

Press Release



For business editors

WCIDC Holds Groundbreaking Ceremony at Jeannette Glass Site

DCED Secretary announces \$960,300 ISRP grant awarded to WCIDC

JEANNETTE, Pa., May 31, 2017 - The Westmoreland County Industrial Development Corporation (WCIDC) Board of Directors, Gina Cerilli, Ted Kopas, and Charles W. Anderson, held a groundbreaking ceremony today at the 13-acre Jeannette Glass Site, located at 700 Bullitt Ave. in the City of Jeannette.

The ceremony marks a new phase of the project focused on environmental remediation and demolition. The removal of hazardous material will begin in June, followed by demolition of all structures on site. The phase is expected to take six months with A.W. McNabb contracted to complete the work.

“Today is significant because the county has fought for years to secure the property. Now with the start of site work, you’ll see the beginnings to a stronger downtown economy which will bring new jobs and a new tax base,” said Gina Cerilli, Chairman of the WCIDC.

The WCIDC secured the deed for the site in August 2016. Ownership of the property had been tied up in courts since the WCIDC purchased the blighted property in 2012.

“I am extremely proud of the leadership role the county has played in addressing blight in the City of Jeannette. We have taken on long-standing challenges to not only beautify the city, but also create opportunities for investment and renewal,” said Ted Kopas, Vice-Chairman of the WCIDC.

WCIDC Secretary Charles W. Anderson added, “Today marks another milestone accomplishment in the City of Jeannette. Redevelopment of this site will dramatically improve the quality of life and economic vitality of the community.”

During the ceremony, Secretary Dennis M. Davin from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development announced the WCIDC was awarded \$960,300 in Industrial Site Reuse Program (ISRP) grant funding to be used for site cleanup efforts.

“For many years, the Jeannette Glass site has been an eyesore for the community. DCED’s funding is the first step toward bringing this blighted, contaminated property back to life,” Secretary Dennis Davin said.

“We are grateful the DCED awarded us this grant money,” said Jason Rigone, Executive Director of the WCIDC. “This shows the state’s commitment to helping communities bring blighted properties back to proactive reuse.”

Future phase will include excavation, compacting soil, planting grass, extending utilities and building a better access road. Redevelopment work is expected to be finished in late 2018.

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