



LEILANI CRAFTS ULRICH
Chairwoman

TERRY MARTINO
Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Terry Martino, Executive Director

FROM: Dan Kelleher, Special Assistant for Economic Affairs

DATE: August 5, 2015

RE: Economic Services Unit Activities for July, 2015.

Unit activities were as follows:

North Country Regional Economic Development Council Support

On 7/9/15 staff attended a meeting of the North Country Regional Economic Development Council in Lake Placid, Essex County. Staff is assisting several Council workgroups on their 2015 updates as well as on the Council's Upstate Revitalization Initiative competition submission. Staff attended workgroup meetings on 7/1/15, 7/9/15, and 7/20/15. Staff will continue to support the workgroups with demographic and economic analysis throughout the summer.

Community Outreach

On 7/15/15 staff attended a meeting of the Common Ground Alliance in Long Lake, Hamilton County. Staff participated with a workgroup focused on increasing investment in the Park and positioning communities to better take advantage of existing resources. Other topics discussed during the meeting included hamlet redevelopment, wastewater infrastructure expansion, school enrollment, and attracting millennials to the Park.

On 7/16/15 staff met with Town of Ticonderoga officials, local business owners, and representatives from National Grid to discuss the redevelopment of the Town's central business district. Staff outlined services available to the Town and business owners through the Agency's Economic Services Unit. National Grid representatives provided an overview of the company's economic development grant programs. Staff will continue to provide assistance to the Town and the Ticonderoga Revitalization Alliance as requested.

On 7/28/15 staff attended a public outreach meeting of the Lake Placid Land Conservancy in Lake Placid, Essex County. The Conservancy is in the process of developing a strategic plan that will expand the group's focus throughout the AuSable and Saranac River basins. The Conservancy was created with the merger of the Placid Lake Foundation and North Elba Land Conservancy in December, 2013. The Conservancy seeks to protect Adirondack ecosystems and recreation areas through conservation easements on private lands in the Lake Placid region of the Park.

Eat ADK Restaurant Week

Staff is assisting a workgroup seeking to establish a restaurant week event in the Lake Placid/Saranac Lake region. The event would be used to spur economic activity in the "off season" month of May. A workgroup has been formed to take a leadership role in the event's development and staff will provide assistance and expertise to the workgroup as needed. Prior to working for the Agency, Special Assistant Kelleher worked as the Business Development Manager for the Downtown Albany Business Improvement District (BID) where he helped facilitate the organization's Downtown Albany Restaurant Week. The feasibility of hosting a restaurant week in Lake Placid was explored by Paul Smith's College students.

Jones and Laughlin Steel Site Remediation

On 7/28/15, staff participated in the monthly J&L Steel site (Town of Clifton, St. Lawrence County) remediation conference call with NYSDEC, USEPA, St. Lawrence County, Town of Clifton, and Town of Fine officials. The conference call highlighted that USEPA has been onsite throughout the summer to determine locations of underground oil pollution as well as to begin removal of friable asbestos from buildings on the site. A boat wash station is currently operating on one of the redeveloped parcels and the St. Lawrence County IDA, in conjunction with local officials, is pursuing additional economic development leads.

Regulatory Programs Support

Economic Services staff is supporting the Regulatory Programs Division on several projects including two hotels in Essex County, a commercial and hospitality use in Essex County, a campground in Herkimer County, a subdivision in Essex County, a dam project in Fulton County, a subdivision in Saratoga County, and a marina in Franklin County.

Planning Division Support

Staff is supporting the State Lands Division in the Agency's review of the Remsen-Lake Placid Travel Corridor Unit Management Plan and potential revisions to the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan.