



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 18, 2009

Senator Jack Goodman, Rockaway Beach Mayor Hold Meeting

Officials Discuss City's Downtown Revitalization Efforts

JEFFERSON CITY – On June 18, 2009, Senator Jack Goodman (R-Mt. Vernon) held a joint meeting with Rockaway Beach Mayor Larry Cline and many officials representing a broad range of government agencies including the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Missouri Department of Economic Development, Missouri Department of Transportation, United States Army Corp of Engineers, and others to discuss a recently unveiled plan to revitalize the city's downtown.

Rockaway Beach, located in Taney County, was once a booming lakefront town after the city was founded in 1917. In recent years, a siltation issue has discouraged development along the lakefront and contributed to stunted economic and population growth.

However, plans are underway to improve Rockaway's downtown and clean up the lakefront to make it a more desirable place for people to live and visit. City officials held a meeting in March to unveil a new downtown revitalization plan designed to restore the city to the resort town and family destination it was years ago.

"Rockaway Beach's future is dependent on cleaning up the lakefront," said Mayor Cline "and we wouldn't be where we are in this project without Senator Goodman. His office jumped right in and has made the whole process easier."

The plan includes making the downtown area pedestrian-friendly, as well as an idea for a major attraction along the lake and a pier that would encourage boaters to dock and come into the city.

"It is important for government to be proactive and bring people together to solve these types of problems," said Sen. Goodman. "The City of Rockaway is showing great initiative and determination with its plans to improve the community for generations to come."

-END-