

## **Town of Lisbon**

Ross H. Cunningham, Director Office of Economic and Community Development **Town Council** 

Fern Larochelle, Chair Harry Moore Jr., Vice Chair Don Fellows Mark Lunt Christine Cain Raymond Robishaw Jason Smith

To: Ryan McGee, Interim Town Manager

From: Ross Cunningham, Director, ECD

Date: 8/10/22

Reference: Monthly Update

The Lisbon ECD office continues to make great strides in connecting with our Business community and creating relationships that will help grow our town. This week we held our first "Business Breakfast" forum and had the opportunity to connect with over 15 businesses and listen to their concerns and create connections that can help foster growth. We have well over 100 businesses and organizations on our mailing list and we are pushing out information as appropriate.





In the last month, Lisbon has had two ribbon cuttings. Elite Nutrition and the Library Mural. I am particularly pleased with the results of the Library mural, as one of my goals when taking this position was to add public art to our inventory in town. This process was supported by local businesses and painted by Lisbon High National Honor Society students. The second phase of the project will include smaller paintings by Library Reading program students. This process was relatively simple in execution and can easily be duplicated at other sites around our community. This could make Lisbon an art destination in the future.





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The Mural dedication ceremony was also attended and covered by WMTW News and was on the front page of the Sun Journal. This is key to our efforts to continue to promote Lisbon in a very positive light.

I am scheduling a ceremony for Little River coffee shop in the coming month. I am working with 3 additional businesses that have plans to operate in Lisbon and are in various stages of development. Additionally, I am reaching out daily to connect with more of the Lisbon Business community, specifically the home based business market.

The CDBG Projects continue to move forward with 231 Lisbon St (All Clean Carpet) currently out to bid. This will be closed and sent to council for approval at the next meeting on Aug 16. We are creating the "Scope of Work" to put the bid package together for 671 Lisbon St (Bowling Alley)

I continue to field concerns from the Main St businesses regarding the construction and relay those concerns to the supervisor for the project. The supervisor has been very receptive and accommodating. I have been involved and supportive of the upcoming "Block Party" to benefit the Main St businesses.

I have been working with the Brunswick and L/A Chamber directors to host an event here in Lisbon that invites members from both regions to network here on an evening in October. Plans are still TBD at this time.

The Worumbo steering committee has started the process of planning the next steps for that space and researching grant opportunities that will fund improvements.

Respectfully,

Ross H. Cunningham