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Press Release: For Immediate Release

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**CITY OF CARMi working with several Local, State and Federal Agencies finishes
long awaited Industrial Park West**

After the flooding in 2011, the City of Carmi teamed up with the Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission to apply for funding to build a new industrial park on the west side of Carmi. During the 2011 flood, it was clear that businesses needed space to develop outside of the floodplain. In 2013, Delta Regional Authority, Illinois Department of Transportation and the U.S. Economic Development Administration funded water, sewer and road improvements within the City of Carmi's Industrial Park West. The Industrial Park West started out with 12 acres available. After the current development, the park still has 8 acres available for development. The project included DRA, IDOT and U.S. DOC Economic Development Administration grant monies. Since the infrastructure development, there have been three (3) businesses locate within the park, \$1.5 million in private investment committed, as well the creation of 10 new jobs with the potential for creation of 20 more jobs within the next year.

The city had been without a hardware store for 8 – 10 years. Gillard's True Value Hardware was the first tenant with an initial investment of \$420,000 and job creation of 10 new jobs. Taylor Eye Care was the second tenant to locate in the park. Projected construction and development investment is \$705,865 with job retention of 6 jobs with anticipated job creation of 5 more new jobs. Construction is now underway and should be completed in the next 3 – 4 months, weather permitting. The Taco Factory Mexican Restaurant will be located at the corner of Falcon and Industrial. Construction is now beginning and should be completed in the next 3 – 4 months, weather permitting. Construction and equipment costs are estimated at \$408,000 with new job creation of 25 with an anticipated additional 10 – 15 jobs once the restaurant needs are realized.

The entire project consisted of water and sewer lines, Lincoln, Ave. , Falcon Ave., and Industrial Ave. (a Truck Access Route from Hwy 1 to Hwy 14).



From Left to Right- Sandra Irvine, WEDG; Sarah Mann, GWRPC; Kim Watson, IL DCEO; Mike Buckman, City of Carmi; Mayor Jeff Pollard, City of Carmi; Brian Allen, City of Carmi; Bill Stanhouse, IL DCEO