



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

**TO:** Terry Martino

**FROM:** Daniel F. Kelleher

**DATE:** March 5, 2014

**RE:** Economic Services Unit Activities for February 2014

Unit activities were as follows:

**NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program (NYRCR)**

Economic Services staff is facilitating the Agency's participation in the Governor's NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program for the Towns of Keene and Jay in Essex County, NY. The Governor's NY Rising Community Rising Reconstruction Program was developed to provide additional rebuilding and revitalization assistance to communities severely damaged by Hurricanes Sandy and Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. To facilitate community redevelopment planning and the resilience of communities, the State has allocated \$25 million for planning in the most affected communities. The NYRCR conceptual plan highlights projects to be undertaken in the Towns of Keene and Jay ranging from new marketing initiatives to geological and riparian studies to the development of zoning ordinances and APLUDP map amendment proposals. Agency Staff will assist the communities on many of these initiatives.

On 2/20/14, staff held a meeting with NYSDOS, NYSDEC and consulting firm representatives to outline strategies to improve coordination and efficiency in the implementation of the plan.

**Regional Council Support**

On 2/14/14, staff participated in the North Country Regional Economic Development Council meeting by conference call. The Council received updates on the Governor's Innovation Hot Spots, Startup NY, and Global NY initiatives. In the Governor's State of the State address, it was announced there will be another Regional Council competition in 2014 focused on the success of each council in implementing its plans as well as its proposals for each of the Governor's new initiatives.

### **J&L Steel Site Remediation Conference Call**

On 2/19/14, staff participated in the monthly J&L Steel site remediation conference call with NYSDEC and regional and local officials. It was highlighted that transfer of the remediated 18-acre Environmental Restoration Program site to the St. Lawrence County is working its way through various steps and that this will eventually allow for new commercial and/or industrial uses on the site. The US Environmental Protection Agency has expressed some interest in assisting with the remediation of the remaining 36 acres. Their involvement will be coordinated by NYSDEC.

### **Community Outreach**

On 2/7/14, staff presented on the Adirondack Park Agency and economic development in the Park to the Clarkson University Adirondack Semester Program. The presentation provided an overview of the history of the Park, how the APA Act and other statutes are implemented, how staff reviews projects, and components of the 191,000-acre Finch Pruyn Land purchase. This year's program has eight students.

On 2/26/14, staff presented on economic development in the Adirondack Park to the Newcomb Lions Club. The presentation highlighted current demographic and employment trends, recent development projects in the Park, and the Agency's ongoing commitment to consistent and timely review of economic development projects. The Newcomb Lions Club currently boasts more than 35 members.

### **Planning Division Support**

Staff is assisting the Planning Division in its preliminary review of a hamlet map amendment in Essex County.

Staff is currently assisting Local Planning Services in developing the Adirondack Park Local Government Day agenda and securing speakers for the conference.

Staff is supporting the State Lands Division in the State's review of the Remsen-Lake Placid Travel Corridor Unit Management Plan. If DOT & DEC decide to re-open and revise the existing UMP, APA would be an involved agency under SEQOR.

### **Regulatory Programs Support**

Economic Services staff is supporting Regulatory Programs on several projects including a recreation facility in Warren County, a hotel in Essex County, a warehouse and distribution facility in Franklin County, a mine in Essex County, a retail use in Essex County, a railway in St. Lawrence County, a manufacturing facility in Warren County, and a mine in Oneida County.