

 **PROGRESSIVE FOUNDRY Inc.**

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To the City of Perry.

Progressive Foundry would like to propose the closing of a portion of Second Street between Bateman and Rawson along the east side of our plant.

Progressive Foundry has quadrupled the size of our operation since the mid-1980's. We would have the opportunity to keep growing and adding jobs, but our limitations are now that we have outgrown our facility. We believe there would be positives for Progressive Foundry and the community alike as stated below.

With company growth and employee well-being in mind, we are exploring the possibilities of renovating our offices and employee facilities along First Avenue. Our desire is to demolish the current building and re-build with new, larger offices consisting of additional space for a growing staff, a larger lunch room, a training center, and locker rooms/showers for both men and women. We do not have enough square footage to accomplish all of this at the current site.

Safety along 2nd street is a very concerning to us, our employees, pedestrian passersby, and the truck lines serving us. At any particular time of the business day, second street becomes overwhelmed with semi-truck traffic for product pick-up and supply deliveries. The addition of fork truck and pedestrian traffic in this area creates safety hazards. Closing this portion of second street would dramatically lower safety concerns for Progressive Foundry employees, truck drivers and pedestrians alike. Many near misses have occurred and it is only a matter of time until a personal injury accident occurs.

Our current core room, an essential portion of our operation, is not sufficient or large enough to meet our growing business. We would propose to build a new structure that would house a new core room. This structure would attach to the present building and extend east to the lot line. This new addition would add to the city tax base in the form additional employees hired. The new building space would also allow us to conform to new safety and environmental standards within the confines of the structure.

We would also propose an aesthetic gate and fencing system at the corner of 2nd Street & Bateman which would be visible when looking north from downtown. This would add to the visual appeal of downtown Perry.

We would expect this project to create multiple new jobs both short and long term, generate a safer working environment for all, enhance views of the downtown Perry area, and add to Perry's growing need of a larger tax base.

Sincerely,

Kirk & Darek VanKirk
President, Progressive Foundry Inc.