

# INDIANA'S GREAT SOUTHWEST

*the new frontier for talent & business*

## Economic Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana

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[southwestindiana.org](http://southwestindiana.org)

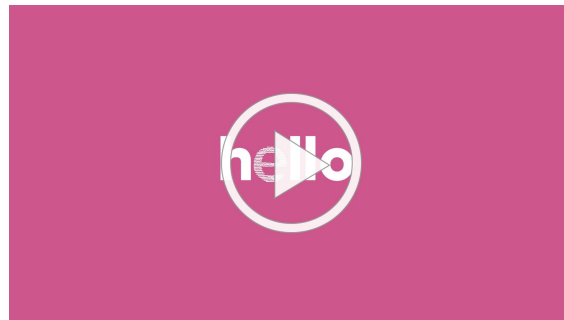
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## E is for everyone...absolutely!



The Big Easy and the Big Apple or the Windy City and Music City, U.S.A.; successful metros have brands that help distinguish them from other places. After two years of research, focus groups and collaboration, the “E is for Everyone” brand has been launched for the Evansville metro, which includes all of Southwest Indiana.

View [www.eisforeveryone.com](http://www.eisforeveryone.com) and see how interesting we are! How might your organization incorporate your own ‘e’ and help promote the brand and region?

[Visit our Website](#)

### Community Crossings – Road Funding for Your Community

Until last year, funding for roads within your community has been a challenge for local communities as the dollars never seemed to stretch far enough. During the summer of 2016, several communities across the state pursued INDOT’s Community Crossing grant program which provided a 50/50 matching grant.

Now the opportunity for communities to stretch local road dollars has been significantly enhanced. During the most recent legislative session, legislators put into place a funding mechanism that will sweeten the opportunity... a 75/25 matching grant with the community responsible for the 25 percent. So, what do local towns, cities and counties in Southwest Indiana need to do to take advantage of this opportunity?..... Start planning now.

Ultimately, one of the most critical tools needed to obtain Community Crossings funding is an Asset Management Plan. This plan is essentially a working document with which communities can inventory and monitor the status of their transportation arteries. The ultimate goal is for all towns, cities and counties to have an Asset Management Plan in place. As road projects are executed or as new issues arise, the document is updated.

The Community Crossings program opened June 5th. If your community is in need of an Asset Management Plan reach out to the [Evansville MPO](#) (or at 812-436-7833). Or, the [Indiana Local Technical Assistance Program](#) offers some templates for your Street / Highway Superintendent to utilize for developing that Asset Management Plan.

Awards for this year’s Community Crossings program are scheduled to be announced in August. Be sure

## Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Regional Medical Center

The Poseyville Medical Foundation, Inc. will host a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the opening of the Regional Medical Center located at 40 W. Fletchall Avenue in Poseyville, Indiana on June 29, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. For more information contact Bruce Baker at 812.457.5379.

The medical center is one of 14 Regional Cities projects from the Indiana's Great Southwest Plan; and, the second of which to be completed.



## Are Dangerous Railroad Crossings Plaguing You?



If your community has public railroad crossings that are not currently well-marked, consider pursuing the Indiana Department of Transportation's

Railroad Grade Crossing Fund to remedy the situation. Towns, cities and counties as well as Class II and III freight railroads along with port authorities operating in Indiana are eligible. Items that can be covered by the grant funds include pavement markings, signage, median barriers and illumination.

The application period for this funding will be open from June 15, 2017 through July 31, 2017. Information about the application can be found on the [INDOT Rail Programs](#) office website. If your community has railroad crossings it would like to see brought up to a safer standard, consider pursuing this funding source. Maximum grant awards in the amount of \$40,000 are available.



Pictured above L-R: Ruschhaupt, Andy Carr, Instructor, IKORCC, Bolte and Jerry Burke, Area Coordinator, IKORCC.

## Osnabruck, Germany Sister City Tour Visits Evansville

The City of Evansville hosted the Osnabruck Germany Sister-City delegation in May where 17 business, educational and governmental participants played a part.

The purpose of a sister city relationship is to promote long-term, cooperative cultural, educational, business, and technical exchanges; the Coalition played host to several business tours that matched the Osnabruck members with their corresponding businesses.

Osnabruck tour participants Sven Ruschhaupt, President of the Chamber of Crafts (Trades) and Jakob Bolte, carpenter, toured the Indiana/Kentucky/Ohio Regional Council of Carpenters Joint apprenticeship.

## Public Focus - Gibson County

*"The Coalition is an important economic and community development partner to Gibson County. From helping our communities garner over \$30 million in grants since 2007 to improve*

*our quality of place, to including infusing \$3 million into Oakland City University's Boulevard Commons within the Indiana's Great Southwest Regional Cities Plan, the Coalition is a vital partner in our communities' economic success."*

**Steve Bottoms, President, Gibson County Commissioners and President, Board of Directors, Economic Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana**



**is for  
everyone.**

**evansville**  
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