

*“There she stands, proud in all her glory.”*

# Missouri County Record

Fall 2011



**Howard County Courthouse, Fayette, MO**

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## In Memory Tom Dirnberger



Tom was elected recorder of deeds for Scott County in 1995 and became a vital part of the Recorders' Association of Missouri (RAM) and the Missouri Association of Counties (MAC). For RAM, Tom served on numerous committees in several positions; he was the legislative co-chair, secretary, treasurer, vice president and served as president in 2006 and 2007. As president, he represented RAM on the MAC board of directors. He also served on the MAC board as an at-large director in 2009 and 2010. On Nov. 24, 2010, Tom was sworn in as MAC 3rd vice president.

Tom's impact as a public servant was felt throughout Missouri. RAM

President Donnie Snelling, Camden County, said, "Tom was able to bridge the gap between some of the smaller counties and the larger first-class counties. His contributions to RAM and MAC were monumental."

Tom was committed to educating people about the important role of the recorder's office and worked to benefit not only Scott County, but also county governments across the state. He was instrumental in key legislation that allowed a funding subsidy for counties who opted to establish a separate elected recorder of deeds. Tom traveled to all corners of the state explaining the process and, to his credit, all but 19 counties have implemented the provision. He was also at the forefront of the effort to create a process for electronic recording in the state of Missouri.

Tom was best known for being easy-going and having a big smile. Bettie Johnson, Boone County recorder of deeds, called Dirnberger a natural leader with the ability to cultivate consensus among his peers. "He genuinely cared about people and just had a way of making you feel at ease," Johnson said. "He leaves a great legacy for our association."



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## Missouri's 2011 Special Session Marked By Deadlock

The Missouri Special Session convened on Sept. 6 amidst several issues brought by Gov. Nixon. The primary focus of the session has been a proposed economic development bill, which includes revisions to various tax credits, as well as tax incentives for building a St. Louis cargo hub for trade with China. Other proposed issues that have been addressed include the following:

- rescheduling of Missouri's presidential primary;
- the repeal of a 2011 law that prohibits teachers and students from communicating via social networking sites on the Internet (ex: Facebook);
- a tax amnesty provision which allows delinquent taxpayers to pay free of penalty; and
- natural disaster relief funding proposals including a FEMA expenditure match, establishment of a disaster funding committee, and Tax Increment Financing for certain devastated areas.

One initiative in particular (proposed with Rep. White's HB 5) would have changed the law regarding the taxation of commercial property destroyed by a natural disaster. Under the bill, any commercial property destroyed completely by a natural disaster would be removed from the tax rolls for the rest of that year or until it was fully repaired and operational. For the year upon the rebuilding and re-opening of the busi-

ness, the property would be returned to the tax rolls and assessed accordingly.

Though this proposal was seen as favorable to many as an equitable solution for businesses devastated by natural disasters (and as a commercial equivalent of residential property occupancy laws which allow residential homes to be taken off the rolls in cases of natural disaster), opponents voiced concerns that it would add an unfunded and difficult mandated workload to county assessors in large disaster areas such as Jasper County. HB 5 passed the House; however, concerns and disagreements have led to its stall in the Senate.

Primarily, disagreements over the economic development proposal (specifically over how many tax credits to cut and what sunset provisions to establish) have derailed the special session with a stalemate between House and Senate versions of the bill. With the Legislature moving to technical session on Sept. 23, all other proposals this year have been essentially put on hold.

As of press time, the Senate reconvened on Monday, Oct. 17, to work again on an economic development compromise. Also, due to disagreements on the date and the expense of the presidential primary, there is a strong Senate push to eliminate it altogether in lieu of a caucus system. The last time Missouri held caucuses was in 1996.



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# Going Up, Going Down

## Missouri Elevator Operator Gives Courthouse Visitors A Lift

By Marti Attoun, Contributing Editor, American Profile Magazine

When a buzzer sounds and a green light illuminates on the brass call box of the 1916 elevator at the Jasper County Courthouse in Carthage, Mo. (pop. 12,668), operator Geraldine Bunn knows it's time to give someone on the third floor a ride.

"I'll be right back," Bunn, 82, tells a group of people she's been chatting with on the first floor.

As she's done thousands of times, Bunn slides the elevator's metal gate shut, then grasps a porcelain-knobbed lever and eases it to the right. The 1,000-pound capacity cage

climbs slowly past a floor painted with a number "2." Bunn glides the elevator to a stop, aligning it with the third floor of the courthouse.

"Sometimes I hit it on the spot and sometimes I don't," she says, adding that if the floors don't align, she maneuvers the elevator until the floors are flush so riders don't trip or stumble when entering or exiting the cage.

For 14 years, Bunn's workday has been filled with the ups and downs of shuttling 200 or more passengers between the basement, first, second and third floors of the elegant 1894 limestone courthouse.

"People always ask me, 'Don't you get dizzy?'" says Bunn, who lives in nearby Jasper (pop. 1,011). "No," she assures them. She loves her mobile office.

Originally, the courthouse had only stairs. Then in 1916 holes were bored through the building's concrete floors, and the open-cage wrought-iron elevator was installed on steel cables and massive oak beams.

"In and of itself, the elevator is a tourist attraction,"



Jasper County Courthouse, Carthage, MO



says Judge Joseph Schoeberl, as he descends from his third-floor office and courtroom.

When Schoeberl steps out of the elevator, he pretends to trip over a slight gap between the floors, making Bunn laugh. "He's always doing that to me," she says.

Bunn provides a lift in every sense of the word. "She's very cheery and brightens the day," says Schoeberl, 62. "She's like a cup of coffee in the morning."

Working as an elevator attendant in today's self-serve world is an "oddity," concedes Bunn, who began operating the courthouse elevator part-time in 2008.

The nation's first automatic elevator was installed in 1950 at Atlantic Refining Co. in Dallas, Texas, according to Stephen Showers, corporate archivist for the world's largest elevator manufacturer, Otis Elevator Co. in Farmington, Conn. (pop. 23,641).

The system was called the "Autotronic Elevator,"

which was short for auto and electronic and was advertised as "without attendant" or "operatorless," Showers says. By the 1960s, automatic elevators were commonplace and manual operators were becoming obsolete.

While modern push-button elevators are quick and



efficient, they lack the personal touch of Bunn, who greets courthouse employees by name and says the best part of her job is meeting people.

"There are so many nice people," she says. "Even the prisoners will speak and tell me to have a good day."

Her passengers range from shackled and somber county jail inmates to happy handholding couples with freshly inked marriage licenses, as well as tourists traveling through town on Route 66. Older folks on tour

buses and schoolchildren on field trips also line up for rides.

“Some kids are happy on the way up and cry all the way down,” says Bunn, noting that individuals have different reactions to the 30-second rides.

