

Presentation to

# **ATTACHMENT 1**

## **The Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department ---Intermodal Task Force**

### **Request for Railroad Inclusion within Department**

**June 8, 2016**

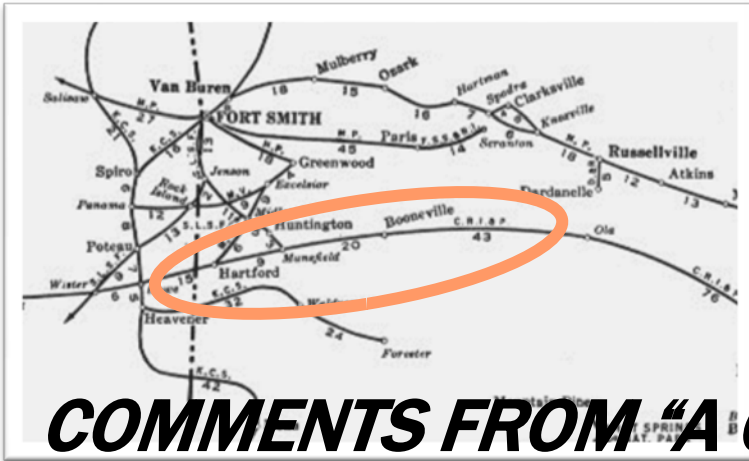
**Presenters:** **Mayor Larry Austin**, City of Mansfield  
**Karl Yoder**, Director Business Development, MMI

#### **Presentation Contributors:**

Mayor Larry Austin, City of Mansfield  
Judge James Forbes, Scott County  
Philip Blankenship, South Logan Co. Chamber of Commerce  
Karl Yoder, MMI, Hartford

Mayor James Baker, City of Hartford  
Denny Stone, JP District 8, Logan County  
Steven Ewing, Tyson Foods, Waldron  
Robert Herrera, First Western Bank

***“An efficient transportation system is critical for Arkansas’ economy and the quality of life of the state’s residents.”... Gov. Asa Hutchinson***

