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County Commissioners Choose Site for Vigo County Security Annex

TERRE HAUTE, IN – The Vigo County Commissioners released today their intent to secure approval from the Board of Zoning Appeals to utilize the 64-acre property off of highway 63, formally the International Paper property, for the future security annex location. The security annex will include the sheriff’s department, jail, and beautification plans to clean up the area currently owned by the county.

“This decision did not come lightly. We had in-depth conversations with the Vigo County Sheriff’s Department and Terre Haute Police Department to coordinate plans that allowed transportation to and from the security annex to be as efficient as possible. Less travel time means more time for law enforcement to be back keeping us safe,” stated Commissioner Jon Marvel. “We’re happy the taxpayers already own usable property without costing them additional dollars,” he noted.

“I know it’s been a tough journey for county leadership and our community to advance plans for a new jail. However, as I’ve said many times before, our community needed to invest in our safety, and we did. I’m pleased the Commissioners have chosen a location for the annex that will stay close to the current site and help bring new development to a vacant location in our community,” stated Vigo County Sheriff Greg Ewing.

The property is currently not being utilized and is not a welcoming site with weeds and a vacant appeal. The Commissioners hope to establish an attractive security annex, which will help stir additional economic activity. “We’ve had inquiries from interested parties about utilizing some of the property for future business ideas. Although we’re not able to share some of the ideas at this time, we’re hopeful the cleanup process will continue to encourage their excitement,” stated Commissioner Brad Anderson. The Commissioners hope to release more on potential future projects soon.

The Commissioners plan to work with Mayor Duke Bennett and the City of Terre Haute to fund an update of the Wabash River Economic Development Plan, facilitated by the West Central Indiana Economic Development District. Commissioner Judy Anderson added, “We’ve spent a lot of county dollars purchasing property on the river and helping grow current and potential sites for wetlands and beautification. The security annex is a project we believe will help ignite future economic activity. We’re not stopping there, however. We want to collaborate and find ways to continue growing our riverfront.”

As more information on the security annex is available the Commissioners plan to communicate with the public, including final information on the size and cost of the security annex.

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