Though the elevator is furnished with a small desk and chair, Bunn seldom sits. When she’s not transporting passengers, she’s on the first floor greeting people visiting the courthouse.

“Can I help you, ma’am?” Bunn asks when she notices Kathy Baxter, 55, of Greenfield, Mo. (pop. 1,358), an obvious newcomer to the building.

“I need to take care of this traffic ticket,” Baxter says.

“I can take you there,” Bunn says.

As Baxter steps into the old-fashioned elevator, she marvels at its fancy ironwork and walls decorated with vintage photographs of the courthouse. “This is very cool,” she says. “This is so historical.”

Bunn smiles as she pushes the lever to lift them to the top floor.

“Careful. Watch your step,” she says.

*This article originally ran Jan. 12, 2011, in American Profile Magazine. Reprinted with permission. Photos courtesy of Mike Gullett. Jasper County Courthouse photo courtesy of Dennis Weiser.*



## Missouri Association of Counties Workers' Compensation Trust

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# MoDOT Projects 1% Overall Growth Rate For FY 2012 CART Funds

Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) officials project that for FY '12 each penny of the state gas tax is expected to bring in \$40.4 million. With the total gas tax set at 17 cents, that means \$687 million will be divided among the state, counties and cities for road and bridge maintenance and repair.

For 2012, the county share of the gas tax is projected to be approximately \$80.2 million. MoDOT also projects the county intake from the '12 motor vehicle sales/use tax will be \$13.4 million. Finally, they project vehicle fees for the new state fiscal year will net counties an estimated \$10.6 million.

Total county revenues from these three sources should be approximately \$104.2 million.

To compute your county's portion of 2012 County Aid Road Trust (CART) revenues, you may simply use the \$104.2 million times your new percentage share listed on this page.

**Example #1 (for Vernon County)**  
**\$104.2 million X .0086401 = \$900,298.42**

If, however, you want to know the breakdown from each of the three sources that make up county CART revenues, use the following steps:

**Example #2 (for Vernon County)**

**Gas Tax Revenues**  
**\$80.2 million X .0086401 = \$692,936.02**

**Motor Vehicle Sales/Use Tax Revenues**  
**\$13.4 million X .0086401 = \$115,777.34**

**Motor Vehicle Fees**  
**\$10.6 million X .0086401 = \$91,585.06**

The tally of these three figures will approximate the amount in Example #1 and provide your county's estimated CART revenues for the state's FY '12 year.

## County Aid Road Trust (CART) Funds

CART Funds are apportioned to counties on the basis of two factors: one-half of the funds are credited to the county based on the ratio that its road mileage bears to the total county road mileage in the unincorporated areas of the state, and one-half is credited to the county based on the ratio that its rural land valuation bears to the rural land valuation of the entire state. Total 2011 Missouri county road mileage is 73,484.1. Total 2011 assessed valuation in the unincorporated areas is \$22,874,145,363.

The CART distribution percentages for 2012 (shown in the accompanying table) are based on these 2011 figures.

## County CART Percents For 2012 Budgeting

Adair	.0059145	Linn	.0056253
Andrew	.0064977	Livingston	.0050188
Atchison	.0055386	Macon	.0073015
Audrain	.0081257	Madison	.0030531
Barry	.0114497	Maries	.0038463
Barton	.0061175	Marion	.0048815
Bates	.0082474	McDonald	.0066268
Benton	.0069721	Mercer	.0035741
Bollinger	.0049343	Miller	.0079139
Boone	.0147468	Mississippi	.0034998
Buchanan	.0057315	Moniteau	.0047503
Butler	.0108268	Monroe	.0056164
Caldwell	.0053959	Montgomery	.0056981
Callaway	.0141431	Morgan	.0115732
Camden	.0253177	New Madrid	.0073746
Cape Girar.	.0086920	Newton	.0105036
Carroll	.0077797	Nodaway	.0098797
Carter	.0028466	Oregon	.0045568
Cass	.0123871	Osage	.0051153
Cedar	.0053940	Ozark	.0062073
Chariton	.0071234	Pemiscot	.0052544
Christian	.0124982	Perry	.0053362
Clark	.0045919	Pettis	.0097763
Clay	.0077134	Phelps	.0078669
Clinton	.0063376	Pike	.0054003
Cole	.0100411	Platte	.0143195
Cooper	.0050375	Polk	.0081124
Crawford	.0061421	Pulaski	.0073650
Dade	.0049229	Putnam	.0045671
Dallas	.0062374	Ralls	.0048116
Daviess	.0056388	Randolph	.0076548
DeKalb	.0052044	Ray	.0069272
Dent	.0057943	Reynolds	.0061174
Douglas	.0061878	Ripley	.0038351
Dunklin	.0074673	Saline	.0068203
Franklin	.0215516	Schuyler	.0026012
Gasconade	.0050330	Scotland	.0041081
Gentry	.0046891	Scott	.0045418
Greene	.0318779	Shannon	.0055250
Grundy	.0040262	Shelby	.0048922
Harrison	.0068038	St. Charles	.0361001
Henry	.0070057	St. Clair	.0055556
Hickory	.0041643	St. Francois	.0072480
Holt	.0042348	St. Louis	.1095424
Howard	.0035379	Ste. Genevieve	.0064132
Howell	.0103964	Stoddard	.0095999
Iron	.0034827	Stone	.0111773
Jackson	.0092367	Sullivan	.0045297
Jasper	.0123376	Taney	.0111811
Jefferson	.0369316	Texas	.0086733
Johnson	.0123879	Vernon	.0086401
Knox	.0042318	Warren	.0066202
Laclede	.0075241	Washington	.0051019
Lafayette	.0077077	Wayne	.0049884
Lawrence	.0093780	Webster	.0083435
Lewis	.0042039	Worth	.0020947
Lincoln	.0109123	Wright	.0060844



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# Transforming Communities Through Broadband

By Damon Porter, MoBroadbandNow Director



We live in a time of constant, instant and global communication. Through the advent of the Internet, a company's customers can be both next door and around the world. In this electronic marketplace, the store never closes.

Broadband's ability to help a business reach its customers and provide better services can also be applied to your community.

Once a community is equipped with high-speed Internet, it has the capacity to deliver a variety of services rapidly, safely and more conveniently. Broadband transforms communities by drawing in and engaging outside visitors to the "site" as well.

For many levels of government, the solution to an increased demand for services (coupled with shrinking budgets) is better broadband access. High-speed broadband can transform communities by enabling the online handling of routine requests such as licens-

ing, social services and tax questions. Also, the online transmission of large files and documents shortens government response time, helping you serve your constituents faster, cheaper and with fewer resources.