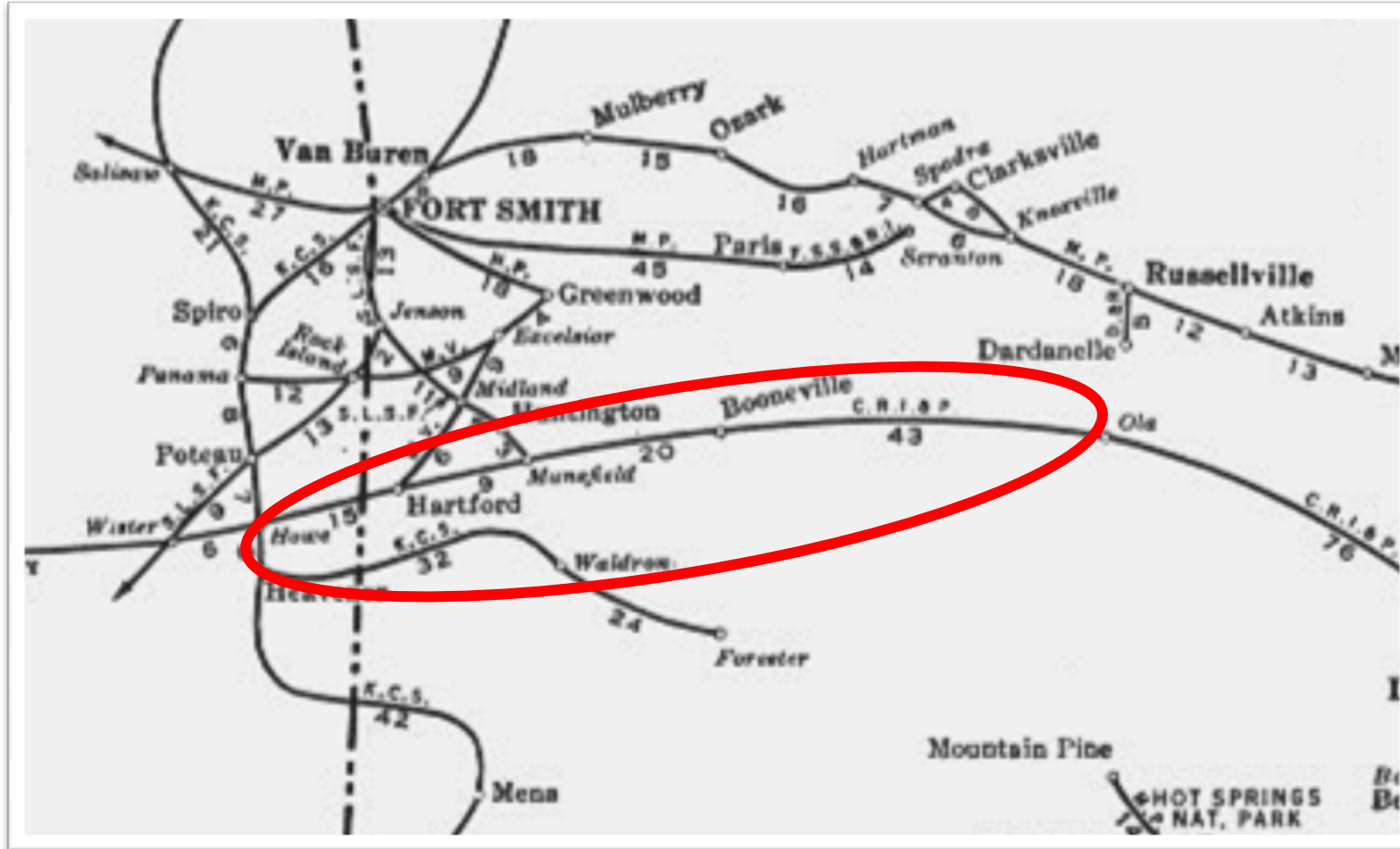


***COMMENTS FROM “A COAL FORUM FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT”***

***HELD AT CITY HALL, MANSFIELD, ARKANSAS ON***

***SEPTEMBER 15, 2015..Mayor Austin***

# APPROXIMATELY 50 INTERESTED PEOPLE ATTENDED THE FORUM FROM POTEAU, OKLAHOMA EAST TO MORRILTON, ARKANSAS INCLUDING:



**6 AREA CITY MAYORS**

**AR STATE SENATORS**

**AR STATE REPRESENTATIVES**

**COUNTY