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               BEFORE THE VILLAGE OF BARTLETT
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               ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
    IN RE THE MATTER OF:
    Marketing Plan and Downtown
    T-O-D Study Update.
 4
                   REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
 5
                       November 9, 2015
 6
                          7:00 P.M.
 7
             PROCEEDINGS had before the Bartlett
     Economic Development Commission of the
     above-entitled cause taken at the Village Hall,
10
     228 South Main Street, Bartlett, Illinois, before
11
     LYNN M. EVANS, C.S.R., License #084-003473, a
     Notary Public qualified and commissioned for the
13
     State of Illinois.
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     COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:
       MS. CECILIA GREEN, Chairwoman.
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       MS. TRACY SMODILLA, Member.
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       MR. MIKE SOBEL, Member.
       MR. BARRY KRALL, Member.
       MR. ROBERT PERRI, Member.
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       MR. JEFF PETRO, Member.
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     ALSO PRESENT:
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       MR. TONY FRADIN, Economic Development
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              Coordinator.
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- 1 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Okay. I'd like to call the
- 2 economic development commission to order.
- 3 Tony, can you take the roll call?
- 4 MR. FRADIN: Gerald Kubaszko.
- 5 Cecilia Green.
- 6 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Here.
- 7 MR. FRADIN: Donna Weir.
- 8 Robert Perri.
- 9 MR. PERRI: Here.
- 10 MR. FRADIN: Nayan Mehta.
- Jeff Petro.
- 12 MR. PETRO: Here.
- 13 MR. FRADIN: Tracy Smodilla.
- 14 MS. SMODILLA: Here.
- 15 MR. FRADIN: Barry Krall.
- MR. KRALL: Here.
- 17 MR. FRADIN: Mike Sobel.
- 18 MR. SOBEL: Here.
- MR. FRADIN: Okay. We do have a quorum
- 20 tonight.
- 21 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Now the approval of the
- October 12th meeting minutes. Does anyone have
- any comments, questions, corrections, additions?
- If not, can I hear a motion to approve the

- 1 minutes?
- 2 MR. SOBEL: I'll make a motion to approve the
- 3 minutes.
- 4 MR. PERRI: I second.
- 5 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: The motion has been made
- 6 and seconded that we approve the minutes. Let's
- 7 take a vote.
- 8 All those in favor, aye.
- 9 (A chorus of ayes.)
- 10 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: All right. Next we're
- 11 moving on to the marketing plan, and we're taking
- 12 up two of the sections that we're dealing with
- 13 tonight; is that right, Tony?
- 14 MR. FRADIN: That's right, Cecilia. Tonight
- 15 we're going to be talking about the last two
- 16 sections in the marketing plan. I'll just
- 17 briefly give the background is that we've been
- 18 working on this for the past several months.
- 19 Paula Schumacher is the assistant Village
- 20 administrator who has been primarily working on
- 21 putting this plan together, along with Jim's
- 22 assistance and my assistance. As you can see,
- 23 I'm here on my own tonight, so I'm going to
- 24 present the last two sections, one of which is

- 1 Route 59 and West Bartlett Road and the second of
- 2 which is the Lake Street corridor.
- 3 So what I'm going to do, I hope you have
- 4 all flipped back quite a few pages to this
- 5 marketing plan to the page that says Route 59/
- 6 West Bartlett Road on the top. There is a list
- 7 of goals. Okay. At this intersection the list
- 8 of goals, I'm going to go through them guickly.
- 9 One of which is to target smaller,
- 10 independent businesses in marketing efforts for
- 11 outlot uses, and outlot just means the lots that
- 12 are usually smaller, one- to two-acre lots in
- 13 front of a larger development.
- 14 A second one is to continue to work with
- 15 the State Department of Commerce and Economic
- 16 Opportunity to promote Bartlett. In previous
- 17 plans, you've seen the -- you've seen it listed
- 18 as DCEO and what that is the State Economic
- 19 Development Agency that's currently undergoing an
- 20 overhaul with some new strategies.
- 21 Third is to continue to market site to
- 22 attract desirable users at the local, regional,
- 23 and national level. I wanted to stop and
- 24 highlight that one a little bit. In terms of

- 1 regional and national, we've been discussing this
- 2 for quite a few years at the economic development
- 3 commission that a lot of the smaller
- 4 mom-and-pop-type shops and sole proprietorships
- 5 tend to open in the smaller, older units in the
- 6 downtown area and the Route 59 corridor tends to
- 7 attract more regional and national type
- 8 businesses, retailers, offices, and service
- 9 providers.
- 10 Also, a fourth bullet point is to
- 11 participate in International Council of Shopping
- 12 Centers. That is -- we commonly refer to that as
- 13 ICSC. They have several trade shows per year in
- 14 the Chicago area that give municipal staff,
- 15 economic development staff, retail
- 16 representatives, and shopping center owners and
- developers the chance to mingle and to meet and
- 18 to attend informational sessions, and we've been
- 19 active in that for quite a few years in an effort
- 20 to promote the village.
- Next bullet point is to continue shop
- local efforts, such as the coupon insert that's
- 23 going to be in the -- in the Bartletter in this
- 24 December issue coming out next month, the dining

- 1 guide, and special ads. Special ads can
- 2 encompass a number of things, whether it be
- 3 social media or recently we've delved into the
- 4 world of cable advertising with some future cable
- 5 advertising coming up fairly soon.
- 6 Next bullet point is to continue use of
- 7 traditional advertisement, newsletter, and then,
- 8 there again, social media to promote new and
- 9 existing businesses, including the Discover
- 10 Bartlett Facebook page is a good example of using
- 11 social media to promote new and existing
- 12 businesses in the village.
- Next one is a big one that we haven't had
- in our marketing plans before, but to communicate
- 15 planned road improvements. As Jim has mentioned
- 16 here in the previous few meetings, the State has
- 17 some plans finally to work with the Village and
- 18 the counties to improve some of the major
- 19 intersections here in Bartlett and that in itself
- 20 can help make it more attractive for prospective
- 21 businesses or residential developers to come in
- 22 if they don't have to pay for the road
- 23 improvements themselves and, of course, it makes
- 24 their developments more easily accessible.

- Next bullet point is to work with property
- 2 owner for a mixed-use development; and one of the
- 3 things I've put up at your seats, you see, is a
- 4 printout just from the home page of a developer
- 5 called Crown Community Development and that is
- 6 the developer that has purchased and currently
- 7 owns the large 100-plus-acre property right at
- 8 the northwest corner of Route 59 and West Bartlett
- 9 Road.
- 10 So when we talk about developing that site
- in particular, what we're talking about at this
- 12 time is working with the developer who owns it.
- 13 We meet occasionally. We discuss by phone and
- 14 email targeting various commercial uses in an
- 15 effort to bring development to that site and
- 16 also, as you can see, they themselves are land
- 17 developers. They have removed some topsoil at
- 18 that site. They spent quite a bit of time and
- 19 money doing that to make the site more attractive;
- 20 and it's their ultimate goal to develop that site
- 21 as a mixed-use development with commercial and
- 22 retail development fronting Route 59 with
- 23 residential development behind it, so working
- 24 with Crown Community Development is a key element

