

WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEE: PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DATE: JANUARY 25, 2010

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

SUPERVISORS TAYLOR
CONOVER
PITKIN
SOKOL
MERLINO
McCOY
McDEVITT

OTHERS PRESENT:

REPRESENTING THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:
LEONARD FOSBROOK, PRESIDENT
JENNIFER SWITZER, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE/EMPIRE ZONE
SPECIALIST
REPRESENTING PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:
PATRICIA TATICH, DIRECTOR
WAYNE LAMOTHE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
FREDERICK MONROE, CHAIRMAN
JOAN SADY, CLERK OF THE BOARD
SUPERVISORS GIRARD
GOODSPEED
LOEB
STEC
STRAINER
THOMAS
JACK DIAMOND, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF GLENS FALLS
DAN HALL, PRESIDENT, CITY OF GLENS FALLS COMMON COUNCIL
TOM DRESSER, SNAP PM SOLUTIONS
BLAKE JONES, *THE POST STAR*
CHARLENE DiRESTA, SR. LEGISLATIVE OFFICE SPECIALIST

Mr. Taylor called the meeting of the Planning & Community Development Committee to order at 10:15 a.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Pitkin, seconded by Mr. McDevitt and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of the previous Committee meeting, subject to correction by the Clerk of the Board.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Len Fosbrook, President of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC), who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; a copy of which is on file with the minutes.

Mr. Fosbrook stated that at the beginning of the previous week, the EDC had attended a two-day conference in Albany, New York, which had been sponsored by the New York State Economic Development Council. He added that at the conference they had received a good overview of the programs that the State would support, as well as the programs that the State would not be supporting. He said that they had received a lot of information pertaining to the IDA (Industrial Development Agency) and the Empire Zone Program. He apprised that there was no predictability in what the State would do next. He advised that at the end of last week they had received a tour of the site for the Global Foundries project.

Jennifer Switzer, Director of Finance/Empire Zone Specialist, said that no further information pertaining to the Empire Zone Program was available since the last Committee meeting. She added that the Program was due to sunset on June 30, 2010. She advised that the new Excelsior Program was not intended to replace the Empire Zone Program but was similar. She explained that the Excelsior Program was based on three tax credits for five targeted industries. She listed the five industries, as follows: high tech; bio tech; clean energy tech; finance; and manufacturing. She said that the biggest obstacle to the Program was that it required 50 jobs be created over a two-year period. She added that of the 75 entities certified under the Empire Zone Program, only one entity would meet that requirement. She advised that some of the 75 entities had increased their capital and number of jobs created; however, she added, they had done so over a five-year period, as opposed to a two-year period. She listed the three tax credits of the Excelsior Program, as follows: a job tax credit; a research and development tax credit and an investment tax credit. She apprised that the job tax credit would be between \$2,500 and \$10,000. She said that it was not based on the number of jobs created but was based on a portion of the payroll costs associated with the number of new employees. She explained that the research and development tax credit was 10% of the business' federal research and development tax credit. She added that the investment tax credit was 2% of the cost basis of qualified investment.

The Excelsior Program, Ms. Switzer advised, would still contain a reporting aspect, which would be reported directly to ESD (Empire State Development). She explained that under the Empire Zone Program there was a requirement to have six contiguous areas within the County and only within those areas could a company make an additional investment or move into the Empire Zone. She added that with the Excelsior Program there were no such boundaries. She advised that the Excelsior Program would operate on a first come first served basis, State wide.

Ms. Switzer stated that at the conference they had also discussed a \$25 million revolving loan fund. She noted that there were currently no programs available that pertained to small businesses. She advised that at this point they were not aware of who would administer the \$25 million revolving loan fund or what the criteria would be. She added that the EDC would share further information with the Committee as it was received.

Mr. Taylor asked if the administration of the Empire Zone Program would fall under the Excelsior Program. Ms. Switzer responded that the EDC would still be required to accept the business' annual reports and any other necessary administration for any of the local Empire Zone certified companies. She advised that any of the local companies that could meet the requirements of the Excelsior Program would need to decertify from the Empire Zone Program and apply for certification under the Excelsior Program. Mr. Sokol asked what would happen to the Empire Zone certified companies that had not yet received their credits. Ms. Switzer responded that as long as the companies had made the investment and met the requirements by June 30, 2010, they would receive benefits for 2010. She advised that there was an information sheet in the agenda packet that showed the impact that the Empire Zone Program had on Warren County since 2002.

