



\$20 Million Lilly Endowment Grant Supports Jeffboat Waterfront Redevelopment



JEFFERSONVILLE, Ind. (Sept. 25, 2025) — The Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) has announced the approval of a \$20 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. to support the redevelopment of the historic Jeffboat waterfront.

This transformative project represents a major opportunity to create new jobs, drive economic growth, and strengthen the Southern Indiana region for generations to come. The grant marks a significant milestone in reestablishing the waterfront as a vital economic engine for the area.

“We are grateful to Gov. Mike Braun and the IEDC team for their continued support of this redevelopment project,” said George Piccioni, vice president of business development at ACBL. “The Lilly Endowment grant, combined with the READI grant from Our Southern Indiana RDA, is the result of more than four years of planning, investment, and due diligence by ACBL and its stakeholders.”

The next phase of the project will focus on preparing the site for future development in coordination with The Wheatley Group and Thrive Companies.

“We couldn’t be more excited about this project and the opportunity to invest in the State of Indiana,” said Steve Bollinger, principal and executive vice president of development at Thrive Companies. “The welcome we’ve received, from the local level all the way up to the state, has been something truly special. We’re eager to start shaping the site and bringing it to life together with ACBL and the City of Jeffersonville.”

Piccioni added, “ACBL is very thankful to Lilly Endowment Inc. for the grant funding and their commitment to improving communities across Indiana. We also want to thank Jeffersonville Mayor Mike Moore and Economic and Redevelopment Director Rob Waiz for their leadership and support in shaping the future of this site.”

This grant funding is the foundation for the transformation of the Jeffersonville riverfront into a vibrant, mixed-use development.

Media: [Click to Download B-roll and Photos](#)

About ACBL

American Commercial Barge Line (ACBL) is a leader in marine transportation, delivering safe, reliable, and innovative transportation solutions across America's inland waterways. Headquartered in Jeffersonville, Indiana, ACBL is committed to fueling commerce, supporting communities, and moving America every day.

About Thrive Companies

Thrive Companies is a vertically integrated real estate developer that designs and builds large-scale, mixed-use communities. By bringing together homes, businesses, and lifestyle spaces, Thrive creates places that feel connected, welcoming, and built to last while supporting both the people who live there and the communities around them.

About The Wheatly Group

The Wheatley Group ("TWG") is an Indiana-based advisory firm specializing in the conception, planning, and implementation of economic development and real estate initiatives. TWG's foundation is built on technical know-how, strategic planning, and clear communication utilizing the depth and breadth of its in-house team. Partnering with government and private clients throughout the Midwest, TWG capitalizes on its broad knowledge base and professional experience while leveraging deep relationships within the public and private sectors, providing its clients with a strategic advantage in project planning and execution.

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