

# *Meramec Regional Planning Commission*

## *Mission*

*The mission of MRPC is to enhance the quality of life for residents of the Meramec Region. In pursuit of this mission, MRPC will bring about results in these areas:*

- *Cleaner, healthier and safer communities,*
- *Greater socio-economic and cultural wealth through community and economic development, and*
- *A stronger, unified voice in the legislative process.*

# **Meramec Regional Planning Commission Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy**

## **REGIONAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES Revised December 2007**

Each county's original strategic plan was completed in county meetings held in 2000-02. Counties were contacted again in 2007 to determine if any changes in the original plans were needed. A sample of the update letter sent to each county may be found in Appendix 2. Any changes submitted by member counties are located in Appendix 4. Pulaski county needs were obtained from a series of meetings held in the county in late 2006. All needs were examined to determine if commonalities existed among the priority issues identified by each. The priority issues of these county meetings were compiled and the results are shown in the Meramec Region Priority Issues located in Appendix 5. These priority issues served as guides for determining the regional goals and objectives needed to meet the needs of the region. The resulting eight priority issues were then used to compile the regional action plan.

### **Goal I.**

**PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/TOURISM THROUGH COORDINATION AND COOPERATION, MARKETING, INFORMATION SHARING, JOB DEVELOPMENT, FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND QUALITY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.**

#### **Objective 1: COORDINATE AND COOPERATE**

- Assist in coordinating and setting local economic development priorities.
- Help establish and provide support for industrial planning and development organizations, and assist these organizations (industrial development authorities and corporations, chambers of commerce, financial institutions, and other business development groups and organizations) with the attraction of new industry as well as the expansion of existing industry.
- Encourage the use of local initiatives and both public and private funds to assist local business expansion.
- Identify problems that may hamper local efforts to promote new economic development.
- Encourage local government officials to coordinate and cooperate with the private sector in addressing and meeting local needs.

- Promote federal and state public works programs to stimulate economic growth.

Objective 2: OFFER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- Encourage ample availability of loans and stimulate additional private investment.
- Encourage the use of financial assistance available to expand industries and to ensure the availability of suitable sites and public facilities for such expansion.

Objective 3: HELP EXISTING INDUSTRY

- Encourage the expansion of existing industry.
- Support agricultural research in order to improve and expand the agricultural base of the region.
- Promote the use of business incubators to assist local entrepreneurs in starting new businesses.
- Explore potential new national and international markets for the region's manufactured and agricultural products, especially timber resources.
- Provide workshops and seminars on new state and federal regulations affecting businesses.

Objective 4: ATTRACT NEW INDUSTRY TO THE REGION

- Collect and analyze data that promotes the region as an attractive site for new business.
  - a. Analyze the requirements of industrial groups and target marketing efforts toward those specific industries most likely to be attracted to the Meramec Region.
  - b. Identify the transportation, cultural and recreational facilities available within the region and emphasize these facilities in promoting new economic development.
- Concentrate efforts to attract new industries which have a long-term growth potential.
- Utilize national marketing to promote the eight-county Meramec Region.

- Maintain a highly competitive posture in economic development efforts in order to retain existing industries and attract new industries.

Objective 5: ENCOURAGE JOB DEVELOPMENT

- Promote available economic opportunities for young people in order to retain their talents within the region.
- Encourage employment opportunities for both the highly skilled and the relatively unskilled segments of the region's population, and encourage employment opportunities to offset the loss of jobs caused by declining industries.
- Support and expand retraining programs to assist rural residents in adjusting to nonagricultural employment.
- Support expansion of higher educational opportunities and existing vocational and technical educational programs to improve the skills of the region's labor force.

Objective 6: ADDRESS INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS

- Consider existing and potential utility needs and disposal requirements, as well as transportation facilities, in planning for industrial development.

Objective 7: PROMOTE QUALITY EDUCATION

- Increase awareness of the importance of quality schools and educational institutions to successful economic development.

**Goal II.**

DEVELOP HUMAN RESOURCES AND INCREASE HUMAN SERVICES THROUGH IMPROVED EDUCATIONAL, SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, AND ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN, ELDERLY, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND THOSE MOVING TOWARD SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

Objective 1. IMPROVE HEALTH CARE AND HEALTH SERVICES

- Encourage the availability and accessibility of adequate health care services at a reasonable cost and encourage the utilization of both public and private resources to ensure accessibility to comprehensive and integrated health services.
- Encourage the development of public health programs, including adequate mental health services throughout the region.

