



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

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Sen. Barnitz Announces Community Development Block Grant for St. James

JEFFERSON CITY- Sen. Frank Barnitz, D-Lake Spring, announced today that the city of St. James will receive a \$197,049 grant from the Department of Economic Development (DED). The grant will go towards road infrastructure improvements in the city in order to increase economic development in the area.

The Community Development Block Program offers grants to Missouri communities to improve local facilities, address critical health and safety concerns, and develop a greater capacity for growth. Block grant staffers rely on communication with community leaders to determine which areas are most deserving of development grants. The DED and the city St. James will both contribute to the cost of the road improvements, which will directly assist the development of Tacony Manufacturing's St. James facility.

"It is always encouraging when the state and local governments can work together for a common goal," said Sen. Barnitz. "It is important to remember that we are all working towards the same purpose of improving our community."

The St. James location of Tacony Manufacturing is a vacuum cleaners assembly plant, and is one of the major employers in the area. The road improvements will increase the company's potential for growth. At least \$3.7 million in investments and 20 new jobs are expected within the next two years.

"This grant could literally pave the way for economic development in the area," said Sen. Barnitz. "This is exciting, not just for the city of St. James, but also for the surrounding areas."

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