical and Genealogical Society was awarded \$324,000 in CDBG funds to historically preserve the Proctor House in Marengo, situated on State Road 64.

The Proctor House is the only building in **Crawford County** on the National Register and is in need of preserving. The Historical Society provided local funds with \$25,000 from the



Crawford County Historical and Genealogical Society and philanthropic funds of \$20,000 from the Crawford County Community Foundation. The Federal-style house was built in the 1830's. The limestone and log timber floor joists used for the house were harvested from the property. Clay bricks were also fired on-site for the house. William Proctor (one of the families) also operated a post office, Leavenworth-Indianapolis stage coach stop and a store business out of the house throughout the years. The house sits along the New Albany-Vincennes Trace, the most popular travel route at the time it was built.

Tell City Revolving Loan Fund

The Tell City Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) exists to assist entrepreneurs in Perry County with starting, expanding or retaining businesses.

Indiana 15 RPC administers the Tell City RLF by working with potential clients, assisting in developing their project and meeting with the Loan Review Committee to potentially fund the project.

The Commission also worked with the Tell City RLF to update their EDA Plan. An update is required by EDA every five years to ensure the plan meets federal code and reflects the goals of the RLF.

For more information on the Tell City RLF, please call the Mayor's office at 812-547-5511.

Cannelton Stormwater Improvements

The City of Cannelton was awarded a \$519,600 grant for Stormwater Improvements from the Office of Community and Rural Affairs.

Three areas need improvements; Pleasant Valley, Knight Street, and Dodge Street and Herzeele Street. Improvements in these areas include new storm sewer, inlets, manholes, and restoration of curbing, sidewalk, asphalt pavement, stone and yard/grass areas and digging out and regrading existing ditches

The City of Cannelton contributed \$58,000 local funds to the project.

Cannelton Floodwall

The City of Cannelton was awarded \$527,500 from Disaster Relief funding.

This project replaced five relief wells adia-



cent to the earthen levee portion of the floodwall. Additionally, the Flood Wall Sluice Gate was replaced. This was original to the 1947 floodwall and was inoperable.

Marengo Wastewater

The Town of Marengo was awarded \$362,697 in CDBG funds for wastewater improvements.

Marengo will install a new clarifier to serve as a backup to the primary clarifier. Pump station number three currently lies in the flood plain. The wet well and valve vault was be raised out of the flood plain. A new control panel will be replaced and relocated decreasing the risk for water damage significantly.

The Town is contributing \$95,000 in local funds.

