

**Business Activity**

**SPARK MUSEUM AND PLAY CAFE**

Spark opened on Saturday, June 24th, adding options for children’s activities in the Downtown. At Spark, children can play, explore, and discover in an open and stimulating environment, while adults can enjoy food and adult beverages. Join Spark for their Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Friday, July 7th at 10:00am. Renowned artist and U of I graduate Justus Roe is creating a mural in Lincoln Square Mall in conjunction with Spark.

**LINCOLN SQUARE ACTIVITIES**

Lumen Events is expanding their services and is now running special events out of Lincoln Square. The High Court of Lincoln Square can accommodate more than 600 people seated and 1200+ for a standing reception.

**BLACKBIRD, HATPINEAPPLE, & DOWNTOWN MUSIC**

Blackbird, a new bar/music venue at 119 W Main Street, next to Crane Alley, opened June 30th. Blackbird features an outdoor beer garden as well as eclectic live music acts. Additionally, HatPineapple, a music collective and production company has opened in [co][lab]. These two new businesses join the recently opened Typewriter Audio and DLNZ productions, adding vibrancy to the City’s already active music scene.

**DOWNTOWN PICTURES**

The City worked with Adjacency to generate pictures of the Downtown for use in public use. To see examples of these pictures please visit [urbanalove.com](http://urbanalove.com).

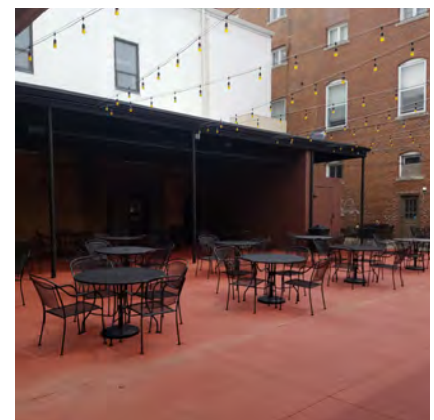
PROJECT UPDATES						
BUSINESS	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	STATUS UPDATE	PROJECT TYPE	APPROVED INCENTIVES	MAP KEY
Blackbird	<i>Night-Club</i>	119 W Main	Open	New Business	TDA, EZST	1
HatPineapple	<i>Music Production</i>	206 W Main	Open	New Business	TDA	2
Spark Museum and Play Café	<i>Children's Entertainment</i>	142 Lincoln Square	Open	New Business	-	3
Red Bicycle Ice Cream	<i>Ice Cream Parlor</i>	2740 Philo Rd	Certificate of Occupancy Issued	New Business	-	4



HatPineapple Ribbon Cutting



Spark Museum and Play Cafe Exterior



Blackbird Back Patio

## Development Activity

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### BUSEY WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Busey has neared completion on the construction of a \$1,500,000 renovation to facilitate fifty additional employees being added to their Downtown Urbana location.

