

To: Steve, Missy and Dennis
From: Doug M.
July 16, 1980

Re: Project Reports

General Electric has purchased an extension on their option at the Cranwell School in Lenox for a research and development facility. We have been contacted by the manager of the plastics division to explore financing possibilities with MIFA, Mass. Historic and EDA. The discussions at this stage are very confidential and I am meeting with G.E. Thursday after a visit with a preservation officer to determine eligibility.

The PWIP grant for the mill restoration project in N. Adams has been squared away and indications are that the project will be funded in the next fiscal year, if EDA ever gets its legislation passed.

The Pacossa building rehab in Chicopee has been set with a 312 loan we were able to clear-up in HUD through the use of a consultant to help the city prepare the application.

I met with Jerry Hayes^(of the U.M. CEO) to discuss a wide range of topics and projects we are both involved in to try and coordinate our efforts. He has been working with the bankers in Leominster on a mortgage pool concept which I suggested Isaac be contacted for our involvement. I also put Jerry in touch with George Spence, a local developer in the Hampshire County area for business assistance. We agreed to meet more regularly in the future to keep each other aware of activity.

Small sources awaiting approval from EPA to burn 2.2 sulfur fuel should have some final action by the end of July. At our request, Reg. 1 review should be complete by the end of this week and sent to D.C. for publication in the Register immediately.

The Uniroyal deal does not look very positive at this time due to the difficulty of obtaining market commitments and Uniroyal's non-cooperation with Knisely (the buyer) to sell the tire molds necessary. EDA is moving ahead with the \$75,000 planning grant for the city to prepare an adjustment plan.

My discussions with Bill Fitzhenry also dealt with Springfield and their interest in monies for both an industrial park and an expanded skills center. EDA's position seems to be that the city should set a single priority for EDA assistance. They also don't understand the need for \$ at the skills center when it is the model for the four other centers to be established statewide. I plan to meet with Frank Galluni, skills center dir. in Hampden County, to discuss the issue.

Some members of the ED staff met with Lois Starkey from the HUD Cong. liaison office in Washington. She had very good things to say about the agency's view of our staff and was up on a political mission to gather information on races in Massachusetts. She also informed us that there were 5-700 Innovative Grant applications for 20 awards nationally.

152

I met with Mayor Musante (Northampton) to discuss several projects: BUN II has been launched which offers no interest/~~low~~ interest loans for insulation; Mass Electric has turned the city down in its request for land to provide parking for a theatre development behind city hall which he has asked us to help him on; I suggested the city include an area that has been neglected but now is under renovation (by George Spence with housing) in the improvements included in the recent bond authorization; the Northampton Coop Bank was not included in the MHMFA loan program and Marsha (A.A. to Mayor and board member) asked me to find out way.

Two housing proposals have the town of S. Hadley in an uproar. One (from Dan O'Connell) is an elderly project in the center of S. Hadley Falls and the other (by Tony Rovossa) a family elderly mix out by his restaurant along the Ct. river and away from services by several miles in farm land. The town does not want the Rovossa project and has asked our intervention. I have asked for relevant materials and expect to draft a letter of support for the O'Connell project.

Also met with Ray Warren (Dep. Commissioner of CD-Springfield) to discuss several projects and obtain a copy of their innovative grant application. I would like to spend some time working out the details of the proposal we discussed at the ED staff meeting, as this is an excellent opportunity to support efforts recommended in the Mass. Plan.