Mr. Fosbrook noted that the Excelsior Program had a cap of \$50 million per year. He added that it was a very small program compared to past programs. He advised that the \$25 million revolving loan fund was intended for the small business that would not qualify for the Excelsior Program. He added that \$25 million for the entire State was not a lot of money to assist small

businesses. He apprised that new IDA legislation would make the IDA's less useful in the program. He said that New York State did not have a Civic Facilities Law, even though every other state in the United States did. He said that the Law allowed states to do bonding for non-profit organizations, like hospitals and schools. He stated that New York State could not accomplish that through the IDA due to the lack of legislation.

Mr. Fosbrook apprised that the EDC would need to look internally for programs using the available resources. He said that for 2010 the EDC would continue their infrastructure. He advised that National Grid had a program that would give the EDC \$30,000 or 75% of the cost of getting site plan approval and permits. He added that they would apply for property the EDC owned at the Queensbury Business Park. He said that the grant funding would allow the EDC to have a 20,000 to 40,000 square foot building brought through the approval process. He explained that this would shorten the time frame for development of a potential business, as the EDC would already have the building permit in place.

Mr. Fosbrook stated that when you drove onto the Global Foundries construction site, you would see eight cranes working on a structure that was the size of Texas Stadium. He added that the site would include a 210,000 square foot cleaning room and 350,000 square feet of manufacturing space. He advised that the Global Foundries manufacturing facility would cost approximately \$4.2 billion to construct and was currently the largest ongoing construction project in the world. He reviewed statistical information sheets related to Global Foundries, which are included in the agenda packet. He noted that the chip fab in Dresden, Germany was the sister plant to the chip fab under construction in Malta, New York. Referring to the map of Germany included in the agenda packet, Mr. Fosbrook stated that the majority of the businesses shown did not exist prior to the construction of the chip fab in Dresden, Germany. Referring to the picture of Fab 8 in Malta, New York, he said that the property consisted of 200 acres, on which three facilities could be constructed, the first of which was currently under construction.

Referring to the 'Typical Fab Workforce Breakdown' included in the agenda, Mr. Fosbrook noted the Fab Operator and Technician positions would require an associates degree. He said there would be a training facility on the Global Foundries campus that would be operated through Hudson Valley Community College and noted that Adirondack Community College would offer comparable training, as well. He apprised that Global Foundries was constantly hiring and currently had approximately 200 employees. He added that they were trying to entice a number of key employees to relocate from Germany to upstate New York.

Mr. Pitkin asked if there were concrete plans to take advantage of the location of the Global Foundries Plant. Mr. Fosbrook responded that the EDC had just completed the infrastructure of eight shovel ready sites in the Queensbury Business Park. He added that all the incoming businesses would need to do was to go through site plan review and obtain a building permit. He continued that the National Grid Grant would allow the EDC to receive site plan approval on one of the eight sites, so that a company would only need a building permit in order to construct a 20,000 to 40,000 square foot building. Chairman Monroe stated that the Broadband Initiative would be vital in enticing companies to construct their facilities in this area.

Discussion ensued.

The Economic Development portion of the meeting concluded and Mr. Goodspeed exited the meeting at 10:46 a.m.

Mr. Taylor welcomed the new Committee members to the Planning & Community Development Committee. He noted that Jack Diamond, Mayor of the City of Glens Falls, and Dan Hall, President of the City of Glens Falls Common Council, were in attendance.

Privilege of the floor was extended to Patricia Tatich, Director of the Planning & Community Development Department, who distributed copies of the agenda to the Committee members; a copy of which is on file with the minutes.

Ms. Tatich stated that there was a pending item pertaining to a vacancy on the Warren County Planning Board from the Town of Queensbury. She added that the vacancy could be filled by a representative from the Town of Queensbury or a representative from the lakeshore communities. She advised that Wayne LaMothe, Assistant Director of the Planning & Community Development Department, had attended the January meeting of the Warren County Planning Board, due to the elimination of the position for the employee who previously had that responsibility. She apprised that there had been previous discussions pertaining to reducing the volume of local referrals to the Warren County Planning Board. She added that she had discussed the issue with the County Attorney's Office and she believed there had been a misinterpretation that the desire was to disband the Planning Board. She suggested that the best way to reduce the amount of referrals to the Planning Board was to eliminate area variances, which tended to be time consuming.

