



RED Newsletter

APRIL 2013

A NON PROFIT COUNTYWIDE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

SURVEY RESULTS ARE IN

When we sent out our membership renewals in November 2012, we included a survey.

In the survey, which we jointly conducted with the Sidney Chamber of Commerce and Ag, we asked the public to prioritize the projects, services and activities for Richland County. We also asked what additional services were needed. Below are the

top 14 as identified by the public:

1. Infrastructure: roads, truck route, sewer and water
2. Additional restaurants
3. Housing
4. Value added Ag
5. Business Development
6. Recreational center
7. Downtown renewal
8. Industrial park development
9. Auditorium
10. Additional clothing stores



11. Additional daycare / childcare providers
12. Improve the development process
13. Hotel development
14. Additional Laundromats

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NEW RED PROJECT ASSISTANT



Diana Bloom was hired as the project assistant for RED. February 25, was her first day.

Diana was born and raised in Tacoma, Washington. She worked in real estate

and construction management for several years. She also owned a restaurant and lounge for five years.

Diana relocated to Sidney, MT with family last March. She loves the small town feel of

Sidney and is excited to be working with RED.

EASTERN MONTANA IMPACT COALITION

Eastern MT Impact Coalition (EMIC): The members of EMIC, Martin DeWitt, GNDC, Leslie Messer, REDC, Jason Rittal, EPEDC, and Jim Atchison, SEMDC, signed the contract of the diverse, multi-disciplinary team of Jones, Lang, LaSalle (JLL) to help identify and quantify impending regional impacts to our communities.

JLL has been busy working with the Coalition to identify, prioritize, and quantify (in dollars) the impacts that are occurring (and projected to occur) in the EMIC region.

The early stages of the coalition's study were presented to eastern Montana legislators and several state department officials during a trip to Helena in early February.



Legislators Knudsen, Berry, Ankney, Brown at reception in Helena.

Leslie Messer said the eastern Montana legislators were very enthused about the study



EMIC members sign contract with JLL's Bob Hunt

and gave the coalition its "marching orders" to present the study to the appropriations committee. State department heads were also impressed, Messer added.

Information at this early stage projected how much of an impact, where it will occur, and who needs the funding.

In mid March, JLL and EMIC hosted a two-day Community Outreach event in Miles City, which drew nearly sixty participants from various backgrounds within the EMIC region. This event provided cities, counties and other stakeholders the opportunity to voice the economic development needs in their region.

Results of the data and input gathered from this event are expected to be released sometime in April.



Leslie Messer said the eastern Montana legislators were very enthused about the study



Leslie and Bob Hunt leading a focus session at the outreach event in Miles City.

EMIC REGIONAL PLANNER

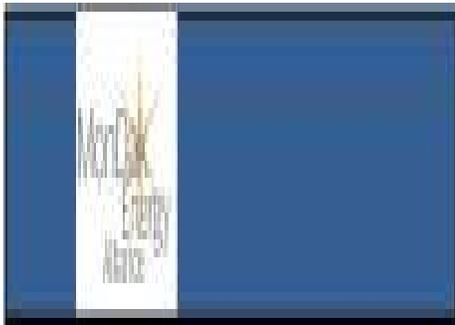


Guy Hopkins, EMIC Regional Planner

The Coalition has hired Guy Hopkins as the EMIC regional Planner. Guy will work with cities and counties on a more localized level to identify planning needs and demand, as well as assist cities and counties with implementing various planning policies. He will work with existing planners in the region to help coordinate planning efforts and resources.



MON DAK ENERGY ALLIANCE



On Feb 28th, the Mon Dak Energy Alliance was held in Sidney at the Country Club. Richland Economic Development was pleased to co-host the evening meeting with Mayor Bret Smelser.

The Alliance, which is made up of businesses and individuals interested in developing

the natural resources within the Mon Dak region, met in Sidney for the quarterly meeting.

The audience of approximately 80 people, heard speakers addressing topics that included: rail development, highway updates, oil leasing guidelines, oil well drilling by XTO, and a brief overview from the Governor's Office.

Tim Baker, Governor Bullock's Natural Resource Advisor let the audience and the area know that the "Governor supports oil and gas development".

Several times throughout the evening, the co-chairs Mayors Smelser and Koeser invited

the attendees to join the alliance via contributions. Please see the MonDak Energy Alliance membership form information on the next page, if you are interested in participating in the efforts of the Alliance.





MonDak Energy Alliance
 PO Box 6164
 Williston, ND 58802

membership@MonDakEnergy.com

The MonDak Energy Alliance is a catalyst for ongoing development of energy resources in the region and a conduit for the discussion and development of key projects.

Our members come together to share ideas, gather resources and connect the people who can make the projects happen. Join now and be sure to take your seat at the table.

Our membership includes both private and public entities that range in size from small organizations to large conglomerates. There is a membership level designed for you.

Membership Levels and Dues

- Platinum \$1,500
- Gold \$1,000
- Silver \$500
- Bronze \$250

Municipalities \$.10 per capita
 Individuals \$25.00

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ **Zip:** _____

Email: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Mail to: MonDak Energy Alliance
 PO Box 6164
 Williston, ND 58802-6164



As we reported in our last newsletter, we met IAP Worldwide Services in Wolf Point, in December 2012. This is a company with over 60 years' experience in providing housing solutions all over the world.

IAP became interested in the MonDak region due mainly to due to the oil

and gas development. After meeting with Leslie and the Eastern MT Impact Coalition, representatives from IAP toured several locations in the region to determine the potential for temporary community housing units.

Richland Economic Development was pleased to participate in a focus and roundtable discussion in late January. The objective was to determine the housing needs of the communities.

In February, representatives of IAP met with the Richland County Commissioners to introduce themselves

and their company's services.

At the Commissioners' meeting, preliminary drawings, schematics, and feasibility studies were shared in regards to IAP's housing units that are self-sufficient with power, water, and wastewater facilities.

Currently, IAP has been given approval by county officials to build a three phase housing complex with 700 beds, on approximately 40 acres. The location is 5 miles west of Sidney on the Lambert highway where Primo Truck Park is situated.



Our office is continuing to provide information to developers and entrepreneurs looking to develop projects in our area.

We are seeing increased numbers of developers looking to build larger projects. In addition, the number of new business start ups is on the rise.

The interest is based on our strong economy, the work ethics of the people, the diverse economic base, and, of course, the oil impacts.

We are pleased to be the resource clearinghouse that provides the necessary information needed to determine if Richland County is the place to invest in.

Currently our website has seen increased volumes of traffic with over 5,600 visitors monthly!



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A NON PROFIT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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