JUDGES**

**OK SENATOR**

**FIELD REPRESENTATIVES FROM;**

**US SENATORS,**

**US REPRESENTATIVES**

**AEDC & WAPDD**

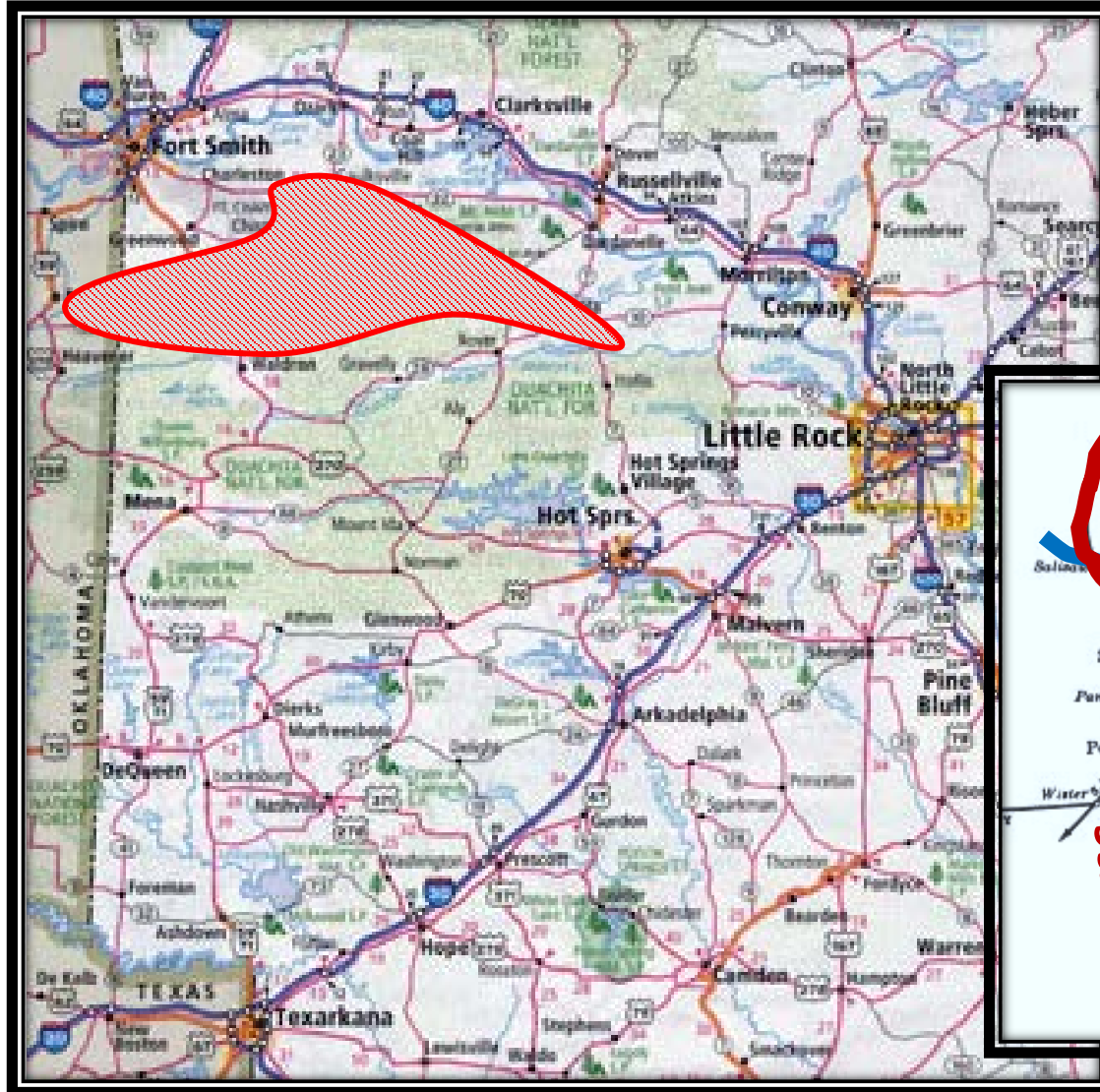
**COAL MINES, LUMBER CO.,**

**CONSUMERS**

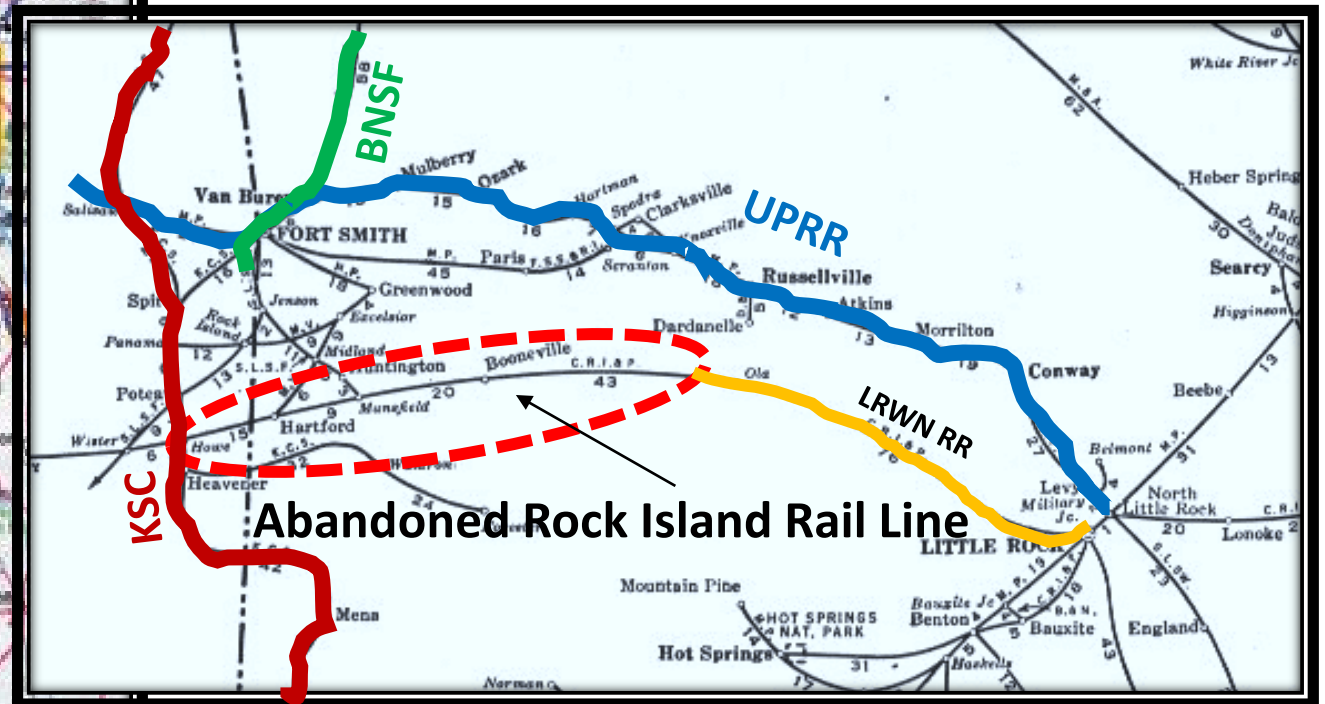


# Description of Region

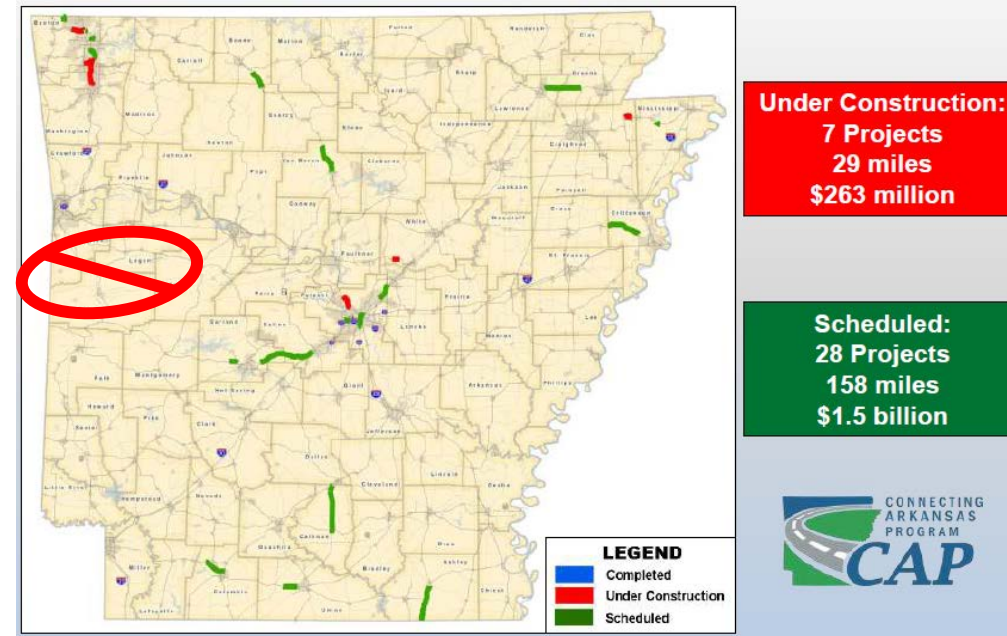
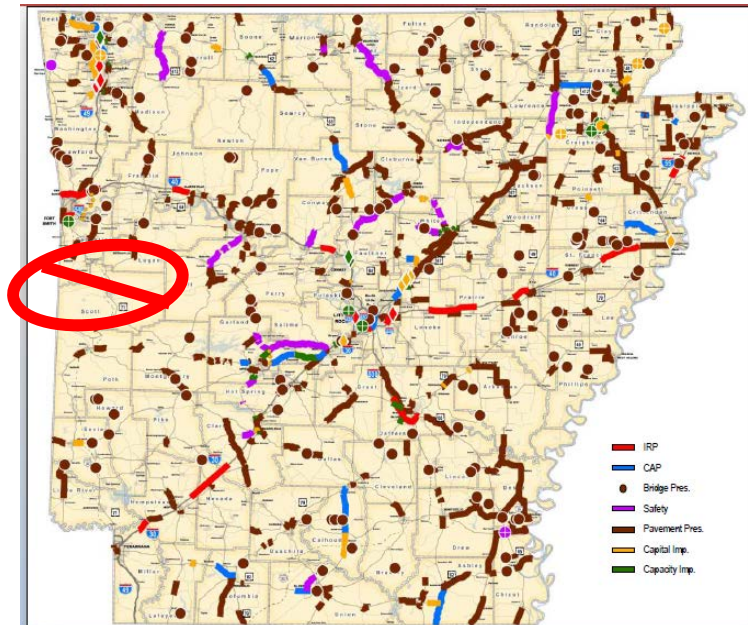
REGION IS ISOLATED FROM AN EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM



