

Ayer Office of Community & Economic Development

Monthly Report: June-July 2018

Respectfully submitted by Alan S. Manoian, Director of Community & Economic Development

Creation of New Downtown Ayer Business Group:

The new Downtown Ayer Business Group continues to meet & further develop its mission and working composition. Attendance has been noteworthy and constructive ideas & points of discussion are flowing freely. The Director of AOCED has requested placement on the Agenda for the next meeting to conduct a highly-visual and motivating presentation on the social, cultural & economic future of Downtown Ayer, on recommended Downtown Urban Space Design concepts, on Downtown Sidewalk Activation, on Tactical Urbanism Practices, & on Commercial Storefront Improvements for the upcoming year. In addition, the Director of AOCED will schedule & conduct a Town-wide Invitational Gathering to present the 2018-2019 AOCED Downtown Ayer Revitalization Program.

Historic Ayer Central Fire Station Redevelopment:

The AOCED has outreached to the new owner of the Historic 1934 Ayer Central Fire Station, Cowfield Station LLC (Mr. Calvin Moore) in order to ascertain/determine if the new owner will be requesting the AOCED to pursue, position, prepare and submit grant application/s, whether local Community Preservation Funds, US Dept. of HUD CDBG Grant, or other grant provision opportunities. If owner does determine to pursue grants, then this process must begin ASAP in order to meet grant submission schedules & be successful in grant award. The AOCED is also in communication with new owner to determine/verify ongoing measures & actions to secure the historic building from destructive impacts of weathering, rain, & coming winter months. Dir. of AOCED will request report from new owner to determine status of historic property redevelopment.

Ayer Master Plan Process:

On 7/11/2018 the Town Manager scheduled and conducted the Ayer Dept. Head Monthly Meeting. On 6/25/2018 the Town Manager transmitted the following message to all Ayer Dept. Heads; *"A reminder that per the June 13, 2018 Department Head Staff Meeting I have asked all Department Heads to review the attached 2018 Ayer Master Plan Implementation Plan and submit a*

memo explaining how your Department will (or can assist other Departments) in achieving the "high priority" goals of the Implementation Plan. The memo is due for the July 11, 2018 Department Head Staff Meeting at 10am at the Ayer Town Hall.

The Ayer BOS have made the Implementation Plan a priority goal/objective for the BOS for FY 2019 as well as for myself. Therefore, the Administration as a whole will need to further organize and implement the goals set forth by the Implementation Plan." The AOCED Master Plan (Implementation Plan) High Priority Action Items memo was submitted for the 7/11/2018 Dept. Head Meeting. The AOCED will be working to directly assist (all Town of Ayer Departments & Municipal Boards/Commissions) in ongoing management, coordination, reporting, and delivery of Implementation Plan Action Items.

Ayer Rotary Planting Island Design Improvement Project:

The Dir. of AOCED is pleased to report that the challenging, complex and high-profile Fredrick C. Carlton Circle/Ayer Rotary Island Beautification Project was successfully completed on 7/20/2018. The new (and functionally manageable) physical design, project composition, and sponsorship structure approach has proved to be successful as demonstrated by the quality of the final product and the exceedingly positive response and feedback by the people of Ayer. Our thanks goes out to our partners at MassDOT, Pinard's Landscaping, Office of the Town Manager, Selectman Chris Hillman, Ayer Conservation Administrator Jo-Anne Crystoff, Ayer Police Dept., Ayer Public Works Dept., and the Spring 2018 Ayer Town Meeting which approved \$10,000 for the great Ayer Rotary Project. Our private sector Sponsors including - Ayer Moving & Storage, Pinard's Landscaping, American Superconductor & Gervais Ford partnered with the Town of Ayer to make this project a reality. The newly designed Islands are just the start of really impressive improvements that will be coming to the Rotary and to the private properties that ring the Rotary. Keep your eye of Ayer's Fredrick C. Carlton Circle!

AOCED Projects Proposed for the Upcoming Year:

- Ayer Master Plan (Implementation Plan) Program Management & Leadership
- Downtown Ayer Comprehensive Revitalization & Redevelopment Program
- Ayer Eco Development & Ayer-Shirley Regional School District Young Professional Development & Apprenticeship Program
- West Main St. Corridor Redevelopment Program
- Park Street Corridor Redevelopment Program
- (AOCED) Webpage Maximization Project / Corporate Attraction Program