- 1 to the marketing plan for that site.
- 2 And last is to target medical uses in
- 3 marketing efforts, and that's another use that
- 4 has been expanding of late throughout the
- 5 northwest suburbs and really in general throughout
- 6 the whole state. That's another type of office
- 7 use that may be attracted to that site.
- 8 So after the bullet points, as you've seen
- 9 in our marketing plan through the months, the
- 10 page -- there is a page mapping out the site and
- 11 behind it there's quite a lengthy list of
- 12 demographics. In my packet, there is the list of
- demographics for a few pages and then you get to
- 14 a map of West Bartlett Road and Route 59 that
- shows the vacant yet-to-be developed parcels.
- And with that, I would like to hear the
- 17 commissioners comments and thoughts on this
- 18 aspect of the marketing plan for this particular
- 19 site.
- 20 MS. SMODILLA: I guess the first question I
- 21 have, Tony, is regarding the continuation of shop
- 22 local efforts. Clearly what we have in that
- 23 particular district is a variety of independently
- 24 owned service companies, restaurants, and I think

- 1 there is limited retail in that area.
- With the continue to shop local efforts,
- 3 is there an opportunity for the Village to perhaps
- 4 explore a cooperative advertising effort with,
- 5 again, those smaller businesses where they would
- 6 actually share in some of the expense that's
- 7 involved in the advertising? I think particularly
- 8 as we're thinking about more cable advertising.
- 9 MR. FRADIN: We haven't really explored that.
- 10 There is a number of reasons why. We're not
- 11 necessarily going to promote just the businesses
- 12 that would help pay for that. We also have an
- 13 annual marketing budget where we cover the village
- 14 as a whole and it could become too difficult, in
- 15 my opinion, if you want to do, let's say, a cable
- 16 ad and highlight six businesses or -- let's say,
- 17 six or eight businesses. Some of them may be
- 18 able or willing to help contribute to it, but
- 19 there is others that simply can't for whatever
- 20 reason; and whether we include one or we don't
- 21 include one based upon that, I think they would
- 22 prefer not to contribute if we did ask them, but
- 23 that's not something that we've explored yet just
- 24 because from the Village side, you know, we're

- 1 promoting a whole area or a group of businesses;
- 2 and, also, we like to change it up from month to
- 3 month, so rather than spend a lot of time gauging
- 4 their interest in paying, I don't want to sit
- 5 here and say they can't pay or they won't, but a
- 6 lot of the ones that we choose to promote -- and
- 7 we haven't done this type of cable ad yet,
- 8 promoting specific businesses, but I believe it
- 9 would be difficult to try to get them to
- 10 contribute to it.
- MS. SMODILLA: Well, is that something then
- 12 that could be, rather than entering into an
- 13 agreement with the individual businesses, is that
- 14 something that could be entered into with the
- 15 chamber of commerce since there seems to be a
- 16 close relationship between the Village marketing
- 17 efforts and the chamber.
- 18 MR. FRADIN: There is a good relationship with
- 19 cross promotion. They've been kind enough to do
- 20 a lot of promotion that I've asked them to send
- 21 out to all their membership. I can't speak as to
- 22 their budgeting ability, but with these cable
- 23 ads, for instance, the first ad that we did for
- 24 Heritage Days was about \$2500 just to run the ad

- 1 for two weeks and another 300 to produce it, so
- 2 we haven't asked the chamber if they want to
- 3 contribute to that, but, again, the businesses
- 4 that we promote don't necessarily equal the
- 5 businesses that are in the chamber of commerce.
- 6 Some of them might not be members of the chamber
- 7 of commerce, so by doing this through the Village,
- 8 obviously the Village retains more control of the
- 9 message that's put into the promotions regardless
- 10 of their chamber membership; and, again, I can't
- 11 speak as to their budget, but I don't know if
- they're ready, willing, and able to contribute
- 13 that type of financing to a cable television ad,
- 14 especially if it's not promoting their members.
- 15 MR. SOBEL: I can give a little insight to the
- 16 answer to that, and the answer would be we
- 17 probably couldn't get behind an effort like that,
- 18 and the reason being it wouldn't cover all
- 19 businesses. It would be about certain businesses,
- 20 and we can't be looked at like, oh, we favored
- 21 these guys; we gave them advertising. We
- 22 contributed money for advertising for company A,
- 23 company B, but not company D, so we would probably
- 24 as a board vote not to do that because we don't

- 1 want to show favoritism towards any particular
- 2 businesses.
- 3 MR. FRADIN: Right. The chamber -- and I've
- 4 been participating with the chamber for many
- 5 years. There are a lot of service providing
- 6 businesses. Quite a few of them are home based.
- 7 There is a large membership that's not Bartlett
- 8 based businesses, so, you know, the next
- 9 promotion that we do on cable will be basically a
- 10 dining ad to promote eating and drinking
- 11 establishments in the town, so we would like to
- 12 promote them regardless of their chamber
- 13 membership; and, like Mike said, I don't know if
- 14 that's something they're willing to entertain or
- 15 not.
- 16 MS. SMODILLA: And that would be an
- 17 advertisement then that would promote all eating
- 18 and drinking establishments in Bartlett?
- 19 MR. FRADIN: I'm not going to say all.
- 20 MS. SMODILLA: Well, that's part of the sticky
- 21 wicket that we get into.
- 22 MR. FRADIN: Yeah. It's going to be a cross
- 23 section of unique places.
- 24 MR. PETRO: You know what I thought was

- 1 interesting, and I don't know how long it's been,
- 2 but TL's has had that sign up on 59; and I know
- 3 when it first went up, Sean was a little bit
- 4 hesitant. I don't know if anyone's driven by it
- 5 recently, if it's still up there.
- 6 MS. SMODILLA: At 59 and Irving?
- 7 MR. PETRO: Yeah.
- 8 MS. SMODILLA: It's very effective.
- 9 MR. PETRO: So, you know, I have no idea, but
- 10 it seems like it's shown itself to be effective
- 11 for just one store to go out on their own on 59
- 12 and Sean's place is not that big of a restaurant
- 13 really.
- 14 MR. FRADIN: Right, that's what came to mind
- 15 when we were talking about the businesses that
- 16 may contribute. Sean, the owner of TL's, he's
- 17 always been one of the best business people in
- 18 town in marketing his business. He happens to
- 19 have told me that that billboard costs
- 20 approximately \$5,000 per month, so that's a large
- 21 marketing expenditure that he's done for quite
- 22 some time. It's not always there, but it's been
- 23 there for periods of time over the years, and
- he's always told me that he's always noticed a

- 1 good increase in business when he does have that
- 2 up there.
- 3 MR. PERRI: So 59 and West Bartlett Road,
- 4 Tony, would you say the level of interest in this
- 5 parcel that we're talking about here is at a
- 6 higher level than it's usually been in the past
- 7 or lower level interest-wise from getting done
- 8 something going on?
- 9 MR. FRADIN: I think it's the same, but in
- 10 terms of this as a five-year marketing plan, the
- 11 interest was raised a little bit when they
- 12 started leveling the site and removing the top
- 13 soil. I believe that the interest will increase
- 14 again as the road improvements get under way.
- We've spoken about it for quite some time
- 16 here whether or not the entire economy is
- improving, whether sections of the economy or
- 18 various classes of real estate like industrial
- 19 real estate or residential.
- This site hasn't become necessarily more
- 21 attractive for commercial use, but a bulk of the
- 22 site will mostly develop residential for that
- 23 particular corner that I was talking about, and I
- do believe that that site is becoming more

- 1 attractive for them, so kind of a two-way answer.
- 2 We've been working together trying to
- 3 target retailers to come in and the interest has
- 4 not been great. This site is also in Cook County
- 5 and I'm talking about the northwest corner in
- 6 particular.
- 7 MR. PERRI: Right.
- 8 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: From the target medical
- 9 uses, is that just like small doctors' offices or
- 10 could that possibly be a facility?
- 11 MR. FRADIN: That's somewhat of a general
- 12 statement, I know. In my thinking, it would be
- more of a larger facility because the site is
- 14 undeveloped. It's a very high profile site. I --
- 15 you would really need a crystal ball to see
- 16 exactly what size and scope of a medical facility
- might come to that site, but I'm not thinking
- 18 something -- I shouldn't speak for Paula, but not
- 19 like a whole hospital, but a larger medical
- 20 complex perhaps, larger building, possibly a
- 21 multi-story medical building.
- 22 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: With like several doctors
- 23 or a group of doctors perhaps?
- MR. FRADIN: I would say perhaps.