A STUDY OF RAIL ROAD OPTIONS BY THE AHTD IS NEEDED TO DEVELOP ECONOMIC GROWTH FOR A VERY LARGE AREA THAT WILL PROSPER FROM EFFICIENT INFRASTRUCTURE ACCESS



# Region is **NOT** included in the Frontier MPO or Long Term AHTD Infrastructure Improvement Plans



**Railroad Infrastructure Alternatives Represent a Great Value Addition to the Region,  
the State of Arkansas and Interstate Commerce.**

# IMPACT OF RAIL ACCESS IN THE REGION



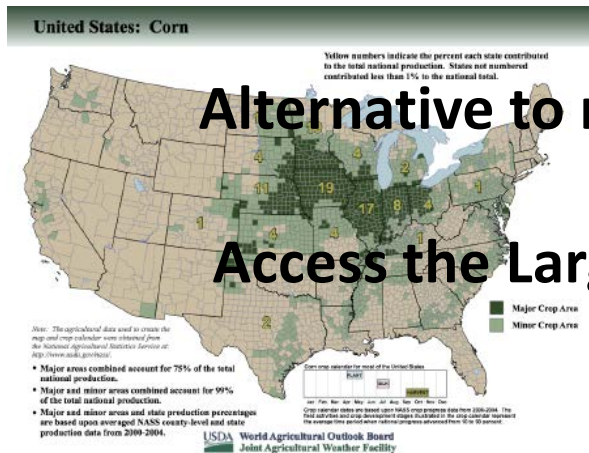
**Direct Access to Class 1 Railroads**

**Expand Market Area by Direct Transportation and Lower Transportation Costs**

**Increase Capacity at Existing Business**



**Create an Environment for New Business Locations**



**Alternative to re route Truck and Intermodal Traffic To Northern Texas**

**Access the Larger Breadbaskets for Lumber, Grain and Raw Materials**





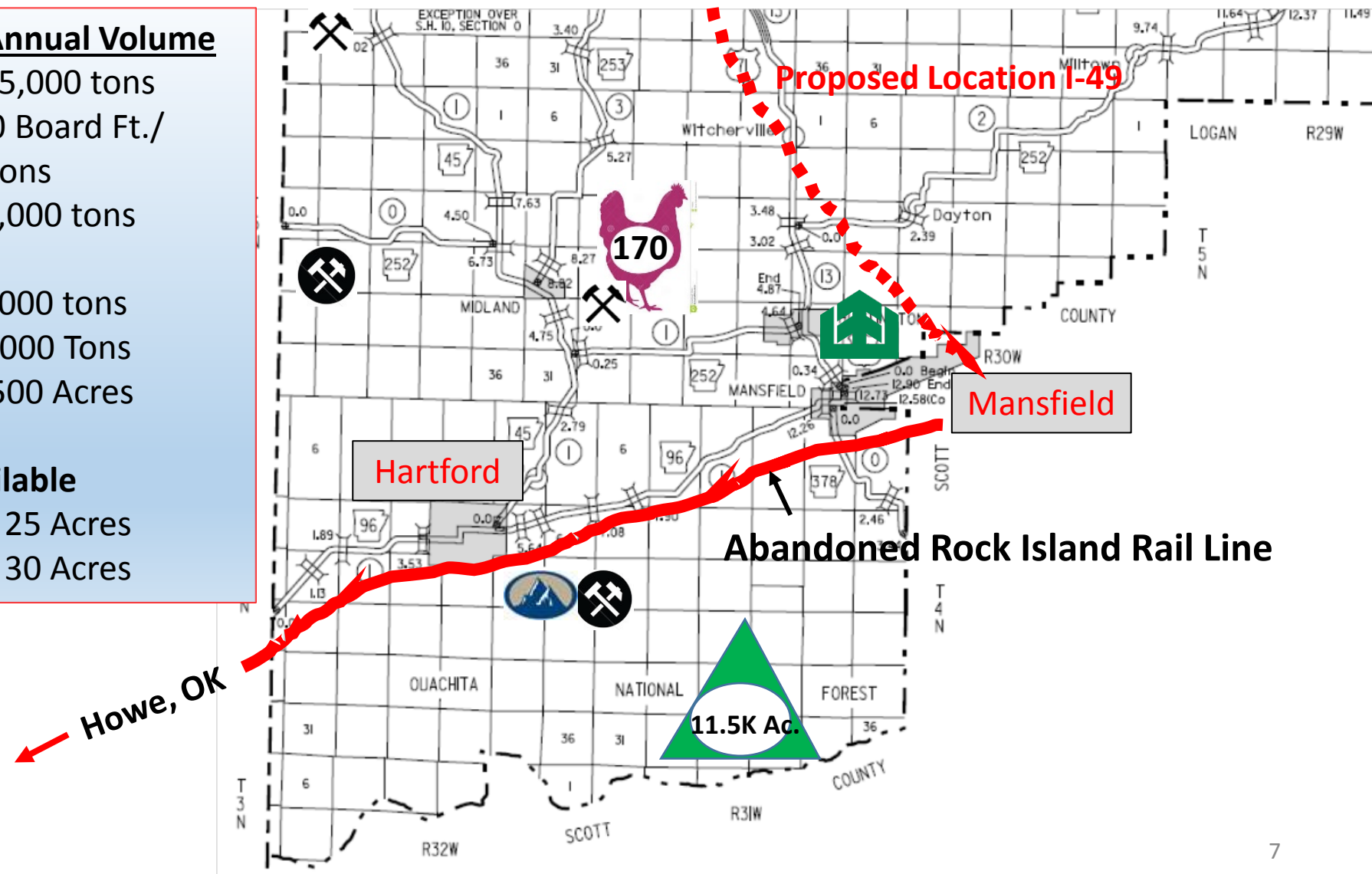
# Sebastian County

[illegible]

