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## New Site Designation Means More Jobs

by Steffi S. Lee Monday, July 13th 2015



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MARION, IA (CBS2/FOX28) - The Marion Enterprise Center is one of two locations in Iowa's Creative Corridor that Governor Terry Branstad and Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds named an Iowa Certified Site.

City leaders said this designation means the corridor is seeing the promise of more jobs and new businesses.

"If somebody wants to develop in this park, the infrastructure is in the ground today, ready to go," MEDCO president Nick Glew told the crowd at a press conference Monday morning. "We do literally have progress all around us."

Glew said this means the eastern lowa region can be a competitive market in the nation.

"lowa is able to better compete for large scale projects in ways we were not able to in the past," he said.

Right now, there are already two developments taking place at the Marion Enterprise Center. Legacy Manufacturing broke ground last October and ELPLAST America Inc. did as well. Both projects will bring nearly 100 jobs to the area, Glew said.

Marion city manager Lon Pluckhahn said hearing about this designation is a relief.

"We can tell businesses that are looking for places to locate that we are ready," he said.

Pluckhahn said being ready means staying with all the updates that happens in the business industries. He believes this designation will make Marion a competitive market for businesses looking to relocate or expand.

**2 FOX 28** this will put the regien and the state at the forefront of business  $\stackrel{\triangle}{=}$  72° Cedar Rapids Métro Economic Alliance preside development.

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"This is a strong signal that this region continues to grow," she said. "Projects like this show leadership and innovation."

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