



SHERMAN CRAIG
Chairman

TERRY MARTINO
Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Terry Martino, Executive Director

FROM: Dan Kelleher, Special Assistant for Economic Affairs

DATE: May 3, 2017

RE: Economic Services Unit Activities for February, March and April, 2017.

Unit activities were as follows:

Hamlet Economic Planning and Assistance Initiative – Town and Village of 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. In the Fall of 2016 staff assisted Town and Village staff in hosting a public outreach meeting and facilitated a meeting of the communities' local stakeholder workgroup. An additional public outreach "charrette" has been scheduled for June 27.

Hamlet Economic Planning and Assistance Initiative – Town of Webb

Staff is collaborating with Town of Webb officials and an outside consulting firm to develop economic development strategies to be included in the community's updated comprehensive plan. Planning and Economic Services staff are also working to identify suitable areas for Hamlet expansion through map amendments in the town.

Waterfront Revitalization Strategy – Town of Crown Point

On February 8, staff met with Town of Crown Point officials, business owners, and residents to discuss the Town's Waterfront Revitalization Strategy. The group is working to facilitate a public outreach component related to the development of the strategy. Staff will assist the Town in the development of its strategy. Crown Point's Waterfront Revitalization Strategy is funded through NYS Department of State.

Waterfront Revitalization Strategy – Town of Schroon Lake

On March 2, staff met with Town of Schroon Lake officials, business owners, and residents to discuss the Town's Waterfront Revitalization Strategy. The group is working to develop a plan to improve the economic conditions of the community and to increase connectivity with the waterfront. Staff will assist the Town in the development of its strategy. Crown Point's Waterfront Revitalization Strategy is funded through NYS Department of State. Staff attended a follow-up meeting on April 20.

Public Outreach

On February 2, staff spoke with students from Clarkson University's Adirondack Semester about the Agency, the Adirondack Park, and the Adirondack Park's economy. Each year, students from Clarkson University spend a semester in Saranac Lake learning about the Park's social, environmental, and economic characteristics.

On February 7, staff met with Paul Smith's students to discuss event development and marketing in the Adirondack Park. The students are also participating in the development of the second annual EatADK Restaurant Week.

On February 15, staff met with Lori Fitzgerald of the Lake Placid Business Association (LPBA) to discuss economic services offered by the Agency. The LPBA is exploring the establishment of a business improvement district as well as the development of an economic development plan. The LPBA is seeking to facilitate a conversation with the Town of North Elba and Village of Lake Placid regarding these ideas.

On March 22, staff attended a meeting hosted by the Economic Development Corporation of Warren County discussing how to better connect Warren County with the Capital Region. Highlighted speakers included Mike Yevoli, Capital Region Regional Director for NYS Empire State Development, Andrew Kennedy, CEO of the Center for Economic Growth, and Town of Bolton Supervisor and Warren County Chairman Ronald Conover. Topics included business recruitment, recreation infrastructure, and government assistance.

On April 14, staff assisted in the facilitation of the Governor's ceremonial signing of the Middle Class Recovery Act in Lake Placid. During the ceremony, Governor Cuomo outlined key investments included in the 2017 budget including improvements at Gore and Whiteface Mountains, the development of the Gateway to the Adirondacks in North Hudson, and funding for water, sewer, bridge, and road infrastructure.

North Warren Economic Development Initiative

On April 27, staff attended a meeting in the Town of Chester to discuss economic development strategies for the Town and region. At the meeting, the community analyzed existing assets and resources, performed a "strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats" analysis, identified short and long term goals for the community, and defined action items to achieve those goals. Staff will continue to assist the Town in this endeavor.

EatADK Restaurant Week

Staff is assisting a workgroup in the development of the second annual EatADK Restaurant Week. This year, the event will feature restaurants from five towns: Wilmington, Keene, North Elba, Harrietstown and St. Armand. The event will be held from Thursday, April 27, 2017 through Thursday, May 4, 2017 and is targeted toward local and regional consumers to introduce them to new restaurants through discounted

prix fixe meals. The overall goal is stimulate additional economic activity in a traditionally “slow” period for sales at local restaurants and retailers.

J&L Site Redevelopment

Staff participated in several conference calls to discuss plans for the remediation and reuse of the J&L Steel property in the Town of Clifton. Calls occurred on February 14, March 14, March 28, April 11, and April 25. A workgroup of local economic development and government officials is pursuing site remediation, including the removal of existing buildings, infrastructure development, and reuse of the site. The workgroup has hired the firm Skeo Solutions to draft a redevelopment plan for the property.

The Development Authority of the North Country (DANC), in collaboration with St. Lawrence County, is currently writing and facilitating grants to remove existing buildings that are structurally deficient and pose dangers to public health.

New York State Leadership Institute

Staff is participating in the 2017 New York State Leadership Institute, a leadership development program administered by the Governor’s Office of Employee Relations and Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy. The NYS Leadership Institute is designed to increase the leadership effectiveness of participants by providing tools and strategies to successfully meet complex challenges in NYS government. Staff attended the first session of the program from February 27 to March 1 in Albany.

Regulatory Programs Support

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

Adirondack Smart Growth Grants

Staff is assisting the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation in the review and scoring of 2017 Smart Growth Grant Awards. Over 30 grant applications were submitted for funding in 2017.

Planning Division Support

Staff assisted the Planning Division in the development and facilitation of the 2017 Local Government Day conference in Lake Placid, Essex County.

State Lands Support

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