Ms. Tatich said that the Warren County Planning Board had been meeting at the Municipal Center since the 1960s and would like to begin meeting on the third floor of the Human Services Building. She noted that it was more efficient for the Planning Board to meet in close proximity to the Planning & Community Development Office. She requested that the Committee refer to the County Attorney's Office the issue of eliminating area variance referrals to the Warren County Planning Board. She apprised that approximately \$23,000 had been expended in 2009 on the Warren County Planning Board. She stated that she felt that there could be a reduction in the number of referrals to the Planning Board, while still meeting the intent of General Municipal Law Section 239. Mr. Conover asked how the County would meet the requirements of General Municipal Law Section 239. Mr. LaMothe responded that the Warren County Planning Board was formed in the mid 1960s and was given review authority under General Municipal Law Section 239. He stated that they were inquiring to determine if there was a way to exclude certain types of referrals that the Planning Board reviewed. He added that the Warren County Planning Board would like to eliminate area variances, as they differed from town to town. He explained that since area variances were a local issue and not determined by the County, they wished to exclude them from the referrals to the Planning Board. He requested to amend the resolution to exclude the Warren County Planning Board from having to review area variances.

Following further discussion, motion was made by Mr. Pitkin, seconded by Mr. Sokol and carried unanimously to refer to the County Attorney's Office, the issue of the possible

elimination of area variance referrals handled by the Warren County Planning Board.

Ms. Tatich stated that the next pending item was a discussion on a potential grant application for shared services with the City of Glens Falls. She added that although she had reviewed the application requirements set forth by the Office of Local Government Services, she was unsure of the subject matter of the discussion. Mr. Taylor asked for comments from Mayor Diamond.

Mayor Diamond apprised that he had received an email in December 2009 pertaining to Local Government Efficiency Grants. He explained that the grant allowed for two to three municipalities to apply for funding to improve efficiency of services and he had thought of the possibility of shared services. He said that he understood the financial difficulties that the County was experiencing and was sensitive to their concerns for 2010. He commented that there had been many discussions on the possibility of shared services and he felt the Local Government Efficiency Grant was a good way to begin the process. He added that Mr. Girard had discussed the possibility of the grant at the Organization Meeting on January 6, 2010. He stated that he felt the next step was to encourage the Supervisors to look at the possibility of filing an application to determine if the City of Glens Falls and the County would be eligible to receive the grant funding. He advised that they would need to discuss possible ways to improve efficiencies, whether they were at the City level, the County level or both. He apprised that there was room for shared services in administrative work, dispatching and other aspects of daily business. He voiced his opinion that representatives from the City and the County should meet to discuss the possibility of shared services and determine ways in which they could work collectively. He pointed out that the City had worked in the past with the Town of Queensbury and was continuously selling sewer capacity to them. He added that this was a prime example of municipalities working collectively.

Mr. Taylor asked when the deadline for the grant application was and Mayor Diamond replied February 24, 2010. Mr. Taylor asked if it was necessary to designate the projects prior to the grant application and Mayor Diamond responded that he felt that the projects could be decided upon quickly. Mayor Diamond stated that they could look at duplication of services and added that he would be willing to meet with the Supervisors for the City of Glens Falls to explore opportunities for shared services. He gave the example of dispatching in the City of Glens Falls as one possibility of shared services. He apprised that last year the County had assumed the responsibility of Civil Service testing for the City, which was another example of shared services.

Ms. Tatich advised that she had reviewed the Local Government Services Program, which was a two pronged program similar to the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program that the County was currently involved with. She explained that the Local Government Services Program began with a Planning Efficiencies Grant and would progress to an Implementation Grant. She apprised that the Planning Efficiencies Grant had a maximum award of \$50,000, which could be used for consulting services and other related costs. She added that the grant funding could not be used for salaries, but could be used to hire the assistance necessary to determine what was to be completed and how to proceed.

Mr. Taylor asked if there would be future opportunities for a Planning Efficiencies Grant. Ms. Tatich responded that if an application was submitted after the deadline it would be held for consideration the following year. Mayor Diamond stated that Governor Patterson was passionate about municipal efficiency and the elimination of duplication of services.