- 1 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Yeah.
- 2 MR. FRADIN: It's one of the types of uses
- 3 that we still get inquiries on. A lot of the
- 4 larger health group systems are still in
- 5 expansion mode. Unlike retailers, the medical
- 6 industry seems to have continued expanding and
- 7 that's -- I'm not going to say it's a highly
- 8 likely use for that corner, but it's a potential
- 9 use for that site.
- 10 MS. SMODILLA: Well, with the understanding
- 11 that, you know, one of the reasons we're looking
- 12 at developing these vacant parcels, how does a
- 13 medical-use facility, how does it impact our tax
- 14 base?
- MR. FRADIN: It impacts it in the same way
- 16 that a retail use would, obviously, without the
- 17 sales tax. There would be -- number one would be
- 18 the ease or convenience for residents who use it.
- 19 Another one would be raising the daytime
- 20 population in terms of jobs that would be created.
- 21 They're typically better jobs than retail jobs.
- 22 Of course, if the site is developed, they would
- 23 be another large taxpayer in the village; and if
- 24 it was, say, a large medical complex, that

- 1 complex in itself wouldn't necessarily create any
- 2 further burden on taxing districts for -- it
- 3 would be employee based. It wouldn't create
- 4 additional students or necessarily park or
- 5 library users, although I work in town and I use
- 6 the library quite a bit, but basically it would
- 7 be another large part of the tax base with the
- 8 big exception of not creating any retail sales
- 9 tax directly. Perhaps if they had a hundred
- 10 employees, those hundred employees might patronize
- 11 local businesses and then help boost them.
- MS. SMODILLA: Sure. So really the comment of
- 13 targeting medical uses and marketing efforts for
- 14 that corridor, that's just kind of a we're
- 15 kicking the tires and we're thinking about it
- 16 right now? We're not -- there is not a very
- 17 specific effort for that?
- 18 MR. FRADIN: That's a good way to put it.
- 19 MS. SMODILLA: Okay.
- 20 MR. FRADIN: We're not going out necessarily
- 21 contacting the big medical offices or health care
- 22 systems, but we wish for this marketing plan to
- 23 incorporate that possibility or at least to be
- 24 open to it.

- 1 MS. SMODILLA: Thinking about that and thinking
- 2 about the opportunity that a medical -- a medical
- 3 facility -- the opportunity that a medical
- 4 facility would bring to the greater Bartlett area,
- 5 why -- and again, I don't want to backpedal to
- 6 other districts just for the sake of backpedaling,
- 7 but wouldn't it behoove us to maybe think about
- 8 the downtown area as an opportunity for medical
- 9 use development and Gorski plaza being one of
- 10 those? We've got a pretty stable infrastructure
- 11 already, and certainly Gorski plaza does need
- some remediation, but I think in terms of really
- 13 looking at these goals we have of boosting
- 14 daytime census to the downtown area, which we
- 15 know is underutilized during the day for the most
- 16 part, wouldn't it behoove us to really think
- 17 about a very fortified marketing plan to target
- 18 those particular businesses that are in
- 19 healthcare?
- 20 MR. FRADIN: That could be -- that should be
- 21 part of this marketing plan.
- 22 MS. SMODILLA: Quite frankly, I think that --
- 23 you know, if I'm going to go and see my doctor, I
- 24 really don't care where my doctor is at. It

- doesn't need to be at a major retail intersection
- 2 the way Stearns and 59 would be, but Gorski plaza
- 3 it could become a destination for those that are
- 4 looking to utilize healthcare services; and
- 5 again, I'm just reflecting a little, tiny bit on
- 6 what's going on with the transportation oriented
- 7 district steering committee. There is a new
- 8 concept called Medtail where more medical
- 9 facilities are actually going in to retail --
- 10 traditional retail spaces; and, again, with --
- 11 again, with remediation for not just the interior
- of the space, but certainly for what they would
- 13 need for fiberoptics or digital imaging, so I
- 14 just think it would be a great opportunity for us
- 15 to maybe think about that in more detail.
- 16 MR. FRADIN: That's a good idea. I hear that
- 17 term Medtail a lot at ICSC. Years ago it was
- 18 just all retail all the time. Now I do hear that
- 19 a lot.
- 20 One of the reasons it ended up in this
- 21 section of the marketing plan, rather than
- 22 downtown, a lot of times -- let me backtrack and
- 23 say I'm not an expert at medical retail -- or
- 24 Medtail development, but usually it's the group

- 1 themselves that drive the development. Typically
- 2 they call with their own criteria; and all the
- 3 ones I've spoken to or learned of over the years,
- 4 none of them really fit that footprint of the big
- 5 empty grocery store. It's 32,000 square feet.
- 6 They typically want to either build their own,
- 7 build to suit you would say, or have something,
- 8 I'm going to use quotes, as a higher image
- 9 center, so the last one that I've spoken with
- 10 that had some interest in constructing their own
- 11 facility, I was trying to get them to consider
- 12 the vacant Dominick's space because it was closer
- 13 to that size, which is approximately twice as big
- 14 at Gorski plaza. I believe that an expanding
- 15 medical group would be reluctant to go into that
- 16 space, but it's something that if something comes
- in and they're smaller, 32,000 square feet or
- 18 smaller, should consider it.
- 19 MS. SMODILLA: And I agree and I think one of
- 20 the benefits that that space would have to a
- 21 medical facility is the fact that they are within
- 22 close proximity to the Metra station, so they
- 23 would certainly have the opportunity to attract
- 24 people coming from as far away as Elgin or even,

- 1 you know, some of the other suburbs that are to
- 2 our east.
- 3 I can only imagine the story that we could
- 4 create for them by saying we've got this great
- 5 space. We're right on the Metra. They've got --
- 6 most medical facilities have vans that they use
- 7 to transport, so I think it would be a real boon
- 8 even to the senior or, you know, the aging
- 9 community, certainly those with disabilities, that
- 10 may not have their own transportation for them to
- 11 use something like public transportation and have
- 12 a shuttle that would take them over there.
- MR. FRADIN: So you feel we should add a
- 14 similar bullet point to the downtown marketing?
- 15 MS. SMODILLA: I think it would be terrific if
- 16 we were to start to speak to some of these other
- 17 healthcare providers, whether they're in the
- 18 traditional large group healthcare providers,
- 19 like an AMITA or Northwestern or Rush Copley.
- 20 know there is many, many -- I think it's because
- 21 of the advent of the merger in healthcare
- 22 facilities that they're looking for more of these
- 23 smaller, specialty-type facilities, and I think
- 24 to have that where you're in close proximity to

