

## Balancing Economic Development & Environmental Stewardship – May 6, 2010

### Next Meetings:

Cross Team Meeting -Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup> 4:30-7:30 (food at 4:00) at Runnells Hall

Community Feedback Forum – Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup> 6:00-8:00 pm (food at 5:30)

### Homework:

Think about who to invite to the June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting

For meetings after June 17, think about if the team meeting time and date work for the group? 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month still good? 8:00 a.m. good?

### Action Areas:

The team reviewed the action areas discussed at the April meeting and agreed that those are the areas to focus on first.

#### Expand broadband coverage:

- State effort already underway to map broadband coverage areas.
- Gaps in broadband limit business growth.
- Property owners are reporting difficulty filling rents that don't have access to broadband.
- There is a business interested in expanding to Tamworth once they have broadband.
- National projections are job/business growth in suburban & environmentally rich rural areas.
- There are State & Fed. gov't efforts out there but are slow. There are **local efforts already happening**. Through a cooperative effort, Sandwich accomplished having broadband throughout town and a Tamworth effort is underway. (T1 line into a central place and then strategically placed wireless transmitters, people pay for access.) Don't have to wait for gov't to find solutions.
- Cable company renewal contracts are a leverage point for expansion. **Find out contract renewal schedule for towns**. (Conway negotiating now).
  - Create awareness/education piece for selectman to use when negotiating contracts – issue not just TV or convenience but also business development.

#### Efficient use of resources:

- What can consumers do? Businesses? Schools?
- Mark McConkey after conversations with local contractors confirmed Chuck Henderson's statement from the prior meeting that plumbers & electricians are doing 15-20% of their business with energy efficiency-related approaches.
- Create energy resource directory. What resources are out there for businesses and entrepreneurs at affordable or no cost to advise them about how to reduce their energy costs? PSNH & other electric companies will do audits. Find ways to make this simpler for businesses to access. UNH Cooperative Extension would be the perfect place for this information to be (already have Office of Sustainability).
- Need baseline for annual consumption of oil, gas, electricity (from oil dealers, etc.)

- Existing resources for energy calculators – NH Carbon Challenge & others.
- Get DES waste/recycling data for communities; can be used for baseline and to track progress toward reducing waste volume & cost.
- Co-generational opportunities/use of by-products. What is ‘waste’ from one producer that could be resource for another? Ex: Biomass plant (Tamworth) has steam as byproduct – could be used to warm greenhouses or something else.

Aligning/Shared regulations for shared resources:

- Need baseline of what have now; can build on efforts already underway by Green Mountain/Ossipee Watershed Coalition which has already compiled that information for 6 towns.
- Need to identify which shared resources, which ordinances are key.
- Do towns have Natural Resource Inventories in their Master Plans?

Diversifying job portfolio

- Form task force, identify participants, roundtable discussion.

**Other Discussion:**

Group has a lot of actions identified. Is it too many to start? Does team need to prioritize?

**“Parking lot”/long-term actions**

Efficient Use of Resources	
Create list of potential ways for people to reduce their energy consumption (increase community awareness of importance of lower use of resources)	
Create incentives to reduce usage?	
Make contact with organizations that do similar projects (i.e. Brattleboro, VT group)	
List of companies/businesses and their byproducts (i.e. McDonalds and their fryolator oil, offices and shredded paper)	
Expand Broadband Coverage	
Raise community awareness of the issues around increasing broadband access.	More than 90 days
Create leverage to bring in other broadband providers?	
Share Sandwich/Tamworth broadband model with others?	
Reach out to manager of Pine Tree Power to begin conversation about potential use of steam that is generated from production of electricity at their Tamworth plant	
Diversify Jobs Portfolio Mix	
Support entrepreneurs by creating incubators or central locations of resources that could be used by many	
Aligned Regulations for shared resources	
Align regulations across the county	Greater than 90 days
Increase community awareness – explain benefits/reasons why to align regulations and ordinances	Greater than 90 days

Create a resource directory that can be used by individuals or businesses before they build or buy in the area that can help them reduce their energy usage and resource consumption (i.e. LRPC task force, list of Green Team resources, etc.).	Greater than 90 days
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Earlier team notes & documents as well as those of the other action teams available at [www.carrollcountyunited.org](http://www.carrollcountyunited.org).