



ADDITIONAL COUNTYWIDE INITIATIVES

INITIATIVE SEVEN

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PRESENTATION TO THE GOVERNOR

CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER AND JAIL

Hardeman County is currently looking at building a new Criminal Justice Center and Jail facility to replace its undersized, substandard and aging Jail facility located in Bolivar, and to supplement the Hardeman County Courthouse with modern courtroom facilities. The intent is to build a new facility in a location close to the current Courthouse Square so that the employees and visitors of the current Courts and Jail can continue to support businesses in the center of town instead of being relocated to an outlying area like the industrial park. Design of the facility is expected to commence in the coming months.



B O L I V A R F A R M E R S M A R K E T

With the help of a U.S.D.A. Rural Development grant, the Bolivar Downtown Development Corporation is constructing an open-air covered Farmers Market pavilion in Downtown Bolivar. The brick and heavy timber structure will be open frequently, making available local produce and crafts as well as serving as a community gathering spot for festivals and family celebrations. The structure is currently under construction for completion in early fall of 2007.



LAND USE CONTROLS

Critical to the preservation of rural lands and encouragement of sustainable development is the adoption of land use controls based upon the concept of Rural Stewardship. Current regulations do not provide for significant growth and do not place a value upon the natural rural condition. A set of development regulations, land use controls, and design guidelines are needed to ensure that development in all 10 cities in the County takes the form of compact, sustainable, green, and high-quality projects in the appropriate locations. Site-specific master plans must accompany these regulations to allow localization of the rules to the vision of the future particular to each of the 10 cities and the whole County. Planning officials and municipalities need to be empowered to carry out intelligent policies of Rural Stewardship.

Building upon the efforts made with the Cumberland Region Tomorrow Quality Growth Toolbox for comprehensive planning, a next logical step would be to craft tools for localized smart growth development practices including land use controls, form-based zoning, natural resource management and conservation, and economic development strategies. This is critically important to the future of each of the 10 cities, as well as the County areas between each city.

HISTORIC WALKING TOURS

Bolivar has a wonderful collection of historic structures. Within Bolivar there are two individual properties and four historic districts listed on the National Register of Historic Place; only Shelby County has more in West Tennessee. These properties are among the city's oldest and most intact historic structures, and they represent a variety of architectural styles and forms. The buildings reflect Bolivar's unique history and growth and remain a significant part of its present and future. They are:

- The Bolivar Court Square Historic District
- The Bills-McNeal Historic District
- The North Main Street Historic District
- The Western State Hospital Historic District
- The Hatchie River Ferry
- The United Sons and Daughters of Charity Lodge Hall



Although having such a unique collection of buildings in Italianate, Colonial Revival, and Neoclassical styles, Bolivar does not have a historic trail network. People still live in most of the houses while some of the other buildings are abandoned and need restoration. Streetscape improvements (historic and marker signage, upgrading sidewalks, accessibility ramps for the handicapped, pedestrian lighting, and street furniture) are also needed, complementary to the historic character of the place.

Three easy walking loops are proposed to help create a tourist-oriented historical trail network that permit visitors to tour the historic districts and select homes by connecting various buildings within the three historic districts of Court Square, Bills-McNeal and North Main. These three trails consist of two short loops and one large loop that permit visitors to choose their preference for the amount of distance, time and buildings they would like to view. Visitors then have the opportunity to explore Bolivar's historic districts at their leisure. The two short loops (Court Square-North Main and Bills-McNeal) are intended to cover individual historic districts and a few important houses. The largest loop will cover not only all the historic districts, but also more houses, in depth. All the tours will start and end at The Pillars and could be self-guided or guided-tours. Special tours will take place during select events, such as the Haunted Hayride tours by horse and carriage during the autumn colors and Halloween period.

WESTERN MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE EXPANSION

In 2004 Gov. Phil Bredesen announced the expansion and replacement of facilities at the Western Mental Health Institute in Bolivar, Hardeman County. The \$56 million project will be built on the existing site near the original hospital from 1889, and will include two phases to serve the approximately 260 patients and 650 staff who use the facility daily.