- 1 public transportation, I think, would be a real
- 2 asset to them. That's just my feeling, but,
- 3 again, under the heading of boosting daytime
- 4 census.
- 5 MR. FRADIN: That would be a good way to do it.
- 6 MR. PERRI: Couple weeks ago I had the
- 7 opportunity to sit down with the owners of the
- 8 Bartlett Plaza property and discussed with them
- 9 what they thought could be done with that
- 10 property; and the conclusion after talking about
- 11 different ways to go about it, I think what they
- 12 decided that they're going to knock the property
- down because they're paying for that property in
- 14 taxes with a building that's empty and they've
- 15 been trying to rent that for, I don't know, ten
- 16 years, so they're seriously considering just
- 17 knocking it down and maybe building a smaller
- 18 building.
- 19 MR. FRADIN: They've spoken with me about that
- 20 possibility before. From a Village standpoint,
- 21 we've always been supportive if that's the tactic
- 22 that they want to take. It may make their site
- 23 more marketable, as you mention, to knock down
- 24 vacant 32,000 square feet. That itself could

- 1 become an outlot building where a retailer could
- 2 build a stand-alone building or perhaps a
- 3 restaurant or a drive through restaurant, so
- 4 that's something that they've spoken with me
- 5 about before, but ultimately it's going to be
- 6 their decision and what's in their own best
- 7 interests, but you're correct, the taxes on the
- 8 Cook County, which we're talking about with
- 9 Bartlett Plaza, they're onerous, so that might
- 10 be -- so that might ultimately become their best
- 11 option.
- MS. SMODILLA: Well, whether that's the option
- 13 or the existing space is remediated, I think we
- 14 can all learn a lesson from the Hanover Park
- 15 parcel at the northeast quadrant of Irving Park
- 16 and Barrington. There was a former Dominick's
- 17 there in kind of a nondescript strip mall and
- 18 that was raised in favor of the Menards going in;
- 19 and you seen really an increase in retail traffic
- 20 in that area and, you know, it's certainly become
- 21 a much more attractive retail destination as a
- 22 whole, so perhaps, again, we could look to what
- 23 Hanover Park has done with their interested
- 24 developers.

- 1 MR. FRADIN: Absolutely.
- 2 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Okay. Is there anything
- 3 else on West Bartlett Road and 59 before we move
- 4 on to Lake Street?
- 5 All right. Tony, you want to lead us
- 6 through Lake Street?
- 7 MR. FRADIN: Yes. Thanks, Cecilia. The Lake
- 8 Street marketing plan it's a little different
- 9 than some of the other ones we've gone over so
- 10 far, but the first one remains the same, to
- 11 continue the use of traditional advertisements,
- 12 newsletter, and social media to promote new and
- 13 existing businesses.
- 14 Second point is something we've been doing
- 15 here for years, maintaining a database of
- 16 available commercial sites and the owner and
- 17 broker information for those sites.
- 18 Third is to continue to market sites to
- 19 attract desirable users at the local, regional,
- 20 and national levels, and Lake Street is actually
- 21 a good mix of all three; you've got nationals
- 22 like Dunkin Donuts there, you've got regional
- 23 like some of the automotive service businesses,
- 24 and you have local -- you have some stand-alone

- 1 mom-and-pop shops as well.
- 2 Continue to shop local efforts is the next
- 3 bullet point.
- 4 The next one after that is unique to Lake
- 5 Street, target car dealerships, hotels, and retail
- 6 uses in marketing efforts, that's the first
- 7 mention of car dealerships and hotels in this
- 8 document.
- 9 Next one is to participate in
- 10 International Council of Shopping Center shows to
- 11 promote the sites; and the last one is to
- 12 communicate the value of access improvements.
- So you see with Lake Street there's a wide
- 14 mixture of uses. It's an interesting area because
- 15 it goes in and out of Bartlett. Some of it is
- 16 unincorporated. It goes into Streamwood in some
- 17 parts, so the future marketing of Lake Street is
- 18 a conglomeration of a lot of the other sites as
- 19 well, with the addition of the possibility of
- 20 attracting car dealerships and hotels to this
- 21 site.
- 22 And with that, I open the Lake Street
- 23 corridor up to your comments and questions.
- 24 MR. PERRI: How would the Village be open to

- 1 possibly putting in improvements on Lake Street
- 2 to get it ready for a business to go in there,
- 3 rather than waiting for a business and then you
- 4 have to put the improvements in which take more
- 5 years?
- 6 MR. FRADIN: It would be hard to answer that
- 7 sitting here, but I would say it would depend on
- 8 the size and scope and nature of the business.
- 9 If it was a large business, something like the
- 10 Elgin Toyota that's going in right past the
- 11 border in Streamwood, I would say that that would
- 12 be a likely scenario. If it was a larger hotel
- 13 or something of that nature, but a lot of the
- 14 development you've all seen that has come into
- 15 Lake Street is typically on a piece-by-piece
- 16 basis. Like I said, some of them are Bartlett in
- 17 some parts and then going in unincorporated
- 18 areas. It's a challenging area to develop, so I
- 19 would say that, of course, we would work with a
- 20 developer to put in the road improvements, but in
- 21 terms of putting them in before a development,
- 22 that would basically be like Route 59 based upon
- 23 state funding.
- 24 MS. SMODILLA: Do you know what the status of

- 1 the vintage real estate development is with the
- board at this time? Apparently they're proposing
- 3 a multi-unit, mixed-use development. I believe
- 4 it's Sutton, Lake, and Horizon, which is going to
- 5 be luxury rental apartments and retail.
- 6 MR. FRADIN: That's correct. That one is
- 7 still in the making. I would characterize it as
- 8 the due diligence phase. There is some
- 9 Village-owned property in this proposed
- 10 development, so that's another wrinkle into it
- 11 where at some point the Village would have to
- 12 determine if the Village is going to sell it, how
- 13 much the Village would sell it for, but that's a
- 14 good question because that is -- that could be a
- 15 keystone project to spur development of that area.
- 16 I'm hard-pressed to remember the exact number,
- 17 but it's over 400 apartments proposed with a
- 18 limited amount of retail; and the retail I've
- 19 seen on the concept plan can best be described as
- 20 supporting the apartments themselves, like a
- 21 health club facility, a drive-through coffee
- 22 shop. I believe there might have been some type
- 23 of banquet space or rentable building space for
- 24 the apartment units, but that is still a project

- 1 that could potentially move forward.
- 2 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Why is this the only place
- 3 that hotels are mentioned and not on West Bartlett
- 4 Road and 59?
- 5 MR. FRADIN: That hotels are mentioned?
- 6 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Uh-huh.
- 7 MR. FRADIN: The reason for that is in my
- 8 attempts over the years to attract a branded
- 9 hotel to the village, most of them -- not most of
- 10 them -- all of them have taken more of an
- 11 interest in Lake Street simply due to the high
- 12 traffic counts and the nature of the street that
- 13 goes through, you know, many communities. It's a
- 14 highly traveled route, but that's actually a
- 15 good -- I think that's a good point that that
- 16 could be another bullet point to the West
- 17 Bartlett Road and Route 59 marketing plan just
- 18 because the large size of the site; and if that
- 19 develops before the Lake Street sites do, that
- 20 could become an attractive location for a hotel
- 21 as well. That's a good point. We would be open
- 22 to it. It's just when we -- when we have a
- 23 conversation with a hotel developer, they're
- 24 typically drawn to the Lake Street corridor.

