

To: Members, Howard County Council
From: Members, Board of Directors
Greater Kokomo Economic Development Alliance
Date: July 28, 2016
RE: Howard County Jail, Work Release Program

Discussion at a Greater Kokomo Economic Development Alliance (Alliance) Board of Directors meeting this morning included the issue of overcrowding at the Howard County Jail and potential remedies to that issue. Primary among the potential remedies discussed was the implementation of a work release program and facility.

The discussion resulted in the Alliance board members present desiring to communicate to the members of the Howard County Council their disappointment in the decision to not pursue renovation of the former jail facility and the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) grant to implement the work release programming for our community. The board understands that the deadline for application for those available IDOC funds is imminent to access the dollars in this fiscal calendar year.

The discussion also resulted in reaching a consensus of the board members present, and listed below, to respectfully request that the Howard County Council reconvene to reconsider their decision and to take necessary action to move forward with the plan supported by the Howard County Commissioners in a timeframe that accommodates submitting the application to the IDOC for funding support.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact Alliance President Charlie Sparks with any questions related to this request.

DeAndra Beard – Beyond Borders Language Learning Center
Dr. Susan Sciame-Giesecke – Indiana University Kokomo
Mayor Greg Goodnight
Jeff Griffin – Purdue College of Technology
Steve Hartwig – General Motors Component Holdings
Jeff Hauswald – Kokomo Center Schools
Joe Hooper – Howard Regional Health System

Amber Jordan – Kokomo Toys & Collectibles
Cary Mawbey – First Farmers Bank & Trust
Jean Neel – Haynes International
Michelle Simmons – Ivy Tech Community College
Mike Stegall – Community First Bank
Councilman Jim Papacek, Howard County
Mike Ward – Indiana American Water
Councilman Steve Whitehart, City of Kokomo
Commissioner Paul Wyman