



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Town of Grabill, Indiana to Hold Downtown Revitalization Ribbon Cutting

August 30, 2022– On September 1, 2022 at 3:00 p.m., the Grabill community will celebrate construction completion of streetscape improvements along State and Main Streets in downtown Grabill as well as façade improvements by the Country Shoppes of Grabill. The Town of Grabill received U.S. HUD Community Development Block Grant funding for the streetscape project from the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs as part of their partnership with the NewAllen Alliance *East Allen Rural Revival Plan* and the Indiana Regional Stellar Communities Designation.

The ribbon cutting will be held in downtown Grabill near 13534 Main Street, in the parking lot next to Grabill Hardware. Parking is available at the First Merchants Bank lot at the corner of 1<sup>st</sup> and Main Streets as well as at the Town Hall located at 13717 First Street. A public reception will be held within the Country Shoppes of Grabill at 13756 Main Street after the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

Grabill's project focused along a two-block segment of Grabill Road/State Street and Main Street to 1<sup>st</sup> Street which wraps around the corner block of the Country Shoppes of Grabill, and other downtown Grabill businesses including Grabill Hardware, H. Souder and Son's General Store, and First Merchants Bank. These improvements enhance downtown Grabill with new sidewalks and lighting to improve pedestrian safety and accessibility. The project also included upgrades to the storm sewer and water system to improve utility service and safeguard surface-level improvements. This project was designed by DLZ Engineering, administered by the Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council, and was constructed by Fleming Excavating, Inc. Project cost was \$1,241,637 with \$750,000 coming from federal money and \$491,637 from the Town of Grabill. At the same time of the streetscape improvements, the Country Shoppes of Grabill has also completed façade improvements which include the replacement of the awning that wraps around the building, as well as new exterior windows, doors, and siding.

Wilmer Delagrang, Grabill's Town Council President, stated, "I am so pleased with how these projects have come together to revitalize Grabill's downtown and am excited about the future for our community to draw additional residents and visitors".

This project is part of NewAllen's East Allen Rural Revival Regional Development Plan, which led to the Indiana Regional Stellar Communities Designation in 2018. See [www.newallenalliance.net](http://www.newallenalliance.net) for more information. Kristi Sturtz, NewAllen Alliance Liaison, expressed, "The collaborative efforts of the East Allen County region to enhance quality of place are coming together nicely, Grabill's downtown revitalization has been completed in concert with downtown improvements in Leo-Cedarville and Woodburn. Collectively, these small communities are cultivating nice environments for people to live, small businesses to locate, and backyard tourism to thrive."

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