

## **STAR Meeting**

Ellsworth

10/18/2006

Attending: Tom Testa, Chris Hall, Jim Fisher, Bill Ceckler, Sally Jacobs, John Kelly, ...others

Meeting Purpose: Follow-up on last meeting

### **Business Plan and Facility Design Requirements**

#### Commitment to placing an office in the STAR facility

What organizations are likely to want space, help to create and manage the facility?

City of Ellsworth

This could serve as a public restroom for the City.

City could offset some of the construction / utility / maintenance costs

Department of Conservation: David Rodrigues

Currently have offices in Cherryfield, Bangor, Jonesboro

Would they invest in a new office at the STAR?

Are they hiring a second person for eco-tourism and where would that person reside?

DART: Fred Cook

Department of Transportation: Tracy Perez

Have a site in Ellsworth that is in flux

Park and ride facility

DEST: Sally Jacobs and Bill Ceckler

Minimal infrastructure: parking, water, privy

DRHPT: Tom Testa, Gary Briggs, Chris hall

EACC: Micki Sumpter and Dominic Epter

Looking for a new office location

#### Commercial Tenants

- ◆ Outfitters: Bike, ATV rentals
- ◆ Food/Refreshments
- ◆ Retail/Gift Shops

#### Transportation Providers

- ◆ CYR Bus Lines
- ◆ Downeast Transportation, Inc.
- ◆ Vermont Trailways

- ◆ West Transportation

### **MaineDOT Planning Grant**

- ◆ May require 20% match.
- ◆ Participation would be a sign of commitment.
- ◆ Cash Match providers could include
  - DRHPT
  - City of Ellsworth
  - Ellsworth Chamber
  - Hancock County
- ◆ In-kind match
  - DEST
  - NPSR&T
  - Maine Community Foundation
  - County Sheriff – work-release programs

### **Moving Forward**

Memorandum of Understanding: Partners for the Feasibility Study

- ◆ Partners each contribute \$\$\$ or in-kind effort to match the state funds
  - DRHPT
  - City of Ellsworth
  - EACC
  - DEST through Maine Community Foundation
- ◆ The commitment is to work on the plan
- ◆ At the end of the planning process, partners might need to sign another MOU committing to the final project

ACTION: Tom, Chris will speak with Jennifer to work on an MOU for the Feasibility Study

### **Location**

Need to establish a process for optioning the land

Have contacted a number of property owners, six have allowed their properties to be included on a list of alternatives.

### **Revenue Sources**

Community Development Business Assistance Grant

- ◆ Need to create jobs that benefit low an moderate income
- ◆ Grant amount – depends on number of FTE jobs

EDA Funding – HUD

Land for Maine’s Future – seems unlikely in this case

Libra

Maine Community Foundation  
Transportation Enhancement Program – 80/20

- ◆ Trail
- ◆ Museum

**Next meeting**

Early December – TBA

- ◆ Invite Stephanie Clement – 288-3340 to talk about FOA Option process
- ◆ Review MOU
- ◆ Commitment of funds
- ◆ Learn about MaineDOT Grant Funding