

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT 9-15-2022

Submitted by: Joseph Seacrist

1. Finished revisions of the Watertown Economic Development Commission proposed policy on its façade Improvement Program. It appears on tonight's agenda for approval and then submission to the town's legal counsel for approval. Copies of the revised policy will be presented at tonight's meeting
2. Worked with CGI Corporation of Syracuse and our consultant Brian Boyer on the revision of the video Tour which appears on our website front page. In addition to editing the scripts, helped with the video recording by the Town Manager in his welcome to the area businesses.
3. Continued discussion with the proposed developers of the former Heritage Woods property on Bunker Hill Road. The developers have obtained legal agreements to allow one industrial entrance to the property off of New Wood Road.
4. Confirmed that an Amazon owned subsidiary company has bought the 160 acre property on the Waterbury/Naugatuck town lines, which adds to the possibility of a huge new Amazon distribution center to be built there.
5. Continued discussion on the proposed partial downtown Watertown redevelopment plan to increase parking available to the public on Main Street.

6. Monitoring the new problems for local merchants to have to re-start the repayment of EIDC loans made during the COVID 19 crisis. The timeframe for repayment of those loans was extended until the end of this October. However continuing inflation and the supply chain problems since the ending of the COVID major crisis has made it increasing difficult for them to repay. The merchant associations have requested the SBA extend the repayment start date again.

7. Continue to have discussions with potential developers for a large property in town.

8. October 5 and 6 are the dates for CGI Corporation to come to town with their videographer to re-shoot the videos for the new and revised version of the Video Tour of Watertown.

9. P&Z has received a Site Plan/Special Permit #2022-06 for a Bed and Breakfast accommodation in the R70 District at 184 Platt Road, Watertown.

10. P&Z has approved Site Plan/Special Permit #2022-04 Bed and Breakfast accommodation in the R12.5 District at 153 Deforest Street, Watertown.

11. P&Z has tabled a Site Plan/Special Permit #2022-05 to operate Bed and Breakfast accommodation in the R12.5 District at 45 Eddy Street Oakville.

12. P&Z has approved a petition to amend the zoning regulations section 27.3.1 uses; add self storage facilities with multiple buildings to the IR-80 zoning district.