



**A regional collaboration in
Quality of Life
Quality of Place
Innovation & Entrepreneurship
Talent Development & Attraction**

Dear Indiana Economic Development Corporation and SEI READI, Inc.,

As the executive or executive body of our local government, this governmental unit has chosen to endorse the SEI READI initiative for pursuing the Indiana Economic Development Corporation's Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative.

By endorsing SEI READI, this governmental unit aligns itself with the SEI READI region, which we understand is inclusive of all local governments in a geographical area including but not limited to Dearborn, Franklin, Ohio, Ripley and Switzerland counties. Beyond our location on a map, our county/city/town identifies itself as a part of the "Southeastern Indiana" region for the following important reasons:

- Gravitational identification with the Cincinnati metropolitan region through industry, media market, and recreational and cultural activities.
- Business industry clusters and supply chains.
- A shared workforce commuting within our counties.
- Shared roadway and logistical assets including Interstate 74; US Highways 50 and 52; Indiana Highways 1, 56, 62, 101, 129, 156 and 262.
- The Ohio River linkage along Dearborn, Ohio and Switzerland counties.
- Representation with the Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission.
- Past regional planning efforts.

We understand that this endorsement letter aligns us with the SEI READI region, but that further participation in regional planning may require a separate commitment of funds necessary for professional assistance to produce a READI-eligible regional development plan.

We look forward to collaborating with our southeastern Indiana counties, cities, towns, private businesses, institutions and philanthropic organizations for regional planning which could be transformative for southeastern Indiana. We support the State of Indiana and IEDC's goals for this program, which include accelerating economic resilience and growth, as well as making Indiana communities magnets for the talent Hoosier businesses need to thrive. We all have a vested interest in enhancing southeastern Indiana's reputation as a wonderful place to do business, call home, or visit.

We embrace the degree of regional collaboration READI requires. Based on our knowledge of the READI program, it is only with this spirit of regionalism that southeastern Indiana will be able to seize this once in a lifetime funding opportunity.

Thank you,

Local government unit/board represented (print)

Signature

Name of person signing on behalf of local government (print)

Date

Position/title of person signing on behalf of gov't (print)

Please sign and return to your local economic development organization, or to ask questions:

Dearborn County – One Dearborn, Mike Perleberg – 513-256-1843 – mperleberg@1dearborn.org

Franklin County – Franklin County Economic Development Commission, John Palmer – 765-338-8201, jpalmerfcedc@gmail.com

Ohio County – City of Rising Sun, Mike Northcutt – 812-438-3324, mike@cityofrisingsun.com

Ripley County – Ripley County Economic Development Corporation, Gary Norman – 812-689-4344, gnorman@ripleycountyedc.com

Switzerland County – Switzerland County Economic Development Corporation, Jon Bond – 812-427-9100, jcbond@switzerlandusa.com