- Encourage consumer and elected official input into health care programs.
- Encourage the continued development of home health care programs and services.
- Encourage local school boards to employ trained nurses.
- Encourage recreational and physical fitness programs for all persons in the region, including the very young and the elderly.
- Encourage the development of public and private referral groups working with the problems of drug abuse and alcoholism.
- Encourage the expansion of the use of licensed paraprofessionals in health and health-related social service fields.
- Support an incentive program to encourage medical doctors to practice in rural areas.
- Encourage the provision of medical assistance to those persons who are unable to afford it.

Objective 2: ENCOURAGE EMPLOYMENT

- Encourage and support a variety of economic development activities in the region.
- Strive to eliminate discrimination in employment opportunities.
- Encourage employment opportunities for the elderly.
- Support vocational rehabilitation programs to provide gainful employment opportunities for all people within the region.
- Encourage efforts to provide welfare recipients with employment opportunities rather than financial aid.
- Encourage an increase in career programs for youth, including work-based experiences.

Objective 3: ASSIST THE DISABLED

- Support programs for persons with mental and physical disabilities including education, recreation, and gainful employment.

- Encourage compliance with regulations pertaining to persons with disabilities in federally funded programs in terms of facility accessibility and nondiscrimination in both public and private facilities.
- Increase awareness of problems and needs of persons with mental and physical disabilities.

Objective 4: OFFER PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND PROMOTE SELF-SUFFICIENCY

- Encourage programs and personalized assistance that will enable recipients of public assistance to become self-supporting.
- Encourage the establishment of child development centers that enable children of working mothers to have the advantages of supervision and cultural enrichment during their formative years.
- Encourage the development of programs to help supplement the incomes of families in need of temporary financial assistance.
- Encourage low-income and minority groups to participate in the development of programs and policies that will strengthen their economy and to make it easier for them to attain their educational and cultural goals.
- Encourage the provision of nutrition-education programs.
- Encourage transportation programs for persons needing alternative modes of transit (carpools, donated cars, subsidized rides) to and from work.

Objective 5: COORDINATE SERVICES

- To eliminate duplication and minimize administrative costs, encourage the coordination of activities and the expansion of coordinated efforts.
  - a. Encourage identification of human resource programs having overlapping objectives and combine those programs into one uniform program for operation at the local level.
  - b. Encourage the development of a framework that will enable governmental units within the region to provide needed services more effectively while striving for the broadest possible coverage at the lowest per capita costs.
- Encourage the coordination of the efforts of neighborhood groups, law enforcement agencies, and the health and social welfare agencies.
- Review and comment on requests for additional federal funds and programs to meet the identified needs of the people.

Objective 6: ENCOURAGE EDUCATION

- Provide information to educational facilities on skills needed for the regional job market.
- Encourage local industries and businesses to coordinate with local educational institutions.

**Goal III.**

IMPROVE THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT BY CONSERVING AND DEVELOPING NATURAL RESOURCES, IMPROVING COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND ENHANCING COMMUNITY APPEARANCE. ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY PLANNING IN THE REGION AND WORK TOWARD QUALITY LIVING CONDITIONS FOR ALL RESIDENTS.

Objective 1. CONSERVE AND DEVELOP NATURAL RESOURCES

- Encourage Environmental Management and Land-use Planning.
  - a. Pursue environmental management activities at all levels.
  - b. Promote orderly and efficient development; the development of plans and policies to ensure that potential environmental problems are dealt with; and compliance with various federal, state and local quality controls.
  - c. Consider the potential environmental impact of all plans and decisions relating to community development, land use and transportation and encourage environmental management efforts to establish a proper balance between population, resource management and future economic development.
    - i. Use open space appropriately, either for giving structure to the region by separating distinctly different land uses or by providing service to urban areas through the provisions of recreational space, scenic and historic sites, and flood control and resource conservation; and preserve the integrity of the region's open-space and recreational resources by encouraging the development of compatible uses along borders and by discouraging encroachment or intrusion of non-compatible uses.
    - ii. Encourage cooperation between regulatory agencies, local governments, and landowners to develop responsible, feasible

practices to control erosion, sedimentation and other environmental problems which result from inadequately planned or controlled development; encourage, through land use planning, the avoidance and monitoring of sedimentation and settling of lakes, creeks or streams; work with state and federal agencies that protect the environment, while still allowing for flexibility and more local control.