Consider for a moment how community colleges and small businesses have expanded their clientele through high-speed Internet connectivity.

Many colleges and universities have been reaching out to non-traditional students through online course offerings. Instead of driving to the college or university, these students, who often have families and full-time jobs, now are able to attend online classes from the comfort and convenience of their homes by simply logging on to their computers.

Think about the small business that now has the online capacity to sell its products and services via the Internet. Instead of being accessible to a small number of customers within its local community, it now has the ability to reach millions of people through an online presence.

A simple act such as establishing a website is an excellent first step to growing your community. Additionally, broadband increases communities' economic development opportunities because businesses are

*(Continued On Page 12)*



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## **Top State Officials Announce Study To Reduce Costs, Protect Public Safety Through Criminal Justice System**

On Wed., Aug. 24, Gov. Jay Nixon was joined by leaders from other branches of state government in announcing a bipartisan effort to develop recommendations to protect public safety by holding offenders accountable, while also containing costs within the criminal justice system. Joining the governor at the announcement in the Capitol were Supreme Court Judge William Ray Price Jr., Senate President Pro Tem Rob Mayer, Speaker of the House Steven Tilley, Attorney General Chris Koster and Director George Lombardi, of the Missouri Department of Corrections.

As part of this effort, the governor, the Supreme Court, and the legislative leaders appointed a 13-member Missouri Working Group on Sentencing and Corrections. The working group will be assisted by the Pew Center on the States, through a partnership with the Justice Reinvestment Initiative of the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance.

The group has begun its work already, and over the next several months will do the following:

- analyze the drivers of the prison population,
- audit state sentencing and corrections policy,
- consult criminal justice stakeholders, and
- develop policy recommendations.

Members of the working group were also at the August announcement, including a bipartisan group of legislators from both bodies, as well as representatives of state prosecutors, public defenders and circuit courts. A local task force, including representatives of counties, local prosecutors, sheriffs, municipalities, and victims advocates, also is participating in the process and will have input at every stage of the discussion.

“Under George Lombardi’s leadership, we have taken important steps over the past two years to reduce recidivism, promote successful re-entry into the community, and protect public safety, all while operating efficiently and effectively during challenging economic times,” Gov. Nixon said. “Because of the outstanding work by our Department of Corrections, the Missouri Reentry Process (MRP), which is used to successfully transition offenders into the community as productive citizens, is recognized as a national model, and our drug courts and specialty courts have made a significant difference. We want to continue to build on this professional expertise and success as we protect public safety in Missouri. This initiative will help us do just that.”

“This will be an unprecedented bipartisan, inter-branch and intergovernmental process,” Senate President Pro Tem Mayer said. “We will seek input from all

stakeholder groups, analyze all of our data, and consider every option. We must reform our public safety system in order to reduce taxpayer costs, while making sure we are effectively tough on crime to keep Missourians safe.”

“The goals of this effort are improved government efficiency and effectiveness,” Speaker Tilley said. “Fortunately, there are evidence-based practices and policies that have been shown to reduce recidivism at a lower cost to taxpayers. We must learn from other states and adopt those policies that achieve more public safety with fewer public resources. To do anything less is either wasteful, harmful, or both.”

“Our state courts bear witness to a revolving door that wastes resources and damages lives,” Judge Price said. “By taking a fresh look at the data and by learning from other states, we will deliver taxpayers a better return on their public safety investment.”

“This Attorney General’s Office is dedicated to strong law enforcement and the appropriate punishment of criminals as its driving principle, but utilizing Missouri’s 30,000 incarceration beds in an intelligent and effective manner is unquestionably part of that goal,” Attorney General Koster said. “I hope this project will lead us toward consensus solutions related to training, education, monitoring, and post-incarceration job placement that will use our resources effectively and will return offenders back into our communities in a productive and safe manner.”

The Department of Corrections has over 30,000 incarcerated inmates, 97 percent of whom will return home to our communities throughout the state. Each year there are approximately 20,000 inmates released back into the community. The MRP is designed to prepare offenders to be successful, productive, taxpaying citizens upon their release from prison. Through the process, the Department of Corrections works with partner agencies and community organizations to help inmates overcome challenges such as substance abuse, lack of family support, mental health or medical issues, lack of education or skills, and housing to rejoin society as productive and contributing citizens.

The Pew Center on the States is a division of The Pew Charitable Trusts that identifies and advances effective solutions to critical issues facing states. The center has worked with several other states in the past to analyze corrections trends and make recommendations for legislation to protect public safety and reduce both the costs and the recidivism rates of those states’ corrections systems.

## Local Task Force Members

As an integral part of the working group, the local task force will meet several times over the next year to provide feedback on the working group's analysis and help brainstorm policy alternatives. MAC Executive Director Dick Burke has been asked to chair the task force (a full list of members is below). Each of the members representing local governments will be asked for input that will be critical in this process and help ensure the working group recommendations contain prison growth and correctional costs while also holding offenders accountable and improving public safety.

- **Dick Burke**, Executive Director, Missouri Association of Counties (Chair)
- **Karen Miller**, Boone County Associate Commissioner
- **Eric Zahnd**, Platte County Prosecuting Attorney
- **Matt Selby**, Stone County Prosecuting Attorney
- **Bob McCulloch**, St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney
- **Lisa Preddy**, Area 20 District Public Defender
- **Sue Rinne**, Area 5 District Public Defender
- **Judge Patrick Robb**, 5th Judicial Circuit
- **Judge Gary Oxenhandler**, 13th Judicial Circuit
- **Chief of Police James Corwin**, Kansas City Police Department
- **Sheriff Steve Cox**, Livingston County
- **Sheriff John Jordan**, Cape Girardeau County
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*(Continued From Page 9)*

more likely to set up shop or expand in areas that have high-speed access.

According to the Small Business Administration, small businesses account for a majority of more than 1.2 million new jobs generated by the growth of the Internet during the last 10 to 15 years. Research also shows that communities with high-speed Internet access are more likely to attract and retain younger generations. Communities that are not using modern technology are losing this segment of the population in record numbers, as they are unable to keep their younger populations engaged in their communities.

In Missouri, we understand that broadband is a crucial element to our state staying globally competitive in the 21st century. In 2009, Gov. Nixon launched a new initiative, MoBroadbandNow, which seeks to expand high-speed Internet access to approximately 95 percent of Missouri businesses and residents at an affordable rate. From the start of his administration, the governor made it clear that the state of Missouri would make accessibility to broadband a priority, and we are diligently leading that charge.

Over the past two years, the state of Missouri has partnered with broadband providers, public safety agencies, healthcare groups, businesses and citizens to connect more homes and businesses in unserved and underserved communities with high-speed Internet. We have involved citizens and communities in every step of the process and are working hand-in-hand with our partners to transform communities across Missouri.