The first phase will include construction of:

- 150 inpatient beds
- Therapeutic and clinical ancillary space needed to support the inpatient program
- Some administrative and educational space
- Security/Escort Services
- Communications

Future programming will include 100 additional beds, the balance of the administrative and educational space, and in a separate new building, all facility support, dietary space, and Material Management. The therapeutic and clinical ancillary support spaces constructed in Phase I will be sufficient to accommodate the 100 beds to be added in the future.

The following selected clinical and policy considerations were significant factors in determining the scope of the Functional and Space Program:

- The facility must meet JCAHO standards and the AHA Guidelines of the Design and Construction of Healthcare Facilities, which have been adopted by the State of Tennessee. An attempt should also be made to incorporate the latest trends and innovations in design that have emerged across the country.
- Each bedroom will have a toilet and shower combination accessible without having to go into the corridor.
- The average length of stay for Acute Care patients will be less than seven days.
- Easy access to the outdoors for all patients is a high priority.
- There will be a café as part of the Adjunctive Therapy program.
- WMHI will provide as many medical services as possible in-house.



H A R D E M A N C O U N T Y M U S E U M S

Hardeman County has the unprecedented opportunity to attract visitors by offering many nationally significant Museums. No other rural county in the state will be able to match this rich presentation of history, conservation and recreation that showcases our natural and cultural rural heritage and outdoor family activities. These Museums will collectively serve as a significant economic generator for Hardeman County through tourism.

We intend to unify financial support and create comprehensive, cooperative tourism marketing on behalf of all museums in Hardeman County. The sheer number of quality museums located on one county will be mutually supportive and serve to attract national exposure for the county and the region.

Hardeman County History Museum – The Commission on Black History is committed to building this facility which will include 300+ seating for dining, events, meetings, job fairs, banquets, receptions, family reunions and gatherings. It will also include classrooms, a music room, and an arts & crafts room. With the help of Rep. Shaw, supporters of the Hardeman County Museum have already raised \$35,000 towards this effort.

The Bill Dance Museum – Bill Dance has agreed that we can create what would unquestionably become a nationally significant Museum. Bill Dance is recognized worldwide and is from Hardeman County. (This Museum is contingent on the building of Lake Silerton.)

The Hatchie River Museum of Ecology and Conservation – This Museum is dedicated to the continued preservation of the Hatchie River and its rich history. The Nature Conservancy calls the Hatchie River “One of the 75 Last Great Places on Earth to Save.” They have agreed for this Museum to be located in Bolivar.

The Ghost of Davis Bridge Museum – Plans call for locating this Museum on the grounds of the Davis Bridge Battlefield. This museum and library will house the permanent collection of Civil War papers written about this epic battle and include artifacts of the actual battle and others of the era.

American Hand Tool Museum – Bolivar and Hardeman County have received the offer from the collector owning perhaps the largest collection of American Hand Tools in the U.S., c 1600-1800, to display for an unspecified period of time their collection in Historic Downtown Bolivar for the purpose of creating a tourist draw for the region.

The Tennessee Pewter Museum – A collection of 19th century family treasures of pewter craftsmanship combined with the ability to watch artisans at work creating many items in pewter.

Historic Homes of Bolivar – A touring museum to three APTA-owned examples of original furnished antebellum homes steeped in history brought alive by the telling of stories surrounding the war and national figures such as Generals U.S. Grant and Sherman. Bolivar has four Historic Districts and McAnulty’s Forest, a national landmark as the only remaining piece of virgin woodland in West Tennessee.

The National Bird Dog Museum and Wildlife Heritage Center – Located in Grand Junction, maintaining a Sporting Dog Complex to house historical memorabilia of the sporting breeds and the people involved with them.

The Little Courthouse Museum – This Museum, built in 1824 in Downtown Bolivar, is the earliest surviving courthouse in West Tennessee and one of only three log cabin courthouses in the United States. It is undergoing renovation at this time in advance of the arrival of the Smithsonian exhibit “New Harmonies” in August 2008.