- iii. Encourage the smooth and orderly transition of land resources from rural into urban uses; minimize the potential conflict between different kinds of urban land uses.
  - iv. Encourage the development and improvement of the region's facilities to attract industry or to allow existing industry to expand without harming the region's natural resources.
  - v. Encourage flood control by promoting the possible use of reservoirs and water impoundment areas for multi-purpose uses, including recreation, pollution control and water supply, and by encouraging the enactment of strict controls over the construction of buildings or structures in flood plains.
- d. Encourage the emphasis of natural beauty in planning for recreation and encourage a conservation and research development approach in considering the recreation needs of the region.
- i. Identify and preserve outstanding natural features within the region, including rare ecological and geological areas, and ensure continued public access to and enjoyment of the region's unique natural resource assets.
  - ii. Encourage programs for the proper extraction of mineral deposits and the rehabilitation of the land for other use.
  - iii. Investigate the potentials and limitations of the region's soils in order to determine the best use of the land resources.
  - iv. Prevent the destruction of scenic sites through the purchase of easements or outright purchase of land.
- e. Assist in the fight against the costly despoilers of natural beauty—fire, floods, erosion and water, air and soil pollution.
- Promote energy planning and conservation.
    - a. Recognize energy resources as a public trust and promote their efficient development and use.

- b. Support a national energy policy to ensure the availability of reliable energy supplies and the maintenance of essential public services that will not place a financial burden on the users.
- c. Support statewide minimum standards concerning energy efficiency of new or rehabilitated buildings.
- d. Support research to identify new energy sources.
- Encourage resource conservation.
  - a. Maintain a balance between wildlife, the capacity of the land to sustain it, and the human population of the region.
    - i. Promote the protection of key wetlands and flood plains wherever possible because of their value in flood control and as a haven for water fowl and other wildlife.
  - b. Intensify and expand efforts to protect soils from erosion and minimize potential ground water pollution.
  - c. Assess the deterioration and destruction of the resource base and plan for preservation, protection and enhancement.
  - d. Continue forest programs which provide protection against fire, insects and disease.
  - e. Seek state and federal funds for conservation efforts.
  - f. Preserve agricultural resources by helping landowners understand soil and water conservation problems and by promoting the use of established methods of soil conservation.
- Promote pollution control.
  - a. Promote the control of water pollution with a minimum of regulation.
    - i. Support steps to restrict the non-point discharge of pollutants into our hydrologic system.
    - ii. Support the enactment and enforcement of strict controls specifying the quality of the effluent which is permitted to be discharged into the region's water bodies.

- b. Continue to expand efforts, with a minimum of regulation, to reduce the emission of pollutants into the atmosphere.
  - i. Evaluate the existing minimum air quality standards developed for the region for present and future effectiveness.
  - ii. Encourage the use of minimum pollutant power sources including solar energy and wind power technology.
  - iii. Support the licensing program regulating the use of insecticides and herbicides.
- c. Support cooperation among state, federal, local and special-interest environmental groups.
- Encourage communication.
  - a. Provide a source of information on environmental issues to local and county units of government and to citizen groups.
  - b. Encourage and assist each community in defining its own environmental problems and to set its own priorities for resolving them.
  - c. Encourage the effective use of the news media to increase the public's awareness of environmental problems.
  - d. Help landowners understand the need for long-range planning for the management and use of soil and water resources.

Objective 2: UPDATE THE REGIONAL PLAN FOR SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT THAT MEETS STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS

- Administer a plan to meet the guidelines in the state's solid waste management.
- Work with communities to develop recycling projects and markets for recycled products.
- Develop educational programs for communities to present to their residents regarding the need to reduce waste and re-use materials.

