

# Populace | BUSINESS

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## CLARK REGIONAL AIRPORT

► **OWNERSHIP:** Publicly owned by Clark County Board of Aviation Commission

7001 Airport Drive, Sellersburg, IN 47172  
PHONE 812-246-5491  
MANAGER: William E. Happel

### ► AIRPORT OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Aircraft based on the field:	146
Single engine airplanes:	113
Multiengine airplanes:	14
Jet airplanes:	8
Helicopters:	11

► **FAA IDENTIFIER:** JVV  
Elevation: 474 feet / 144 meters (estimated)  
From city: 5 miles north of Jeffersonville  
Activation date: December 1981  
Sectional chart: St. Louis  
Control tower: no

### ► AIRPORT SERVICES

Fuel available: 100LL JET-A  
Parking: Hangars and tie-downs  
Airframe service: Major  
Powerplant service: Major

### ► RUNWAY INFORMATION

• **Runway 18/36**  
Dimensions: 5,500 by 100 feet/1,676 by 30 meters  
Surface: asphalt/grooved, in good condition  
Weight bearing capacity:  
Single wheel: 45,000 lbs  
Double wheel: 60,000 lbs  
Runway edge lights: medium intensity

• **Runway 14/32**  
Dimensions: 3899 x 75 ft. / 1188 x 23 m  
Surface: asphalt, in good condition  
Weight bearing capacity  
Single wheel: 12,000 pounds  
Runway edge lights: medium intensity

SOURCE: Federal Aviation Administration

## ► FINANCIAL COMPARISON

Several Indiana airports that have operations similar to the Clark Regional Airport generate considerably more annual revenue, according to a survey conducted by Dan Gregory, a member of the Clark County Board of Aviation Commissioners. The comparison included:

- Clark Regional — \$89,000
- Columbus — \$1.2 million
- DeKalb — \$134,000 (receives \$28,000 in property taxes annually, in addition to revenue generated on-site)
- Eagle Creek — \$449,000
- Elkhart — \$208,000 (received \$750,000 in property taxes annually)
- Indianapolis Metro — \$506,000
- Mount Comfort — \$567,000
- Valparaiso — \$671,600 (receives \$400,000 in property taxes annually)
- Warsaw — \$561,000

Note: Warsaw was the Airport Association of Indiana's airport of the year in 2005 and DeKalb earned the same honor last year.

## CLARK MARITIME CENTER

Did you realize the Ports of Indiana (which includes Clark Maritime Center in Clark County) is No. 14 in the nation for waterborne shipping despite being a land-locked state? The 70 million tons of cargo processed per year is more than Michigan, Alaska, Virginia, Maryland, Mississippi or Hawaii, according to the according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

### ► BACKGROUND

- The Indiana Port Commission was established in 1961 under Gov. Matthew Welsh (1961-1965), replacing the Indiana Board of Public Harbors and Terminals.
- On the Ohio River, the Port Commission opened the Port of Indiana-Mount Vernon in 1976 and Port of Indiana-Jeffersonville in 1985.

### ► VITAL STATISTICS

- The main cargoes handled at the Ports of Indiana include
- 1) grain (35%)
  - 2) coal (25%)
  - 3) steel (20%)
  - 4) fertilizer (10%)
  - 5) limestone (5%)

The latest economic impact study of Indiana's three ports shows an annual contribution to the state's economy of \$1.45 billion — up from \$325 million in 1993. Port activities annually contribute \$400 million in wages for Indiana workers, 10,500 total jobs, \$22 million in tax revenue, and \$1.4 million in local property taxes.

### Clark Maritime Center – Port of Jeffersonville

- The fastest growing port on the Inland Waterway System.
- Jeffersonville is within a one-day drive of more than two-thirds of the U.S. market and is adjacent to the "automotive and appliance alley."
- 12-month ocean access to world markets via the Inland Waterway System to the Gulf of Mexico.
- Onsite storage of approximately 1.6 million bushels of grain with a throughput rate of 30,000 bushels per hour; and 3,200 linear feet of riverfront access.

## ► FOREIGN-TRADE ZONE

The Ports of Indiana also administers Indiana's foreign trade zones. Each port has a general-purpose foreign trade zone, as does the Indianapolis International Airport.

### Why is a foreign trade zone special for business?

- conduct processing and assembly operations while deferring the payment of import duties until the product formally enters U.S. Customs Territory
- combine foreign and domestic components in order to qualify for lower duties
- inspect goods for quality, breakage, and loss before import duties are paid
- exhibit or market goods prior to making duty payments
- schedule customs entries around inventory turnover or sales cycles
- store goods while awaiting a favorable exchange rate.

SOURCE: News-Tribune research and Clark Maritime Center

## RIVER RIDGE

Six decades ago, more than 27,000 people worked at the Indiana Army Ammunition Plant, producing smokeless powder and rocket propellants for military purposes.

The evolution of warfare left the facility unneeded, and it was decommissioned in the early 1990s. Part of the plant was designated for use as a 5,900-acre industrial park known as the River Ridge Commerce Center, with another 5,100 acres — including land unsuitable for construction because of steep slopes — becoming part of the Charlestown State Park.

What is now known as the River Ridge Development Authority — the independent board that oversees the industrial park — was created nine years ago by the Clark County Commissioners. Given the major tasks involved with converting River Ridge from military to civilian use — ranging from environmental cleanup to infrastructure upgrades — the park remains in its infancy, really, even with roughly 960 people working there now. The park's 2001 master plan — which will be updated this year — estimates that it will take 10 years to develop the first phase along Ind. 62 and 80 years to develop the entire facility.

### ► RIVER RIDGE BY THE NUMBERS

- 5,894 acres that will ultimately become River Ridge Commerce Center
- 2,925 acres already purchased from the Army
- More than 3 dozen tenants with about 1,000 workers
- 10,000 projected number of employees in 10 years
- 20,000 projected number of employees in 20 years
- 27,000 people employed at former Indiana Army Ammunition Plant during WWII
- 10 rule-of-thumb average for employees per acre in an industrial park

SOURCE: News and Tribune research

### ► HOW BIG IS IT?

Once the River Ridge Development Authority acquires all of the land designated for the River Ridge Commerce Center from the Army, the facility will include 5,894 acres. That's enough land on which to fit the city of Charlestown (1,472 acres), the town of Sellersburg (2,560), the Louisville International Airport (1,200) and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway (559) and still leave 103 acres — about 6 acres shy of what would be needed to also include The Vatican at the site.



Workers prep a River Ridge facility in early 2007. (Photo by C.E. Branham/News And Tribune)



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