### CUMTD MAINTENANCE FACILITY

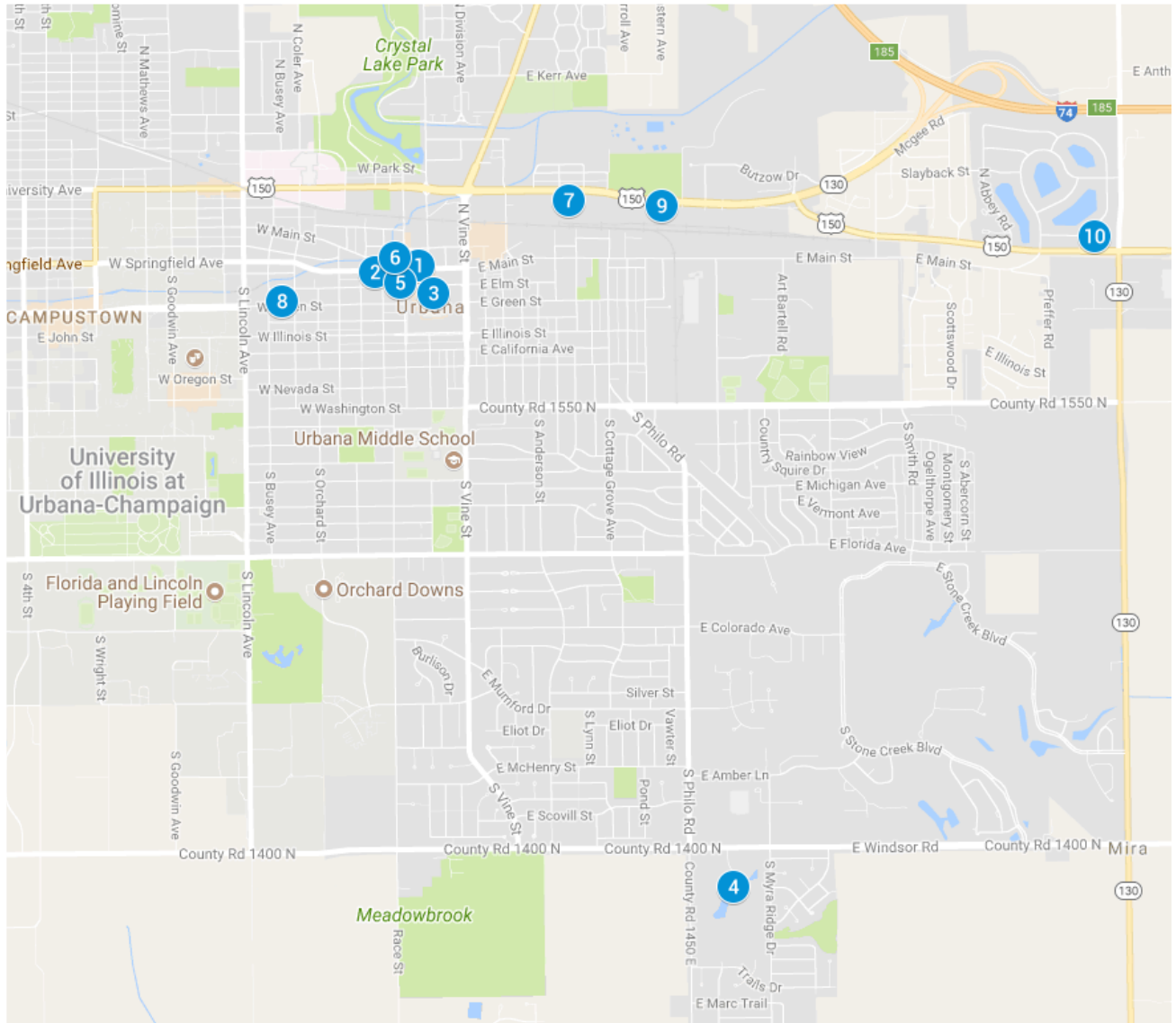
CUMTD has completed their \$8,255,950 expansion of their bus maintenance facility on 803 E University Avenue.

### ALDI EXPANSION

Aldi has been issued a permit for a \$915,000 expansion of their facility on University Avenue. The expansion will create space for new coolers to add more product.

PROJECT UPDATES							
BUSINESS	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	STATUS UPDATE	PROJECT TYPE	COST	APPROVED INCENTIVES	MAP KEY
Busey Wealth Management	<i>Bank</i>	201 W Main	Under Construction	Renovation	\$1,500,000	EZST	5
A Plus VIP Lounge	<i>Karaoke</i>	214 W Main	Plans Under Review	Renovation	N/A	-	6
CUMTD	<i>Government</i>	803 E University	Complete	Expansion	\$8,225,960	-	7
West Green Apartments	<i>Multi-Family Apartment</i>	708 and 710 W Green	Under Construction	New Building	\$397,000	-	8
MTD Training	<i>Institutional Training Facility</i>	1207 E University	Under Construction	New Building	\$867,000	-	9
Aldi	<i>Grocery Store</i>	3102 E University Ave	Permit Issued	Expansion	\$915,000	-	10

# June Project Update Locations



- |                              |                  |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 Blackbird                  | 9 CUMTD Training |
| 2 HatPineapple               | 10 Aldi          |
| 3 Spark Museum and Play Cafe |                  |
| 4 Red Bicycle Ice Cream      |                  |
| 5 Busey Wealth Management    |                  |
| 6 A Plus VIP Lounge          |                  |
| 7 CUMTD                      |                  |
| 8 West Green Apartments      |                  |

## Program & Staff Updates

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### BUSINESS OUTREACH

In June, Economic Development met with Rick's Bakery, Gateway Shops, Pixo, Strawberry Fields, and SIPYARD to discuss business needs and opportunities for expansion. Staff also met with four potential new businesses, and four developers. Staff attended the iVenture and SBDC Startups Social and three ribbon cuttings for new businesses.

