

# TOWN OF STURBRIDGE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE



## MISSION STATEMENT AND INITIAL WORKPLAN

*Approved: Board of Selectmen – October 3, 2011*

***The Economic Development Committee will strive to develop and sustain a robust, diversified, growing local economy that contributes to making Sturbridge an attractive residential and business community.***

To achieve its mission, the Committee may undertake the following initiatives including, but not limited to:

1. Utilize the findings of the 2011 Master Plan Update to guide development of the Committee's workplan and priorities.
2. Understand the economic development tools available through federal, state or local resources that the Town of Sturbridge can make available to businesses seeking to locate in Sturbridge.
3. Review the impact of a split versus flat tax rate together with the various tax exemptions and make appropriate recommendations to the Board of Selectmen as part of the annual Tax Classification Hearing.
4. Foster and sustain collaboration between the business community, Chamber of Commerce, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, Board of Selectmen and Zoning Board of Appeals to facilitate public-private partnerships.
5. Partner with Town officials, Old Sturbridge Village, the Chamber of Commerce and other stakeholders to market the community as an attractive location to work and live.
6. Collaborate with the Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Conservation Commission and Board of Selectmen on the review and development of bylaws and regulations related to business.
7. Develop proposals to encourage investment in business properties that make the community more attractive to include special attention on productive reuse of vacant properties.

Composition: The Economic Development Committee is composed of five residents of the community appointed by the Town Administrator with ratification by the Board of Selectmen for five year terms. The EDC will work through and coordinate with the Town Administrator, Town Planner and other Town officials, Boards and Committees in furtherance of its mission.