



The City of Pittsfield, Massachusetts Department of Community Development

Deanna L. Ruffer
Director

James M. Ruberto
Mayor

MEMORANDUM

TO: Master Plan Advisory Committee
cc: Mayor James M. Ruberto
City Council
Mayoral Candidates
Community Development Board

FROM: Albert A. Ingegni, III

DATE: October 12, 2011

SUBJECT: Master Plan Review Meeting

Thank you for agreeing to participate in the reconvening of the Master Plan Advisory Committee. It is hard to believe that it has been more than three years since we last met. As you will see when reading the attached memorandum from the Department of Community Development, much has been accomplished since the Pittsfield Community Development Board adopted the Master Plan in April 2009. The hard work of our committee, the staff and consultants was also recognized by the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Planning Association, who selected the City of Pittsfield Master Plan as its recipient of the 2009 Outstanding Planning Award for Comprehensive Planning.

The Master Plan has served the City well, but there is still more to be done. In particular, we need to formalize the master plan vision in the City's development regulations.

At its last meeting, on June 25, 2008, the Committee agreed to meet in the future to examine the progress being made in implementing the strategies and vision set forth in the Master Plan. Next Wednesday's meeting (7PM, October 19th, City Council Chambers) marks the first time since the adoption of the Master Plan that this committee has reconvened. In addition to learning about the progress made to date, I ask that you give thought to what you would like the City to focus its efforts on accomplishing in the next couple of years. With the pending change in the City's leadership, it is a particularly important time for us to provide our thoughts on how the City can use the master plan to achieve our stated vision of "prosper[ing] as the creative and commercial hub of the county – a bustling economic center amidst the natural beauty of the Berkshires."

In preparation for next Wednesday evening's meeting, I encourage you to review the detailed matrix included in this package. To aid this review, we have also attached a copy of the Master Plan Executive Summary. The complete plan can be downloaded from the City's website at the following link:

www.cityofpittsfield.org/city_departments/community_development/master_plan.htm

Copies can also be obtained from the Community Development Office.