

TONYA HINCH TALKS ABOUT CROSSVILLE'S DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PROJECT

15 September, 2011

Fairfield Glade Rotary hosted a presentation by Tonya Hinch, Director of Economic Restructuring for Downtown Crossville, Inc. Ms Hinch announced that after five years of planning, the Crossville City Council approved moving forward with the Downtown Revitalization Project. Included in the



\$9 million project will be all new underground utilities and reshaping the look of downtown. Approximately 85% of the funds will go to replacing infrastructure in downtown Crossville, the remaining 15% of the funds will beautify the downtown area with landscaping, new street lights, benches, pavers and more. The goal is to maintain the heritage and history of Crossville while offering the business community with an updated water and sewer system. New storm sewers will offer business owners peace of mind that the next heavy rain will not enter their establishments.

Five years ago, downtown had a vacancy rate of 50%, today that number is down to 10%. With sales tax revenue being a big part of Crossville's budget, that is very good news. Unfortunately, until the infrastructure is updated, new business development can not be supported. The project expected to begin May, 2012 should take 18 months to complete. In the meantime Ms Hinch encouraged everyone to keep tax dollars in Crossville by patronizing local merchants. There are several exciting upcoming events scheduled downtown. Each Thursday May through October at 10 am you may join the Downtown Crossville Walking Tour which begins in front of the Depot. A Sustainable Farmer's Market is also on Thursdays from 3:30pm - 5:30pm on the grounds of the Spirit Amphitheater. The Spirit Amphitheater grand opening is set for Oct 15. Ghost Tours of Historic Downtown Crossville will be Saturday Oct 29 from 5:00pm-8:00 pm with tours every 15 minutes beginning at the Native Stone Museum. Cost for adults, \$10 children 16 and under \$5. For more information on DCI call 787-1324