

Public Workshops – Creating Economic Opportunities

Workshop #1 November 17, 2021

Group one responses:

- Industries which contribute to a healthy economic base and generate revenue include: power plant, hospitality, health care, business incubator and eco-tourism.
- Future economic development should focus on: natural resources, South Sandwich Village (Golden Triangle), Industrial Park.
- Identify opportunities to bring in light industry, expand infrastructure to encourage tech business and focus on eco-friendly enterprises.
- Identify opportunities in the Golden Triangle through mixed use zoning and sewer expansion; have plans ready to take advantage of available federal infrastructure money.
- Update website to make it friendlier and more responsive.
- Link bike trails.
- Engage in a marketing plan to attract new business.
- Have Sandwich build a brand.

Group two responses:

- Reinstitutione economic development corporation.
- Preserve the village, and 6A from commercial development.
- 6A from town line to Jarves should be subject redevelopment.
- Explore development of aquaculture.

General discussion notes:

- Town should explore infrastructure funding options, District Increment Financing. Identify area of development and hold educational forums to address publics questions, opinions and concerns.
- Limited space within town to develop, begin to look at redevelopment options.
- Focus on aquaculture, light and clean industries.
- Explore partnerships with Blue Economies.
- Increase involvement of Chamber of Commerce.
- Consistent theme was overall displeasure of website. Town not taking full advantage of online presence. Create brand, event calendar, link to other helpful websites.

Workshop #2 November 20, 2021

General discussion notes

- Explore opportunities in the recreation industry, expand on existing venues such as skate park, pickle ball fields, disc golf and BMX.
- Through recreation and natural resources create an environment where people want to stay and open a business as opposed to just visiting.
- Tie in Golden Triangle to QMH recreation hub due to proximity.

- Explore options to create a second town center, unique and complimentary to downtown Sandwich. Both centers should support one another avoid an atmosphere of competition. Downtown represents historic Sandwich with its architecture and museums, while the Golden Triangle can provide more interactive activities.
- Development of Golden Triangle should be respectful of the natural environment with an emphasis on GREEN building and maintaining indigenous plants, trees and shrubbery.
- Conduct a market study and create a marketing scheme to attract a mix of small unique businesses and franchises.
- Explore infrastructure funding mechanisms, do public outreach to educate and explain. Identify value to programs and how they may positively affect the personal and business sectors.
- Answer the question “What’s in it for me?”
- Promote a business friendly environment through grant opportunities and supporting start up programs such as E For All.
- Enhance online presence.