



For Immediate Release
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Harkins: Feds' inaction holding up Army Engine Plant development

STRATFORD — The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) has closed the latest round of bidding on the remediation and potential sale of the Stratford Army Engine Plant (SAEP). While there was one bid placed on the property, it appears that once again, for a third time using the same method, there have not been any viable options for redevelopment of the site derived from the bidding process.

Mayor John A. Harkins expressed his disappointment and disillusionment with the latest development in the Army's failed attempts at moving the 77-acre property to effectuate economic development at the site.

"At what point is the federal government going to admit that it has failed miserably in moving this property over the last decade and a half," said Harkins. "My administration has met with and has been working with our federal legislative delegation for months on this issue. The Army needs to rip down the building and remediate the site to allow for economic development. Now is the time for action."

The Harkins administration has acquired a number of letters of interest from developers and businesses wishing to move to Stratford or expand operations at the SAEP site, and stands ready to inject the local economy with badly-needed economic activity and jobs.

"My administration has been working with a number of business owners and developers interested in moving to Stratford. This site is critical to our future, and I look forward to working with our delegation in the near future to get this site back on the tax rolls and productive once again," said Harkins.