



NEWS RELEASE

State Senator Gary Nodler
District 32



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NEWTON COUNTY WILL RECEIVE MORE THAN \$100,000 IN CDBG FUNDS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE NEOSHO SQUARE

JEFFERSON CITY -- Sen. Gary Nodler, R-Joplin, and Rep. Kevin Wilson, R-Neosho, have announced that a Missouri Department of Economic Development grant of more than \$100,000 has been awarded to Newton County in order to make infrastructure improvements to county-owned property in Neosho.

According to the lawmakers, Newton County will receive a \$133,810 Innovative Grant through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, which is to be used for improvements that are being made on one block of Lafayette Street and one block of McCord Street, just northeast of the Neosho Square.

“These funds will help the citizens of Neosho with their continued efforts to revitalize the downtown area,” said Nodler. “The transformation of the historic Bercer’s Block building is just one example of the exciting changes that are taking place on the Square. Neosho’s infrastructure needs to be improved in order to keep pace with the improvements made by business owners.”

Funds from the Community Development Block Grant will help to pay for new sidewalks, new street lights, demolition and removal of the condemned mill building structure, expansion of parking lots and the development of a recreational park area.

“All of us who grew up in the Neosho area remember what a fun and exciting place the Neosho Square used to be,” Wilson said. “In the last few years, the City of Neosho and the business community have worked hard to revitalize the Square and I’m pleased that the state is contributing to this effort.”

In addition to CDBG funding, the project will be paid for by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and private funds.

CDBG funds are provided through federal sources and administered by the State of Missouri. Funds will be released to Newton County as certain requirements set forth by the program are met. The program provides economic development grants and loan funds to cities with a population under 50,000 and counties under 200,000.

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