Objective 3: IMPROVE COMMUNITY FACILITIES

- Ensure the opportunity for modern sewage and water facilities to as many residents as economically feasible.
  - a. Promote implementation of water, sewer and solid waste services.
  - b. Collect and use sufficient data to provide adequate public facilities.
- Promote the creation of a park and recreation system that includes a complete range of facilities required to effectively serve a population with varied characteristics, needs and interests.
- Promote the development of senior citizen centers, child care centers and other community facilities to serve special segments of the population.

Objective 4: ENHANCE COMMUNITY APPEARANCE

- Encourage the use of a wide variety of mechanisms to acquire land for open space uses, including land purchase, dedication of easements through subdivision regulations, cluster and planned-unit development, and land trusts.
  - a. Encourage the use of open space as a natural boundary to housing areas and activity centers.
  - b. Encourage developers to set aside land to be used exclusively for recreational purposes in newly developing residential areas.

**Goal IV.**

CONTINUE TO IMPROVE/MODERNIZE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS THROUGH ADMINISTRATION/MANAGEMENT, COMMUNITY PLANNING, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, LAW ENFORCEMENT AND FIRE PROTECTION AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE PLANNING.

Objective 1: SUPPORT ADMINISTRATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Provide specialized services to local governments through cooperative programs, including joint purchasing programs.
- Help ensure the availability of trained administrative, management and professional personnel to local governments and encourage training and upgrading programs for local government employees.

- Encourage the codification, maintenance and continuous updating of municipal ordinances.
- Develop performance-based planning and management tools to better equip local officials.

Objective 2: SUPPORT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- Encourage the improvement of capabilities of all levels of government to cope with disasters.
- Continue to update the comprehensive hazardous materials plan to protect the region.
- Encourage local participation in the designation of flood-prone areas and the adoption of flood plain regulations.
- Urge the adoption of ordinances and codes prohibiting the use of hazardous materials in home construction.

Objective 3: SUPPORT LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Encourage crime prevention programs, such as neighborhood watch.
- Encourage the consolidation of police, equipment, personnel, administration and detention whenever possible.
- Encourage the consolidation of communications and the implementation of a 911 emergency telephone system and rural addressing.

Objective 4: SUPPORT FIRE PREVENTION AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE PLANNING

- Encourage the improvement and training of fire department personnel by encouraging training for firefighters and other emergency response personnel.
- Encourage the development of rural fire protection districts and/or associations.
- Encourage an increase in local efforts in regard to fire prevention and hazardous materials response through the provision of more information to local fire officials on how various fire prevention methods can help save lives and reduce injuries and property loss.

## **Goal V.**

MAINTAIN, IMPROVE AND DIVERSIFY THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM BY WORKING WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND MODOT IN PLANNING AND RESEARCH, PROMOTING IMPROVEMENTS, MAINTENANCE AND NEW CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS, BRIDGES AND HIGHWAYS, ENCOURAGING ALL MODES OF TRANSPORTATION AND ADDRESSING REGULATORY ISSUES.

### Objective 1. ENCOURAGE PLANNING AND RESEARCH

- Research new transportation legislation and its impact on the region.
  - a. Recognize and encourage the use of the regional transportation system as a tool to shape regional development patterns.
  - b. Consider the environmental impact of new transportation facilities.
  - c. Encourage the development of transportation contingency plans to allow transportation mobility in the event of another fuel shortage.
- Provide, through continuous planning, data and information to state agencies for use in development of the statewide transportation plan.
- Encourage continued research and development to develop new technologies to solve special transportation-related problems in regional centers.
- Identify transportation needs and priorities within the region.

### Objective 2: ROADS, BRIDGES AND HIGHWAYS

- Encourage planning for needed improvements in arterial and highway streets based on anticipated long-range demands.
- Encourage the provision of railroad overpasses and underpasses, especially on major streets and highways.
- Encourage planning for adjacent land uses in road design.
- Encourage developers to better relate their projects to existing and potential transit routes in terms of both location and design.
  - a. Encourage the development of employment centers and commercial buildings along primary arteries with access designed to prevent vehicular congestion.

