



**M E M O R A N D U M**

**TO:** Terry Martino

**FROM:** Daniel F. Kelleher

**DATE:** January 3, 2012

**RE:** Economic Services Unit Activities for 2012

Unit activities were as follows:

**Project Permitting**

Economic Services staff provides expertise in market and financial feasibility analysis as well as economic and fiscal impact analysis pursuant to the Agency's Section 809 mandate to take into account the potential benefits of a proposed project. In 2012, Staff advised the Agency on the economic impacts of a variety of projects ranging from the Adirondack Club and Resort in Tupper Lake to the Adirondack Meat Company's proposed processing facility in Ticonderoga. Staff also provides technical expertise related to the Agency's project review during the pre-application process. The below table summarizes the unit's support of the Agency's Regulatory Programs.

Regulatory Programs Support	
Type	Number of Projects
Preapplications	8
Applications	11
Variances	4

**Community and Economic Development**

Staff provided support to community economic development initiatives by attending over 55 public outreach and community development meetings in 2012. Initiatives in which staff provided its expertise included the Adirondack Partnership's Adirondack Recreation Plan, the Ticonderoga Revitalization Alliance Steering Committee, and the Park-wide expansion of broadband infrastructure.

Staff is also developing an inventory of economic information in order to provide a database for use by local and regional economic developers as well as local businesses. This database has already allowed a company to examine the market potential for expansion, a real estate company to offer stronger support for appraisals, a community to identify potential grocers for their town, and a processing facility to successfully apply for state and federal financing assistance.

**Regional Council Support**

In 2011, Governor Cuomo created 10 Regional Councils to develop long-term strategic plans for economic growth for their regions. In 2012, the Regional Councils were tasked with refining these plans and implementing them. Economic Services Unit staff assisted in the process as a member of State Agency Resource Teams for the Capital Region, Mohawk Valley, and North Country Regional Councils. In the North Country, staff is serving as an Agency lead on a variety of strategy implementation initiatives ranging from tourism development to broadband infrastructure. In the Mohawk Valley and Capital Region, as well as the North Country, staff is working to facilitate jurisdictional "priority projects" through permitting completion.

Staff is also supporting the Governor's related Path Through History and Cleaner Greener Communities initiatives by providing community development expertise. The below table highlights staff's support of the Governor's Regional Council initiative.

<b>Regional Council Support</b>	
Council Meetings	4
Paths Through History Meetings	2
Sustainability Plan Meetings	2
Construction Reform Workgroup Meetings	3
Council Workgroup Meetings	1
Strategy Implementation Plans Developed	49