



*A Report To You On Activities Of
The Marshall County Economic Development Office*



Marshall County

ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

MARSHALL COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
1ST DISTRICT—MICHAEL J. KEATING
2ND DISTRICT and CHAIRMAN—THOMAS K. HOLLE
3RD DISTRICT —CHARLES R. LOISEAU

MARSHALL COUNTY HOUSING STUDY NOW UNDERWAY

Members of the Housing Steering Committee met with representatives from Hanna:Keelan Associates, the company contracted with the County Commissioners to conduct the study, on July 15th to officially begin work on this important project. In his initial comments to the committee, Tim Keelan, Principal Partner with the firm, pointed out that a study such as the one to be conducted is an important tool in economic development and the recruitment of new businesses into a community. Keelan stated that the primary function of the study was to identify housing needs throughout the county for the next five years and to determine ways that those needs can be met including identifying both State and Federal funding sources. The process that will be used to determine the needs include public surveys, a survey of the Marshall County workforce, public listening sessions to be held throughout the county and focus groups sessions with groups that might have a particular interest in the housing market such as contractors, senior citizens, realtors and others. The plan will also include a site analysis for each community in the county.

Steering Committee members included representatives appointed by each City Council, representatives from each of the firms that have financially supported the study and a representative of the County Commission. Each of these individuals played an important part in the initial meeting by providing an overview of their observations of housing conditions in their communities and the county.

LATE NOTE—*Mr. Keith Carl with Hanna:Keelan will be in Marshall County within the next couple of weeks touring each community.* Keelan stated that his company intends to complete the study by early Fall.

THE MARSHALL COUNTY HOUSING STUDY AND PLAN IS BEING MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FOLLOWING:
Marshall County; the Cities of Axtell, Beattie, Marysville, Oketo, Summerfield, Vermillion, Waterville, Blue Rapids and Frankfort and the following businesses and organizations: Keating Insurance, The Marysville Advocate, The State Bank of Blue Rapids, Gary Howland, Atty., F&A Construction, Mike's OK Tire, Hometown Lumber, United Bank & Trust, Quality Homes, Charlie's Construction, Landoll Corporation, George & Juanita McCune, KNDY AM & FM, Farmers Union Insurance, Housing Authority of Blue Rapids, Excel Development Group, The Frankfort Area News, Cohorst Engineering, Habitat for Humanity, Blue Valley Tele-Communications, Drs. Price, Young, Odle & Horst, P.A. and The Citizens State Bank.

Thanks to all of the above for their leadership in making this important project happen!