- b. Encourage controls on the number and location of curb cuts.
- Promote the reduction of traffic hazards by encouraging the establishment of traffic safety schools by encouraging counties to implement rural road traffic safety programs, and by encouraging the implementation and use of accident information systems to identify more hazardous locations and to implement improvements.
- Encourage improvements to the county road and bridge system through promotion of proper road maintenance; planning and coordination of rural highway construction and rural transportation services; and encouragement of the continued improvement of the state and county highway system where routing alignments and traffic-carrying capabilities are below standards.
- Promote parking improvements in the region by encouraging the provision of more public parking areas, especially in locations that would ease carpool efforts, and by encouraging the provision of off-street parking by offices, commercial facilities, apartments and other congested areas.

Objective 3. ENCOURAGE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

- Support efforts to acquire public transportation services for transportation-disadvantaged groups such as the elderly, persons with disabilities, and low-income.
- Encourage efficient and coordinated intercity transit services for both passengers and smaller-size freight items.

Objective 4: PROMOTE RAIL TRANSPORTATION

- Commit to the development of rail freight opportunities, plan new uses for abandoned rail facilities and encourage the development of passenger rail services.

Objective 5: PROMOTE AIR TRANSPORTATION

- Regularly evaluate the recommendations of the state airport plan and the regional airport development plan and recommend changes as conditions merit.
- Encourage planning and control of the use of land around airports, especially flight paths, in terms of safety, nuisances, reserves of expansion, industry, open space and other uses.

Objective 6: MONITOR REGULATORY ISSUES

- Encourage the revision and updating of federal, state, regional and local statutory and administrative provisions and regulations to make governmental agencies more responsive to regional transportation needs and to help coordinate transportation planning by each unit of government.
- Encourage equitable taxation and distribution mechanisms so rural areas can acquire their fair share of funding for transportation projects.

**Goal VI.**

INCREASE HOUSING QUALITY AND SUPPLY IN THE REGION THROUGH ASSESSING THE NEED; FOCUSING ON PROGRAMS THAT INCREASE THE NUMBER OF AVAILABLE HOUSING AND IMPROVE HOUSING CONDITIONS; IMPROVING HOUSING PLANNING METHODS; PROMOTING HOUSING AWARENESS; AND ADDRESSING REGULATORY ISSUES.

Objective 1: IMPROVE HOUSING CONDITIONS

- Promote the development and carrying out of policies, procedures and the mechanism necessary to coordinate local, area-wide, state and federal housing policies, including the implementation of local affirmative action plans.
- Coordinate with the activities and programs of existing housing agencies in the region to eliminate duplication of effort and gaps in services.
- Encourage the elimination of housing shortages and provide sufficient housing in quantity, type, location and cost to accommodate the anticipated increase in the region's population where needed.
- Promote improvements to the region's housing quality, including owner occupied, rentals and multi-family units through the use of redevelopment, conservation and rehabilitation programs and by encouraging the elimination or upgrading of all sub-standard housing.
- Promote safe, sanitary and affordable living environments for everyone in the region. Encourage the use of public housing and rental subsidy programs for low-income, persons with disabilities, and elderly people as a supplement to privately sponsored housing or when needs are not met by the private market.
- Encourage new water and sewer systems and the upgrading of old systems to state requirements.

- Increase the availability of owner-occupied housing and encourage the construction of affordable housing.
- Encourage the provision of financial assistance for complying with a code enforcement program.

Objective 2: IMPROVE HOUSING PLANNING METHODS

- Evaluate programs and activities to determine whether housing needs and objectives are being met.
- Work with local units of government to adopt a long-range plan for residential land use in developing areas to reflect the needed supporting public and private services and facilities and to discourage development in areas not suited for development.
- Encourage the orderly extension of community facilities and services based upon local capital improvement plans.
- Promote residential development within a convenient travel time to shopping areas, work centers and community facilities, and promote development in areas where public utilities readily can be provided.
- Support and provide for public housing agencies or authorities.
- Encourage the improvement of public housing by designing it to blend into the character of existing communities, avoiding concentrations of public housing units and encouraging the location of public housing near transportation routes, recreational areas and social service centers.

Objective 3: PROMOTE HOUSING AWARENESS

- Promote and assist in the development and operation of a housing information system that provides information on all federal and state housing programs and assistance to citizens; provides housing information to interested housing consumers; and provide information to private developers and to non-profit corporations in their efforts to provide housing within the region.
- Encourage the provision of more effective home ownership and rental awareness programs.
- Encourage local workshops that demonstrate selected design practices which show what may be accomplished at no extra cost, or at a cost savings.

