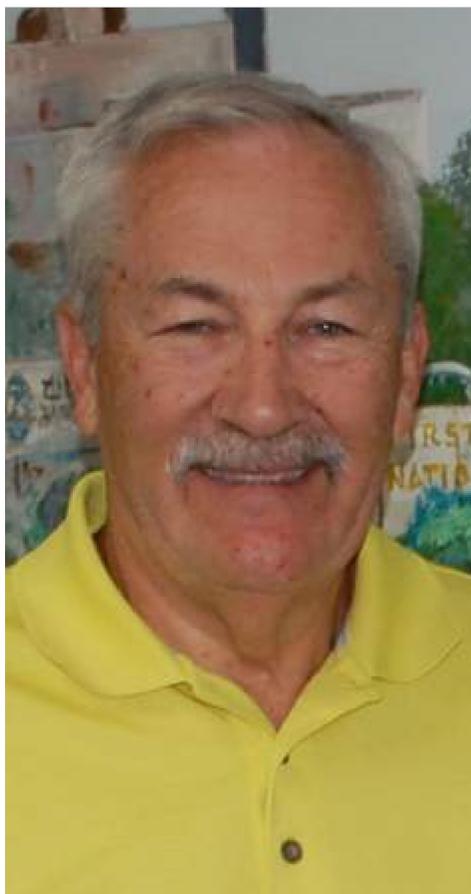


# SOUTH BELOIT LOOKING FORWARD TO GROWTH

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Rehl

SOUTH BELOIT - South Beloit Mayor Ted Rehl says the border city is looking ahead at future economic development options this year, and celebrating gains made in 2018.

Rehl highlighted projects from last year including the expansion of PBC Linear, the one-year anniversary of the annexation of Mid-States Concrete into the city, Clinkenbeard's relocation and the opening of PMP Americas. The city also saw the groundbreaking of the new wastewater treatment plant.

Looking ahead at 2019, Rehl said the city would be ready to open a tax increment financing district that would run from Oak Grove and along Blackhawk to the state line and down Gardner Street to Highway 251. With the annexation of Mid-States, Rehl said the district could be ready by April.

Potential future projects also include expansion of the popular Nature at the Confluence outdoor recreation and learning space, while also looking at creative ways to market properties along Gardner Street and Willowbrook Road.

Rehl conceded an impediment to development along Gardner was the nature of properties being located in the floodplain.

"Some companies have shown interest to the vacant properties along Gardner and Blackhawk that are ready to be developed," Rehl said. "We have a lot to look forward to."

- Mid-States, at 500 S. Park Ave., has been a staple in the South Beloit community, resolving a brief workers strike in June of last year and will be looking to join the city's TIF district following annexation in July of 2017. The company produces precast concrete products.

- PMP Americas Inc.: The paper industry company celebrated the opening of its U.S.-based location on Woodmint Lane in South Beloit in November after purchasing the facility in May with build-out in June. The new facility will continue to support the pulp and paper industry and provide the design and building of fixtures, gauges, tooling and quality machining services to aerospace, food and automotive markets and more. . Clinkenbeard: The machining manufacturer relocated to Progressive Lane to expand operations from Rockford. The 40,000 square-foot facility is two times larger than its previous space and includes engineering and machining capabilities and a build shop with a foundry pattern.

- PBC Linear at 6402 Rockton Road, broke ground in June marking the start of construction of a 66,000-square-foot building. The \$10 million project will be completed over two years to expand operations of the linear motion manufacturer specializes in providing its customers with everything from out-of-the-box components, to mechanical sub-assemblies, and even complete linear systems. PBC Linear, formerly known as Pacific Bearing Company, was founded in Rockford in 1983. South Beloit entered an annexation agreement with the company located near Interstate 39/90 where the city would provide sewer services to the property.

- Treatment plant: In June, the city marked the start of construction of a \$34 million wastewater treatment plant expansion and renovation project. The South Beloit Wastewater Treatment Plant was constructed in 1955 with expansions in 1968, 1977 and 1986. Since it has been nearly 30 years since any major improvements have been made, the plant has experienced a variety of equipment problems.