

rollin' on the river

An e-publication of the Mahoning River Corridor Initiative

November 2009

Vol. Issue 7

What's *rollin'?*

MRCI General Membership Meeting
Hosted by the CASTLO CIC
Thursday, November 19, 2009
11:30 – 2:00 p.m

@
Sulmona Valley Club, 92 S. Bridge Street
Struthers, Ohio

Meeting will focus on updating MRCI partners on Corridor Initiative activities and 2010 goals. There will also be an opportunity to hear and see what CASTLO CIC is doing in the southwest portion of the corridor.

Since lunch is being provided, RSVP by Nov. 13th
Contact Denise at CASTLO 330-750-1363 or
denise@castlo.com

Feasibility Report

On November 4, 2009, the City of Youngstown submitted the feasibility report on the Mahoning River Corridor Initiative to the Ohio Department of Development. Copies were also provided to the Corridor Initiative partners.

The report identifies and profiles sixteen brownfield project sites involving over 800 acres for potential economic, recreational and/or environmental enhancement. Eleven infrastructure projects related to those sites were also identified. Eight environmental/preservation enhancement areas and twelve recreational enhancement projects were also identified.

Also addressed is the feasibility of establishing joint economic development agreements, identifies development incentives, a strategy for marketing sites available for economic development and other collaborative activities of the MRCI. Specific challenges are also identified.

The report and various site maps and land use plans can be viewed at www.psi.yzu.edu

Special thanks to the Corridor Initiative Steering Committee and Subcommittees and the Corridor Mayors' Association members for their input and cooperation.

Penn State University Studio

A landscape architectural studio from Penn State University met with the MRCI Environmental /

Recreational Subcommittee again on October 21st to review progress on site designs for the Covelli Center, Bessemer, and Girard Lowlands sites. They will be back in December to present their design proposals.

rollin' on the river web site

As part of the efficientgovnow grant, hardware and software to design and implement the interactive MRCI web site has been ordered and properties and buildings are being identified to be marketed. In addition to those identified in the feasibility report, the Corridor Initiative will be working with the Corridor Mayors' Association to identify and profile other property and building in the corridor communities for inclusion on the site.

Joint Economic Development Agreements

Congratulations to the cities of Youngstown and Girard on successfully concluding a joint economic development agreement for the former Brier Hill sites. You've laid the ground work to economically revitalize a sizeable area in the river corridor.

The City of Niles and Weathersfield Township are also currently pursuing the potential of a joint economic agreement for land adjacent to Niles.

Community Regeneration, Sustainability and Innovation Act

In response to legislation introduced in the U.S. Congress by Congressman Ryan and Senator Brown, the Corridor Initiative has been invited to collaborate with the Mahoning Valley Organizing Collaborative to generate support for passage of the Community Regeneration, Sustainability and Innovation Act.

The Act would establish a pilot demonstration program targeted to help older industrial sites, or a consortium of communities, that have lost 20% of their population since 1970 and have experienced a history of significant employment loss. Funding would be made available to plan and implement urban infrastructure and neighborhood improvements.

The Corridor Mayors' Association will be meeting with Congressman Ryan in the near future on the matter.

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