- Inform and assist local governments to adjust and use building codes and effective zoning ordinances, and provide them with educational materials which explain the uses of planning and zoning.

Objective 4: MONITOR REGULATIONS

- Support the state, federal and private programs that make low-interest home improvement and rehabilitation loans and grants, infrastructure loans and grants and new construction programs.
- Encourage that no person is denied access to a housing unit of his choice on the basis of race, color, religion, origin, sex, age, disability, lifestyle, family status or income.
- Support the standardization of building codes, including the adoption of a statewide building code.
- Modernize housing design and subdivision design regulatory controls to allow for new design techniques and concepts.

**Goal VII.**

PROMOTE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND COMMUNICATION THROUGH ADMINISTRATIVE AND MANAGEMENT METHODS, COOPERATION, COORDINATION OF LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS, PROBLEM SOLVING AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF CITIZEN PARTICIPATION AND VOLUNTEERISM.

Objective 1: PROMOTE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Encourage the improvement of administrative and management capabilities and skills available to local governments.
- Foster cooperation between the various units of government in order to develop procedures to enable local governments to respond to multi-jurisdictional problems.
- Investigate the possibility of providing the support services required to prepare base maps, plat maps, charts, technical drawings, and statistical analysis for local governments.
- Assist local units of government in resolving problems related to planning and accomplishing needed improvements to enhance the quality of life in the region.

- Provide units of government with an opportunity to participate in the decision-making process, and plan and coordinate specific activities to meet local needs.
- Provide a process for coordinating local, area wide, state and federal development objectives and policies in order to maximize benefits obtained and to reduce, where possible, costs, duplication, and conflicts.
- Review and update regularly the commission's goals and objectives and evaluate their effectiveness.
- Encourage citizen participation, involvement and volunteerism.
- Encourage the development of plans to guide the growth of communities in order to maintain or obtain an attractive community environment and provide appropriate services in the most efficient manner.

Objective 2: PROMOTE COMMUNICATION

- Provide a forum for local officials to consider, investigate, take action upon and report on specific matters of interest to member local governments.
- Provide a comprehensive public information program designed to exchange ideas, share data, and report regional progress.

**Goal VIII.**

TO BUILD/IMPROVE THE REGION'S INFRASTRUCTURE TO SERVE THE CURRENT AND FUTURE NEEDS OF ITS CITIZENS, BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRY.

Objective 1: ASSESS INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Conduct planning sessions/needs assessments to identify/prioritize needs.
- Assist member communities in accessing funding through grant-writing assistance.

Objective 2: BUILD/IMPROVE INFRASTRUCTURE

- Provide grant administration/project management for member governments.
- Provide housing inspection services for member governments.

- Provide lead risk assessment for member governments.
- Assess the need for, and assist with the development of, water/sewer districts in the region.
- Encourage water districts—through information sharing—to consider the establishment of sewer districts to provide sewer services in rural areas.
- Promote (wireless) internet/DSL/T1s in communities.
- Ensure that all Meramec counties have adequate sewer/water systems.

Objective 3: PROVIDE AND SHARE INFORMATION

- Provide member governments with current information about available funding.
- Provide workshops and seminars on state and federal funding sources.

**Meramec Regional Planning Commission Implementation Plan**

Goals: I.) Promote Economic Development; II.) Develop Human Resources; III.) Improve Physical Environment; IV.) Improve Local Governments; V.) Maintain/Improve Transportation System; VI.) Increase housing quality/quantity; VII.) Promote Community Involv