- 1 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Of course that's closer to
- 2 Elgin-O'Hare.
- 3 MR. FRADIN: That's the main reason, along
- 4 with the traffic counts.
- 5 MR. PERRI: Tony, the car dealership on Lake
- 6 Street I think would be a great asset to the
- 7 village because it would bring in tax revenue.
- 8 Is the Village doing anything to get a car
- 9 dealership interested in the area there?
- 10 MR. FRADIN: Well, so far it's been my own
- 11 marketing efforts. Occasionally through a broker
- 12 or another colleague, I'll find out that a
- 13 smaller dealership may be looking around; and,
- 14 for instance, I've reached out to two of them in
- 15 the past six weeks or so, but they're smaller.
- 16 They're not -- it's not a Honda. It's not a
- 17 Toyota or a Chevy. They're used car dealerships
- in the area that may be looking to expand, so
- 19 targeting car dealerships is hard without already
- 20 having them, but having the Loquercio Group build
- 21 Elgin Toyota in close proximity to the village
- 22 could be the starting point of bringing that area
- 23 to the attention of other car dealers; and there
- 24 is also the chance of new brands perhaps coming

- 1 onto the market and that's something that we may
- 2 be able to compete for. So far it hasn't really
- 3 been done very much besides some smaller used car
- 4 dealerships.
- 5 MR. PERRI: You think it might be a good idea
- to contact a big dealership like Honda or Hyundai
- 7 or somebody like that?
- 8 MR. FRADIN: Much like restaurants, they're
- 9 franchises, so if you want to contact Honda, for
- 10 instance, you might contact somebody like the Bob
- 11 Rohrman Group who's got a number of dealerships
- or the Jacobs Twin dealerships. I've only spoken
- 13 to a few in my ten years here, some of the larger
- dealerships, and they're very, very reluctant to
- 15 go where there isn't already an auto row. They
- don't want to be there by themselves. That's why
- 17 this is becoming part of this future marketing
- 18 plan because instead of saying yes, you'll be out
- 19 here by yourself, you'd say, well, no, there is a
- 20 new Toyota dealership nearby. We've all gone car
- 21 shopping and you don't want to go to two or three
- 22 dealerships in a row on Golf Road, like where
- 23 I've gone, and then drive another 15 miles to
- 24 another dealership. A lot of times car

- 1 dealerships tend to cluster. Just like the food
- 2 businesses are clustering out in the Brewster
- 3 Creek Business Park, car dealerships are a
- 4 classic type of business that cluster together,
- 5 but it's something we would like to target.
- 6 MS. SMODILLA: Well, it seems like if we're
- 7 going to do that, our opportunity in the western
- 8 Lake Street area is very limited. Those parcels
- 9 are not conducive to car lots unlike an eastern
- 10 Lake Street. Just west of North Oak Avenue on
- 11 Lake Street looks like there is a fairly large
- 12 parcel that would be conducive to that, but even
- 13 that aside, you know, is this something --
- 14 especially as it relates to the -- this Lake
- 15 Street corridor, isn't there some low hanging
- 16 fruit that we could address, such as the strip
- 17 mall at Lake Street and North Oak Avenue.
- 18 I don't know what the relationship that
- 19 the Village has with the owner of that, but it
- 20 is -- the parking lot is abysmal on its very,
- 21 very best day. The -- they've got some quality
- 22 tenants in there, and I also know those quality
- 23 tenants are complaining about some of the other
- 24 current tenants. I don't know what can be done

- 1 to perhaps encourage them to clean up their
- 2 space, wash their sidewalks. Perhaps the Village
- 3 could enforce code as it relates to one business
- 4 in particular that's operating illicitly, but I
- 5 think that is one of the gateways to the village
- 6 of Bartlett. I think we could do a better job in
- 7 just cleaning up the existing shopping centers
- 8 that we have.
- 9 MR. FRADIN: I agree. This is obviously a
- 10 question I would hand over to Jim if he was
- 11 sitting here with me, but at Oakfield Plaza, our
- 12 Village has done quite a bit of code enforcement
- 13 on that center. We agree it's not the most
- 14 attractive center in the village. In the time
- 15 that I've been with the Village, I'm going to say
- 16 that it's transacted three or possibly four
- 17 times. It tends to sell every two years or so;
- 18 and for the most part, our code enforcement has
- 19 had them either in court or giving them citations,
- 20 and you named the main thing, the parking lot;
- 21 also, the facade, broken signs, and all types of
- 22 code violations there over the years.
- The good news is that the current owner
- 24 has been more receptive than some previous

- 1 owners. They've worked with our code enforcement
- 2 people to bring it up to code. They haven't
- 3 completely remodeled it obviously, but I think if
- 4 you go by there and take a look, you'll see that
- 5 it looks better now than it did a few years ago.
- 6 The current owners have been working more closely
- 7 with code enforcement. You're right, you hit on
- 8 some major points with that. That particular
- 9 center has been an eyesore over the years and
- 10 it's one that the Village works with the current
- 11 owners to bring it up to code.
- 12 MS. SMODILLA: Well, I think --
- 13 MR. FRADIN: Let me say one more thing. Like
- 14 you said, there are some very good tenants in
- 15 there. There is a great Mexican restaurant,
- 16 El Faro. The Goodyear is not necessarily part of
- 17 it, but I've been taking my car there for years.
- 18 The Village takes the Village cars there. The
- 19 7-Eleven on the corner has been there. The Dairy
- 20 Queen in the outlot building, the pizza place.
- 21 There has been some very good businesses that
- 22 have been there for a long time and there has
- 23 been other units where people just come and go,
- 24 so you're right, that should be maybe another

- 1 bullet point in this marketing piece is just --
- 2 I'm not sure exactly how to phrase it besides to
- 3 continue working with code enforcement with
- 4 property owners perhaps.
- 5 MS. SMODILLA: Well, I agree. I think
- 6 particularly since when you have a blighted
- 7 retail area directly across from the sign that
- 8 welcomes you to Bartlett, I think it's a little
- 9 bit of a black eye for us. Again, I think
- 10 particularly when you think about the amount of
- 11 traffic that you get at the intersection of Oak
- 12 and Lake Street. I mean, these are people that
- 13 are coming eastbound and westbound from various
- 14 communities, so when you see the sign Welcome to
- 15 Bartlett and you see, you know --
- 16 MR. FRADIN: I agree with that. Our recently
- 17 retired, long-time Code Enforcement Officer Tony
- 18 DeMartino was working with the shopping center
- 19 owners on that center continuously and was there
- 20 at least once a week, would take a hundred
- 21 photographs at a time, mark all the code
- 22 violations, and then send it to them; and I'm
- 23 going to use the word work with them because a
- lot of the jobs they had to do were seasonal.

