

November 25, 1979

TO: Steve J.
Missy

FROM: Doug

PROJECTS REPORT

c ✓ Met reps from the Old Colony Bank in Chicopee to discuss their plans for a major historic downtown structure they are presently in. Old Colony would like to construct a single purpose branch facility with a drive-up window in the downtown. Marc Webb, City Planner, expressed concern for future uses of this building and it was agreed Old Colony would work with the city on this matter.

✓ n. I spoke with Mayor-elect Kumor and we will meet shortly to discuss priorities in Chicopee. He was most receptive and very high on a regional approach to economic development.

✓ c Visited W. Springfield to discuss major sewage problem. Meeting on this issue set for Friday, November 30, here with EPA, state and locals.

✓ r. Attended Northampton Planning Board Meeting regarding St. Mikes Housing Project. After lengthy discussion with the developer (Bill Mahar of O'Connell) Amy Anthony of HAP and the PB an understanding was reached to incorporate 4 units of handicapped family and 12 units of scattered site to bring the project more in line with AHOP goals (which stress family over elderly). Project proposal should be ready for this NOFA deadline. ✓ Hosted a meeting with Bill Fitzhenry regarding the Northampton Industrial Park drainage problem on sites already committed for future tenants. Application forms were issued and engineering plans are to be submitted.

✓ p Met with Marty Adler and Sandy Johnson (Greenfield Town Planner) regarding govt. office space and the Millers Falls Building. There is an excellent opportunity here for us to play a guiding role with this development. It could be the project to bring in local bank interests along the lines of the Hoosic Mills in N. Adams. More on this later.

✓ n Visited George Cicone, Exec. Dir. of N. Adams Devel. Corp. for general update. This would be a good site for a Tsongas visit in the spring as revitalization programs begin to show progress. Much has been done by Mayor Lamb along the lines of the Lowell Plan.

✓ E Met with Jim Frazier of DOL to discuss Job Corps in Westover program. They are currently underenrolled in this program by 50 percent (roughly 250 kids). Are working with DES to assist with recruitment efforts. They need to bring up enrollments quickly to justify program continuation and expansion. I attended groundbreaking ceremonies last spring and was impressed with the comprehensiveness of the program and facilities. Perhaps a PET visit could be incorporated in a visit in the Spring to Chicopee.

It is unclear yet what ^{effect} Charlie Smith's election in Pittsfield will have on the mall. He has publically called for a scaled down version (to 3 department stores). Will meet with him shortly.

✓E Attended the International Markets Conference sponsored by the Overseas Private Investment Corporation in Springfield. Good turnout and some useful information gathered. I'll make an oral presentation at next ED staff meeting.

Visited the S. Holyoke Development Corporation for their open house. Another competing agency in a city without much cohesion to its development efforts. The SH CDC will service the rather large Spanish speaking community.

✓R The Springfield UDAG hearing went very well with John Dill from the Springfield Institute for Savings (the major private investor for this commercial block) well prepared with answers for HUD's UDAG team. A part of the key to Springfield's success with the UDAG Program seems to be the existence of the overall downtown plan (Springfield Central) which provides a vision of the total impact of each development. This, coupled with the professionalism and public and private sector support are always present with Springfield projects. (The delegation for this meeting numbered six including Mayor Dimeuro!)

✓L The Army Corps will be funding a hydro feasibility study on Huntington dam site thanks to new direction from Hdq. and our support!