**Region Wide**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Project/Program</b>	<b>Proposed Implementation</b>	<b>Responsible Parties/Groups</b>	<b># of Potential Jobs</b>	<b>Assistance Needed from EDD/EDA</b>
1	Job Creation	2007-2012	MRPC		TA, funding
1	Tourism Development	2007-2012	Local, Regional groups		TA
1	Business Attraction	2007-2012	Local, Regional groups		TA, Infrastructure funding
1	Address declining tax revenue	2007-2012	Local governments		TA
1	Additional industrial sites	2007-2012	MRPC, local governments		TA, Infrastructure funding
1	Need economic developer	2007-2012	MRPC, local governments		TA
2	Improve Education Systems	2007-2012	Schools, local groups		TA
2	Youth/Sr. Programs	2007-2012	Local, Regional groups		TA
2	Trade Schools	2007-2012	Schools, local groups		TA
2	Community activities for all ages	2007-2012	Civic groups, schools		TA
2	Improve Day Care	2007-2012	MRPC, state, local groups, schools		TA
2	Improve Health Care Options	2007-2012	MRPC, state, local groups		TA
2	Improved Dental Care	2007-2012	MRPC, state, local groups		TA
2	Community Centers	2007-2012	MRPC, state, local groups		TA
3	Promote County Planning and Zoning	2007-2012	MRPC, local groups		TA
3	Beautification	2007-2012	MRPC, local groups		TA
3	Recycling Programs	2007-2012	Ozark Rivers SWMD, local groups		TA

**Region Wide - Continued**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Project/Program</b>	<b>Proposed Implementation</b>	<b>Responsible Parties/Groups</b>	<b># of Potential Jobs</b>	<b>Assistance Needed from EDD/EDA</b>
3	Historic Preservation	2007-2012	MRPC, private, state		TA
3	City Park Development/Improvement	2007-2012	Local governments		TA
3	Community Betterment	2007-2012	MRPC, state, local groups		TA
4	Address Drug Problems	2007-2012	MRPC, Law Enforcement Agencies		TA
4	Code Enforcement	2007-2012	Local governments		TA
4	Improved Law Enforcement	2007-2012	Law Enforcement Agencies		TA
5	Improve State Roads	2007-2012	MRPC TAC, MoDOT, other state/fed agencies		TA
5	Improve State Bridges	2007-2012	MRPC TAC, MoDOT, other state/fed agencies		TA
5	Improve local roads/bridges	2007-2012	MRPC, local governments		TA
5	Improve Airports	2007-2012	MRPC TAC, MoDOT, other state/fed agencies		TA
6	Improve Housing	2007-2012	MRPC, MHDC, HUD		TA
7	Improvement citizen involvement	2007-2012	MRPC, local groups		
7	Enhance communication	2007-2012	MRPC, local groups		TA
7	Develop pride in communities	2007-2012	MRPC, local groups		TA
7	Address declining populations	2007-2012	MRPC, local governments		TA
8	Infrastructure Improvements (water, sewer, storage, drainage, telecommunications, sidewalks)	2007-2012	MRPC, local governments		TA, funding
8	Improve local media options	2007-2012	MRPC, local governments, private		TA

**Crawford County**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Project/Program</b>	<b>Proposed Implementation</b>	<b>Responsible Parties/Groups</b>	<b># of Potential Jobs</b>	<b>Assistance Needed from EDD/EDA</b>
2	Improve mental health facilities	2007-2012	MRPC, state		TA
2	Planned retirement communities	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government, private sector		
2	Training on "How to get/keep a job."	2007-2012	Local and regional organizations		
5	Improvements to Hwy. 19	2007-2012	MRPC, MoDOT		
5	Passenger rail	2007-2012	MRPC, MoDOT		
5	Improved fire protection	2010-2012	MRPC, state		TA

**Dent County**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Project/Program</b>	<b>Proposed Implementation</b>	<b>Responsible Parties/Groups</b>	<b># of Potential Jobs</b>	<b>Assistance Needed from EDD/EDA</b>
1	Increase household income	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government, MRPC		TA, Infrastructure funding
3	Protect personal freedoms and constitutional rights	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government, MRPC		
3	Water quality protection	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC		
3	ADA improvements to public facilities	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC		
7	Reduce apathy	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government		
7	Improve moral values	2007-2012	Chambers of Commerce		
8	Improve downtown	2007-2012	MRPC, local government, state		TA

**Gasconade County**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Project/Program</b>	<b>Proposed Implementation</b>	<b>Responsible Parties/Groups</b>	<b># of Potential Jobs</b>	<b>Assistance Needed from EDD/EDA</b>
1	Obtain more workers	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government, MRPC		TA
1	Address declining sales tax revenue	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government, MRPC		TA, Infrastructure funding
1	More industrial sites	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government, MRPC		TA, Infrastructure funding
2	Attract young doctors	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government		
2	New jail	2007-2012	Local government		
2	Leadership development	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government, MRPC		TA
8	Better access to funding for public projects	2007-2012	MRPC, local, state, federal		TA

