



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Leo-Cedarville To Break Ground on Downtown Streetscape Project

Town of Leo-Cedarville, IN, (August 3, 2020) - The Town of Leo-Cedarville plans to break ground on a streetscape revitalization project in old downtown Leo near the intersection of Center and Main Streets (one block north of Hosler/Grabill Road) on August 5, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. This past spring, Leo-Cedarville was awarded \$750,000 in funding by the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) through the Stellar Communities Program. This project is a component of NewAllen's East Allen Rural Revival Regional Development Plan, which led the region to being named an Indiana Regional Stellar Community Designee in 2018.

"The downtown revitalization project has been designed to improve economic opportunities, public safety, and quality of place for business owners and visitors to the area. The collective effort of many people is most appreciated," said John Eastes, Leo-Cedarville's Town Council President.

The streetscape revitalization project includes two-blocks of Center Street from Hosler Road to Walnut Street. These improvements will provide the community with a pedestrian friendly streetscape environment, which will increase public awareness, safety and interest in adjoining businesses. Project elements include: ADA compliant ramps and complete sidewalks, repaved streets with crosswalks and regulatory signage, new thematic lighting to improve visibility and warmth, planter boxes with greenery to offer beautification and uninterrupted sightlines, drainage upgrades to prevent flooding and erosion of streets and walkways and a downtown gathering place. The total estimated project cost is \$1,178,772, which includes \$750,000 of OCRA funds and \$428,772 in local match funding.

"Creating a place where people want to work and visit is a critical element to building a sustainable, economic development strategy," said Matt Crouch, Interim Executive Director of OCRA. "This streetscape project will enhance downtown Leo-Cedarville as well as encourage future development within the Town and the NewAllen region."

API is the contractor that received the winning bid to construct the project and will be working toward completion by December 2020. Some incidental activities may continue until May 2021. The project area will be kept open to local traffic and non-local traffic will be detoured during construction.

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East Allen's Rural Revival Plan brings together the seven communities of Harlan, Hoagland, Grabill, Leo-Cedarville, Monroeville, New Haven, and Woodburn under one bold vision – to connect communities through improved quality of place. The plan, totaling \$65 million, focuses on downtowns, parks, sidewalks, trails, housing and community health. Leo-Cedarville's Streetscape Project is a complement to similar streetscape improvements being planned for Grabill in 2021. An additional complimentary project is the Cedar Creek Parks Trail from Allen County's Metea Park through Leo-Cedarville and Grabill up to Hurshtown Reservoir planned for the 2021-2023 timeframe.

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More Project Information:

<https://www.newallenalliance.net/projects>