

Economic Development Goal OBJECTIVES

Master Plan 2006 Electronic Format

62. Support community development and revitalization efforts of the Community Development office, the Toy Town Partnership, and the Winchendon Enrichment Foundation.

2001-2003- Community Development office, now Development and Planning Office, fully restructured and re-staffed. Increased staff and service through re-allocation of existing resources.
2003- Fulltime staff person provides planning board support, land-use trained part-time clerical staff supports both ZBA and Planning Board for consistency.

2005- Town Manager attends TTP meetings and appoints members.
2005-TTP and Enrichment Foundation being reviewed as agents/entities to carry out the Converse Gardens project.

63. Increase the value potential of the available labor force by providing additional educational and/or vocational opportunities within the Winchendon area.

64. Continue to encourage and support public transportation links to educational, training, and job opportunities.

2002- Work with Representative Knutilla on re-establishing commuter rail service to Boston in Gardner.
2003- Participants in Congressman Olver's "Northern Tier" and regional transportation symposium.
2004-2005- Working with Devens Commerce Center and MART regarding potential labor transportation shuttles to the industrially developed Devens Commerce Center.

65. Develop low impact, environmentally sensitive recreational facilities on Town owned parcels at Whites Mill Pond.

2004-2005 Tax title lands adjacent to White's Mill proposed for passive recreational link to a potential bike trail spur linking main trail, veteran's cemetery and the pond.

66. Clean up Whitney Pond and pursue efforts to develop recreational opportunities at the Pond.

2003-2004- Bike Trail from Glenallen to the Clark along Whitney's Pond funded and construction scheduled.
2003-2005- Robinson-Broadhurst funding has been sought and received for the pursuit of purchase of two parcels of land on the shoreline of

Whitney Pond adjacent to the Bike Trail just behind the Brass Pineapple for passive park space.

- 2001-2005- Sewer Infiltration and Inflow work is ongoing to reduce the introduction of wastewater getting into the waterway.
- 2001-2005- Wastewater Plant upgrade was designed to allow for additional capacity to include Maple Street and the Springs. This would require the sewer infrastructure to be extended.
- 2004- Town Meeting passed a recreational ice racing bylaw that includes Whitney's Pond.
- 2004-2005- ULI study and report.
- 2001-2004- Title Five Program is still in progress and available.
- 2005- Title Five program funds being sought to re-establish the program.
- 2005- Heritage Mills project moving forward.

67. Improve appearance of the Town's gateways.

68. Improve parking availability in the downtown business district through land acquisition, cooperative agreements, etc.

- 2003- MRPC conducted a "Downtown Parking Study" and determined that capacity is sufficient and that striping would be of benefit.
- 2004-2005 Downtown parking striping project being pursued through Development Office, TTP and DPW.
- 2004-2005 Tiered parking plan opposite Pleasant Street at Front Street designed and funds being sought.

69. Restore, protect and provide better access to the Millers and Otter Rivers.

- 2001-2004- With the Wastewater project completion we have removed overflows in excess of 1 million gallons per day of raw sewerage from spilling into the Miller's River on any given Spring day.
- 2004- Robinson-Broadhurst funding has been sought and received for the pursuit of purchase of two parcels of land on the shoreline of Whitney Pond adjacent to the Bike Trail just behind the Brass Pineapple for passive park space.
- 2005- Converse Garden's project moving forward to design stage.
- 2005- 36 River Street reuse plan calls for a tie-in with a proposed river walk at the base of gardens.

70. Scrutinize existing industrial lands. Evaluate needs and potential.

, 2004- 10 acre parcel zoned industrial transferred to the newly constituted Winchendon Redevelopment Authority for marketing and sale.
, 2002-2004- Industrial parcels on Franklin Street and Jackson Ave in final stages of Tax Title taking.
, 2004- Sewerage connection moratorium lifted after more than a decade.

, 2004-2005 Industrial Land Inventory created listing all parcels with pertinent information and contacts. , Zoning Task force underway.

71. Create an Industrial Park Commission.

, 2002- Reviewed the scope of all economic development models available to the Town.
, 2003-2004- Appointed members to fill the seats of the Winchendon Redevelopment Authority which is the strongest of the models. , 2005- WRA is up and running.

72. Improve the Town's bond rating.

, 2001- Successfully petitioned bond rating agencies in Boston to increase our bond rating from the then current B- to our existing A-. , 2005- Successfully secured an increased bond rating from the rating agencies from our A- to an AA/AAA.

21a. Create a web site for Winchendon.

, 2003- Formed and appointed members to the Town's first Communications Commission. Primary task of establishing a town website.
, 2004- Sought and received town meeting funding for the commission's work.
, 2005- Due to the diligent efforts of the commission, the website was officially launched and unveiled at Annual Town Meeting in May of 2005.