B O L I V A R V O T E R S A P P R O V E L I Q U O R B Y T H E D R I N K

In assessing the future envisioned for Downtown Bolivar, having a high caliber of restaurants in the area is necessary for success. In order to attract the kind of restaurants Bolivar desires, it is essential to enable liquor to be sold by the drink. This required the support of the community by vote on a referendum. This became our very first initiative.

In 2006 the “Restaurant Referendum” was placed on the ballot after acquiring enough petition signatures for the proposition. Proponents met with church groups and the community to dispel rumors and explain the importance the sale of liquor in restaurants would have for the economic revitalization of Downtown Bolivar.

The referendum passed on November 7, 2006, showing that Bolivar citizens support progress and positive changes in the Downtown area.



B O Y S & G I R L S C L U B O F H A R D E M A N C O U N T Y

The Bolivar General Healthcare Foundation is a philanthropic board assembled to oversee funding grants provided by West Tennessee Healthcare earmarked for Hardeman County. After research and public discussion of how best the board could serve and benefit the quality of life in Hardeman County, the decision was made to form and support a Boys & Girls Club.

Advised by Judge Charles M. Cary, Director of Schools Dr. Don Hopper, local county and city government officials, community groups, and the positive responses of citizens throughout the county, a founding board was formed and is currently hard at work creating a countywide Club. Thanks to the generosity of the state of Tennessee and Governor Phil Bredesen, and local contributors, there is now a 50-year lease on a facility perfect for the Club.

BGHF has joined hands with the invaluable help of Hardeman County Schools to make this dream come true. The response of the people of Hardeman County is very positive and encouraging. The consensus is that a Boys & Girls Club will positively impact the county and address many of its problems, both societal and economic. The Club is scheduled to officially open shortly (in the fall of 2007), in time to have a positive impact on this current school year.

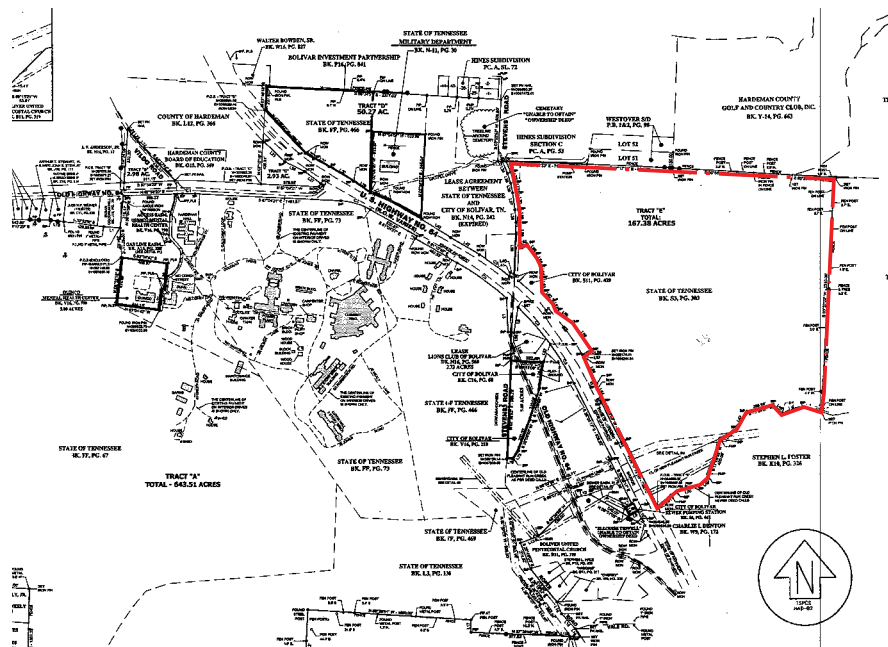
SURPLUS STATE LAND ON HIGHWAY 64

Situated along US Highway 64 between the westernmost reaches of Bolivar and the Downtown area sits approximately 167 acres of State-owned land, left primarily undeveloped and covered with trees and brush and is located on the north side of Highway 64. The site was recently considered for the expansion of the Western Mental Health Facility which instead will be built at the current site of the hospital just one-half mile away.

