

Boonslick Regional Planning Commission

CertainTeed Project

*United States Department of
Commerce Economic
Development Administration*

*Department of Economic
Development
Community Development
Block Grant Program*

*Missouri Department of
Transportation*

Public Water Supply District #1

City of Jonesburg

Montgomery County

Warren County

A Collaborative Effort

Working Together to Improve the Region

The collaborative efforts of many entities leveraged a private investment of more than \$100 million to benefit the region.

On July 24, 2013 a crowd of state and local public officials, business leaders, and citizens were on hand for the ground-breaking ceremony for CertainTeed Corporation's new \$100 million manufacturing and distribution center in Jonesburg, Missouri.

When completed, the site included a 60,000 sq. ft. manufacturing facility and 150,000 sq. ft. warehouse. The company, which manufactures residential roofing shingles, agreed to hire 100 full-time employees within 5 years.

Boonslick RPC worked with the City of Jonesburg to obtain funding to extend water and sewer lines to the new CertainTeed site.

Infrastructure improvements also included a rail spur to facilitate shipping raw materials into the plant. Funding for the project included \$1.9 million from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and \$1.5 million from the Community Development Block Grant program.

The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and Public Water Supply District #1 also played significant roles in the project. MoDOT made road improvements in excess of \$860,000, which was used as a match for EDA funds. The water district constructed a 350,000 gallon water tower and drilled a well to serve the water needs of the plant.



A Challenge to Overcome

- Wet weather caused extreme delays in construction. The clay soil was not able to dry out, affecting start of work on the rail spur base.
- The contractor had purchased building supplies in an effort to keep costs down. The supplies had to be stored on site and a special waiver for stored material had to be obtained.
- Completion of the rail spur was a key component to CertainTeed being able to bring in raw materials. Work needed to progress to get this vital infrastructure in place.
- CertainTeed stepped in to treat the soil and stabilize the rail base, allowing work to proceed in completion of the rail spur.



The Beginning...



Necessary Utilities



Grant Administration

Boonslick Regional Planning Commission served as grant administrator for the CertainTeed project and was the point of contact for a team of people. Staff had weekly conference calls with the company and any relevant parties to maintain a clear understanding of progress, and keep informed about any issues that needed to be addressed.

Being in close proximity to the site allowed for detailed supervision of activities as this large project progressed from groundbreaking to being ready for business.

Rail Spur Completed



Missouri Job Center-Warrenton Assists CertainTeed in Hiring



CertainTeed uses BRPC conference room to conduct interviews at its July 2015 Hiring Event



- Missouri Job Center-Warrenton staff began working with representatives from CertainTeed's HR department at the start of construction for the project. CertainTeed toured the job center and staff reviewed statewide programs that would be available to the company.
- A plan was put in place to feature the company's job openings, and job orders were placed on jobs.mo.gov. Potential employees were instructed to visit the job center to fill out applications. At this time many took the WorkKeys Assessment.
- Job Center staff arranged to host a hiring event. Staff brought in help from the Division of Workforce Development, other job centers, and the local chamber of commerce to help with the event. CertainTeed sent employees to help job seekers with parking/directions.
- Over 250 individuals attended the July 20, 2015 hiring event. Due to the overwhelming response, a second event was held in August. CertainTeed continues to partner with the Job Center for hiring.



CertainTeed - a Lead Employer Supporting the Certified Work Ready Community Initiative



CertainTeed's support of the Certified Work Ready Community Initiative was instrumental in Warren County's achievement of this designation in December 2017. The company recognized the National Career Readiness Certificate and expressed its preference in hiring individuals who had achieved this credential.

A Successful Hiring Event!

Photos above show the enthusiastic response of job seekers. The Job Center was filled with individuals interested in employment with CertainTeed.

final thoughts...



A Successful Project...

- The CertainTeed project represents the success of collaborative funding efforts. Combined funding from EDA, CDBG, MoDOT, and PWSD #1 made it possible to leverage private investment of more than \$100 million in the region.
- The CertainTeed project represents the success of collaborative efforts of local governments to address economic development needs within a region. The property purchased by CertainTeed straddled the line between Montgomery and Warren counties. Local officials cooperated for the benefit of the region.
- The CertainTeed project demonstrates the strong leadership and administrative skills that a regional planning commission can provide in guiding a large project from the planning stages to completion. In its 50 years of service to the region, Boonslick Regional Planning Commission has delivered a multitude of programs, building strong relationships with local governments and the business community. These relationships were instrumental in the success of this project. Added benefits can be seen with the services offered to CertainTeed by BRPC's staff from the Missouri Job Center. This project provided approximately 100 full-time jobs to residents of the region. The working relationship between job center staff and CertainTeed's HR department continues.
- According to the U.S. Economic Development Administration Value Proposition Statement, EDA drives innovation and entrepreneurship throughout the country, especially in the manufacturing sector, to help U.S. workers and businesses compete globally. From grants that help build rail lines, improve wastewater treatment facilities, or construct buildings and roads – EDA invests in the critical infrastructure needed by businesses to locate or expand in the U.S., generating thousands of middle-class jobs in areas of the country that need them the most. The CertainTeed project is an example of successful investment by EDA.

Boonslick Regional Planning Commission

Serving Lincoln, Montgomery & Warren Counties in East-Central Missouri

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