



SHERMAN CRAIG
Chairman

TERRY MARTINO
Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Terry Martino, Executive Director

FROM: Dan Kelleher, Special Assistant for Economic Affairs

DATE: October 6, 2016

RE: Economic Services Unit Activities for September, 2016.

Unit activities were as follows:

Regional Economic Development Council Support

Staff assisted several North Country Regional Economic Development Council (NCREDC) workgroups as part of the 2016 REDC initiative. On September 16, staff attended a meeting of the NCREDC in Potsdam, St. Lawrence County where the Council's update and priority projects were confirmed (the plan and priority projects are still confidential). Several new competition elements were added in 2016 including the \$100 million Downtown Revitalization Initiative.

Hamlet Economic Planning and Assistance Initiative – Lake George

Staff is assisting the Town and Village of Lake George in the drafting of a joint economic development plan as part of the Agency's HEPA Initiative. On June 20, staff assisted Town and Village staff in hosting a public outreach meeting. Agency Staff has also developed and released a community input survey designed to solicit input from residents, visitors, and seasonal residents. Staff is currently working with Town and Village staff to begin drafting the economic plan.

Adirondack Business Recruitment Workgroup

Staff continues to coordinate the efforts of the Adirondack Business Recruitment Workgroup, an agglomeration of economic development agencies representing the twelve counties in the Adirondack Park. The group will schedule two "partner outreach" meetings to build connections between potential economic development partners including realtors, bankers, accountants, and attorneys. Additionally, the group is working with the Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism to develop an identity and marketing plan to help attract new businesses to the Adirondack Park. The group is pursuing grant funding through National Grid as well as funding from private donors. Essex County IDA will be responsible for financial management.

Public Outreach

On September 23 staff attended the annual meeting of the Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA) in Keeseville, Essex County. Staff participated in the "Leadership" stakeholder breakout session; the session's goal was to identify critical leadership

components necessary to improving the economic vitality of North Country communities. Other topics included “Arts,” “Infrastructure,” and “Economy.” More than 80 people attended the meeting.

J&L Site Redevelopment

On September 20 and 27, staff participated in conference calls with two separate workgroups to discuss plans for the remediation and reuse of the J&L Steel property in the Town of Clifton. The groups are pursuing strategies to finalize site remediation, including the removal of existing buildings, infrastructure development, and finding new uses for the site. On September 28, the Agency provided the workgroup with a letter of non-jurisdiction for the removal of buildings on the property. The Development Authority of the North Country (DANC) is currently writing and facilitating grants to remove existing buildings that are structurally deficient and pose dangers to public health.

In February, the Agency approved a permit for the first new use on the site, a boat washing station and public information center.

Regulatory Programs Support

Economic Services staff is supporting the Regulatory Programs Division on several projects including a subdivision in Essex County, three industrial projects in Essex County, an energy project in Essex County, two recreational facilities in Essex County, a tourism accommodations project in St. Lawrence County, and a marina project in Franklin County.

State Lands Support

Economic Services staff is supporting the State Lands Unit in its development of a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the classification of newly acquired State lands.