### PUBLIC ARTS NEW STAFF

Rachel Storm will start with the City as the new Public Arts Coordinator on August 7th. Rachel has worked at the Women's Resources Center in the Office of Inclusion and Intercultural Relations at the University of Illinois for the last eight years, currently serving as Assistant Director. Rachel has also managed her own local arts programs for the last six years including Outta the Mouths of Babes and Girl Radio, Inc.!

Lillian Meng has started as a new high school Public Arts Intern. The internship is made possible from a grant from the Illinois Arts Council.

## Upcoming Events

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JULY 6, 7:00pm-10:00pm:

Gilbert Gallery Opening Reception. 102 W Main St, 2nd floor.

JULY 7, 10:00am:

Spark Museum and Play Cafe Ribbon Cutting. Lincoln Square, 142 Lincoln Square.

JULY 7, 4:30pm on:

Imbibe Urbana First Fridays. Various businesses, Downtown Urbana.

JULY 25, 11:00AM-2:00PM:

Food Truck Rally. Urbana Civic Center 108 E Water

AUGUST 22, 12:00pm-1:30pm:

Business and Development Luncheon: Buses, Planes, and Automobiles - Sponsored by First Federal, August's luncheon will be held in conjunction with Champaign and will feature of Andrew Johnson Chief Operating Officer of CUMTD, Gene Cossey Director of Willard Airport, and Bill Gray Public Works Director at the City of Urbana of MCORE. Silvercreek

AUGUST 25-26:

Urbana Sweetcorn Festival, Downtown Urbana

SEPTEMBER 20-24:

Pygmalion Festival, Champaign-Urbana

## Think Urbana

To-date, 22 projects, containing a total of 56 units, have applied to receive Think Urbana incentives.



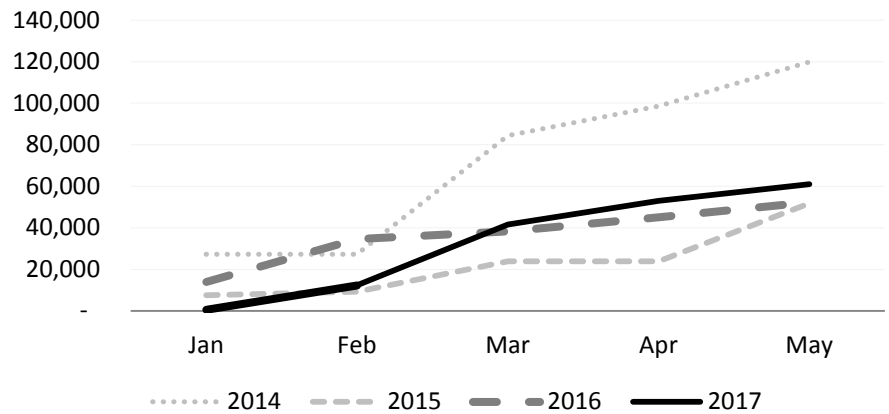
## Total Square Feet Added Year-to-Date All Project Types

A total of 71,301 square feet was added in new construction from January through June 2017, this growth is higher than the prior two years for these months.

The City of Urbana collects data on square footage added through issued building permits for both additions and new construction.

