



NEWS

JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR · JOHN M. SULLIVAN, DIRECTOR

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Improvements Underway on Du Quoin Fairgrounds

DU QUOIN, IL – Du Quoin State Fair goers will have a smoother road to their favorite attractions this summer. Improvements are underway to re-surface main street and the loop on the fairgrounds. Costs for the road improvements come in at just over \$350,000 and are being done by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) through a cooperative agreement with the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA). IDOT hopes to have the project completed by June 21st.

In addition to the road improvements around the fairgrounds, minor structural work is being done on the grandstands and, later this year, the Southern Illinois Center (SIC) will be getting a complete upgrade to the duct work.

“Road and infrastructure improvements on the Du Quoin State Fairgrounds were long overdue,” said John Sullivan, Director, IDOA. “I want to thank our partners at IDOT for working collaboratively with us to reinvest in the Du Quoin State Fairgrounds. We are committed to making the Fairgrounds a great place for people to come every summer and we are committed to putting the resources needed into the fairgrounds knowing what a great economic impact the fair has on Perry and surrounding Counties.”

The most recent economic impact study shows that the Du Quoin State Fair has an annual economic impact of \$6 million, including \$2 million for wages and salaries, and generates more than \$500,000 in sales tax revenue.

“We hope this is just the beginning of improvements here at the Fairgrounds,” said Josh Gross, Du Quoin State Fair manager. “We know the public takes pride in the fairgrounds and we want that pride to continue to expand for years to come.”

Another bonus for fairgoers this summer, admission prices to the fair have been dropped. It will now be free to walk through the gates. Parking will be \$15 on the fairgrounds and \$10 near the SIC.

“This is the result of many conversations with community leaders,” said Gross. “I appreciate Director Sullivan listening to these concerns and working with me to keep the Du Quoin State Fair a summer destination for Southern Illinois families.”

The Du Quoin State Fair runs from August 23rd through September 2nd.

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