The southwest boundary of the site is Highway 64 and the western boundary is Stevens Road. To the north is a residential subdivision and the Hardeman County Golf & Country Club while the eastern and southeastern boundaries are formed by large privately owned tracts. There is also a TVA power line easement cutting through the southeast corner of the site roughly 600 feet from the property line. The site is currently being utilized by the Tennessee National Guard for training exercises.

It is one of the first and most prominent signs of the city as one drives into town from the west and whatever is built there will be a powerful symbol of the City. This location is currently underutilized and prime for development. Possible future uses include retail and residential, as well as public recreation. Given its prominent location, it will be critical to the City that the right kind and look of development be executed here.

Local leaders are hopeful the State will donate this surplus State land to Bolivar for appropriate mixed-use development, and the City of Bolivar has agreed in turn to use the proceeds from sale necessary to acquire all the land needed by the County to build its new Criminal Justice Center and Jail next to Downtown. This is another demonstration of how Bolivar and Hardeman are cooperating with each other.



THE COURTHOUSE SQUARE REVITALIZATION ACT OF 2005

On January 4, 2007, Dave Goetz, Jr., Commissioner from Finance & Administration, announced in a letter that the City was chosen as one of two recipients in Western Tennessee for the Courthouse Square Revitalization Pilot Project Act of 2005. A press release was held on January 8th in the Bolivar Municipal Center Courtroom with Rep. Shaw. This Pilot Project was established to assist small towns (population less than 120,000) to receive an allocation of sales taxes from the State for the revitalization of its public square. The sales taxes collected within a defined revitalization zone will, every year through 2015, be allocated to Bolivar to help in that effort.

A major fire took place, the night of Feb. 28, 2007 and wiped out five buildings on the south side of Courthouse Square on E. Market St., leaving only remains of the old Bank of Bolivar building on the west end of the block and a small portion of the West Tenn. Bail Agency building on the east end of the block. After this devastating fire and several major losses, the State reassessed and expanded the zone to accommodate for those losses. The announcement for the expansion of the zone was made on July 13, 2007. Present from Nashville was Rep. Shaw, Kim McMillan (Senior Advisor to the Governor), Jim Schulman (Executive to Finance & Appropriations Committee), Bob King (Dept. of Revenue & Finance), and Sen. Wilder.

The Bolivar Downtown Development Corporation ("DevCo") was formed to receive and administer the spending of these funds, estimated at about \$1,000,000 a year for nine years. Funds may be used to improve public and privately-owned buildings as well as infrastructure such as sidewalks, lighting, landscape, and signage. A primary responsibility of DevCo is to revitalize the Downtown core of the City by granting economic incentives to new businesses such as restaurants, entertainment, hotel, art gallery, retail shops, and other uses that will attract tourists and shoppers to Historic Downtown Bolivar. Funds will also be allocated to aggressively market Downtown Bolivar to all surrounding population centers. It is believed that Historic Downtown Bolivar will be totally transformed by this economic redevelopment project.



THREE - COUNTY REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL PARK

During an early 2007 meeting of Tennessee Tomorrow, economic and community development representatives from Hardin, McNairy, and Hardeman Counties discussed methods to make the region attractive to industrial suppliers that will serve the new Toyota manufacturing facility locating near Tupelo, MS. The group decided to explore a regional industrial park - based upon Hardin County's marketing expertise, McNairy County's skill in industrial park development, and Hardeman County's availability of land proximate to the Toyota facility - a prime opportunity to partner in this industrial recruitment effort. Each of the participating government entities would agree to fund a certain portion of the cost to acquire land, construct the facilities, and offer incentives to industrial prospects. Every year thereafter those same government bodies would receive a portion of the tax monies generated by the industrial park commensurate to their original investment; this process would repeat annually, thus offering the three counties the prospect of a steady cash flow with minimal overhead responsibilities.