We gathered Missourians' feedback through a series of broadband residential and business surveys used to determine Internet usage, needs and challenges. While we have had many successes in our efforts, there is still plenty to accomplish to make broadband a reality throughout the state.

On Nov. 17, the state will hold its Second Annual Missouri Broadband Summit in Jefferson City. The theme is, "Breaking New Ground in Missouri." The summit is an opportunity to bring the entire state together to discuss the next level of expanding and enhancing high-speed access. The summit is free and open to anyone with an interest in broadband and accessibility in Missouri.

If you would like to attend the Missouri Broadband Summit, you can register online or view the conference agenda at: <http://mobroadbandnow.com/mo-broadband-initiatives/2011-summit/>.

Please visit our website often at <http://mobroadbandnow.com/> to stay up-to-date on news and information regarding broadband expansion in Missouri.



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# Rebuilding Disaster-Affected Communities

By Michael Waltman, Missouri Division of Workforce Development

After the city of Joplin was devastated by an EF-5 tornado on May 22, 2011, under the leadership of Gov. Jay Nixon, Missouri's Division of Workforce Development (DWD) responded with the Disaster Recovery Jobs Program (DRJP). This large-scale deployment of requested federal resources and multi-governmental partnerships rapidly trained and employed hundreds of unemployed workers to provide disaster-related cleanup and humanitarian aid. Within weeks of the Joplin tornado, this program grew to include an additional 37 counties\* within Missouri which were also impacted by separate disaster incidents including floods, severe storms and other tornadoes.

Harnessing the resources of multiple public, private and not-for-profit agencies, the Disaster Recovery Jobs Program was made possible by a \$5.8 million National Emergency Grant (NEG) awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor to fund Joplin tornado recovery efforts. Within weeks and as other disaster losses mounted, DWD quickly acted to expand the program, acquiring a supplemental NEG award of almost \$14 million. The funds created hundreds more temporary jobs to assist in recovery efforts in the flood- and storm-ravaged counties in Missouri which have been declared for public assistance by the President and coordinated through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) under Declaration 1980.

Through a coordinated effort, DRJP workers are restoring and revitalizing communities in these affected areas. The program serves unemployed persons by helping them learn new skills and provide temporary employment in the process. DWD and the local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) in the affected regions provide vital workforce development guidance, overseeing the application, recruitment and placement process through their

Missouri Career Centers. Prior to beginning work on the DRJP worksites, each worker in debris clean-up receives safety training and equipment, as well as vaccinations or other preventative medical procedures necessary to work in the disaster area. Program wages are based on wages of other employees at the worksite, so participants earn a much-needed paycheck and they reinvigorate the local economy.

"We are determined to rebuild our communities and help our neighbors recover," Gov. Nixon said. "Putting folks back to work is a crucial part of that process."

As the program continues, the scope of accomplishment and need continues to be vast: currently there are 868 trained and employed DRJP workers throughout the state, with 688 of these in debris removal and 180 in humanitarian positions. The affected areas will need approximately 1,200 temporary workers to provide disaster-related services, which includes using rakes and shovels for the tedious job of debris clean-up, repairing damages to parks and other public sites, as well as restoring hundreds of miles of damaged roads.

As chief elected officials who oversee these WIBs, it is important for you to consider how these Dept. of Labor federal funds could assist you in rebuilding your communities when disaster strikes. If your county has been, or is in the process of being declared for FEMA disaster public assistance, please contact your local WIB to ensure that they are participating in this program. Keep in mind also that your nearest Career Center provides every job seeker access to a menu of services that includes specialized workshops, skills assessments, National Career Readiness Certificates, job search assistance, resume writing, access to training and more. These services continue to be invaluable to your constituents, so your assistance in promoting their availability is important and appreciated -- just call 1-888-728-JOBS or visit [MissouriCareerSource.com](http://MissouriCareerSource.com).

*\* Important update: Ten additional counties were declared for FEMA public assistance on Sept. 9, 2011, due to FEMA Declaration 4012. The DWD will submit an additional Emergency Grant to the US DOL to assist with clean-up efforts in those counties and additional counties later added to the declaration.*



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Once your **county is declared eligible** for Disaster Public Assistance, cooperating Missouri state and regional agencies can provide **disaster-related assistance** using U.S. Department of Labor funding.

- ★ The Missouri Disaster Recovery Jobs Program (DRJP) provides **temporary labor** to assist in disaster-related cleanup\* and to repair damages to public property so that communities are **rebuilt** and normal **business can resume**.
- ★ Program funds are requested by the **Division of Workforce Development (DWD)** in coordination with the affected **local workforce investment boards**, and are contingent on available DOL resources.
- ★ These funds are used to provide **temporary employment** for unemployed workers who can perform necessary **cleanup and repair services** in the affected counties.
- ★ To receive funding, the County must be **declared eligible** for disaster public assistance through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

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\*Cleanup is restricted to public lands and private property in limited circumstances.

If FEMA has approved or is currently assessing your County for disaster-related public assistance, please contact your **local Workforce Investment Board (WIB)** to ensure these funds are available for use in your county.

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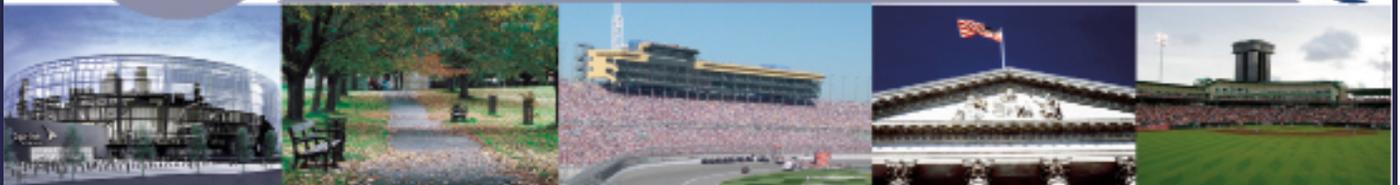


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## Missouri's 911 Structure Is In Need Of Rescue, Tennessee Proves To Have A Model System

Rep. Chuck Gatchenberger, chair of the Missouri House Interim Committee on 911 Access, has stated it before. "We know what the problem is," he said during the committee's second meeting. "We are here to discuss how to solve it."

The problem is that Missouri has no statewide funding mechanism for a 911 system. In fact, it is the only state that doesn't. Each county must independently determine how to fund its 911 services (methods include shrinking landline surcharges, sales tax initiatives, or allocated general revenue funding).

Currently, 16 counties have no 911 service of any kind.