Poultry Barns	(170)	265,000 tons
Lumber	1,500,000 Board Ft./	600,000 tons
Wood Products		100,000 tons
Mining		
Coal		300,000 tons
Dimensional Stone		30,000 Tons
Timbered Area		11,500 Acres

## Municipal Development Available

Hartford	25 Acres
Mansfield	30 Acres



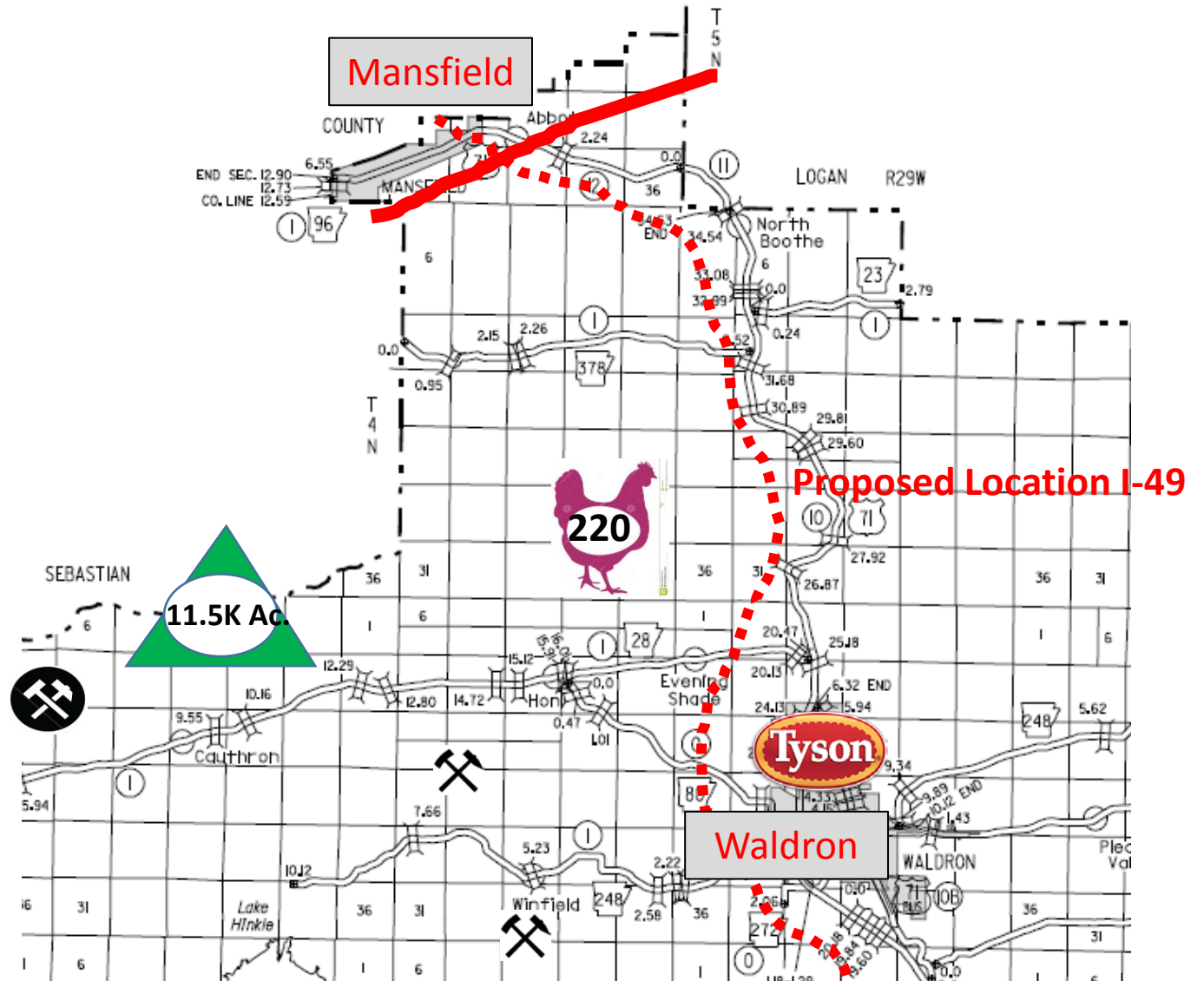
# Scott County

## Highlighted Business    Est. Annual Volume

Poultry Barns	(220)	343,000 tons
Poultry Feed Mill		488,000 tons
Wood Products		100,000 tons
Mining		
Coal	Proposed	
Stone Gravel		30,000 Tons
Timbered Area		11,500 Acres
Manufacturing		30,000 tons

