



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

**TO:** Terry Martino

**FROM:** Daniel F. Kelleher

**DATE:** November 5, 2014

**RE:** Economic Services Unit Activities for October, 2014

Unit activities were as follows:

**Community and Stakeholder Outreach**

On 10/1/14, staff met with students from Clarkson University's Adirondack Semester to discuss the Adirondack Park Agency, the Adirondack economy, and environmental permitting issues. Students in Clarkson University's Adirondack Program spend a semester living in Saranac Lake learning about issues in the Adirondack Park. Each semester culminates in a term paper on a major trend in the Adirondacks; this year's class is examining agriculture and local food provision in the Adirondacks.

On 10/2/14, staff met with a group of German forest rangers learning about land use and forest management in the Park. Staff provided the group with information about the Agency, the Park economy, and private and public land use planning. Each year, forest rangers from Germany take part in a trip to the Wanakena Ranger School to learn about land use management in the Adirondacks.

On 10/17/14, staff attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Darrin Fresh Water Institute Data Visualization Laboratory in Bolton, Warren County. The Data Visualization Laboratory was built to support the Jefferson Project at Lake George, a collaboration between Rensselaer, IBM, and The FUND for Lake George, that is bringing together ecologists, hydrologists, computer scientists, environmental advocates, and cyber infrastructure experts to gain an understanding of the complex systems that operate within and around Lake George.

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

On 10/21/14, staff participated in the monthly J&L Steel site remediation conference call with NYSDEC and regional and local government officials. NYS DEC is continuing to work with US EPA on removing oil from the remaining 36-acre property as well as investigating the potential for removal of blighted buildings on the site. Transfer of the remediated 18-acre Environmental Restoration Program site to St. Lawrence County was completed in April 2014. The County will use a site management plan to limit the potential redevelopment of the property to commercial and/or industrial use, prevent groundwater usage, and maintain a site cover of either impervious materials or a foot of clean soil. It is anticipated that there will be three sites subdivided from this 18-acre lot that can be used for future enterprises.

### **Hamlet Economic Planning and Assistance**

Staff from the Agency's Economic Services and Planning divisions are collaborating with a workgroup from the Village of Northville and the Town of Northampton to develop an economic plan for the Hamlet areas of those municipalities. On 10/27/14 Staff submitted a draft plan to the community workgroup. The workgroup will work with Agency staff to edit the plan in advance of a public outreach meeting in the Village of Northville on 11/20/14.

### **Planning Division Support**

Staff is assisting the Planning Division in its preliminary review of two map amendments in Essex County.

Staff is supporting the State Lands Division in the State's review of the Remsen-Lake Placid Travel Corridor Unit Management Plan. On 10/29/14, staff attended a Public Meeting on the UMP in the Town of Webb, Herkimer County.

Staff is supporting the State Lands Division in its public outreach regarding amendments to the State Land Master Plan. Staff attended the Agency's public outreach session in Ray Brook on 10/29/14 and will continue to assist with the listening sessions throughout November.

### **Regulatory Programs Support**

Economic Services staff is supporting Regulatory Programs on several projects including two hotels in Essex County, a retail use in Essex County, a subdivision in Fulton County, subdivision in Essex County, as subdivision in Saratoga County, and a marina in Franklin County.