

Good news

Herald Standard Staff | Posted: Sunday, December 12, 2010 4:00 am

Fayette County recently requested \$2 million from the state be used to expand the Fayette County Business Park. The Fayette County Redevelopment Authority approved the submission of a proposal to the state requesting \$2 million through the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) program for infrastructure improvement at the undeveloped portion of the Fayette County Business Park. Fayette County Commissioners Vincent Zapotosky and Vincent A. Vicites previously announced the money was being allocated.

This is great news for the county, which has seen substantial success from the currently developed section of the park, which was deeded to the redevelopment authority by the county in 2000, and since that time numerous business have located at the 270-acre property.

The RACP funds will allow for an expansion of the next phase, which is west of Matthew Drive Extension in South Union Township and "prepare additional lots for development," according to Andrew French, executive director for the Fayette County Redevelopment Authority.

County officials and the redevelopment authority worked together to make this happen, and should be commended for their efforts.

The Fayette County Business Park is an example of how government can do good - not that the county runs the businesses in the park, but rather it set the foundation for its growth.

Helping to make further expansion possible through water and sewerage infrastructure is a good move for the county, which will see more businesses added to the tax rolls as the park grows.

The current development at the site has already changed the landscape of the Route 40 and New Salem Road area, and we're excited to see what the next phase brings.

Of course, none of this would have been possible if not for the foresight of the county commissioners who conveyed the property to the redevelopment authority in 2000. The commissioners back then, Sean Cavanagh, the late Ron Nehls and Vicities are to be commended for helping shepherd the current development from conception to completion. French and Ray Polaski, former director of the

Redevelopment Authority, are also to be praised for their roles in the successfully developing the property.

The Fayette County Business Park has been and will continue to be a success because of a public-private partnership - one that proves that government can be a force for good for communities and not just a punching bag.