*Source: Urbana Permit Data*

## Year-To-Date Square Footage Added All New Construction & Additions



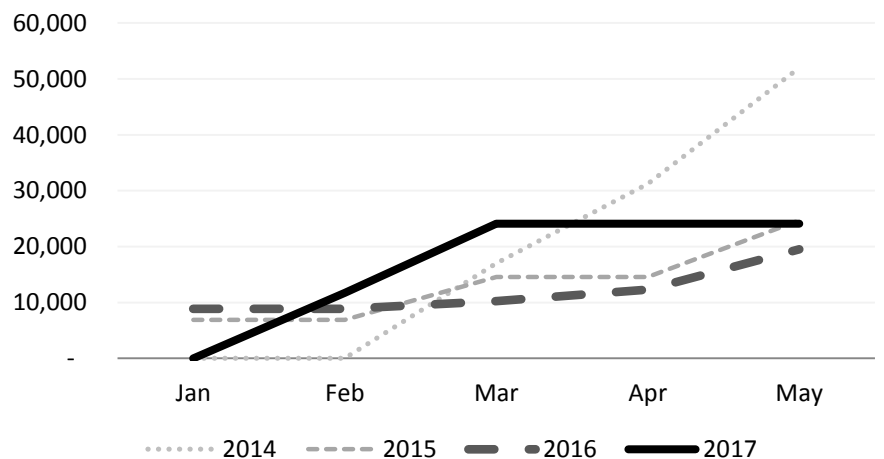
*Source: Urbana Permit Data*

## Single-Family and Duplex Residential Square Feet Added

Year-to-date square footage through April for new one and two family homes totaled 30,292 square feet from January through June 2017, higher than in 2016 but lower than the 2015 figure.

*Source: Urbana Permit Data*

## Year-To-Date Square Footage Added Single and Two Family New Construction



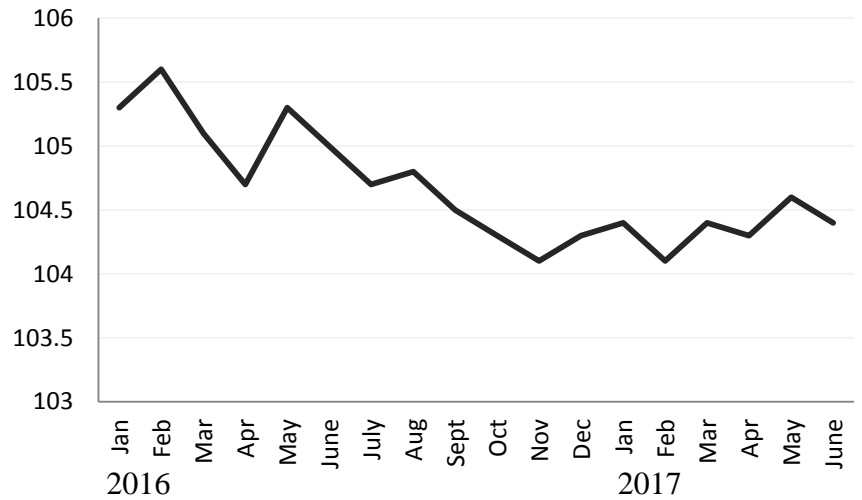
*Source: Urbana Permit Data*

**Flash Index**

The Flash Index decreased slightly from 104.6 in May to 104.4 in June. The U of I Flash Index provides a quick look at the performance of the Illinois economy. A number over 100 indicates the economy is expanding, while a number under 100 indicates contraction.

*Source: U of I Flash Index*

**2016 - 2017 Illinois Flash Index**



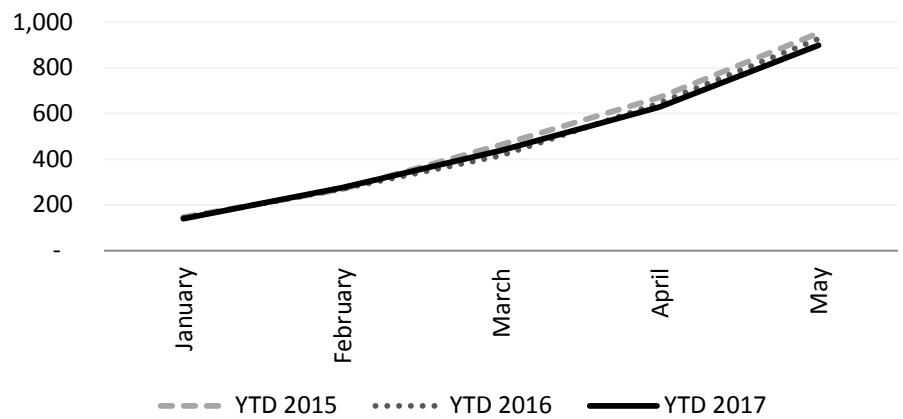
*Source: U of I Flash Index*

**Home Sales**

Year-to-date homes sales in Champaign County were lower in 2017 than in 2016, as of May 2017 899 homes sold year-to-date in 2017 compared to 927 in 2016. May home sales were down from 282 in 2016 to 271 in 2017. The Champaign County Association of REALTORS® provides monthly data on Champaign County home sales.

*Source: CCAR Newsletter*

**Year-to-date Champaign County Home Sales**



*Source: CCAR Newsletter*