## Municipal Development Available

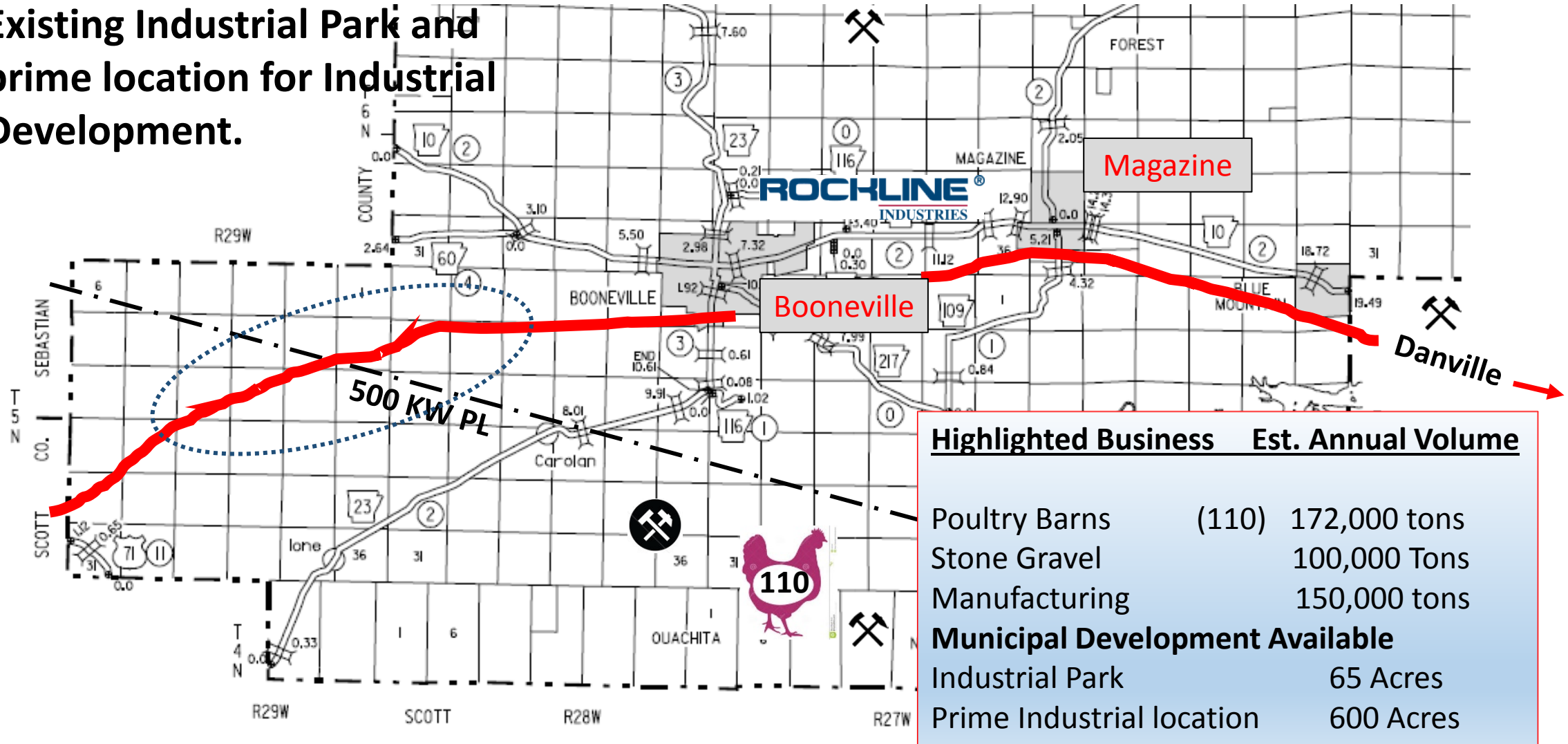
Mansfield	30 Acres
Waldron	40 Acres





# Logan County

Existing Industrial Park and  
prime location for Industrial  
Development.

