



MISSOURI MAIN STREET CONNECTION

Our mission is to enhance the social, cultural and environmental well-being of historic downtown business districts located in Missouri's diverse cities and towns, through education using the Main Street Four-Point Approach® to Revitalization, as developed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

February 8, 2018

PRESS RELEASE

Sikeston Receives Downtown Revitalization Grant from Missouri Main Street

Contact: Gayla Roten, State Director, Missouri Main Street Connection, Inc.
PO Box 1066, Branson, MO 65615; phone: 417-334-3014.

Historic Downtown Sikeston has been selected in a competitive application process to participate in a cost-sharing People Energizing Places (PEP) Grant that provides training, mentoring, and technical services to revitalization programs in Missouri's historic commercial districts. The grant is provided by Missouri Main Street Connection, Inc. (MMSC)

MMSC staff will visit with Historic Downtown Sikeston's staff, Board of Directors, and committees to evaluate existing and future needs of the downtown, and then schedule a series of customized trainings equipping them to concentrate on their local revitalization goals. *The goal of the grant* is to help Historic Downtown Sikeston advance their program. This PEP Grant will help get everyone on the same page, identify smart growth strategies and create a detailed plan of action. An assessment of the current conditions will identify potential to create a plan of action involving partners and funding options.

MMSC State Director, Gayla Roten believes, "The PEP grant will help Sikeston energize their downtown organization to ensure the district continues to move forward and is a vibrant asset to the community."

With support from MMSC, Historic Downtown Sikeston anticipates:

- Utilizing the grant to create momentum for the organization to accomplish their goals for the downtown district.
- Recruiting new and diverse businesses to create a destination for citizens and visitors alike.
- Establishing partnerships throughout the community to support the organization and help the district thrive.

The PEP Grant is a 25/75 match, requiring the community to contribute 25% of the cash value of the services. The total value of the grant in training and mentoring services is \$38,400. Historic Downtown Sikeston is currently designated as an Aspiring community in the Missouri Main Street Tier Structure. With the completion of the grant, Historic Downtown Sikeston hopes to advance their organization in the Tier Structure. MMSC currently provides revitalization training and mentoring to 135 communities in Missouri, plus Main Street® accreditation services.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Steven Hoffman

Southeast MO State Univ., Cape Girardeau

Vice President, Robert Lewis

Development Strategies Inc., St. Louis

Treasurer, Bridgette Kelch

Downtown Washington, Inc., Washington

Karen Bode Baxter

Preservation Specialist, St. Louis

Robert Espeland

US Bank, St. Louis

John Griesheimer

Presiding Commissioner, Franklin County

Christine Johnston

MarksNelson, LLC, Kansas City

Joe Lauber

Lauber Municipal Law, Lee's Summit

Mark Pauley

MO Dept. of Econ. Dev., Jefferson City

Dan Ross

Missouri Municipal League, Jefferson City

Russ Volmert

Arcturus Inc., St. Louis

ADVISORY BOARD

Diane Hannah

Downtown Revitalization Specialist, Clinton

Jonathan M. Kemper

Commerce Bank, Kansas City

Sandy Lucy

Mayor, Washington, MO

MISSOURI MAIN STREET CONNECTION

PO Box 1066, Branson Missouri 65615 • 417-334-3014 • glroten@momainstreet.org • www.momainstreet.org