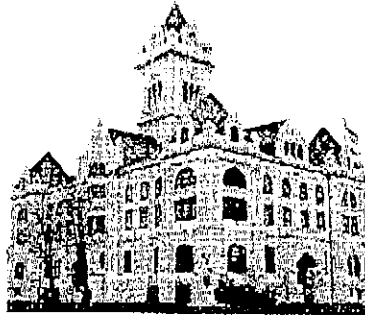


**MARC H. ELLINGER**  
Presiding Commissioner  
(573) 634-9113

**JEFF HOELSCHER**  
Eastern District Commissioner  
(573) 634-9112

**CHRISTIAN WRIGLEY**  
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**Cole County Commission**  
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May 4, 2009

Mayor John Landwehr  
Councilman Kenneth Ferguson  
Councilman Rich Koon  
Councilman Bob Scrivner  
Councilman Eric Struempf  
Councilman Daniel Klindt  
City of Jefferson  
320 East McCarty Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Councilman Mike Harvey  
Councilman Jim Penfold  
Councilman Bryan Pope  
Councilwoman Carrie Carroll  
Councilman Ron Medin

Dear Mayor Landwehr and Council:

As Presiding Commissioner of Cole County, I have consistently and passionately supported economic development opportunities in Jefferson City and Cole County. Together, the City and the County have partnered to attract new businesses to our community and to retain our existing businesses. Those existing businesses are the lifeblood of our economy. We must not only sustain our existing business, but foster their growth.

To this end, I'm writing in support of the rezoning application of Midwest Block. In these difficult economic times, it is imperative that we encourage, support and foster growth of our local businesses, to that end, Midwest Block's new plant will increase Midwest's workforce by an estimated ten employees (with a potential of 20 additional jobs in the future). This expansion will allow Midwest Block to manufacture precast products, which is an alternative to its existing block manufacturing process and will avoid the possibility of layoffs of existing employees due to the current reduced demand for block products.

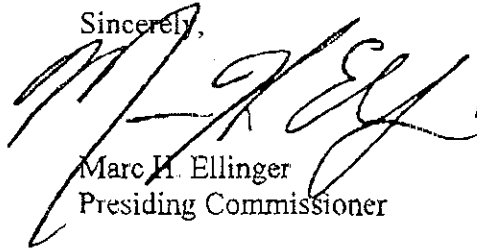
As you know, Cole County is prepared to partner with Jefferson City in the proposed improvement of East McCarty Street. This partnership is, in my opinion, solely based upon the basis that the improvement to East McCarty will promote economic development along the East McCarty corridor and across the east side of Jefferson City.

If the City is not committed to fostering economic development on East McCarty, the proposed improvements to East McCarty appear to be more a luxury than a necessity at the current time.

Clearly, the expansion of Midwest Block is consistent with the purpose for the improvement of East McCarty. While I understand that rezoning applications can generate opposition from nearby residences; the expansion proposed by Midwest Block is not an onerous use, and the proposal is good for Cole County as well as Jefferson City. I encourage you to work for economic development and job growth, especially of good local businesses such as Midwest Block and approve the rezoning application of Midwest Block.

Thank you, in advance, for your favorable consideration of this important economic development project and to our joint desire to see existing businesses grow, expand and prosper to the benefit of our entire community

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Ellinger', written over the typed name and title.

Marc H. Ellinger  
Presiding Commissioner