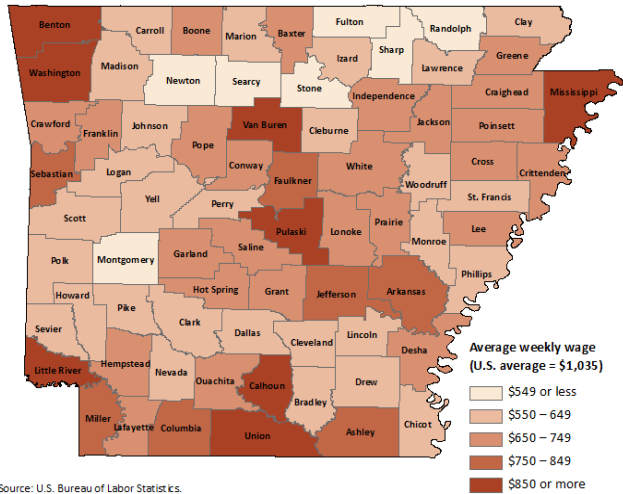


# Example of Positive Economic Impact

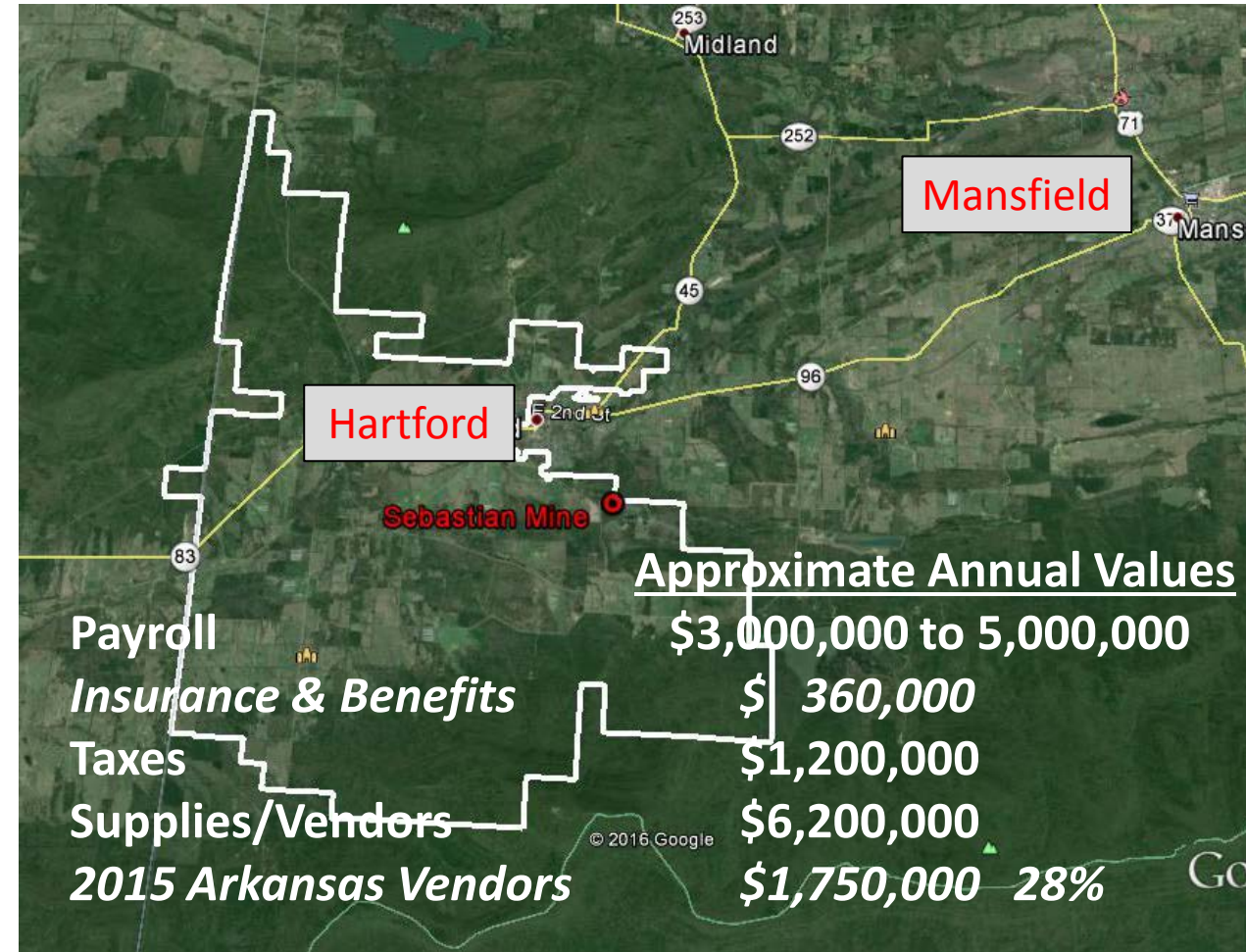
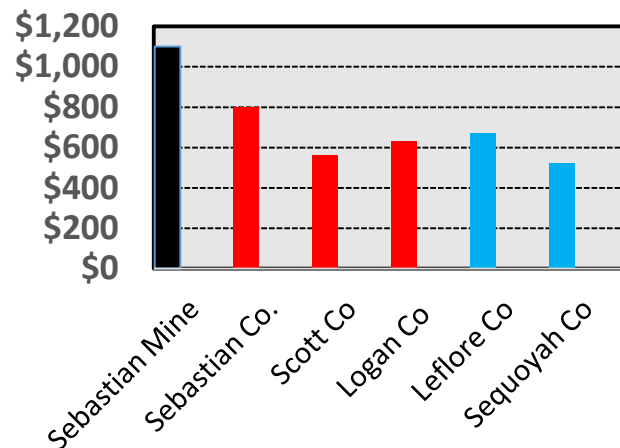
Sebastian Mining, LLC



Chart 1. Average weekly wages by county in Arkansas, fourth quarter 2014



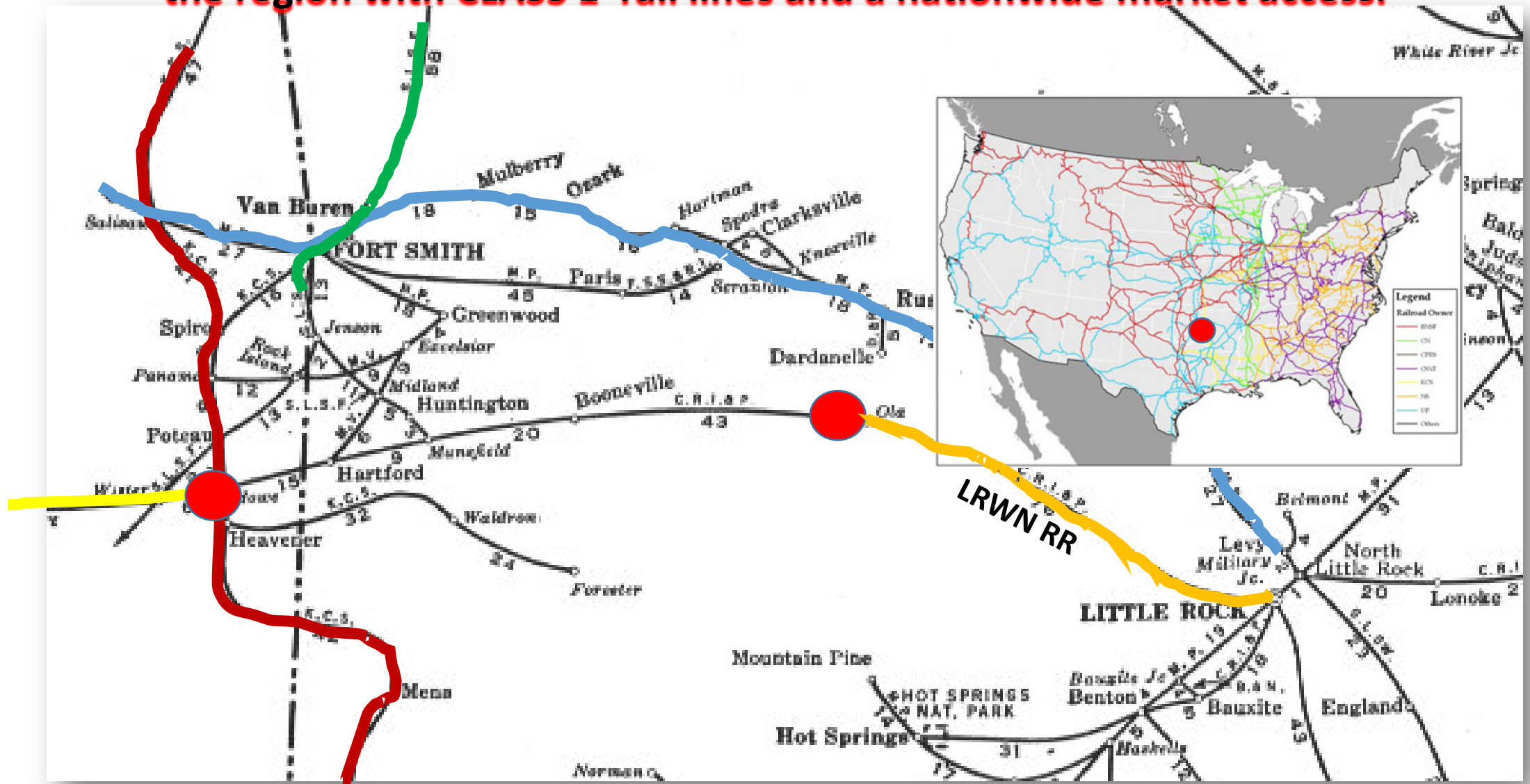
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.







