

The DREAM Initiative

Missouri

The Downtown Revitalization and Economic Assistance for Missouri (DREAM) Initiative provides select communities with access to the technical and financial assistance they need to accomplish their downtown revitalization plans. The program is framed by a 3-year commitment between the State of Missouri and designated communities to offer a comprehensive, streamlined approach to establish grassroots downtown revitalization.

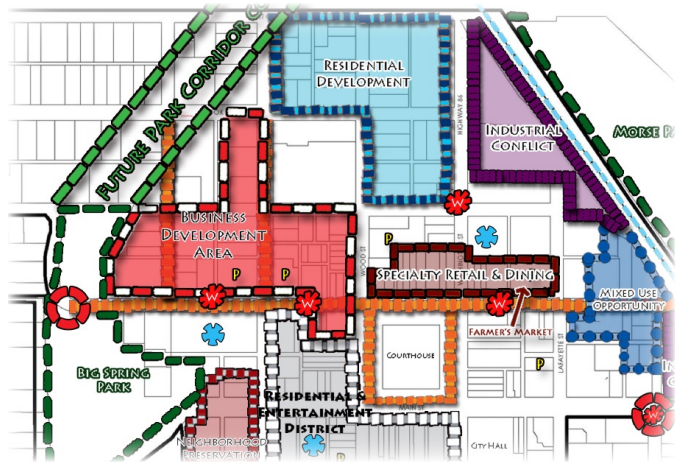
Missouri's downtowns already represent large investments for communities. The DREAM Initiative aims to build upon those investments and leverage existing public resources to attract new private investment and create jobs. There is a strong economic relationship between downtown and the rest of the community. A revitalized downtown leads to increased property values, sales tax revenues and an improved quality of life in and beyond a downtown's borders.

Downtown is often linked to the image and identity of the whole community. The DREAM Initiative attempts to re-establish the sense of place and cultural heritage in what was once the heart of the community.

The goals of the DREAM Initiative are to revitalize targeted districts in small to mid-sized Missouri communities. Ultimately, the program works to put back into use, or increase productive use, of land, buildings, neighborhoods and downtown areas.

The DREAM Initiative has designated 35 communities to participate in the program. The DREAM Initiative is a true collaboration between the Missouri Development Finance Board, Missouri Department of Economic Development and Missouri Housing Development Commission. What each of these organizations bring to the table separately, they do better together.

Each agency has flexible resources that complement one another and the program is making a measurable difference in downtowns across Missouri. The agencies are able to recognize and respond to trends and the larger needs of DREAM communities. This statewide support adds value to downtown revitalization plans by providing professional urban planning and other private expertise.



downtown revitalization

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