Although this concept is still in its infancy and requires buy-in from the respective county commissions before it can develop further, it would represent a first-of-its-kind regional initiative in southwest Tennessee.

A PLAN FOR A BOLIVAR / HARDEMAN COUNTY MUNICIPAL CENTER

Indoor Arena – Exhibition Hall – Performing Arts Center – Sports Center – Outdoor Amphitheater

Cities and counties can best attain their full potential by differentiating themselves from others within their region. A Municipal Center and Arena, built within easy walking distance of Historic Downtown Bolivar, presents a unique opportunity to do something no other city or county in our region has pursued. It would not only take advantage of all the Initiatives currently being planned for Hardeman County, it would practically guarantee their successes. It is a distinguishing and unifying project that would make Hardeman County the central focus for major public activities in the region.

A group of business and civic leaders is firmly behind this Initiative, willing to support its planning and execution with their financial commitments and time. The Bolivar and County Mayors are supportive, as they understand how a facility that brings its own citizens together, as well as attracts tourists to Hardeman County, will support everything else being planned.

Having a Municipal Center will help Hardeman County “grow out of its tight financial condition.” Without question, this facility will be an amenity that attracts non-local residents to Hardeman County. A wide range of local businesses would be stimulated by the spending coming to the county from non-residents, and these dollars will ripple through the economy generating additional jobs, income and tax revenue. An Economic Impact Assessment, similar to the one recently done for the planned Lake Silerton, will be obtained.

The plan is to build a “comfortable” size facility, about 25,000 square feet of heated and air conditioned space that serves the needs of the rural southwest counties of Tennessee. In the Main Arena, approximately 2,000 permanent bleacher seats are required to host regional basketball tournaments, plus additional performance seating on the main floor as needed for concerts. The floor would be interchangeable from dirt to wood to Astroturf. Meeting and dressing rooms would also be included. A separate Show Barn with permanent stalls for cattle and horses would be considered only in a future phase, and only if the site selected is large enough to accommodate this use. An Outdoor Amphitheater is planned to provide a venue for summer outdoor concerts and other festival activities.

Sites are under consideration to the north, east and south of Historic Downtown Bolivar. If the County selects south of the Bolivar Square for its new Criminal Justice Center and Jail, that area would also be an ideal location for a Municipal Center and Arena. Sites in East Bolivar and just north of the Main Street Historic District are also being investigated.

The following list of potential activities illustrates how greatly this facility would contribute to Bolivar, Hardeman County, and all its neighboring counties:

Horse Clinics	Theater Plays	Farm Implement Shows
Auctions	Town Hall Meetings	Charity Events
High School Graduations	Cattle Auctions	Wedding Receptions
Church Services	Livestock Shows	Dances & Other Social Events
Church Revivals	Dog Shows	Political Rallies
Basketball Tournaments	Equestrian Events	Motocross
Tennis Tournaments	Hunting And Fishing Clinics	Antique Furniture Sales And Auctions
Tractor Pulls	Boat Shows	Flea Markets
Rodeos	Visiting Symphonies	Agriculture Conservation Lectures
Barbecue Cooking Contests	Festivals	Countywide Garage Sales
Concerts	Antique Car Shows	Fairs
Exhibition Hall	Liquidation Sales	Circus

A number of exhibition centers located throughout the Mid-South have been researched. There is a trend for rural counties, located within one or two hours drive of a major metropolitan area, to capitalize on their agricultural base and build an exhibition center. But only one county seat within a region can support an Exposition Hall, and we want it to be located in Historic Downtown Bolivar and Hardeman County.

The following was taken from a research report conducted by the Center for Economic Development and Research of the University of North Texas in April 2005. The researchers examined many existing facilities. The one in Glen Rose, Texas (Somervell County) seems to be the moderate size best suited for Hardeman County. Glen Rose is in Central Texas, with a nearby “Texas Lakes Trail” similar to Hardeman County’s plan for Lake Silerton and the Bill Dance Signature Lakes Trail. Glen Rose has a population of only 2,700 and the county only 7,600. Following is the description of the facility from that report:

Glen Rose/Somervell County Expo and Amphitheater, Glen Rose, TX

The Glen Rose facility is a multi-purpose event center hosting horse shows, dances, concerts, and stage shows. It has two indoor arenas — a main arena and a show barn — and one outdoor arena as well as a multi-purpose area with portable stalls and cattle pens. There is also an Outdoor Amphitheater. The exposition hall at Glen Rose is designed for banquets, wedding receptions, and meetings. All activities at the Expo Center are covered under one roof.