**Constructing a rail line along the Abandoned Rock Island RR is an infrastructure alternative which needs to be considered. An Operational rail line will connect the region with CLASS 1 rail lines and a nationwide market access.**



# **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WILL REQUIRE INFRASTRUCTURE CHANGES IN THE REGION**

**OVER 110,000 TRUCKS  
PER YEAR FROM LOCAL  
BUSINESS TRAVEL ROADS  
LIKE THIS.**

**NO BERMS, NO PASSING  
LINES, LIMITED VISION**

**ROADS ARE IN NEED OF  
REPAIR AN EVENTUALLY  
RECONSTRUCTION**

**INCREASED TRAFFIC IS  
NEEDED TO STIMULATE  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT**



**EFFICIENT RAIL  
SERVICE MUST  
BE CONSIDERED  
AS A BENEFICIAL  
ALTERNATIVE.**

**THE ROCK  
ISLAND RAIL  
LINE WAS HERE  
FOR A REASON**

**PLEASE CONSIDER CREATING A RAIL ROAD FOCUS WITHIN THE AHTD**

**CERTAINLY THIS REGION IS NOT UNIQUE IN THE NEED FOR ASSISTANCE WITH  
EVALUATING AND SUPPORT FOR DEVELOPING RAIL PROJECTS FOR THE BETTER  
OF THE PEOPLE OF ARKANSAS**

**THANK YOU FOR HEARING US TODAY.**



# Appendix 1. Mayor Austin's Script

THANKS FOR ALLOWING US TO COME SPEAK TO THIS TASK FORCE.

I AM LARRY AUSTIN, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MANSFIELD.

OTHERS PRESENT: KARL YODER, MMI MINES; MAYOR JAMES BAKER, HARTFORD; JUDGE JAMES FORBES, SCOTT COUNTY; DENNY STONE, JP DISTRICT 8, LOGAN COUNTY; PHILIP BLANKENSHIP, SOUTH LOGAN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; STEVE EWING, TYSON FOODS, WALDRON.

OTHERS PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR THIS EFFORT: DANNY DALMUT, MARC REANO, DOUG KINSLOW, JAMES TRAVIS, ROBERT HERRERA (FIRST WESTERN BANK).

## COMMENTS FROM A COAL FORUM FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HELD AT CITY HALL, MANSFIELD, ARKANSAS ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

APPROXIMATELY 50 PEOPLE ATTENDED INCLUDING: 6 AREA MAYORS, SENATOR TERRY RICE, REPRESENTATIVE MARCUS RICHMOND, REPRESENTATIVE JON EUBANKS; REPRESENTATIVES FROM TWO LOCAL MINES; A REPRESENTATIVE FROM WEST FRASER LUMBER COMPANY; COUNTY JUDGES FROM SCOTT AND SEBASTIAN COUNTIES; DREW WILLIAMS, AEDC; TRACEE MCKENNA, WAPDD; AND FIELD REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE OFFICES OF SENATOR BOOZMAN, SENATOR COTTON, REPRESENTATIVE WESTERMAN. THOSE ATTENDING THE FORUM CAME FROM POTEAU, OKLAHOMA EAST TO MORRILTON, ARKANSAS.

THE DISCUSSION CENTERED ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR THIS AREA IN REFERENCE TO OUR RESOURCES AND THE WORK ETHIC OF THE RESIDENTS. A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF JOBS COULD DEVELOP IF ADEQUATE TRANSPORTATION OPPORTUNITIES EXPANDED TO INCLUDE A RAILWAY FROM HOWE, OKLAHOMA TO THE BOONEVILLE AREA AND BEYOND.

WEST FRASER LUMBER COMPANY IS INCREASING ITS VOLUME OF LUMBER TO 125 MILLION BOARD FEET PER YEAR. THE TWO NEARBY COAL MINES WOULD INCREASE ITS OUTPUT OF COAL IF RAIL SERVICE WERE AVAILABLE. THE RAIL SERVICE WOULD BE A COMPETITIVE TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE TO TRUCKING.

THE DISCUSSION EXPLORED THE POSSIBILITY OF EXTENDING THE RAILWAY FROM HOWE, OKLAHOMA TO OLA, ARKANSAS.

ALSO, THE GROUP ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WOULD INCREASE AS I-49 AND THE RAILWAY ARE CONSTRUCTED.

SEVERAL SMALL GROUP MEETINGS FOLLOWED THE FORUM TO LOOK AT THE TRANSPORTATION ISSUE. THAT IS WHY WE ARE HERE TODAY. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR CONSIDERATION FOR OTHER TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES IN ADDITION TO HIGHWAYS.

THANKS AGAIN FOR LISTENING. KARL YODER, MMI MINING AT HARTFORD, WILL PRESENT ECONOMIC INFORMATION COLLECTED FROM THE AREA.