

## Lancaster Economic Development committee Annual report 2021

The Lancaster Economic Development Committee (EDC) was created in late 2020 initially as an Ad Hoc Committee. The Ad Hoc committee explore the feasibility of establishing a permanent committee and drafted a mission Statement. A final Report was presented to the Select Board. The Select Board Voted to establish a permanent Committee in November of 2020.

The committee held it's first meeting on March 3, 2021, and throughout the year held 17 meetings on Varity of Commercial development issues in the North Lancaster Area. Additionally, the EDC did a special presentation to the Select board on June 2, 2021.

The Following is a summary of the dates and Topics Covered:

Dates	Topic Covered
3/3/2021, 3/18/2021, 3/30/2021	Capital Group presentation of the Development Plans for the North Lancaster property
4/8/2021, 4/22/2021, 5/13/2021, 6/13/2021	Joint presentation with the Lancaster Affordable Housing Trust Regrading Development Option, 40R presentation, Traffic presentation, and development of the \$0R statement
7/14/2021, 9/1/2021, 9/15/2021, 9/22/2021, 10/6/2021	Discussion and of the Capital Groups ICOD.
10/15/2021	Peer traffic review presentation/discussion
10/20/2021	RKG Fiscal Impact presentation and discussion
11/17/21	GFI Partners presentation on the 696 Fort Pond Rd property
12/2/2021	EDC Lancaster development Project List discussions
12/29/2021	Discussion of the Lancaster's Memorandum of Understanding with Capital Group, discussion of the Project List.

Note: Details on the Agendas, Meeting materials and Minutes can be found on the Town WEB sites on the Economic Development Committee WEB page.

### **Mission Statement**

Through the Director of Planning and Economic Development Committee, assist and advise:

- Work with Lancaster's Planning Director to advise businesses and developers on their projects with the goal of being a collaborative body helping shape proposed projects, so they address Lancaster's business and housing needs. This includes advice on how those projects might better fit with the Town's history and rural character, including its architecture, scenic roads, farms, fields, and open spaces.
- Analyze barriers to economic development and support the creation of bylaws, policies, regulations, and zoning to address those barriers, foster economic growth, and strengthen the local economy consistent with the goals of Lancaster's Master Plan.
- Advise the Lancaster Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, and other Town boards and committees concerning Lancaster's economic development issues and trends.
- Develop recommendations to better support existing businesses and attract new businesses.

- Support public and private initiatives related to business retention, business attraction, business development, workforce development, entrepreneurship, infrastructure to support economic growth, and redevelopment of sites and buildings.
- Actively consult with Lancaster's existing small and large businesses and local Chamber of Commerce on economic development issues to better understand Lancaster's changing economy and business needs.
- Support the pursuit of grants (or other available revenue sources) to enhance Lancaster's economic development and planning.
- Support activities promoting a sustainable economy that will create quality employment opportunities and a broadened tax base for Lancaster and its residents and work with other public and private entities to promote the economic well-being of the community and participate in regional economic development efforts.