



**KAREN FELDMAN**  
Acting Chair

**TERRY MARTINO**  
Executive Director

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Terry Martino, Executive Director

**FROM:** Dan Kelleher, Special Assistant for Economic Affairs

**DATE:** February 6, 2019

**RE:** Economic Services Unit Activities for November and December 2018

**Town of Crown Point – Comprehensive Plan**

In November, the Town of Crown Point finalized and adopted its first Comprehensive Plan. Staff presented on the Comprehensive Plan at a public meeting on November 20. Staff assisted the Town and a local leadership committee on the development of the community's first comprehensive plan. Staff will continue to work with the Town to implement the plan's prescriptions.

**Town of Johnsbury - Economic Development Assistance**

Staff is assisting the Town of Johnsbury Local Development Corporation (LDC) with business recruitment and economic development planning. Staff attended an LDC meeting on November 28. In September 2017, staff provided the LDC with a draft marketing plan that can be used to attract new businesses to the community. Staff also worked with the Town on community visioning through the Agency's Envision Adirondacks Initiative.

**Town of Chester - Economic Planning Assistance**

December 5, staff attended an economic development subcommittee meeting, facilitated by the North Warren Chamber of Commerce. The Town is seeking projects related to community beautification, including façade improvements, as well as new business development. At the invitation of Town of Chester Supervisor, staff has been involved in economic development planning in the town since May 2017.

**Public Outreach**

On November 15, staff attended the Mercy Care for the Adirondacks' forum on age-friendly health systems and communities. Mercy Care is seeking to partner with State government to expand and promote age-friendly recreation opportunities in the Adirondack Park. Staff will continue to work with representatives of Mercy Care.

On November 16, staff attended a Village of Saranac Lake Downtown Revitalization Initiative meeting in Saranac Lake. In 2018, the Village was awarded \$10 million through Governor Cuomo's Downtown Revitalization Initiative competition to fund economic projects in the community's downtown.

On November 27, staff attended the Central Adirondack Partnership for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (CAP – 21) Annual Meeting in Old Forge, Herkimer County. Staff spoke at the meeting and offered assistance to the organization and the communities it serves.

On December 3, staff attended the Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages meeting in Lake George, Warren County. Topics discussed at the meeting included cellular service access, energy purchasing through agglomeration, and legal updates for town and village governments.

On December 13, staff attended a special joint meeting of the Village of Lake Placid and Town of North Elba Boards. The meeting was to evaluate new codes related to short-term rentals in the communities. The municipalities are seeking to address issues linked to noise, housing prices, public safety, parking, and fees/taxation.

### **Upstate Capital Association North Country Symposium**

Staff is collaborating with the Upstate Capital Association of New York to bring an angel investing and access-to-capital symposium to Lake Placid. The symposium would introduce potential investors to opportunities in the North Country and promote the region as a great place to do business. The event would tentatively occur at Olympic Regional Development Authority (ORDA) facilities in fall 2019.

### **Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA) Ignite Funding Portal**

Staff is working with ANCA on the implementation of a small business funding portal, named Ignite, that can be used by local businesses to crowdsource funding for capital projects. Several of the portal's projects have been funded since the project's launch in February. ANCA will market the portal to local businesses and community members to encourage investment in local Adirondack and North Country businesses.

### **Champlain-Hudson Power Express Trust Governance Committee**

On December 6, staff attended a video conference meeting of the Champlain Hudson Power Express Trust Governance Committee. The Trust is responsible for managing \$117 million in Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE) project mitigation funds over the next 35 years. Based upon revised CHPE permitting timelines, it is not expected that the funds will begin to be dispersed until the fourth quarter of 2020.

### **North Country Regional Economic Development Council**

In December, Governor Cuomo announced that the three Regional Economic Development Councils (REDC) representing the Adirondack Park, the Capital Region, Mohawk Valley, and North Country Councils, received a combined \$217.20 million in grant and loan funding through Governor Cuomo's REDC competition. This funding is to pursue key economic development projects. The Mohawk Valley region was identified as a Top Performer and the North Country and Capital Region councils were awarded \$64.8 million and \$67 million respectively. Since 2011, Governor Cuomo's REDC competition has delivered over \$1.81 billion for projects in the three regions representing the Adirondack Park.

Some key projects in the Park that were awarded funding include the development of a Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan for the Village of Northville, Fulton County, a new hotel in Tupper Lake, Franklin County, a new senior center in Keeseville, Essex County, an inn in North Creek, Warren County, and park improvements in the Town of Bolton, Warren County. A total of 41 projects located inside the Park received funding.

### **Regulatory Programs Support**

Economic Services staff supported the Regulatory Programs Division on several projects including subdivisions in Oneida and Fulton Counties, a tourism project in Essex County, energy projects in Essex County, a hospitality project in Warren County, and a mining project in Washington County.