



PRESS RELEASE

State Senator Wes Shoemyer – 18th District

State Capitol – Room 434
201 West Capital Avenue
Jefferson City, MO 65101-6806
Phone: (573) 751-7852

Kirksville & Mexico Named DREAM Communities

JEFFERSON CITY – Senator Wes Shoemyer, D-Clarence, today announced the communities of Kirksville and Mexico in the 18th Senatorial District have been named DREAM communities by Governor Blunt.

The Downtown Revitalization Economic Assistance for Missouri (DREAM) Initiative was established last summer because many of our smaller communities struggle to secure state assistance for their downtowns because they lack a planning department and other resources usually available to larger cities.

The goals of this initiative are to re-establish properties in use in the downtown core, increase property tax values and sales tax opportunities, re-establish a sense of place and cultural heritage in the heart of the community, attract private investment and create good jobs for Missourians.

“I want to thank Governor Blunt and the Missouri Department of Economic Development for designating Mexico and Kirksville as DREAM communities,” Sen. Shoemyer said. “Both communities have had some economic difficulties in recent years and this program will help both cities get back on a better footing.”

The Missouri Department of Economic Development, Missouri Development Finance Board and the Missouri Housing Development Commission work together in a partnership to offer expertise and resources to help DREAM communities revitalize their downtowns. The available programs can help address a variety of community needs including infrastructure improvements, historic preservation, affordable housing, community services, business development and job creation.

Sen. Shoemyer notes the city of Hannibal in the 18th Senatorial District was named a DREAM community last year.

Other communities interested in the DREAM Initiative can visit www.dream.mo.gov for more information about the program. Communities interested in submitting an application to become a DREAM community can find details on the website.

###