- 1 This gets out of my particular area of expertise,
- 2 but I know that they would put together a budget,
- 3 you know, where they would fix the parking lot
- 4 during the warmer months, where they might paint
- 5 something after that, but they were continuing to
- 6 bring that up to code; and if any of you are ever
- 7 there and witness anything that you think may be
- 8 a code violation, you don't need to hesitate to
- 9 let us know, so that -- you're correct, that's an
- 10 important gateway into the village on Lake
- 11 Street. It needs to look better.
- 12 MS. SMODILLA: Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Before we leave the
- 14 marketing plan, maybe, Tony, you should go over
- 15 the key performance indicators that you've come
- 16 up with that we asked for last time.
- 17 MR. FRADIN: Right. I have to backtrack on a
- 18 few. I believe you're talking about the Brewster
- 19 Creek Business Park site?
- 20 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: No. The memorandum.
- 21 MR. FRADIN: Oh, thank you. Yeah. I met with
- 22 Paula about this and the EDC wanted some
- 23 performance indicators with this plan and she
- 24 submitted two for your review. One is to maintain

- 1 an occupancy rate of over 85 percent and the
- 2 second one is to increase available space in
- 3 business and industrial parks by 15 to 20 percent.
- 4 The second part of this memo that Paula
- 5 submitted for tonight was at six and 12-month
- 6 intervals to report back to the EDC the status of
- 7 key economic indicators; and those include the
- 8 EAV, meaning the equalized assessed value, of
- 9 business and industrial parks, the number of
- 10 advertisements placed, the number of contacts
- 11 resulting from outreach efforts, the number of
- 12 new businesses, the increased sales tax revenue,
- 13 and the vacancy rate in downtown and other
- 14 commercial locations, so we felt that those would
- 15 be appropriate economic indicators to bring back
- 16 to the EDC to see if it's working, at least if
- 17 the efforts out there, to continue making these
- 18 contacts.
- 19 Like I said before, some of these are
- 20 beyond the Village or a staff person's control,
- 21 such as the equalized assessed value of a space
- 22 or a business park because those fluctuate year
- 23 by year, but number of advertisements. We often
- 24 talk about advertisings and I haven't been

- 1 bringing them to the EDC while we've been going
- 2 through this marketing plan, but we've continued
- 3 advertising the business park. We have the
- 4 coupon insert in the Bartletter this next month.
- 5 We have cable television ads we've been working
- 6 on. So we've been very actively advertising what
- 7 we have and number of new businesses is something
- 8 we always talk about also.
- 9 We've had a number of closures recently,
- 10 so we should mention those as well, but these are
- 11 the performance indicators we propose bringing
- 12 back at six-month intervals.
- 13 MR. SOBEL: Tony, I've got a few questions on
- 14 those.
- 15 MR. FRADIN: Yeah.
- MR. SOBEL: For the maintaining an occupancy
- 17 rate over 85 percent, A, do we have a current
- 18 benchmark? What is the number; and, B, how is
- 19 the number computed? Is it based on the number
- of buildings occupied? Is it the square footage
- 21 occupied? What's the definition of occupied and
- 22 all the inputs into that?
- 23 The second bullet point is increasing
- 24 available space in business and industrial parks

- 1 by 15 to 20 percent. Again, do we have a
- 2 benchmark, a place to start, so we can say, hey,
- 3 today it started at X number and tomorrow it's at
- 4 B?
- 5 And then a couple quick comments about the
- 6 6- to 12-month intervals. I quess, how is it
- 7 advantageous to track the number of advertisements
- 8 placed? Wouldn't it be better to track the ROI
- 9 of an advertisement or of all of the
- 10 advertisements? I mean, just throwing money at
- 11 advertisements doesn't necessarily bring in
- 12 money.
- 13 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Or at least the number of
- 14 inquiries from that.
- MR. SOBEL: Right. You have to find some way
- 16 to find the benefit of doing those additional
- 17 advertisements. Like Cecilia said, maybe it's
- 18 not monetary; it's number of inquiries. You
- 19 know, if it increases the number of inquiries,
- 20 that's important.
- 21 MR. FRADIN: That's a good point. I'll work
- 22 backwards on your question. With the ROI for
- 23 advertisements, I've said for years I'm not --
- 24 I've never seen one particular metric that will

- 1 tell everything. I mean, shopping and dining
- 2 will tick up in December typically, and I don't
- 3 want to attribute that to doing dining ads in
- 4 Bartlett, but I think that's something that we
- 5 can all say is supportive of it.
- 6 People who call -- a good example of that
- 7 is our ongoing advertisement in Chicago Industrial
- 8 Properties magazine. Sometimes people will call
- 9 and say they saw it in that magazine or that
- 10 publication, but if your typical industrial real
- 11 estate broker calls inquiring about space, we
- 12 haven't asked over the years too much well, how
- 13 did you hear about it, was it through an ad, was
- 14 it just through knowledge, was it through going
- on CoStar or LoopNet? For the -- a lot of the
- 16 leads for the spaces are generated through search
- 17 engines. CoStar and LoopNet are the two big ones
- 18 that are used in industrial real estate, so I'll
- 19 say that's why we just said the number of ads
- 20 because it may be difficult to gauge if a certain
- 21 project was generated through an ad or by some
- 22 other means. The ones that would call and say
- 23 they saw it through an ad, those are very few,
- 24 but there are some that do call and say that.

- 1 The other questions you asked about
- 2 benchmarks, the occupancy rate, 85 percent is a
- 3 real healthy rate, and you're never really going
- 4 to attain 100 percent occupancy, but 85 percent
- 5 is actually maybe a little higher than it would
- 6 even normally be in a healthy economy, but, I
- 7 mean, the goal is always 100 percent, but I would
- 8 say 85 percent would be a good goal for our
- 9 business park for something once it's built out.
- 10 For our downtown district that would be a
- 11 good goal too, but we're a very long way from
- 12 that; and that's your second part of that
- 13 question, is typically it's calculated based on
- 14 square footage. Now, when we had a meeting this
- 15 past Wednesday night about our downtown, the
- 16 downtown consultants they gave a lower downtown
- 17 vacancy rate of about 15 percent, but they said
- 18 that they based it on a number of storefronts, so
- 19 the best example for that in downtown is the
- vacant grocery store. It's 32,000 square feet.
- 21 The vacant Ace is 10,000 square feet. The flower
- 22 shop moved out, that was about 3,000 square feet,
- 23 so that's over 50 percent of Bartlett Plaza
- 24 vacant, the way I look at it, and that's based on

- 1 square footage.
- 2 Another way you could look at it is you
- 3 have 18 businesses and only three empty, so the
- 4 vacancy rate is somewhere around 80 percent, 90
- 5 percent. Typically, in the real estate
- 6 profession, and in the economic development
- 7 profession it's always looked at based on square
- 8 footage. If you have a building that's 100,000
- 9 square feet and it's divided into two and there
- is a 1,000-square-foot vaping shop and there is
- 11 99,000 square feet of empty space, to me that
- 12 building is 99 percent empty, but another way to
- 13 look at it would be it's 50 percent vacant.
- 14 MR. SOBEL: That's why I was asking for
- 15 clarification of the definition.
- 16 MR. FRADIN: Right. For this definition,
- 17 we're basing it on square footage.
- 18 MR. SOBEL: Okay. Thanks.
- 19 MS. SMODILLA: So if we're at 50 percent
- 20 vacant in the Bartlett Plaza, are you saying that
- 21 we're really going to start marketing that
- 22 particular parcel to come up to 85 percent?
- 23 MR. FRADIN: No, that's a general indicator.
- 24 This isn't particular to Bartlett Plaza. It was

