



336 Update

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ROUTE 336 COALITION

Spring
2002

336 Rally Set for June 13th at Lewistown Fairgrounds

336 Coalition Invites the Central Illinois Ag Coalition as Special Guests

June 13th has been selected for the 2002 annual 336 Rally. The Fulton County Fair Grounds in Lewistown will be the scene of the event.



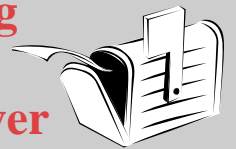
The 336 Coalition has extended an invitation to all of the Central Illinois Ag Coalition members and members of the Central Illinois Energy Co-Op to be their special guests for the evening. The Fulton County Cattlemen's association has agreed to cook sandwiches at the fair grounds pavilion. Holding the event at the fairgrounds pavilion will enable the event to be held rain or shine.

There will be extra effort made to invite as many of the candidates vying for office in the November elections to attend the rally. As this edition goes to press, special invitations have gone out to both of the Gubernatorial candidates, as well as the two candidates running for Lieutenant Governor. All candidates in attendance that are running for state or federal office will be invited address the audience to express their views related to Highway 336 from Peoria to Macomb as well as on the Ethanol facility being constructed by Central Illinois Energy.

Attending the Rally on June 13th and seeking out the November federal and state candidates to encourage their support for 336 is very important for everyone who believes in the need for this project in West Central Illinois.

Doing so will undoubtedly enable us to one day bury the old nickname of Forgottonia once and for all.

**336 Update
Mailing
List
goes over
4,000**



With this edition of the 336 Update, our mailing list will go over the **4,000** benchmark. Thanks go out to all of you for your continued support and involvement in the critically important project.



336 Coalition Recent Events

Spring
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Since our last Update, the Coalition board has been busy behind the scenes meeting with officials and making plans for the 2002 calendar year.

During the winter months, we met with Congressman Lane Evans and Congressman Ray LaHood. Both of them continue to give us their strong support.

Previously, we met with Secretary Kirk Brown, Director Linda Wheeler, and District IV Engineer

Joe Crowe to go over the status of Phase One planning and to consider IDOT's funding needs as we lobby for Phase Two dollars in the upcoming Federal Transportation Bill.

In addition to our plans for the June 13th Rally, we will be focusing attention on meeting with Senators Dick Durbin and Peter Fitzgerald in the near future to bring them up to date on 336. Our hopes are to host Attorney General Jim Ryan and Representative Rod Blagojevich during their campaigns for governor of Illinois.

IDOT Update



www.upgrade74.com

Welcome to the Upgrade 74 Web site! In our Web site, you'll find the latest information about the reconstruction of I-74, the easy alternative routes you can take to avoid construction and other useful information that will help you throughout the Upgrade 74 process.

When you log on to www.upgrade74.com you will find the welcome paragraph shown above. The site has links to several topics that will fully inform the viewer of everything related to the \$400 million dollar project.

Work will commence in earnest this construction season and continue into 2003 as efforts will focus on the periphery tasks such as utility relocation and secondary streets and bridges. In 2004 and 2005, work will focus on reconstructing the existing highway itself and will include a scheduled six-month closure of the Murray Baker Bridge.

A toll free hotline, which requires a touch-tone phone, has also been put in service. That number is 1-866-474-6397. It details basic project information, a list of alternate routes, a basic construction timeline, and a direct line to a representative to answer other questions.

Log onto www.upgrade74.com and take a trip around IDOT's newest website. Check in to keep track of the percentage progress to date on the "progress meter" that will be a regular feature of the website.

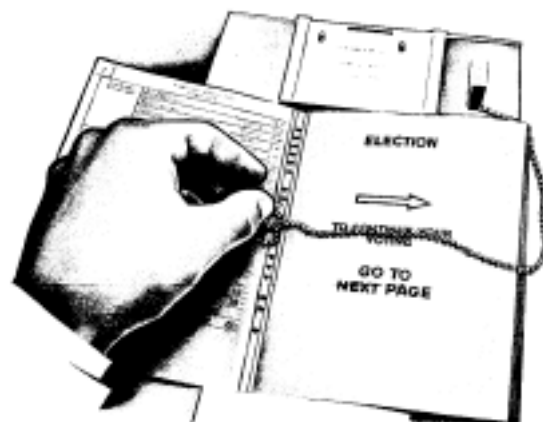
336 On-Line

We are in the process of evaluating our ability to create an on-line presence for the 336 Coalition. If we are able to proceed, we will then be able to deliver your 336 Update by way of the Internet. We may also be able to archive current and past editions of the 336 Updates in addition to providing basic information and other items pertaining to the 336 Coalition.

We also may be asking our members to provide us their e-mail address (optional) which could facilitate us sending the Update directly via e-mail and provide a means to more effectively communicate events and happenings of the Coalition.



2002 Elections



Spring 2002

With the primary election behind us and the slate set for the November general election, now is the time to be in front of all of the candidates to ask for their support for Highway 336 from Peoria to Macomb.

As in the past, the 336 Coalition will remain non-partisan. We will however, be ready to attend all of the political events we can in order to solicit support. It is very likely that we will sponsor events and forums that will enable candidates to present themselves to our 336 members and communities. Stay tuned.

If we are successful in being able to host a visit from any of the top federal or state candidates from either party, be ready to drop what you're doing and show up. Many times these events happen on very short notice. Numbers matter. Voters matter. You can do your part to support the 336 project by attending the events we sponsor.

Join The 336 Coalition

It's extremely important that individuals and organizations join the efforts of the 336 Coalition. For this project to become a reality, a strong and consistently committed effort must be shown to state and federal agencies. Your support facilitates effective communication with these agencies, and keeps you informed on the progress being made to benefit our region through economic development.

WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN?

- * *You and your company are concerned about the future of western Illinois*
- * *You want to provide a high quality of life, both in the near future and for years to come*
- * *You acknowledge the need for safe and efficient travel in the area*
- * *You want to see business and industry grow in this region*

TODAY!



YES! I want to keep the momentum moving for a four-lane highway in western Illinois. Sign me up for a membership in the 336 coalition.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____
Company (if applicable) _____

Donations of all sizes will be accepted. Please make checks payable to the "336 Coalition" and mail to:

336 Coalition
P.O. Box 761, Canton, IL 61520

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

*Individual - \$25 • Business and Industry under 20 employees - \$100
Business and Industry over 20 employees - \$200 • Cities, Townships and Municipalities - \$500 • Counties - \$1,000*



336 Coalition Membership Renewals Continue

Spring 2002

Membership billings for any 336 Memberships which have not yet renewed will be sent out in April-May.

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