

Economic Development Report - Central and Western Mass

To: John Quinn  
Missy Grealy

Fr: Doug McGarrah  
April 26, 1982

Negotiations stall on the purchase of the Wayland Farm by the town and Jerry Rappaport. The Farmers Home Admin. is still holding out for additional proposals which might increase the purchase price. Sec. Block visited the Farm last week (when he was up here to run in the Boston Marathan) but refused to make a commitment for the FmHA.

✓ The Conservation Law Foundation has filed suit to block the Washington Mountain Water Supply project in Lee/Lenox. I hosted a meeting on this issue in February prior to CLF's suit. At this point I am examining the project to prepare a position supportive of local needs. This may be an opportunity for extensive coverage of PT as the issue has received substantial attention in the Berkshires.

The Westover AFB 44 acre parcel has been sent to the DOD with a recommendation from GSA for surplus. We are following this for the city and the Westover Development Corp. who are anxious to have this area for industrial development.

✓ A regionaleconomic development conference sponsored jointly by the West Mass Development Corp. and the University of Mass is scheduled for Friday, May 28. The conference will focus on issues of joint efforts of economic development in the Connecticut River Valley (Franklin, Hampshire, and Hampden Counties) and will include the political and business leaders from the area. It is a historic linkage and with PT in the area that day I hope we can have him attend.

Meetings:

✓ Mt. Holyoke College Conference on High-Tech Firms and central-city job creation. I spoke on a pannel on private/public partnerships and the enterprise zones. (4/16).

SBA 503 Conference was held with most every licensed CDC present. The Springfield group had an opportunity to raise many of their questions about the program and the message delivered by the SBA was that \$ is available and to keep pushing the program.

PT met with Mayor Richard Lamb to discuss the North Adams UDAG in Washington. Missy is working with Pat Burke on this..

Meetings with PT and the Small Business Conference in Worcester and the minority community leadership went very well. I will be meeting with Mayor Robinson this week.