



Committed to the future of rural communities.

# NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Kevin Hinkebein 573-756-6413

## USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT APPROVES \$47,000 FOR THE CITY OF BONNE TERRE

Greg C. Branum, Missouri State Director of USDA Rural Development, presented a \$47,000 Mock Check to the City of Bonne Terre on November 21, 2005. The funds will be used to cover a cost overrun for road improvements to new industrial area. There are three new businesses at the entrance of the industrial park and the City has obtained commitments from other businesses willing to move into the park if the proposed site can be paved.

"I'm pleased to announce this funding as an important investment in the jobs and economic growth in Southeast Missouri," said U.S. Senator Jim Talent, a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee. "Hundreds of trucks and automobiles will drive over this new road extension to reach new and existing business. Transportation infrastructure is vital as we work to attract new businesses and jobs to the area."

"Our transportation infrastructure is critical to the economy and quality of life in our rural region of Missouri. We rely on our roads to be safe, convenient links between people and essential goods and services. Our roads also play a critical role in business development. USDA Rural Development works very hard to identify opportunities to invest in rural Missouri, and I appreciate their effort on this project," said U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson.

"Rural Development is very proud to provide assistance for this important project," said Branum. "The funding comes from the Rural Development Business Enterprise Grant program and will help provide the needed infrastructure to make the industrial park suitable for potential employers. I look forward to seeing the desired end result of new jobs at the park.

Mayor Sue Wilke said "The City of Bonne Terre, like so many other small cities across the country, occasionally needs a helping hand. We in Bonne Terre appreciate the process by which USDA enabled us to develop our Industrial Park, and applaud the USDA and its wise use of U.S. taxpayer dollars.

"Funding important projects like this by Rural Development mirrors President Bush's initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities," Branum added. "Appreciation is also extended to U.S. Senators "Kit" Bond and Jim Talent and U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson for supporting USDA Rural Development. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential services for rural Missourians."

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available by visiting USDA's web



Front row: Greg Branum, State Director for Rural Development, Ron Thomer, City Administrator, Sue Wilde, Mayor, Donna Martin, Area Specialist Back row: Terry Luetkemeyer, Area Director, and Kevin Hinkebein, Rural Development Manager

site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or contact Kevin Hinkebein, Rural Development Manager, at 812 Progress Dr. Farmington, Missouri 63640 or by calling (573)-756-6413 extension 4.

**“Committed to the future of rural communities.”**

*Rural Development is an Equal Opportunity Lender, Provider, and Employer. Complaints of discrimination should be sent to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410*