Mr. Taylor said that he was open to the concept of a Planning Efficiencies Grant; however, he added, he did not want to rush into anything. Ms. Tatich questioned if the applicant would be the City or the County. She advised that she had researched an application for another project between the Town of Lake Luzerne and the Town of Stony Creek pertaining to waste removal. She added that the grant required a reduction in the workforce and neither community had felt it was in their best interest to reduce staff as part of the process. She reiterated her question as to who the applicant would be and asked who would be reducing their workforce, the City or the County.

Mayor Diamond stated that if the project involved shared services for dispatching then the consolidation effort would be at the County level, as opposed to the City level. He added that the County had a state-of-the-art dispatching facility and the City would be unable to meet the needs of the communities. He said that in this case, if either entity needed to reduce workforce it would be the City. He reiterated that he would like to have a meeting with representatives from the City and the County to consider every department and find ways to consolidate services.

Ms. Tatich advised that one of the criteria for the grant application was that the municipality needed to meet certain distress factors. She added that none of the communities in Warren County had been on the eligible list of distressed communities. She explained that if a community was not on that list they were not automatically approved to receive funding from the program and would need to prove why they should be considered a distressed community. Mayor Diamond asked what the qualifications were in order to be considered a distressed community. Ms. Tatich responded that it had to do with assessed values and low income. She added that the closest community on the list had been the Town of Whitehall. Mayor Diamond advised that the City of Glens Falls had received funding from the Community Development Block Grant Program, which was regimented around low to moderate income families.

Mr. Merlino stated that he was in favor of shared services and the Town of Lake Luzerne had worked with the Town of Stony Creek as well as other towns in the past. He questioned how the County could enter into a grant application with the City. He apprised that his concern was that when the funding was no longer available, the burden of the cost of the shared services would fall on all the taxpayers of the County.

Mayor Diamond stated that the City of Glens Falls had paid \$3.1 million in County taxes in 2009 and for 2010 that amount would be closer to \$3.4 million. He advised that the City of Glens Falls was very independent, in that they had their own Police Department, Fire Department, Department of Public Works and Recreational Department. He said that he did not expect the County to take on all of the responsibilities but in the case of dispatching, the County had a state-of-the-art dispatching facility. He explained that years ago the City took care of the

dispatching for the Fire Department, which was later integrated into the County. He added that there were mechanisms in place that would allow the County to absorb the responsibility of dispatching and if that reduced the tax base, it would be a benefit to all concerned.

Mr. Pitkin stated that he agreed with the concept but did not agree that it would be beneficial for all the municipalities. He added that when the County took over the responsibility of Civil Service testing for the City, the City had saved money and the County had incurred the cost. Mayor Diamond noted that the County also received the revenues collected from testing fees. Mr. Pitkin reiterated that he agreed with the concept of consolidating services, but wanted to ensure that if the consolidation resulted in a savings it was a shared savings.

Mayor Diamond commented that he felt it was important to take the first step of meeting to discuss where there was a possibility of shared services. He advised that past shared services between the City of Glens Falls and the Town of Queensbury had allowed the Town to expand their tax base and their property tax base and had generated revenue for the City of Glens Falls from their waste water treatment plant.

Ms. Tatich stated that if they were awarded the Planning Efficiencies Grant there was a 10% matching funds requirement. She reiterated her question as to who would be the applicant and asked who would pay the required matching funds. Mayor Diamond said that the City of Glens Falls would be willing to pay 50% of the required 10% matching funds.

Mr. Taylor noted the February 24, 2010 deadline and mentioned that the Planning & Community Development Committee would not meet again until next month. Mayor Diamond responded that he would be willing to meet at the convenience of the Supervisors to discuss the matter. Mr. LaMothe suggested that the Committee could authorize the submission of the grant application in order to keep the option open. Mr. Pitkin asked if there was enough time available in order to meet the application deadline. Mr. LaMothe responded that if it was a joint effort between the Planning & Community Development Department and the City's consultants, then it would be possible to meet the deadline. Mayor Diamond noted that the City of Glens Falls was under contract with Avalon Associates and Shelter Planning. He added that between the two organizations he felt there was a possibility of meeting the deadline. Mr. Pitkin asked who would incur the cost of the consulting firms and Mayor Diamond responded that the City would cover the costs as they currently held contracts with both firms.

