



*Preserving Rural Work Ethic,  
Promoting Rural Spirit,  
Pioneering Progressive  
Development*

# HOOPESTON HORIZONS

## HOOPESTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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### HOOPESTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS

- ◆ New City Web Site Containing Economic Development Data, Completed October 2006.
- ◆ Hoopeston Façade Improvement Program Created December 15, 2006.
- ◆ The City of Hoopeston Decided on February 6, 2007 to Undertake a Comprehensive Planning Process. The City is working to form a comprehensive planning committee.

## Who We Are and What We Do

The City of Hoopeston is a rural community of 6,000 located on the eastern edge of Illinois, 25 miles north of Danville. With a location in the heart of the Corn Belt, Hoopeston's roots are those of agriculture and manufacturing. The decline of manufacturing and the loss of family farms in the last decade has taken its toll on the city. This resulted in a significant loss of jobs, causing residents to commute elsewhere for work.

Recognizing the impact the decline of manufacturing was



Weekly Economic Development Committee Meeting

having on the City of Hoopeston, concerned residents came together in 2005 to work toward a solution. Out of those community

collaborative meetings the economic development committee was created, as a branch of the Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce.

The committee was formed to address issues of growth and job creation for the City of Hoopeston. In January of 2006 the City of Hoopeston brought in a Peace Corps Fellow to assist with development efforts. In December of 2006, the City

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## Our Mission and Vision

### Vision:

While preserving and promoting its rural work ethic and rural spirit, Hoopeston is recognized as an innovative leader of economic growth, business development, and job creation throughout the Midwest.

### Mission:

The Mission of the Hoopeston Economic Development Committee is to establish Hoopeston as a premier location in rural Illinois for new businesses and residents, resulting in economic growth and job creation for the City. We work to provide quality assistance, information, and resources to new and existing businesses in order to create increased investment in the Hoopeston area.



# HOOPESTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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## Who We Are and What We Do

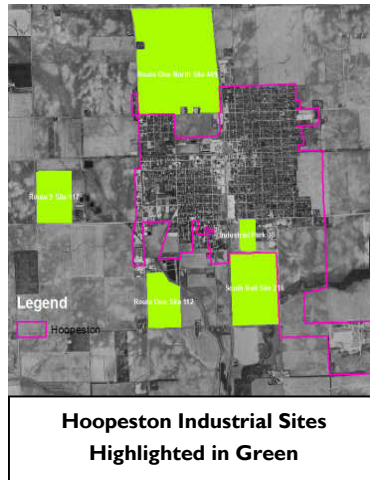
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**decided to create a full time economic development position.**

**The Hoopeston Economic Development Committee is comprised of representatives from the Hoopeston Chamber of Commerce, the Hoopeston City Council, the Hoopeston Industrial Corporation, and Grant Township. Committee members include Chairman Lance Raver, Director Shannon Ruh, Bill Nicholls, Bill Goodwine, Brandon Hamilton, Dale Lithgow, Dick Read, Pat Bailey, Mike Pemberton, Dave Ervin and Mayor Bill Dewitt.**

**The loss of industry and jobs has caused the City to look at new and innovative methods toward community revitalization. Throughout the past year, the committee has been actively**

**working on a variety of projects. Our project of highest priority has been working to secure land surrounding the City of**



**Hoopeston, that can be marketed for industrial development.**

**Land availability continues to be a growing industrial need. Most industries are looking for sites greater**

**than 100 acres. The Hoopeston Economic Development Committee began by identifying parcels that could be combined to create industrial sites greater than 100 acres. The committee has identified four potential sites and currently has two of the four sites under option or with an intent to sell in place. We have received a significant amount of cooperation from land owners, as Hoopeston's need to grow is a common concern shared by all residents. We are now in the process of submitting these sites when request for proposals come through the office. Available land is one of Hoopeston's greatest assets, which we anticipate will bring significant gains to the City of Hoopeston in the near future.**

### About this Publication...

**This is the Hoopeston Economic Development Committee's first newsletter. We will be distributing a newsletter bi-monthly, to inform you of any new developments in Hoopeston and to make you aware of our ongoing projects and accomplishments.**

**If you have anything to contribute to the newsletter please contact the economic development office. If you or someone you know is looking to start up or relocate a business please give us a call, we would be happy to assist you.**