On Sept. 13, the committee heard testimony from Tennessee Emergency Communications Board Executive Director Lynn Questell. Tennessee is a national leader in 911, providing Phase II Enhanced 911 (E911)\* statewide (meaning wireless and VoIP numbers can be received and the approximate latitude and longitude of the emergency call can be triangulated and traced). The state reached full Phase II compliance in 2005, the third state in

the nation to do so.

In 1998, the Tennessee Legislature passed a statewide E911 funding measure which collects a \$1 a month service fee on any wireless device (pre-paid wireless device retailers collect the fee at the point of sale). It also instated the Tennessee Emergency Communications Board (TECB) to manage the system and collect the fees. Currently, the system is collecting approximately \$60 million annually.

"The board was formed to keep politics out of 911" Questell stated. The TECB is made up of nine total members: eight are governor-appointed members (five are call center directors or board members, one is a representative of the counties, one is a representative for municipalities, and one is a member of the general public) and one is a designee of the comptroller.

The state is then broken down into 100 Emergency Communications Districts (ECDs) spanning its 95 counties through which the board distributes funds. "Population is a big factor in who receives what funding," Questell stated. "We fund

the ECDs, and the locals decide how many PSAPs (Public Service Answering Points) to implement." Most districts have one primary PSAP that receives calls, and approximately 10 percent have multiple PSAPs.

When it comes to wireless 911, Missouri is a unique case. Missouri 911 Directors' Association President Lisa Schlottach recently went to a national conference in Indianapolis. "People were shocked that we didn't have funding for wireless yet in Missouri," she stated.

Past efforts to remedy the problem include having twice placed wireless 911 funding measures before the voters (once in 1999 and again in 2002), and twice the voters have defeated them.

Efforts to create a legislative solution have also fallen short, even in light of a 2006 independent study commissioned by the state that concluded Missouri is one of the worst states in the nation for wireless 911 infrastructure. At the time, the study found that 21 counties were without any 911 service, and out of the ones that did, 77 percent of their PSAPs were operating past their equipment's life cycle.

Many counties now have E911, but only a fraction (approximately one-quarter) are completely Phase II compliant, and a majority of counties are operating with dated or incomplete systems.

Amidst the challenges Missouri faces, Callaway County Associate Commissioner Doc Kritzer sees progress. "The members are working together and truly understand the need for statewide 911 funding," he said. "We now need to communicate the need to Missourians and legislators."

(You can view a revised statewide 911 survey on page 22.)

*\* For more information about E911 standards and definitions, please visit the FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau at [transition.fcc.gov/pshs/services/911-services/enhanced911/Welcome](http://transition.fcc.gov/pshs/services/911-services/enhanced911/Welcome).*

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## USDA Announces Funding To Improve 911 And Emergency Communications Services In Rural America

On Sept. 9, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack has announced changes in federal regulations that will help rural communities obtain advanced emergency communications services, including 911 access to better respond to emergencies and disasters. These changes will help rural communities obtain next-generation 911 services necessary to maintain the security and safety of rural residents and businesses.

“As we mark the 10th anniversary of an event that cost thousands of American lives, we continue to work to ensure the safety of our rural communities,” Vilsack said. “Our telecommunications networks should work best when they are needed the most, and that is in times of emergencies. This change provides rural first responders with the tools they need to maintain mission-critical voice and broadband service during times of emergency or during natural disasters.”

USDA published in the *Federal Register* interim telecommunications loan program eligibility requirements on financing the construction of interoperable, integrated public safety communications networks in rural areas. Funding for the program will be provided by USDA Rural Development through the Rural Utilities Service (RUS).

The new eligibility criteria would allow USDA to leverage public and private resources to speed the rural deployment of dual-use public safety/commercial wireless networks, address homeland security communications needs along America’s rural international borders, and finance Enhanced 911 capabilities for carriers and communities. Advantages include the ability to precisely locate rural wireless 911 calls, contact 911 via text message, or send emergency responders photos or videos of crime scenes or accidents. The new regulation would also give RUS the ability to finance wireless upgrades for public safety and security.

USDA is committed to helping rural communities obtain high-quality broadband service that can also be used by emergency responders at the state, local and federal levels. Interoperability, or the ability of emergency responders from various agencies and jurisdictions to communicate during emergencies, has been a top priority.

“Rural telecommunications providers receiving RUS loan financing have successfully built out high-capacity fiber networks capable of carrying voice and data traffic to and from wireless towers and other mobile base stations,” RUS Administrator Jonathan Adelstein said. “These fiber backhaul networks are necessary to enable the deployment

of mobile voice and data services to rural and urban communities. This new lending authority complements the administration’s broader efforts to improve emergency communications throughout the nation.”

USDA, through its Rural Development mission area, administers and manages housing, business and community infrastructure and facility programs through a national network of state and local offices. Rural Development has an existing portfolio of more than \$155 billion in loans and loan guarantees. These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of rural communities, businesses, residents, farmers and ranchers, and improve the quality of life in rural America.

*For more information, visit [www.federalregister.gov](http://www.federalregister.gov) and type “Expansion of 911 Access” in the search bar at the top of the page; the rule is dated Sept. 12, 2011.*



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# Statewide County 9-1-1 Survey Results (2011 Revision)

*This is a revised 2011 survey, based off of the 2009 survey compiled by MAC and CCAM  
Past President Betty Knight, former Platte County presiding commissioner. A special thanks goes to  
Donald "Doc" Kritzer, Callaway County associate commissioner, for his efforts in compiling the revised data.*

County	How is 9-1-1 Funded?	How much is spent funding 9-1-1?				Avg. total call volume per month	% of total call volume		Level of Service
		Landline Fees	General Revenue	Sales Tax	Contracts W/ Other Entities		Landline	Cell Phone	
Adair	15% landline fee	70,000	73,923	N/A		700	50%	50%	Enhanced
Andrew	15% landline fee	135,000	165,000	N/A		375	25%	75%	Enhanced
Atchison	1/2¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	246,736		250	52%	48%	Enhanced
Audrain	3/8¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	848,700		500 - 600	60%	40%	Enhanced
Barry	1/4¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	800,000	Nov. vote on + 1/8cent sales tax	1,100	28%	72%	Enhanced
Barton	15% landline fee	90,143	N/A	N/A	75,000	250	40%	60%	Enhanced
Bates	no funding								
Benton	3/8¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	615,000		N/A	40%	60%	Enhanced
Bollinger	no funding								
Boone	2% landline fee	199,100	2,500,000	N/A		5,825	38%	62%	Enhanced
Buchanan	St. Joseph 50% county 35% EMS 15%	N/A	2,129,436	N/A		23,551	29%	71%	Enhanced
Butler	15% landline fee	147,000	N/A	124,000		600	35%	65%	Enhanced
Caldwell	15% landline fee	85,000	154,000	N/A		200	55%	45%	Enhanced
Callaway	15% landline fee	240,000	160,000	N/A	606,000	1,300	25%	71%	Enhanced
Camden	15% landline fee	540,000	N/A	N/A		1,086	45%	55%	Enhanced
Cape Girardeau	8% landline fee	530,000	N/A	N/A		3,051	35%	65%	Enhanced
Carroll	3/4¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	500,000		300	54%	46%	Enhanced
Carter	no funding								
Cass	11.5% landline fee	886,037	2,126,442	N/A	200,000	admin: 17,711 9-1-1: 3440	31%	69%	Enhanced
Cedar	no funding								
Chariton	¾¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	489,752		270	45%	55%	Enhanced
Christian	¼¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	1,400,000		2,100	25%	75%	Enhanced
Clark	no funding								
Clay	2% landline fee	504,606	696,209; NKC - 642,306	N/A	124,366	admin: 20,445 9-1-1: 1,390	22%	78%	Enhanced

