



Economic Development

Proposed Action:

Establish a comprehensive strategy for small business growth and economic development for Carroll County in order to improve our commercial base, create jobs and reduce taxes

Proposal Details

Upon taking office as County Commissioner for District 5, I will make the following proposal to the other newly elected County Commissioners:

1. Establish and publish specific goals for economic development each year including measures of new companies, jobs gained and lost and tax revenues generated.
2. Create a \$1 million economic development fund to be funded over four years at \$250,000 per year to provide small business, supplemental and start-up loans of \$50,000 or less with 3-year paybacks, thus returning the funding amount to the county with appropriate interest.
3. Fund the rehabilitation of one of the buildings at the Warfield Complex (approximately \$1 million) to be regained through rental income or a long-term lease for the entire building to recapture all funds invested
4. Establish an Economic Development Center in the spec building at Warfield to provide small business support services using existing staff and programs and possibly in conjunction with Carroll Community College if interested
5. Plan and conduct (within 4 months) a “Doing Business in Carroll” Summit designed to bring companies to Carroll County or to encourage them to start in Carroll County
6. Review zoning laws, business zoning process, county staff positions and appointed boards and make changes to establish a more “business friendly” process that balances economic development with the needs and concerns of the local communities.
7. Create a Growth Industries Task Force (2/3 local business/resident) to focus on targeted growth industries such as CyberSecurity, Green Technologies and Health Care. The task force would determine resources for Carroll small businesses to be competitive in these emerging industries and ways to assist local businesses in connecting with opportunities

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