Mr. Pitkin asked if the issue would need to be referred to the Finance Committee in order to determine a source of funding for the 5% match. Joan Sady, Clerk of the Board, replied that it was not necessary to refer the issue to the Finance Committee until after they were approved for grant funding. Mr. LaMothe questioned if the County should submit a grant application if there was no guarantee of available matching funds. Mr. Taylor asked Mr. Stec if the necessary \$2,500, which would be the County's portion of the matching funds, would be available. Mr. Stec responded that he was sure they could determine a source of funding for the \$2,500.

Motion was made by Mr. Conover and seconded by Mr. McDevitt to authorize the submission of a Planning Efficiencies Grant application to the Office of Local Government Services, in the

amount of \$50,000, subject to the determination of a qualifying shared services project.

Chairman Monroe stated that it was important to answer Ms. Tatich's question as to who the applicant would be. He asked if the County was the applicant would they need to show a reduction in workforce and Ms. Tatich replied affirmatively. Chairman Monroe advised that the application should be a co-application since it was not determined from where the savings would be derived. He asked if it was necessary to show savings from both parties if the application was completed jointly with the City and Ms. Tatich replied in the negative. Mayor Diamond stated that the City of Glens Falls would be the applicant if that was acceptable to the County.

Following a brief discussion, Mr. Conover withdrew his motion and Mr. McDevitt withdrew his second to the motion.

Motion was made by Mr. McDevitt, seconded by Mr. Pitkin and carried by majority vote, with Mr. Merlino voting in opposition to support the City of Glens Falls in submitting a Planning Efficiency Grant application to the Office of Local Government Services in the amount of \$50,000, with the understanding that the required 10% local matching funds would be split evenly between the City of Glens Falls and Warren County.

Mayor Diamond thanked the Committee for their support in this initiative.

Returning to the agenda review, Ms. Tatich stated that the Department's Table of Organization and a Work Program and Billable Time Schedule for 2010 had been included in the agenda packet and she proceeded to provide a review of the documents for the Committee's benefit. She noted that due to budget constraints, the bar had been raised for generation of revenues.

Ms. Tatich apprised that the next item on the agenda pertained to GIS (Geographic Information Systems) services to the local communities and their willingness to pay for those services. She explained that there had been past discussions pertaining to the possibility of eliminating the GIS Coordinator position and GIS services at the County. She added that the decision had been made to retain the position to be funded in part by contributions from the communities based on the GIS services provided. She noted that in order to fund the position, approximately \$24,000 in contributions from the communities was required. She added that the decision to retain the position was based on the belief that there would be agreements with the communities to pay a pre-determined amount for GIS services which were determined to be at the Town level, as opposed to the County level. She advised that the Town of Queensbury employed their own GIS person and some of the other communities had decided that they did not want GIS services. She apprised that the Department was currently involved in several programs that contained mapping components, from which some funds could be used to assist in the funding of the position. She suggested that after the first quarter of 2010, the number of service requests should be evaluated, translated into terms of billable time and reported to the Committee. She said at that point the Committee could decide how best to proceed. Chairman Monroe advised that the Committee should establish a standard as to which services would be considered County level and which would be Town level.

Mr. LaMothe requested authorization to submit a grant application to the Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA) to undertake actions related to the development of a Corridor Management Plan for communities along the Dude Ranch Trail Scenic Byway, commencing January 1, 2010 and terminating June 30, 2011, in an amount not to exceed \$59,026. He explained that the Department had been contacted by ANCA and requested to submit a proposal to look into the possibility of making the Dude Ranch Trail part of a new scenic byway to be known as the First Wilderness Trail. He advised that a proposal had been submitted and was chosen to receive funding. He added that the funding required a 20% local match which could be taken from funds received from the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP). He said that a copy of the letter received from ANCA was included in the agenda packet. He noted that the Department had received funding through the LWRP to complete a five year update on the First Wilderness Heritage Corridor Action Plan, which could be completed in conjunction with the Corridor Management Plan.

Following a brief discussion, motion was made by Mr. Merlino, seconded by Mr. McCoy and carried unanimously to authorize the submission of a grant application to ANCA, as outlined above. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 19, 2010 Board meeting.*

Mr. LaMothe requested a resolution asking that Senator Little propose legislation to the New York State Department of State (NYS DOS) to include the Schroon River as part of the Intercoastal Waterway System. He said that this request came directly from the DOS. He advised that currently the communities along the Schroon River were not eligible to receive funding under the LWRP.