For more information on Missouri's PSAPs, visit the FCC's PSAP Registry at:  
<http://transition.fcc.gov/pshs/docs/services/911-services/MasterPSAPRegistryV2.xls>

County	How is 9-1-1 Funded?	How much is spent funding 9-1-1? (number denotes dollar amount)				Avg. total call volume per month	% of total call volume		Level of Service
		Landline Fees	General Revenue	Sales Tax & Other Sources	Contracts W/ Other Entities		Landline	Cell Phone	
Clinton	15% landline fee	175,000	570,000	N/A		950	23%	77%	Enhanced
Cole	general revenue & law enforcement tax	N/A	1,450,000	N/A		2,800	40%	60%	Enhanced
Cooper	1/4¢ sales tax	N/A	100,000	410,000		2,900	38%	62%	Enhanced
Crawford	1/4¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	400,000		1,024	44%	56%	Enhanced
Dade	3/4¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	290,000		3,510	N/A	N/A	Enhanced
Dallas	1/2¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	500,000		845	44%	56%	Enhanced
Daviess	1/2¢ sales tax	N/A	10,000	252,000		250	40%	60%	Enhanced
DeKalb	15% landline fee	90,000	175,000	N/A		200	25%	75%	Enhanced
Dent	4% landline fee	46,300	N/A	N/A		78	100%	N/A	Basic
Douglas	no funding								
Dunklin	15% landline fee	118,000	N/A	N/A	sheriff dispatch 25,000	1,500	23%	77%	Enhanced
Franklin	15% landline fee	1,000,000	550,000	N/A		3,550	35%	65%	Enhanced
Gasconade	3/8¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	579,629		500	38%	61%	Enhanced
Gentry	3/8¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	210,000		300	40%	60%	Enhanced
Greene	1/8¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	5,250,000		18,000	35%	65%	Enhanced
Grundy	15% landline fee	80,000	10,000	N/A		N/A	35%	65%	Enhanced
Harrison	15% landline fee	90,954	131,794	N/A		880	70%	30%	Basic
Henry	15% landline fee	275,000	N/A	N/A		6,000	40%	60%	Enhanced
Hickory	no funding								
Holt	1/2¢ sales tax	N/A	40,000	150,000		150	N/A	N/A	Basic
Howard	1/2¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	230,000		N/A	N/A	N/A	Enhanced
Howell	3/16¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	750,000		1,875	55%	45%	Enhanced
Iron	1/2¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	300,000		N/A	N/A	N/A	Enhanced
Jackson	several funding sources	2,580,000	11,891,222	N/A	fire dist. 182,379	admin: 90,006 9-1-1: 78,784	43%	57%	Enhanced
Jasper	1/10¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	1,551,036		30,119	25%	75%	Enhanced
Jefferson	1/2¢ sales tax for 10 years, then 1/4¢	N/A	N/A	8,000,000		6,300	30%	70%	Enhanced
Johnson	1/4¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	1,050,000		1,358	26%	74%	Enhanced
Knox	no funding								
Laclede	15% landline fee	403,806	N/A	N/A		1,100	60%	40%	Enhanced

(This survey is continued on page 26)

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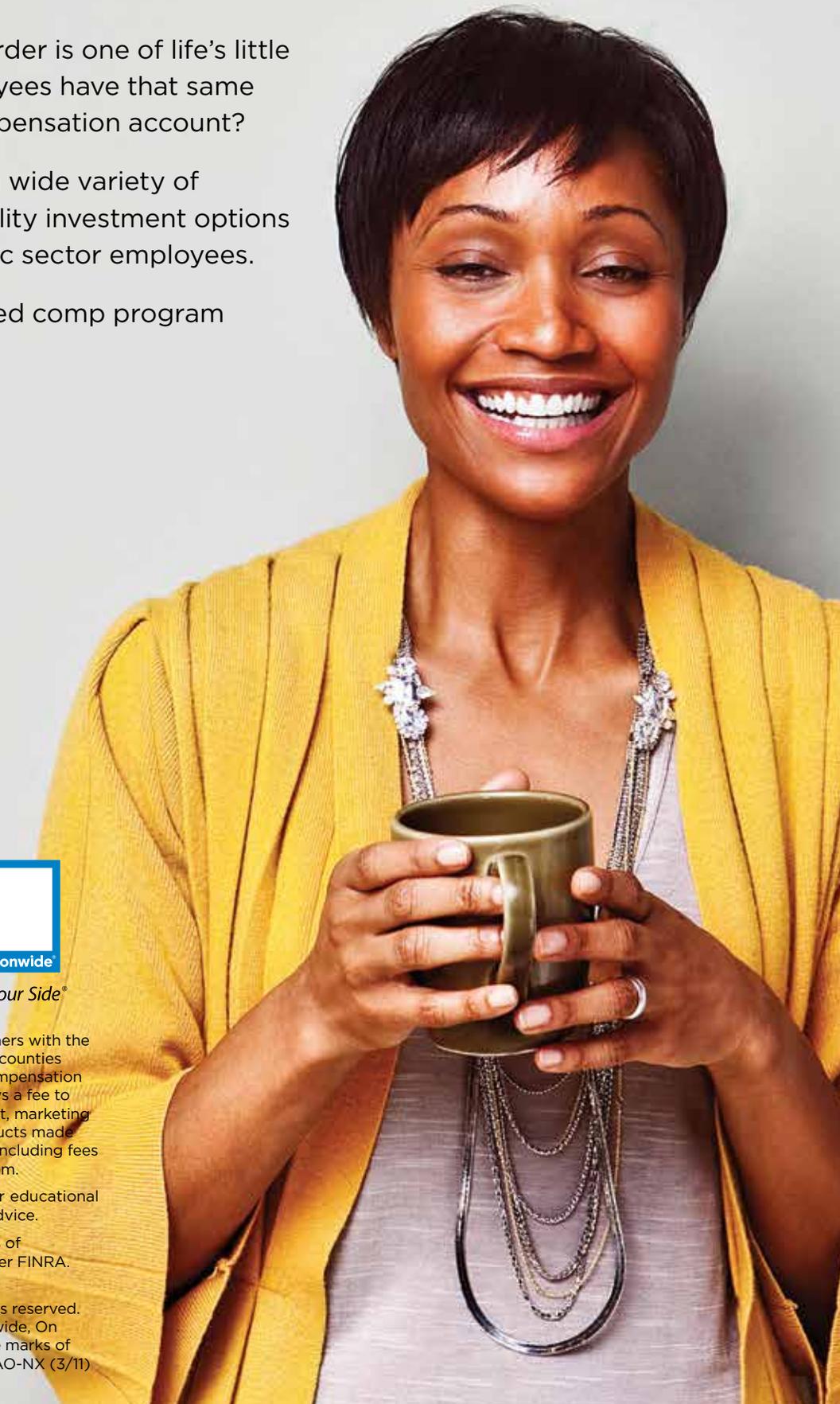
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(This survey is continued from page 23)

