

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT – FEBRUARY 2021

Proposed Long-term Economic Development Projects

1. Van Buren Hall Renovation and Grant Funding
2. Kinderhook Creek Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan LWRP – Awarded
3. Kayak launch planning, design, construction – Hudson River Valley Greenway – Grant Awarded
4. Traffic Issues and Complete Streets as Related to Economic Development

Promotion

1. Continued restocking display of Historic Kinderhook Village Walking & Bicycling Tour.
2. Continued posting news and events about Kinderhook events and businesses on Nextdoor Kinderhook, Facebook, IMBY.com, and Instagram.
3. Planning for Social-Media Promotional Effort Beginning Summer 2021

Historic Kinderhook Walking & Bicycling Tour

1. Multiple communications with Berkshire Brochure to finalize 2021 brochure distribution and fees.

Historic Kinderhook Walking & Bicycling Tour Digital app.

1. Awarded \$2,000 grant from Hudson River Valley Greenway National Heritage Area.
2. A. Birckmayer, R. Piwonka, R. Shur discussed project scope and app choice. R. Piwonka to generate list of locations in village center.

Community/Business Outreach

1. Continued discussions and support about village issues with Hat Factory LLC.
2. Engaged in on-going multiple discussions with three potential business owners.
3. Generated list of vacant commercial leasing opportunities for one business owner.
4. Distributed information on grants to new business owners.
5. Informed two future business owners about SEED loan program – both of whom applied. Decisions to come.
6. Shared information re: legal notices in local publications with potential new business owner.

COVID-19 Community Outreach

1. Distributed information on SBA and Columbia County–sponsored small-business emergency loans and grants to Kinderhook businesses via email blasts, direct emails, and social media.
2. Commenced daily postings and on-going email blasts from village and on Nextdoor Kinderhook and Facebook concerning Columbia County Department of Health COVID-19 updates.
3. Kept up to date on information in the media concerning COVID-19 issues and distributed as warranted via email blasts and social media.
4. Assisted in distribution of Columbia County Board of Supervisors' press releases re: COVID-19.

Albany-Hudson Electric Trail

1. Shared with trustees Weir and Browne information about June 3, 2021, World Bicycle Celebration to explore if Kinderhook might plan an event.
2. Explored with Sigrid Gray what native plantings might be of interest as screening/enhancement along the bike trail.
3. Submitted an outline of recommended plantings along the trail to trail group.
4. Explored sourcing for recommended plantings.

Mills Park

1. Discussions ongoing on revisions to wayfinding signage.
2. Preliminary design shared with HPC.

Sister City Project – Buren in the Netherlands

1. Continued postings on Kinderhook-Buren Facebook page to share Kinderhook news with Buren and encourage Dutch tourism to Kinderhook.
2. Congratulatory letter to Jan de Boer on his new mayorship sent to Buren.

Grant Availability

1. Continued ongoing monitoring of notifications of NYS grant availability to make recommendations to village board.
2. Distributed relevant grant notifications to village board, local non-profits, and Climate Smart Task Force for their consideration.

Tax Deductibility of Donations for Public Projects in Village

Municipal Parking Lot Lighting Project

1. All aspects of project now completed.

Kinderhook Creek - Hudson River Valley Greenway Water Trail Grant + Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan NYS Department of State Grant

1. LWRP grant awarded.
2. Hudson River Valley Greenway Water Trail Grant - Official award announcement received – December 2020 for matching grant of \$10,000 for planning, design, and construction of 2 kayak launches – one in Valatie and one Kinderhook. Total project cost: \$20,000.

Van Buren Hall

1. Next steps: Proposing a stand-alone project for air-conditioning project.
2. Solicited but not yet received feasibility and cost estimate for replacement of lift with elevator.

25 Chatham Street – Vacant Lot

1. Next steps on hold: (1) Contacting DEC to determine if there is any additional paperwork in their files post-demolition status. (2) Summarizing information for report to Board of Trustees.

Traffic & Economic Development

1. Research and preparation of information packet to be completed and discussed in March 2021.