**Maries County**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Project/Program</b>	<b>Proposed Implementation</b>	<b>Responsible Parties/Groups</b>	<b># of Potential Jobs</b>	<b>Assistance Needed from EDD/EDA</b>
1	Decrease regulations on retail businesses	2007-2012	Local government		
1	Assist existing businesses	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government, MRPC		TA, Infrastructure funding
5	Improvements to Hwys. 42, 68 and 28	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC, MoDOT		
2	Attract young doctors	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government		
2	*City of Vienna - Efforts to keep graduates in area	2007-2012	Local government		
3	*City of Vienna - Soccer fields in park	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC, state		

**Maries County Continued**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Project/Program</b>	<b>Proposed Implementation</b>	<b>Responsible Parties/Groups</b>	<b># of Potential Jobs</b>	<b>Assistance Needed from EDD/EDA</b>
3	*City of Vienna - Build public swimming pool	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC, state		
8	*City of Vienna - Curb and guttering of streets	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC, state		
8	*City of Vienna - Sidewalk improvements	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC, state		
3	*City of Vienna - Walking Trail	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC, state		
2	*City of Vienna - Bowling Alley	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC, state		
2	*City of Vienna - Country Club	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC, state		
3	*City of Vienna - Recycling facilities	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC, Ozark Rivers Solid Waste Management Dist., state		
3	*City of Vienna - Build emergency shelter	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC, state		

\* Listed in the Maries County Gazette 12/19/07

**Osage County**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Project/Program</b>	<b>Proposed Implementation</b>	<b>Responsible Parties/Groups</b>	<b># of Potential Jobs</b>	<b>Assistance Needed from EDD/EDA</b>
1	Develop local Chamber	2007-2012	Local government, private businesses		
2	Improved ambulance service	2007-2012	Local government		
3	Waste disposal mechanism	2007-2012	Local government		
4	Involvement in state/regional organizations	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC		
4	City/county leaders to meet regularly	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC		

**Phelps County**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Project/Program</b>	<b>Proposed Implementation</b>	<b>Responsible Parties/Groups</b>	<b># of Potential Jobs</b>	<b>Assistance Needed from EDD/EDA</b>
1	Convention/banquet center	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government, MRPC		TA, Infrastructure funding
1	Encourage/support Ft. Wood Research Complex	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government, MRPC, state government, university		
1	Support the development of the MS&T Innovation Research Park	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government, MRPC, state government, university		
1	Work to extend Highway 72 to Interstate 44	2007-2012	MRPC, local government, state, federal		
1	Support the development of small business incubator at the HyPoint Industrial Park	2007-2012	MRPC, local government, state, federal		
1	Develop the HyPoint Industrial Park by adding infrastructure to improve newly required land	2007-2012	MRPC, local government, state, federal		
1	Develop the Meade property for an industrial park	2007-2012	MRPC, local government, state, federal		
2	County-wide trash pickup	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC		
3	Emergency preparedness training/system	2007-2012	Local government		
4	More animal control	2007-2012	Local government		
5	Public transportation	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC, state government		

**Pulaski County**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Project/Program</b>	<b>Proposed Implementation</b>	<b>Responsible Parties/Groups</b>	<b># of Potential Jobs</b>	<b>Assistance Needed from EDD/EDA</b>
1	Need venture capitalists	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government		
1	Need industrial incentives	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government		
1	Need to improve first impressions	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government		
1	Need to diversity economy	2007-2012	MRPC, local, federal		TA
1	Need more commercial space	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government		
8	Need more fire hydrants	2007-2012	MRPC, local government, state, federal		TA
5	**Improve/maintain local roads	2007-2012	Local government, MRPC		

\*\* Need per Chamber of Commerce survey per Daily Guide 12/19/07

**Washington County**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Project/Program</b>	<b>Proposed Implementation</b>	<b>Responsible Parties/Groups</b>	<b># of Potential Jobs</b>	<b>Assistance Needed from EDD/EDA</b>
2	Need to keep kids in school	2007-2012	Schools, local government		
6	Need building sites	2007-2012	Local organizations, local government, MRPC		TA, Infrastructure funding