- 1 my understanding it was more geared towards the
- 2 business parks.
- 3 MS. SMODILLA: That's not clear to me, so --
- 4 MR. FRADIN: I'll ask her to clarify that.
- MR. PETRO: I would think with what Bob shared
- 6 that they might be wrecking it to start to --
- 7 MR. FRADIN: Right. I mean, just to play
- 8 devil's advocate, if Lucky Jack's were to be
- 9 demolished and the vacant grocery in Bartlett
- 10 Plaza were to be demolished, the vacancy rate in
- 11 downtown would plummet and the occupancy rate
- 12 would skyrocket over 85 percent just by that, so
- 13 I mean, vacancy rate and occupancy doesn't tell
- 14 the entire story of everything, but it's
- 15 basically the best performance indicator. Number
- of businesses, of course, being another one. I
- 17 mean, if you have two new businesses open, but
- 18 six close, you might be better off just having
- 19 one business open and none close, so that's
- 20 something that we felt would be good performance
- 21 indicators just to bring back to see if it's a
- 22 result of additional marketing of these spaces.
- In some cases, it will be a direct result.
- 24 Like Brewster Creek Business Park, when we market

- 1 it, people like it. The businesses are attracted
- 2 there. They like to take a look at it when
- 3 they're looking to expand, and we've been -- I
- 4 consider that we've been very successful
- 5 marketing that business park. Some of these
- 6 other areas have been more difficult to market.
- 7 MS. SMODILLA: That's still a TIF district,
- 8 correct?
- 9 MR. FRADIN: Yeah. Brewster Creek is all
- 10 developed via TIF.
- 11 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Okay. If there is nothing
- 12 else on the marketing plan, let's move on to the
- 13 T-O-D.
- MR. FRADIN: May I ask is the -- does the EDC
- 15 wish to bring back further revisions to a future
- 16 EDC meeting; or if we make those revisions, are
- 17 you ready to make a recommendation on it to the
- 18 Village board to adopt this as a marketing plan?
- 19 MR. SOBEL: I would like to see very well
- 20 defined KPIs for each part of the marketing plan.
- 21 MR. FRADIN: Can you repeat that?
- 22 MR. SOBEL: I would like to see very well
- 23 developed with definitions KPIs for each part of
- 24 the marketing plan.

- 1 MR. FRADIN: Okay. We will bring back the
- 2 marketing plan for a future meeting then.
- 3 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: So we'll see it one more
- 4 time before it goes to the Village board or not?
- 5 MR. FRADIN: Commissioner Sobel said he would
- 6 like to see better defined key performance
- 7 indicators, and do you have suggestions on those,
- 8 better defined how?
- 9 MR. SOBEL: I can email you some feedback, if
- 10 you want.
- 11 MR. FRADIN: That would be great.
- 12 MR. SOBEL: Okay.
- 13 MR. FRADIN: And that goes for anybody on the
- 14 EDC to email or send us additions as you see fit.
- MS. SMODILLA: Well, something else that I
- 16 would like to see in the -- in part of the
- 17 marketing plan is the -- is that staff would
- 18 create a robust database of those companies that
- 19 are actually making inquiries to vacant buildings
- 20 or parcels of land for their use. I know we've
- 21 talked a little bit about SIC codes so that we
- 22 had -- we would have a better understanding --
- 23 the commission would have a better understanding
- 24 specifically of what types of businesses are

- 1 making inquiries to come here, what districts
- 2 they're looking at coming into, and perhaps what
- 3 some of their criteria is for looking at the
- 4 village of Bartlett.
- I know you've said many times, Tony, that
- 6 companies are looking for us to give them
- 7 something, but I think it would be very, very
- 8 helpful if we had a better understanding of what
- 9 types of businesses those were, where they were
- 10 looking to bring their business to, and perhaps
- 11 even the size of the building or the parcel that
- 12 they were looking for, and then what types of
- 13 givebacks that they were looking for as well. I
- 14 think it's one thing to just fill up the empty
- 15 space or the land that we have available for
- 16 development, but I think what's also important to
- 17 our residents is that we are attracting
- 18 businesses that are going to be contributing to
- 19 the tax base.
- 20 MR. FRADIN: Okay. Thank you.
- 21 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: And then last time we
- 22 talked about the time period for the marketing
- 23 plan. I think we talked about a five year, but
- 24 I'm not seeing that in this memo.

- 1 MR. FRADIN: Yeah. There is a page that Paula
- 2 put in front of the whole marketing plan, you
- 3 should have it, marketing goals by development
- 4 sites 2016 through 2020.
- 5 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Okay. All right.
- 6 MR. FRADIN: We're going to consider this a
- 7 five-year marketing plan.
- 8 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: All right. So maybe that
- 9 and the key performance indicators too, that over
- 10 five years -- the goal at the end of five years
- is to have an occupancy rate of 85 percent,
- 12 correct?
- 13 MR. FRADIN: That would be it.
- 14 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Okay. All right. Let's
- 15 move on to the T-O-D. I know some of us were
- 16 there for the meeting and have gone to the
- 17 website and I just filled out the survey today.
- 18 MR. FRADIN: Thank you for doing that. The
- 19 T-O-D study has been another ongoing project for
- 20 staff and the Village. We pursued this as one of
- 21 the 24 recommendations made by the EDC back over
- 22 two years ago in October 2013. The Village
- 23 ultimately selected a consultant for this project
- 24 called SCB, that stands for Solomon Cordwell

- 1 Buenz, and we've been working with staff from the
- 2 RTA, Metra, Village staff, and volunteers for a
- 3 steering committee.
- 4 Originally convened at Village hall back
- on August 11th. As you recall, SCB then held a
- 6 series of focus group meetings at Village hall on
- 7 October 13th and 14th, met with business owners,
- 8 representatives of various village organizations,
- 9 property owners, and representatives of other
- 10 taxing districts, as well as some downtown area
- 11 residents.
- 12 Following those meetings, the steering
- 13 committee convened for a second time on October
- 14 21st. At that time we reviewed some preliminary
- 15 findings and discussed plans for the public
- 16 meeting, which was held last Wednesday, November
- 17 24th, at Bartlett Hills. I would estimate that
- 18 about 60 to 70 people attended that meeting.
- 19 There was a lively discussion and people had the
- 20 opportunity to go from table to table to make
- 21 recommendations, to put stickers on various areas
- 22 based on where they shop or where they thought a
- 23 good future development site would be or a
- 24 redevelopment site. People got to add one good

- 1 idea on one of the tables where you could write
- 2 something on it, and it was a very interesting
- 3 meeting from 7:00 to 9:00 last Wednesday night.
- 4 The consultants have designed a website
- 5 for this project called bartlettdowntowntod.com
- 6 to provide information. There is also a survey
- 7 on the website so that anybody can participate in
- 8 this process.
- 9 Staff will keep the EDC apprised of the
- 10 next steps, which include another steering
- 11 committee meeting coming up in January, as well
- 12 as a second public input meeting in February.
- 13 I'm going to tell you the tentative dates right
- 14 now because nothing has been finalized, but the
- 15 next steering committee meeting is scheduled for
- 16 January 20th at Village hall and the second
- 17 community meeting, the one like we had last
- 18 Wednesday, that would be open to the public to
- 19 review the study and where the consultants are at
- 20 that time will be February 3rd, tentatively.
- 21 Once it's finalized, I'll send an email out to
- 22 all the commissioners. Commissioner Smodilla is
- 23 part of the steering committee as well. So
- 24 that's where we're at with that.