1. Arena

The main arena encompasses 33,280 square feet and features a fixed seating capacity of up to 2,100. For concerts, seating can be expanded to accommodate 5,470 patrons. The arena includes six bucking chutes and numerous stock pens as well as a press box.

2. Show barn and pavilion arena

The show barn is an intimate facility with a 100' X 200' arena. It can accommodate 640 persons in bleacher style seating. The show barn has 291 permanent stalls plus 250 portable stalls. In addition, the Expo Center has an outdoor pavilion arena with bleacher seating. Portable stalls and cattle pens can also be installed in the pavilion.

3. Climate control

The main arena, concourse, and exposition hall are heated and air-conditioned. The show barn is heated and cooled by portable area coolers.

4. Parking

Glen Rose has 1,200 paved parking spaces as well as hookups for campers and RVs.

5. Restrooms

The complex includes a total of ten restrooms. In addition, showers and dressings rooms are available in the main arena.

6. Concessions

The Glen Rose facility includes three concession stands.

7. Construction costs

The Glen Rose Expo Center was built in multiple phases between 1993 and 2004. Total construction costs have been approximately \$7 million.

8. Financing

The construction of the Glen Rose facility was financed through the Somervell County General Fund.

9. Operations

The Glen Rose facility employs 11 full-time workers and 10 part-time staff. The county contracts with a management firm to handle all operations of the Expo Center. During the summer, utility costs run about \$13,000 per month, and during the winter they run about \$7,500 per month. Repair and upkeep are approximately \$50,000 per year. The center's operating budget is \$600,000 per year with gross revenues running at about \$400,000 per year.

10. Events and attendance

As mentioned above, the Glen Rose facility includes an Outdoor Amphitheater in addition to the Expo Center. Last year, the amphitheater, which is used mainly in the summer, recorded 60,000 visitors for concerts and other forms of entertainment. The Expo Center itself hosted 90,000 visitors last year for horse shows, livestock exhibitions, and a dog show, among other events. All told, the Expo Center recorded 200 event days in 2004.

BROADBAND AND WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS

Access to Broadband Internet service throughout Hardeman County is an absolute requirement. Students are unable to take full advantage of their educational opportunities without it. Businesses will continue to locate elsewhere without it. And service industry employees will not be able to operate in Hardeman County without it. If Hardeman County is to capitalize on the numerous initiatives being undertaken and planned, it must be in the position to retain its brightest high school graduates and attract young professionals that depend on broadband access.

The growth of the Internet for commerce, education, and entertainment has been explosive in the last fifteen years, since the World Wide Web has brought new possibilities to people across the globe. Areas that languish behind in the speed, service and availability of Internet access are now at a competitive disadvantage to those communities who are served well.

Hardeman County is served by limited broadband service with relatively large distances between nodes of high-speed access, leaving most to choose slower options or to go without. Wireless access is few and far between. We understand how critical it is to attracting and retaining young professionals, providing employment opportunities and growing businesses without proper access throughout the County.

The City of Bolivar, with the help of Bolivar Energy, is investigating the installation of wireless for the Downtown Bolivar area, for a cost of about \$100,000. More difficult but more important is providing adequate Internet access across the County, which would likely run in the tens of millions of dollars. Assistance is needed to provide this vital service as part of our key technological infrastructure.

A LONGER REACH FOR BROADBAND

The Commercial Appeal (Memphis, TN) - Editorial August 8, 2007

Visiting Small Town, Tennessee, after a long absence, you might notice a few changes. A few things are new. A lot of things are missing. Gone are many of the jobs that used to give young people in the area a way to make enough money to be able to stick around.