County	How is 9-1-1 Funded?	How much is spent funding 9-1-1? (number denotes dollar amount)				Avg. total call volume per month	% of total call volume		Level of Service
		Landline Fees	General Revenue	Sales Tax	Contracts W/ Other Entities		Landline	Cell Phone	
Lafayette	15% landline fee	277,482	93,852	N/A		600	40%	60%	Enhanced
Lawrence	15% landline fee	150,000	50,000	N/A	24,000	N/A	10%	90%	Enhanced
Lewis	5/8¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	288,000	7,400	300	30%	70%	Enhanced
Lincoln	15% landline fee	400,000	678,000	N/A		5,860	80%	20%	Enhanced
Linn	15% phone tax	118,917	N/A	N/A		125	50%	50%	Enhanced
Livingston	15% landline fee	179,659	N/A	N/A	law enf. tax - dispatch 90,000	212	20%	80%	Enhanced
McDonald	1/2 sales tax	N/A	N/A	1,117,000		3,510	N/A	N/A	Enhanced
Macon	3/8¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	482,000		500	35%	65%	Enhanced
Madison	15% landline fee	120,761	112,000	N/A		450	40%	60%	Enhanced
Maries	15% landline fee	70,000	N/A	N/A	5,000	30	25%	75%	Basic
Marion	1/4¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	880,000		600	40%	60%	Enhanced
Mercer	no funding								
Miller	15% landline fee	268,182	255,360	N/A		1,316	40%	60%	Enhanced
Mississippi	10% landline fee	47,000	N/A	N/A		203	N/A	N/A	Enhanced
Moniteau	1/2¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	511,931		776	40%	60%	Enhanced
Monroe	15% landline fee	73,500	131,598	N/A	93,750	5356	25%	75%	Enhanced
Montgomery	15% landline fee	95,387	254,029	N/A	8,478	226	N/A	N/A	Enhanced
Morgan	15% landline fee	283,000	N/A	N/A		1,800	38%	62%	Enhanced
New Madrid	15% landline fee	117,704	113,333	N/A		1,200	20%	80%	Enhanced
Newton	15% landline fee	560,000	100,000	N/A	277,156	1,900	20%	80%	Enhanced
Nodaway	15% landline fee	116,000	185,719	N/A	ambulance 60,000	130	20%	80%	Enhanced
Oregon	no funding								
Osage	1/2¢ law tax	N/A	N/A	475,000	8,000	526	26%	74%	Enhanced
Ozark	no funding								
Pemiscot	15% landline fee	100,000	42,000	N/A		1,500	40%	60%	Enhanced
Perry	15% landline fee	212,118	60,000	N/A	ambulance 7,800	550	36%	64%	Enhanced
Pettis/ Sedalia	3% landline fee 4.5% landline fee	180,000 N/A	600,000 N/A	N/A N/A		1,650 N/A	25% 25%	75% 75%	Enhanced Enhanced
Phelps	1/4¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	1,200,000		6,248	60%	40%	Enhanced
Pike	15% landline fee	140,000	N/A	N/A		91	32%	48%	Enhanced
Platte	2% landline fee	204,524	308,278	N/A		admin: 9,509 9-1-1: 1,982	30%	70%	Enhanced
Polk	15% landline fee	230,452	N/A	N/A	sheriff's 122,000	1,001	35%	65%	Enhanced

County	How is 9-1-1 Funded?	How much is spent funding 9-1-1? (number denotes dollar amount)				Avg. total call volume per month	% of total call volume		Level of Service
		Landline Fees	General Revenue	Sales Tax	Contracts W/ Other Entities		Landline	Cell Phone	
Pulaski	1/4¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	1,041,500		3,100	32%	68%	Enhanced
Putnam	1/2¢ sales tax	N/A	2,400	174,000	5,000	70	60%	40%	Enhanced
Ralls	1/2¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	466,000	9,240	N/A	N/A	N/A	Enhanced
Randolph	15% landline fee	94,000	15,000	N/A		745	35%	65%	Enhanced
Ray	2% landline fee	175,800	240,000	N/A		admin: 3,447 9-1-1: 458	33%	67%	Enhanced
Reynolds	1/2¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	198,000		N/A	N/A	N/A	Enhanced
Ripley	no funding								
St. Charles	2% landline fee	500,000	N/A	N/A	1/10 cent sales tax for radio upgrade	11,150	31%	69%	Enhanced
St. Clair	general revenue	N/A	168,000	N/A		482	N/A	N/A	Basic
St. Francois	15% landline fee	575,000	270,000	N/A	dispatch for Ste. Gen	3,000	45%	55%	Enhanced
St. Louis	1% landline fee	1,000,000	200,000	N/A		65,000	30%	70%	Enhanced
St. Louis City	general revenue	N/A	4,000,000	N/A		85,000	35%	65%	Enhanced
Ste. Genevieve	15% landline fee	120,000	260,000	N/A	dispatch from St. Francois	600	40%	60%	Basic
Saline	1/2¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	1,000,000		N/A	N/A	N/A	Enhanced
Schuyler	no funding								
Scotland	no funding								
Scott	15% landline fee	164,500	225,000	N/A	ambulance 2,500	1,310	20%	80%	Enhanced
Shannon	no funding								
Shelby	1/2¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	358,036		139	60%	40%	Enhanced
Stoddard	15% landline fee	269,701	N/A	N/A		1,000	38%	62%	Enhanced
Stone	1/4¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	1,200,000		3,600	70%	30%	Enhanced
Sullivan	3/4¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	350,000		225	49%	51%	Enhanced
Taney	10% landline fee	542,239	137,000	N/A		3,500	35%	65%	Enhanced
Texas/Wright	15% landline fee	389,943	N/A	N/A		1,024	45%	55%	Enhanced
Vernon	only general rev. for dispatching	N/A	250,000	N/A	375,000	Nevada - 1,200	N/A	N/A	Basic
Warren	1/2¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	1,177,800		400	N/A	N/A	Enhanced
Washington	1/2¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	673,752		2,500	60%	40%	Enhanced
Wayne	no funding								
Webster	1/3¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	850,000		1,230	65%	35%	Enhanced
Worth	1/2¢ sales tax	N/A	N/A	58,000		49	40%	60%	Enhanced
Wright	see Texas County								

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# Missouri Energy Board To Finance Green Projects Through A First-of-Its-Kind Public-Private Partnership

Missouri commercial property owners who wish to upgrade their property by making it energy efficient will now have access to funding through a new public-private partnership program in the state.

