

Cooperative Extension

Community & Economic
Development
Grafton County
3855 Dartmouth College Hwy, Box 5
North Haverhill, NH 03774

V: 603.787.6944
F: 603.787.2009

<http://extension.unh.edu>

County Offices

Belknap County
527.5475

Carroll County
447.3834

Cheshire County
352.4550

Cooks County
788.4961

Grafton County
787.6944

Hillsborough County
641.6060

Merrimack County
796.2151

Rockingham County
679.5616

Strafford County
749.4445

Sullivan County
863.9200

Education Center
877.398.4769 (Toll Free in NH)

**UNH Cooperative Extension
State Office**
862.1520

City of Berlin
City Council
168 Main Street
Berlin, NH 03570

December 19, 2016

Community & Economic Development Update

Dear City Council,

I hope you've had a wonderful year and are ready to ring in 2017! For my part, as your regional field specialist in Community & Economic Development, I've kept myself busy in 2016, a trend I plan to continue into the coming year.

As a part of the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension team, my role is to facilitate programs that meet the community and economic development needs of greater Grafton County and the North Country. We work with communities and partners to identify and meet your challenges and opportunities. If you haven't been a part of our Community & Economic Development programming, I'd like to take a moment of your time to tell you about them.

Our work is designed to inform, build leadership and move communities to action. Through our wide palette of programming we're prepared to facilitate the evolving needs of New Hampshire and meet you where you are.

Programming Offered:

1. Community & Economic Visioning and Action Planning;
2. Facilitator Training;
3. Outreach and Engagement Capacity Building and Strategy Support;
4. Business Retention & Expansion Program;
5. Community Engagement Academy;
6. Economic Development Academy;
7. NH First Impressions; and
8. General technical assistance.



I can provide economic and community development technical assistance, like gathering demographic or economic data, let me know what I can do to facilitate your needs.

I'm excited to tell you about our newest program, the **New Hampshire First Impressions Program**. It's a community assessment and exchange program used to provide folks with an outsider's perspective of a downtown main street. The program can help communities learn about their downtown's strengths and weaknesses. The findings from this program can **move a community to action** and form the basis for positive change.

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The program is well regarded across the U.S. and Canada. The first New Hampshire pilot project was completed in the communities of Littleton and Rochester earlier this year.

If you're interested in learning more about the New Hampshire First Impressions Program, or any of our other programming, I'd be more than happy to come meet with you. Each program is designed to enhance local community leader skills and knowledge in decision-making, engage the public, creating a vision of the future, and improving the economy.

UNH Cooperative Extension provides New Hampshire citizens with research-based education, and information, enhancing their ability to make informed decisions that strengthen youth, families, communities, sustainable resources, and improve the economy.

If you'd like to schedule a meeting or a time to talk, please contact me at (603) 787-6944, or via email at geoffrey.sewake@unh.edu. I'm happy to meet anywhere in the region most convenient to you. I'm here to enhance and facilitate your ability to reach your community and economic development goals—let me know how I can support those efforts.

Sincerely,



Geoffrey Sewake
Field Specialist, Community & Economic Development

Encl.: Business Card

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