- 1 It was a lot of public input, lot of
- 2 research going on with that, and a lot of things
- 3 that we're actually talking about in some aspects
- 4 with the marketing plan are parts of this downtown
- 5 T-O-D study. They're analyzing everything about
- 6 the downtown, daytime population, number of Metra
- 7 commuters and where they come from, calculated
- 8 the vacant storefronts. Like I mentioned, they
- 9 would count the empty grocery store just as one
- 10 vacancy, so the vacancy rate they reported was
- 11 lower than it would be if they based it on square
- 12 footage, but they're doing a fairly comprehensive
- 13 study of the downtown area.
- 14 Again, T-O-D stands for transportation
- oriented development, so the focal point of their
- 16 study starts from the Metra station and how
- 17 people drive, walk and bike and travel in and
- 18 around downtown Bartlett.
- 19 Are there any questions for staff about
- 20 the downtown T-O-D study?
- 21 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: They seem to be doing a
- 22 wide scope of work for the \$125,000. I mean, are
- 23 they going to have overage of hours or how --
- 24 they've been certainly keeping track of what

- 1 they're doing.
- MR. FRADIN: Yeah, the way that grant works,
- 3 it's an RTA grant and the RTA will pay the first
- 4 \$100,00 for this study and it's the intention not
- 5 to go over \$100,000, but in order to proceed with
- 6 the study, the Village board had to adopt a
- 7 resolution to fund up to 25,000, so the maximum
- 8 it could go would be 125,000, so for instance if
- 9 the total study costs 110,000, the RTA would pay
- 10 100,000 and the Village would have to cut a check
- 11 for \$10,000. It's the RTAs and Metra -- they're
- 12 the drivers behind this program, but you're
- 13 right, I communicate with a person from the RTA
- 14 who -- I'm going to say they oversee the grant
- 15 for the RTA, and we'll start conversing soon
- 16 about the cost of it. We're well below it now,
- 17 but we're still in the earlier stages of the
- 18 study. Their goal is to conclude it by next May
- 19 or June.
- 20 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: I just saw the number of
- 21 professionals involved and the scope and having
- 22 worked with consultants before I'm going like,
- 23 hmm, I hope they can get it done.
- MR. FRADIN: They hired who I consider the top

- 1 retail market analyst in the market. Her name is
- 2 Christine Williams and she's with the Goodwin
- 3 Williams Group; and you're right, a study by them
- 4 alone can -- I'm not sure exactly what it costs,
- 5 but I'm going to guess in the 20- to \$30,000
- 6 range for that. They also have a transportation
- 7 consultant. A woman by the name of Cindy Fish.
- 8 If you want to look that up, her company is called
- 9 Fish Transportation Group, so you're right, there
- 10 is a team of consultants.
- 11 MS. SMODILLA: I would just like to add that I
- 12 happen to be -- I think I'm pretty fiscally
- 13 prudent when it comes to studies like this; and
- in the steering committee meetings, I can already
- 15 tell that the consultants that are on board with
- 16 this are lending a great deal of empirical
- 17 knowledge and data that they have picked up from
- 18 other communities that have similar issues, so I
- 19 think we're really benefitting on really the
- 20 experiences of previous communities, they're
- 21 bringing that to the table, so I think already
- 22 we're seeing some value to what they're bringing
- 23 to the community; and the reality is that the
- 24 study has basically already been funded through

- fuel taxes collected, so --
- MR. FRADIN: True. They beat out quite a few
- 3 other consultants for this. There were numerous
- 4 submittals. They had the most thorough by far.
- 5 I won't say by far, but they stood out above some
- of the other submittals and were graded by a
- 7 number of people who graded the submittals
- 8 without comparing the grades to each other, so it
- 9 was a compilation of them receiving the highest
- 10 grades out of about seven consulting groups that
- 11 were competing for the Bartlett contract and some
- 12 others as well. They're very good.
- 13 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Good. Okay.
- MR. PERRI: I happened to be there too; and
- 15 from my point of view, I was impressed with the
- 16 amount of information that they were gathering
- 17 from all different points of view, and it was
- 18 nice to see what they do with the information.
- 19 MR. KRALL: It will be very interesting to see
- 20 what the recommendations are in July.
- 21 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Exactly.
- 22 MR. FRADIN: We're all looking forward to that.
- 23 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Okay. Tony, any new
- 24 business to cover?

- 1 MR. FRADIN: I just want to mention the
- 2 Brewster Creek Business Park luncheon or open
- 3 house, as I call it, November 19th at 12:30 p.m.,
- 4 1540 Hecht Drive, at the former location of the
- 5 Hitting Zone, which is now a 15,000-square-foot
- 6 vacant space near the back of Brewster Creek
- 7 Business Park. I want to thank Commissioner
- 8 Robert Perri for making the space available. I
- 9 email blasted out invitations to several hundred
- 10 people in the industrial real estate market in
- 11 Chicago -- in the Chicagoland O'Hare real estate
- 12 market and so far have about 50 RSVPs. Last year
- we had about a hundred people, and I would
- 14 anticipate a similar number again this year, and
- 15 there are quite a few of the more prominent
- 16 industrial real estate brokers in the market are
- 17 coming, so we look forward to showing off our
- 18 business park again and hopefully working with
- 19 the broker and the owner for that building. The
- 20 broker happens to be Commissioner Perri and we
- 21 hope to fill that space and reduce that vacancy
- 22 rate like we were talking about.
- 23 MR. PERRI: All I can say is I have high hopes.
- MR. FRADIN: I do too. So that's the 19th. I

- 1 know a lot of you have RSVPed to me already that
- 2 you'll be attending, so I look forward to that.
- 3 That's the only thing I wanted to mention under
- 4 new business tonight.
- 5 You probably all saw it that D'licious
- 6 Crepes and Roti closed, also, on November 1st
- 7 unfortunately. It's not a new business, but it's
- 8 one less business in Bartlett Town Center.
- 9 MS. SMODILLA: And Clique Photography is gone
- 10 as well, so the space is open.
- 11 MR. FRADIN: Correct, so two additional
- 12 vacancies in Bartlett Town Center now.
- 13 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: Any other questions or
- 14 comments from the commissioners?
- 15 If not, I'll take a motion for adjournment.
- MS. SMODILLA: I move to adjourn.
- 17 MR. SOBEL: I second.
- 18 CHAIRWOMAN GREEN: It's been moved and
- 19 seconded to adjourn. We are adjourned.
- 20 MR. FRADIN: Thank you.
- 21 (Proceedings concluded at
- 22 8:14 p.m.)
- 23
- 24

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 3
                 LYNN M. EVANS, CSR, being first duly
     sworn on oath says that she is a court reporter
 5
     doing business in the state of Illinois; that she
 6
     reported in shorthand the proceedings given at
 7
     the taking of said meeting and that the foregoing
     is a true and correct transcript of her shorthand
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     notes so taken as aforesaid, and contains all the
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     proceedings given at said meeting.
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                             LYNN M. EVANS, CSR
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