

# TCEDA's TRACKING...



## TCEDA Regional Map

Tri-County Economic Development Alliance (TCEDA) is a nonprofit economic development corporation that proactively seeks to build business and employment opportunities for the economic growth and social well-being of people. We lead, advocate, assist and encourage businesses, counties, communities and organizations in Jo Daviess, Carroll, and Whiteside Counties in Northwest Illinois.

### Glossary - What's a TIF?

"TIF" stands for "Tax Increment Financing," a special tool that a municipality can use to generate money for economic development in a specific geographic area. TIFs allow a city to reinvest all new property tax dollars in the neighborhood from which they came for a 23-year period.

These "new" revenues arise if new development takes place in the TIF district, or if the

## Northwest Illinois Mayors Association Meeting

July 11, 2013 - What a terrific evening - driving down into the Derinda Valley in Elizabeth (one of the most beautiful roads in Jo Daviess County) to arrive at Bella's Restaurant in Mt. Carroll!

Mt. Carroll Mayor, Carl Bates, hosted a lively meeting where the Mayors of Northern Illinois had an opportunity to share what they are working on to improve their communities. Suggestions were shared regarding new regulations and laws in the state. Classic car shows and music events are popular events happening in many communities this summer. Dinner was delicious... thanks to the staff at Bella's! I will definitely be returning.



Northern Illinois Mayors from l to r: Thomson Mayor Vicky Trager, Kirkland Mayor Les Bellah, Mt. Carroll Mayor Carl Bates, and Stewart Mayor Jim Bratko.

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## The Upper Mississippi River International Port District (UMRIPD) Meeting

July 10, 2013 - What is Port District? The Port District is a municipal corporation governed by a Board of five Commissioners, all residents of Jo Daviess and Carroll Counties. The Commissioners are charged with the study and promotion of business that will create jobs in the district

value of existing properties rises, resulting in higher tax bills. These funds can be spent on public works projects or given as subsidies to encourage private development.

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## Quick Links

[www.tcedaonline.com](http://www.tcedaonline.com)

[www.bop.gov/jobs](http://www.bop.gov/jobs)

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located in the northwest corner of Illinois.

Among the topics discussed was partnering with other Economic Development organizations to have a stronger voice in the region. Suggestions included reviewing State of Illinois grant and loan requirements versus neighboring states in order to have an equal opportunity for recruiting businesses to our area. Thanks to Marty Mulcahey, from the Port District, for volunteering to work with TCEDA to address this issue with our representatives.

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### *Northwest Illinois Business Resource Center*

Later this year nine participants will graduate from the very successful 2013 Carroll County Leadership Roundtable. Planning for the 2014 Roundtable is underway! Anyone interested in learning about this excellent year-long leadership program should contact Russ Simpson at 815-858-4295 [rsimpson@jocarroll.com](mailto:rsimpson@jocarroll.com).

The Business Resource Center can provide a wide range of customized small business training, counseling and incubator services for start-up or expanding businesses. Please see our website [www.nwilbrc.com](http://www.nwilbrc.com) or contact Russ Simpson for further details.

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### *Thomson Prison Update*

The President's budget includes a request for **\$166.3 million** in "program enhancements to begin the activation process for three institutions (Federal Correctional Institution at Hazelton, West Virginia, United States Penitentiary at Yazoo City, Mississippi, and Administrative United States Penitentiary at Thomson, Illinois)."

The \$166.3 million represents all program enhancements for the Bureau of Prisons (BOP), not just for the activations for three prisons.

#### **1. How much of this would be devoted to Thomson activation?**

In the Salaries and Expenses appropriation, **\$43.7 million** is to begin the activation of Administrative USP Thomson, IL. In the Building and Facilities Account, **\$15 million** is to begin renovation.

Please note these figures could change throughout the budget process.

#### **2. How much is needed to activate Thomson?**

BOP estimates that it will need **\$168 million** over two to three years for activation **and another \$168 million per year** once the facility is fully up and running.

They also estimate it will cost approximately **\$25 million** to renovate/modify the structure.

#### **3. When would you anticipate activating Thomson?**

As soon as the Congress enacts and the President signs an appropriation bill that provides funding for Thomson, the BOP will begin the activation process.

#### **4. What will BOP moving to the region employees require?**

*Services required include:*

- Quality child care
- Rental home options
- Hotel/motel within government per diem
- Health care professionals that honor federal health insurance providers
- Recreational opportunities to include restaurants, movie theater, and sports leagues for children and adults

*Products required include:*

- Multi-cultural personal items
- Multi-cultural food items
- Price competitive home improvement stores
- Professional clothing stores

TCEDA will continue to update communities and organizations with information regarding Thomson Prison as it becomes available.

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#### ***Thanks to our TCEDA Investors!***

We appreciate the investors who help us with our mission of advocacy and action to connect resources for business expansion and business acquisition for new jobs in Northwest Illinois.

Many thanks to our recent investors:

Jo-Carroll Energy, Elizabeth, IL  
Galena State Bank, Galena, IL  
Rentech Nitrogen, East Dubuque, IL  
U.S. Bank, Galena, IL

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#### ***Executive Committee Meets***

After a long hiatus, TCEDA's Executive Committee met and collected results from a survey of the Committee, discussed the organization of the Board and Executive Committee, membership and rates, and the goals for the year. I have many ideas and look forward to moving the organization forward with constructive plans for efficiency, advocacy and education. We even squeezed in some time to present John Cox, Legal Counsel for TCEDA, with a chocolate cake for his birthday. Hope it was a happy

birthday John!

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If you are a business and are considering expansion, relocation or developing a new business, give us a call! We are available with tools to help you realize your vision.

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We welcome ideas from members and non-members. Let's execute to succeed!

Sincerely,

*Lisa McCarthy*  
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