



Pat George, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

Dan Lara

Testimony of Kansas Department of Commerce on the Kansas Main Street Program

Interim Budget Committee
9 a.m., Thursday, Oct. 15, 2012
Room 548S, The Statehouse

Good morning, Madam Chairwoman, and members of the Committee. I am here to provide an update of the Department of Commerce's decision to end the Kansas Main Street program.

On Oct. 15, the Department announced a plan to transition the Kansas Main Street program to local control.

A key part of the Main Street program has been the \$3.7 million in Incentive Without Walls (IWW) funding that has been used by 35 communities since 1996. IWW funding is loaned to communities to help with various downtown business needs. The below charts set forth the economic impact the IWW funding had on the communities over the past 5 years:

	New Jobs Main Street	Total IWW Funds Awarded	No. of Communities Awarded
Fiscal Year (FY) 08	0	\$226,449.80	14
FY 09	31	\$218,699.13	11
FY 10	41	\$211,408.82	11
FY 11	48	\$163,000.00	10
FY 12	48.5	\$162,628.50	11
Totals	168.5	\$982,186.25	

(Testimony continues on reverse side.)

Main Street Jobs per Community

	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12
Augusta				3	
Chanute				7	
Dodge City					2
El Dorado			4	4	3
Emporia			3	1	4
Garden City		2		3	
Hoisington			1	1	4
Hutchinson			5.5	4	4
Independence			6	8	
Leavenworth		4	2	2	21
Manhattan			1		
Marysville				2	3
McPherson		4	5		4
Ottawa		2		3	3
Parsons		9	6		
Peabody		1			
Seneca		1	2	2	
Stafford				1	0.5
Sterling		4	4.5		
Wamego		4	1	4	
Winfield				3	

The Department has agreed to allow the current IWW funding in use by communities to continue to be utilized by those communities as long as it is used for economic development and downtown revitalization efforts. Those communities will continue to submit annual reports on IWW funding to the Department. The Department anticipates having a Memorandum of Understanding to memorialize this agreement in the near future.

In addition to the IWW funding, the Department agreed to help partially fund the 2012 Kansas Downtown Symposium, which occurred on Oct. 17-18 in Emporia.

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