

## Progress Special Section:

The motto for the Town of McCordsville is “Vision. Promise.” The words evoke the meaning inscribed on the Town seal – vision and promise for the future. In 1999, the *McCordsville Economic Development, Land Use and Housing Study* was adopted by the Town Council. In June of 2005, that 1999 study was updated and amended to provide a vision that will take the Town to the year 2025. The Town of McCordsville has grown from a small Town on the edge of Marion and Hamilton Counties to an active community poised for future growth. To that end, the adoption of the new Master Plan and Overlay District recognizes and emphasizes the role of planning, both locally and regionally, in implementing high standards for quality and controlled growth in the future.

Planning and development issues are only a part of what makes McCordsville stand out. Continuing to excel at providing the basic services that residents come to expect are a daily challenge. During 2005, the Town began design of Phase IV of the wastewater treatment plant upgrade, began the design phase of a new lift station in the Stansbury Ditch area, added 6.137 miles to the street inventory and conducted weekend “sweeps” of signs in the right-of-way, netting more than 720 signs in the past six months. Several transportation-related projects are also underway. The Police Department continues to expand to meet the growing population and the challenges that brings. Further, the Town worked with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization to secure grant funding to study a mile and one-half section of 600W between 650N and 800N and received Federal funding to help pay for part of the improvements needed on 800N.

The Town Council approved two developments that will help bring much needed commercial activity to the Town. The McCordsville Shoppes, which will be located just north of the new McCordsville Elementary School, will provide a variety of commercial and retail opportunities. The Villages at Brookside, which is a 303-acre mixed commercial and residential development will also help fill the commercial/retail gap.

McCordsville’s leaders will continue to examine and study the best methods to ensure managed growth and development for 2006 and beyond. The Town’s staff is continuing to develop and implement new ideas to enable the public to easily access pertinent information. A new website will be launched in early 2006 which will provide a means for residents and developers alike to access Town procedures and pertinent information concerning the issues before the Council.

The Town will also continue to work on its Economic Development Plan in order to encourage and attract business and industry to McCordsville as opposed to locating in another community. The Town hopes to secure grant funding to initiate its plan to alleviate the flooding and drainage problems in the Old Town. The Council has approved a plan to add on to the current Town Hall in order to allow the staff a little more elbow room and thereby enabling them to become even more efficient.

McCordsville residents are blessed with a low tax rate, a great school system and a group of elected leaders who are dedicated to doing what is in the best interests of the Town.

