

Brunswick Economic Development Corporation



28 Federal Street
Brunswick, ME 04011
Phone: 207-721-0292
Fax: 207-725-6663

www.brunswickbiz.org

January 9, 2009

Hallie Daughtry, Chair
Brunswick Town Council
28 Federal Street
Brunswick, ME 04011

Re: Economic Development Commitments & Priorities

Dear Chairperson Daughtry:

Thank you to each member of the Town Council from the Brunswick Economic Development Corporation (BEDC) for the timely action to appoint Councilor Atwood to the BEDC Board. She is most welcome.

At the BEDC Board of Directors meeting held January 7, 2009, by unanimous vote the Directors authorized me to send a letter to the Brunswick Town Council to (i) affirm the BEDC's view that appropriate community and economic development in Brunswick is an urgent current priority, requiring concerted action by the Town Council and BEDC working together, (ii) confirm the BEDC's commitment to work in the closest coordination with the Town Council, and (iii) identify three actions the BEDC considers of paramount importance deserving immediate attention. These actions are:

1. **Hire a new Development Director as soon as possible.** The individual in this position is essential to provide the necessary staff to deal with current problems and opportunities.
2. **Hold a joint Town Council/BEDC public workshop on community and economic development priorities.** We believe it is critically important to establish a common understanding of the Town's priorities in this area as a foundation for effective action, on all fronts. Therefore we recommend holding this workshop as soon as possible, preferably in January or February.

3. **Establish a Community & Economic Development Emergency Response Team (the "Response Team") to deal with current business needs and overtures, across Brunswick.** This Response Team would include one or more high-level town staff, a councilor, and designated members of the BEDC. Its purpose would be to ensure high-level, coordinated, effective response to the needs of businesses in distress or seeking to expand in Brunswick.

The BEDC believes it is essential to be in an effective action mode, right now, due to economic and marketplace realities. We pledge to collaborate with the Town Council on the actions recommended in this letter and any other priorities identified by the Council, in whatever ways the Council deems appropriate. Please accept this letter as an indication of our commitment. I am available to discuss this further at any time, as is Steve Weems (BEDC Vice President).

Very truly yours,



Mike Ouellet, President

cc: Gary Brown, Acting Town Manager
Members of the BEDC Board of Directors

Contact Information:

Mike Ouellet
725-0100 (office)
751-8148 (cell)
mike@oaconstruction.com

Steve Weems
772-5356, ext 118 (Portland office)
725-7282 (Brunswick office)
751-9437 (mobile)
steveweems@ceimaine.org