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Frank A. Barnitz 16<sup>th</sup> Senate District

For Immediate Release: June 17, 2008 Contact: Tony Benz (573) 751-2108

## Sen. Frank Barnitz Announces Community Development Block Grant for Rolla

JEFFERSON CITY – Sen. Frank Barnitz, D-Lake Spring, today announced that the Department of Economic Development (DED) has awarded a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) of \$71,800 to the city of Rolla. The grant will help the city with planning for the development of a Tech Park in partnership with the Missouri Institute of Science and Technology.

"I'm pleased the DED chose to award Rolla a community development grant to assist with this important project," said Sen. Barnitz. "The addition of a Tech Park will build upon the already strong presence of science and technology in the area."

The CDBG program offers grants to small 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 of Rolla will both contribute to the cost of developing the Tech Park.

"This program helps improve the quality of life for the residents of our smaller communities," said Sen. Barnitz. "By adding to the solid foundation we've already created in Rolla, we will continue to see it be a great place to work, live, and raise a family."

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