



County of McHenry County Administration

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McHenry County 2010 State of the County Address

WOODSTOCK, IL – In the 2010 State of the County address delivered at today's McHenry County Board meeting, Chairman Ken Koehler congratulated County officials and departments for helping the County remain financially strong through these difficult economic times.

He recognized, "...we all know many County residents adversely affected by the economic downturn. We are all very aware of how it is impacting all businesses and families...through the tough times of 2009, we continued to move forward to improve the quality of life for County residents."

Chairman Koehler continued by reflecting on what the County has accomplished over the past year in the face financial difficulties. He highlighted:

- **McHenry County continues to plan for its transportation needs**
The County plans the addition of a continuous flow intersection at Randall and Algonquin Road and a Green T intersection at Randall and Village Road. Also, the County is set to begin the widening of Rakow Road to reduce congestion along that corridor.
- **The Regional Plan Commission finished the 2030 Plan**
The Regional Plan Commission completed the final version of the McHenry County 2030 Plan this past October. This concludes over two years of public meetings and multiple drafts of the plan. The final draft of the 2030 Plan is scheduled to be before the County Board in April.
- **McHenry County adopted an ordinance to develop a housing commission**
The Commission will work with other units of government on decisions related to affordable housing consistent with the County's identified housing needs.
- **McHenry County completed the Groundwater Protection Action Plan**
The Groundwater Protection Action Plan is now complete and the policies are anticipated to be thoughtfully reviewed and considered by McHenry County local governments throughout the year ahead.

- **McHenry County continues to strengthen its Federal relationships**

The County was able to obtain nearly \$1.3 million dollars in Federal assistance this past year for transportation projects, groundwater resources, and job placement and training for workforce development.

- **The Valley-Hi Management will be back in County hands**

McHenry County has completed a 2+ year management turnaround of the Valley-Hi Nursing Home Facility and is now on a path of financial sustainability.

Chairman Koehler concluded the address by stating, "...We must make certain that 2010 sees a continuation of our conservative approach to the County's finances. That being said, we must still look forward to plan strategically for future County needs."

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"McHenry County government is dedicated to providing the highest quality services for the health, safety, and welfare of the County's residents and communities. We foster representative and transparent government to ensure social, economic and environmental justice."