The problem is exacerbated by rural Tennessee's relative lack of access to and acceptance of the technology that is taken for granted in urban areas. In the area of broadband Internet access, some worthwhile efforts are being made to extend its reach.

Sen. Roy Herron and Rep. Mark Maddox, two Democratic state legislators from the West Tennessee community of Dresden, are leading an effort to achieve high-speed Internet parity as co-chairmen of the Tennessee Broadband Task Force.

The task force is working with Connected Tennessee, a public-private nonprofit partnership that is preparing to launch a series of local community gatherings aimed at moving less densely populated areas of the state toward full participation in the Information Age.

It's important for the public to support these efforts. As Herron correctly points out, today's quest for broadband access is becoming as important to economic development as interstate highways, universal service for telephones and rural electrification were in the past.

Data collected by Connected Tennessee indicate that while 43 percent of Tennessee households buy high-speed service, 86 percent of the state has access to broadband by cable or DSL.

A precise measurement of the gap between rural and urban Tennessee on broadband access is hard to come by. The quality of the available service is not believed to be up to urban standards in some cases, and studies have shown that a lack of understanding of broadband's benefits is delaying progress and discouraging corporate investment.

Can the situation be improved? It could, if leaders in rural Tennessee commit the necessary energy and resources to the mission. In some cases, it will take public-private partnerships to jump-start expansion of the broadband universe into areas that are not profitable for business alone.

It's not clear when Tennessee will be able to become fully connected. The state is far behind at least one neighboring state. Kentucky expects to finish closing the broadband accessibility gap by the end of the year.

It is clear that for rural Tennesseans, the benefits of being connected will be significant - access to e-commerce, computer-assisted research and learning, electronic health care, videoconferencing, streaming media and the like.

This is work that must be stepped up quickly, before rural Tennessee gets further behind.

NEW UPSCALE HOTEL IN HISTORIC DOWNTOWN BOLIVAR

In 1973, Bolivar lost its old Bolivar Hotel when it was demolished to make way for new development. Once located on Jackson Street facing the Courthouse, the building had operated as a hotel for nearly 100 years. This void needs be filled to help bolster tourism and bring more people to Downtown. A new upscale hotel is envisioned for the Square in Historic Downtown Bolivar on the site where several buildings were lost to fire on Feb. 28, 2007.

