

August 30, 2012

Jim Ardis, Mayor
City of Peoria
419 Fulton Street, Suite 401
Peoria, IL 61602

Re: Confirmation of EDC/HP Adoption of Vital Economy Recommendations

Dear Mayor Ardis:

This letter serves to notify the City of Peoria that the Economic Development Council of Central Illinois (EDC) and the Heartland Partnership (HP) have accepted the five Principal Framework/Priority Recommendations submitted by Vital Economy as indicated below:

- 1) Reorganize Central Illinois EDC Governance & Staff
- 2) Merge the roles of RPC/MPO, IRVCOG, and EDD
- 3) Integrate Workforce Development with CED
- 4) Accentuate HP Strengths and Simplify HP Governance
- 5) Launch Top-Down/Bottom-Up Regional CED Asset Based Strategy

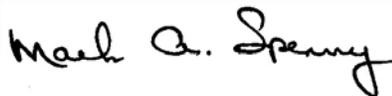
The EDC and HP have also established that it is each organization's policy and goals to work collaboratively with the public, private and not-for-profit stakeholders towards the collaborative implementation of the Framework/Priority Recommendations and to subsequently work for the implementation of the six Initiative Recommendations.

We look forward to working with you and your staff in the future as we implement changes that strengthen the foundation of economic development in our region. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Rex Linder
EDC Chairman



Mark Spenny
Heartland Partnership Chairman

cc: Patrick Urich
Chris Setti



Economic Development
Council for Central
Illinois

Heart of Illinois
Regional Port District -
TransPORT

Heartland Capital
Network

Heartland Foundation

Peoria Area Chamber
of Commerce

Peoria NEXT

...for growth,
prosperity and
community wealth