Effective Monday, Sept. 19, the Mid-Missouri Clean Energy Development Board will offer financing for renewable energy and energy-efficiency projects. The funding program is authorized under the recently enacted Missouri Property Assessed Clean Energy Act, or PACE.

PACE is a method of financing energy projects with private capital under the oversight of a governmental body. Unlike other government energy loan or incentive programs, unlimited funds are available to operate the program. The U.S. Department of Energy has endorsed the PACE concept as a game changer for energy efficiency and renewable energy.

The financing program allows the costs of retrofits to be added to a homeowner's property tax bill, with annual payments generally lower than utility bill savings. This means the property owner does not incur debt to pay for the improvements. The arrangement attaches the costs of an energy retrofit to the property, not the individual, eliminating uncertainty about recovering the cost of the improvements if the property is sold.

The first wave of financing is reserved for commercial property owners that are in a city or county that has joined the board. At present, this only includes

Jefferson City and Cole County. Efforts to expand coverage to residential property owners and across a six-county area of mid-Missouri are already underway. However, board membership applications from local governments anywhere in the state will be considered.

"We are building our system regionally, starting in the middle of the state and working our way out," board president Tom Sadowski said. "We have a plan to saturate the center section and then move outward."

It is anticipated that the program will especially benefit those living in rural areas.

"There are, and always have been, plenty of resources for the more highly populated areas, but we think that we have found a way for both rural and urban areas to participate in a program that will provide a mutual benefit," said Sadowski.

The program is also expected to generate jobs in the state. Based on a recent University of Massachusetts economic study, renewable energy and energy efficiency retrofits of commercial buildings create 13.6 jobs per million dollars of investment. The board estimates the first year funding will amount to \$10 million, creating as many as 136 Missouri jobs.

Those interested in applying for funding should contact the board through its administrator, Missouri Clean Energy Funding LLC. For more information, visit the PACE website at [www.MoCEFLLC.com](http://www.MoCEFLLC.com).

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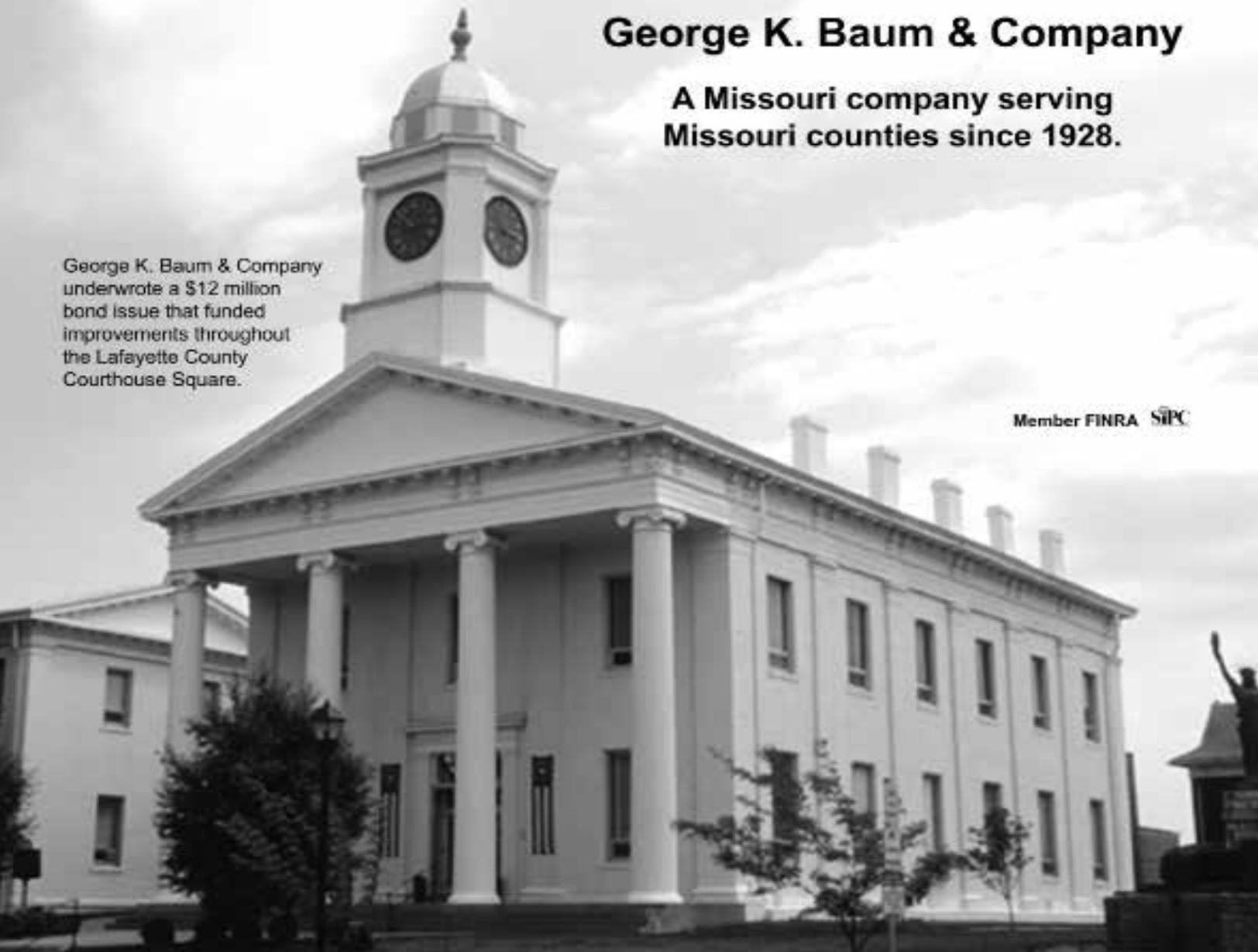
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