

**ROCHELLE CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA ITEM MEMO  
REGULAR MEETING**

**SUBJECT: Expansion of the Enterprise Zone in Ogle and Lee Counties**

**Staff Contact:** Jason Anderson and Andy Shaw the Lee Ogle Enterprise Zone Administrator

**Summary:** In 2015 the State of Illinois through the economic development departments in Rochelle and Dixon designated sites in Lee and Ogle Counties as Enterprise Zones (LOEZ). Through legislation passed in the General Assembly last year, each EZ was permitted to add 3,000 acres to the existing EZ. The Lee-Ogle Enterprise Board is proposing an amendment to the original EZ ordinance to add new sites to LOEZ.

This amendment will identify industrial and large-scale development parcels in and around Rochelle and Dixon. Additionally, several smaller commercial areas have been identified with the assistance of county assessors including several commercial-scale apartments, those larger than a duplex and built as apartments. We hope this will incentivize continued improvements by area landlords to enhance living conditions for renters in the community.

Acreage used by this amendment includes a net 1376 acres in Rochelle. Increased acreage by city/villages: Dixon 707, Mount Morris 31, Amboy 15, Oregon 7, Franklin 1, Ashton 1 for a total of 2140 added.

Prior to this amendment, the Lee Ogle Enterprise Zone had 3656 acres of unallocated space available to the Lee Ogle Enterprise Zone. Upon this amendment’s anticipated approval by the State of Illinois, 1517 acres will remain available for future additions to the Zone for future economic development projects.

**Funding Sources:**

| Source: | Budgeted Amount: | Proposed Expenditure: |
|---------|------------------|-----------------------|
| N/A     | N/A              | N/A                   |

**Strategic Plan Goal Application:** Expand the area of the Lee-Ogle Enterprise Zone will open additional opportunities for economic development growth which is consistent with the Goals and Objectives of the City of Rochelle.

**Recommendation:** The staff recommends the City Council approve the amendment to the EZ Ordinance.

**Supporting Documents:**

- Rochelle Original EZ Map
- Rochelle Amendment Ordinance #45-OH
- Lee-Ogle EZ Amendment Map – Rochelle Area
- Lee-Ogle EZ Amendment Overall Map