Motion was made by Mr. Merlino, seconded by Mr. Pitkin and carried unanimously to authorize the resolution as outlined above. *A copy of the resolution request form is on file with the minutes and the necessary resolution was authorized for the February 19, 2010 Board meeting.*

Ms. Tatich apprised that the Department was working on applications to the Housing Trust Fund Corporation (HTFC) for programs including the HOME Program, the RESTORE Program, the Access to Home Program and the Community Development Block Grants Program. She explained that the HTFC was a public benefit corporation that was managed by the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal and was the source of the majority of the funding for the Department. Mr. LaMothe said that under a new grant program, some communities would be invited to apply and submit an administrative plan. He noted that those that were invited to apply would be funded and they were hoping that Warren County would receive an invitation.

Mr. Taylor requested an update on the Broadband Initiative. Ms. Tatich referred to a list of Planning Initiatives included in the agenda packet, noting that an update on the Broadband Project for Hamilton, Warren and Washington Counties. She read the synopsis of the project that was included in the agenda packet for the Committee members. She stated that the County's portion of the \$120,000 cost for the needs analysis was \$40,000. She added that the

County had \$30,000 available and the Department was attempting to find a source of funding for the remaining \$10,000. She announced that Howard Lowe, of CBN Connect, had submitted a grant application on behalf of the three counties to complete the engineering design, in the amount of \$300,000 from the Regional Blueprint Plan of the Empire State Development Corporation. She added that an application had also been submitted for an additional \$300,000 from the EDA (Economic Development Administration). She explained that if they were funded, they would take the needs analysis and the engineering design and use them to apply for Federal Stimulus funding. She advised that CBN Connect had requested \$22 million from the Federal Broadband Initiative for the fiber ring, which would start at Plattsburgh, New York and make a loop through the northern communities. Ms. Tatich advised that at the February 19, 2010 Board meeting, there would be a presentation from Howard Lowe and Stratum Broadband concerning the needs analysis. Chairman Monroe stated that the goal was to submit a Federal Stimulus application by March 2010, which would require an engineering design. Ms. Tatich responded that Mr. Lowe had advised that the deadline for submission of the application would be extended. She added that Mr. Lowe said that they would most likely apply in late fall for funding to be received in spring 2011.

Ms. Tatich apprised that the Department had applied for \$32,000 to complete outreach initiatives pertaining to Census 2010, which was not funded. She continued that the funding awards had been focused on the major metropolitan areas; however, she added, she believed it would still be necessary to complete outreach efforts within the communities. She apprised that it was her intention to develop a small program and meet with the Supervisors to advise them on dealing with the media issues in order to inform the public about the Census, its impact and the need to have a complete count. Mr. Conover stated that the Town of Bolton had received a request from the Census Bureau to establish a Questionnaire Assistance Center in the Town Hall. Ms. Tatich advised that there were concerns that people's dissatisfaction with the Federal Government would have an impact on the Census.

Mr. LaMothe said that the Warren County Planning Board 2009 Report was included in the agenda packet, thereby fulfilling the requirements under General Municipal Law Section 239 which required the Planning Board to file an annual report with the Board of Supervisors. He explained that the report showed the projects which had been reviewed by the Planning Board for 2008 and 2009. He noted that area variances were the single major item listed in the report.

Ms. Tatich reported that a list of programs currently administered by the Planning & Community Development Department and a brief description of the programs was included in the agenda packet for the Committee members to review. She added that a list of grant awards received from 1977 through 2010 was also included in the agenda packet.

Mr. Conover stated that the spatial data viewer, which was part of the GIS Program, was a useful tool and he asked if the number of hits received was tracked. Mr. LaMothe responded that the information could be obtained from the Information Technology Department. Mr. Conover questioned the amount that the Department had hoped to collect in contributions from the communities in order to fund the GIS Coordinator position and Mr. LaMothe replied that

it was \$20,000 to \$25,000. Mr. Conover asked what the GIS budget totaled and Mr. LaMothe responded it was approximately \$60,000 for personnel and operating expenses.

Brief discussion ensued.

There being no further business to come before the Planning & Community Development Committee, on motion by Mr. Pitkin and seconded by Mr. Merlino, Mr. Taylor adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlene DiResta, Sr. Legislative Office Specialist