



Dillsboro, Indiana

One Dearborn County Stellar Pathways Strategic Investment Planning & Engagement

Update 7/9/2024 – **new content in red text**

Indiana Office of Community & Rural Affairs Stellar Pathways Program Overview:

- In January 2024, OCRA launched the improved Stellar Pathways Program, building off of previous reiterations of the Stellar Communities Program. The Stellar Pathways Program is a multi-agency, multi-million-dollar investment initiative led by the Office of Community and Rural Affairs.
The program works with communities within a county boundary on a shared vision for community and economic development, promotes local and regional partnerships, and assists in implementing sustainable solutions to challenges facing Indiana's rural communities. The Stellar Pathways program will provide resources for transformative quality of place, community, and regional improvements by:
 - Enhancing Regional Planning
 - A Collaborative Approach
 - Resource-Rich Partnerships
- Dearborn County is among four Stellar co-finalist regions
- Two co-finalist regions will each win Stellar Community designation and receive approx. \$8-\$10M in set-aside funding
- Set-aside funding from Stellar partner state agencies includes, per Stellar winner:
 - OCRA \$4 million in Community Development Block Grants
 - IHCD \$1.5 million in HOME Investment Partnership Program
 - ISDA \$100,000 for Stellar Food and Agriculture Program
 - IDDC \$50,000-100,000 in co-op Marketing and Promotional Assistance
 - INDOT \$1.5 million in Rural Federal Aid Program
 - IDOH \$75,000 in Rural Health Funding
 - IDNR Eligible bonus points for Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Historic Preservation Fund
- Match requirement: 10%-20% match required from local public and private sources from the collective region

One Dearborn County Letter of Intent Summary:

- Vision:
Dearborn County's location in the greater Cincinnati market gives our community the unique opportunity to grow and prosper as The Gateway to Southeast Indiana. Our vision is to capitalize on this opportunity by investing in our core assets, including our location, our outdoor recreation amenities, and our community charm to improve our quality of place and economic prosperity. Our investments will include:
 1. **Location:** Our location serves as a Gateway to welcome visitors and residents from Cincinnati, Ohio and northern Kentucky. We will promote investment at our I-74 interchanges and support ongoing infill and redevelopment at the I-275/US 50 interchange, and encourage rural development around Dillsboro in western Dearborn County.
 2. **Outdoor Recreation:** Our region is defined by our unique landscapes, rivers as natural assets, and outdoor recreation. We will invest in river-oriented amenities, trails, parks, and related attractions.
 3. **Community Charm:** Our vibrant river cities and peaceful rural towns offer outstanding places to live. We will invest in placemaking and preservation within our downtowns to enhance our communities.
- **Target areas for Stellar investments: Greendale, Dillsboro, Bright, Kelso Twp. SR 1 Corridor**

More information:

- www.1dearborn.org/stellar
- www.in.gov/ocra/stellar



Dillsboro, Indiana

- December 3 & 5 – Final Presentation to OCRA in Indianapolis (75 minutes)
- January 2025 – OCRA announces two winning Stellar Communities
- (if a winner) 2025-2030 – Stellar project execution

Support Letters Received

- None to date

Our Competition

Two of the four finalist communities will become Stellar designees to receive set-aside funding.