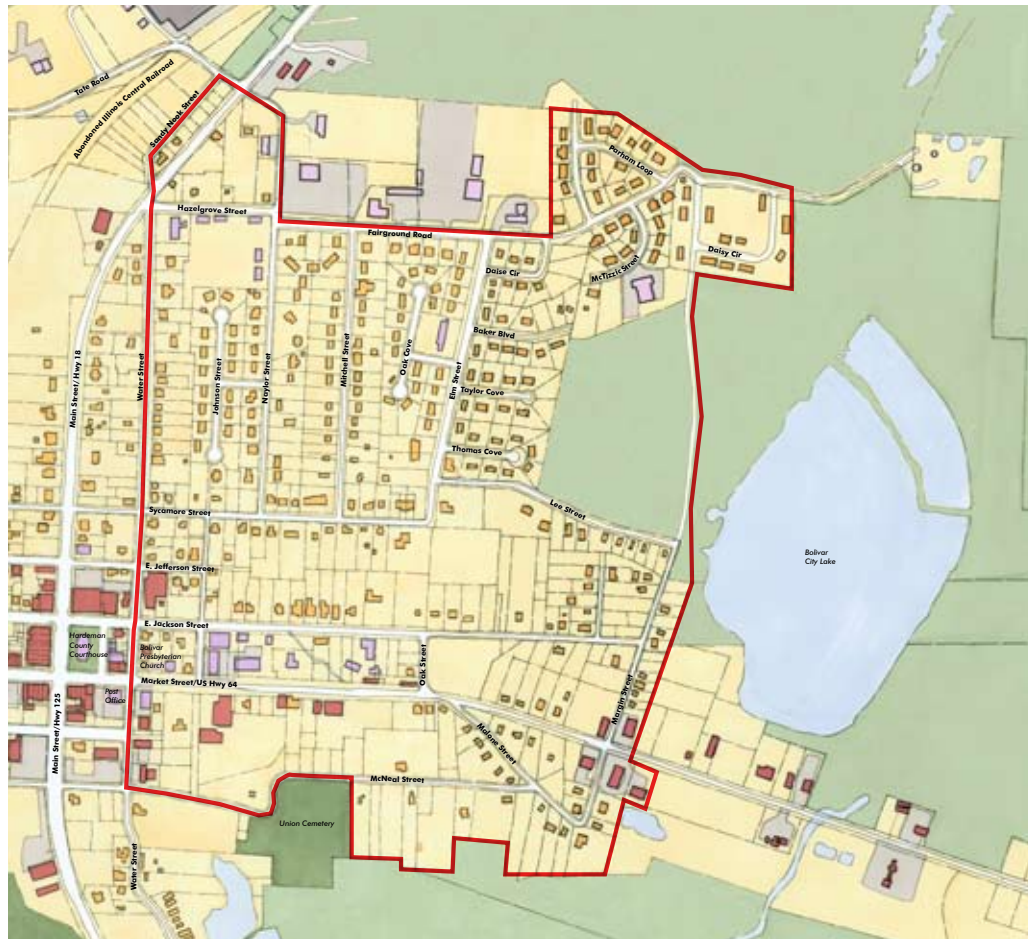
A hotel feasibility consultant, Chuck Pinkowski, has been hired to determine the current and future demand for a luxury hotel, in the range of 40 to 50 rooms with a quality level equal to the Alluvian Hotel in Greenwood, Mississippi. It is believed that this type of hotel would position Bolivar and Hardeman County to be a regional center, providing accommodations for local businesses and tourists.



IMPROVEMENTS FOR EAST BOLIVAR

While much of Bolivar's attention is being directed towards the Downtown core and the Courthouse Square, civic and business leaders are not losing sight of the need to improve its most impoverished and disadvantaged parts of the community. Alongside the investments in the core of the City there will be improvements in the East Bolivar neighborhood that is immediately adjacent to the Courthouse Square. East Bolivar contains some commercial buildings along US Highway 64 (Market Street), the current County Jail, and 365 residential units of which 105 are multifamily and 260 are single family. It is estimated that East Bolivar is responsible for 90% of the City of Bolivar's drug cases, 70% of its serious crimes, and about 40% of all calls to the Police Department for service.

The Bolivar Downtown Development Corporation is committed to devote energy, resources and funding to projects in East Bolivar (outlined in red on the map below). Improved housing, utilities, curbs and gutters, community resources and other community development projects will be seeded or funded through the funds that are pledged. In this manner the neighborhood of East Bolivar will not be left behind when investments are made in the broader community.



COURTHOUSE SQUARE LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

Nationally-reknown landscape architect Ben Page Associates has been engaged to design and implement improvements to the Hardeman County Courthouse Square grounds, in conjunction with streetscape improvements for the entire area that are being designed by Looney Ricks Kiss Architects. The new Courthouse grounds will reinterpret and incorporate existing monuments into the new design.

The Courthouse will be restored to its design of 1868, removing the two side wings that were added in the 1950's. Around the grounds, the bust of Simone Bolivar will be incorporated into a flower garden in front of the main steps to the courthouse. The Obelisk will be transformed into a large sun-dial device within a plaza, to mark the passage of time and the seasons. A Court of Honor will be established in regards to the fallen heroes and respected citizens of the county. A fountain will be placed at one end of the square where the sound of falling water will create a soothing quiet space. A set of monumental steps will create an outdoor amphitheater along Warren Street where presentations and activities can take place in the street. At each corner of the Square new areas will be created that can be named for benefactors or dignitaries and provide a means for funding the improvements.

Brick paving, trees, flower gardens, lighting and sidewalk improvements will complement the celebration of Hardeman County's history for generations to come.

