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## **HWC Congratulates Delphi and Princeton on 2012 Stellar Communities Wins!**

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — Lieutenant Governor Becky Skillman announced that Delphi and Princeton have been selected as 2012 Stellar Communities. These communities will receive \$20 million from the state over the next three years to complete their proposed comprehensive development projects.

HWC worked on behalf of both cities to prepare their successful grant applications. Following the selection, HWC will serve as each city's program manager for the improvements.

Both Delphi and Princeton have big plans for utilizing their funding to help improve their communities. Delphi's plan includes revitalization of the downtown historic district, a new gateway trail and restoration of the Delphi Opera House. Efforts will also be focused to restore the historic near-downtown neighborhoods through owner-occupied housing improvements.

Delphi Mayor Randy Strasser shared his enthusiasm, saying "Winning the Stellar Communities grant means so much to Delphi and our whole community. When the projects are complete, we will see revitalization of our historic neighborhoods and an invigorated downtown district."

Likewise, plans are underway in Princeton to revitalize the core downtown area. Projects include streetscape and facade improvements around the Courthouse Square, creation of Bicentennial Plaza, restoration of the Princeton Theatre, as well as trails, housing and gateway improvements. Also key are efforts to continue economic stimulation through strong ties with local companies, including Toyota Motor Manufacturing of Indiana, Onsite OHS, Inc., and other local companies doing business worldwide.

"We are excited to be named a Stellar Community as we were so close last year. We continued to make improvements to our plan throughout the year and our hard work paid off," said Princeton Mayor Bob Hurst. "We are creating a world-class community where businesses want to invest and people want to live."

The Stellar Communities program, spearheaded by Lt. Gov. Skillman in 2011, is a collaborative effort by INDOT, The Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs, the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority and the State Revolving Fund.

Delphi and Princeton join North Vernon and Greencastle, which were selected for the pilot program in 2011.

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