

# WINCHESTER EDC

*A Review of the Year 2025*



## Winsted & Winchester

*One Win-Win Community*

### Winsted Restaurant Week

**March 21<sup>st</sup> - March 29, 2025**

With Litchfield.co, (now known as [therestaurantweek.co](https://therestaurantweek.co)), and alongside Friends of Main Street Winsted, we launched the town's very first Restaurant Week. From breakfast to dinner, visitors and residents enjoyed exclusive deals across town for nine full days, a true celebration of Winsted's vibrant food scene.



### INSIDE THE EDC

The EDC meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month to conduct regular business, hear public comments, review ongoing town initiatives, and receive updates from town liaisons.

In addition, commissioners actively contribute to a range of projects, business visitations, and serve on various ad hoc subcommittees that support the Town's economic development efforts.

At the heart of our work is our core priority: supporting our current business owners while attracting new businesses to our community.

### Building a Stronger, Better Connected Winchester

**February 2025 - December 2025**



In February, we updated the Board of Selectmen with the EDC's goals and priorities for 2026, followed in April by our State of the Town conversation held at the Little Red Barn (LRB), sponsored by Northwest Community Bank, which brought together members of the business community for a town update and discussion with Paul Harrington.

Over the summer, we contracted with Awecast to produce a promotional film highlighting Winsted's attractions and investment potential. On September 2nd, the EDC presented the promotional video to the Board of Selectmen, and on October 8th, we hosted a public screening of the new video at LRB, celebrating Winsted's growth and showcasing the final production to Winsted business owners.



# Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies & Spotlights

January 2025 - December 2025

We hosted or participated in six ribbon cutting ceremonies this year, bringing together local officials to celebrate new businesses opening or expanding in our community. And we're not slowing down - four additional ribbon cuttings are already scheduled for January 2026. We also spotlight local business owners throughout the year, helping elevate their stories and strengthen their connection to the community.

Join us in celebrating those who held ceremonies in 2025: *Shah's Halal Food*, *Lotus Nail & Spa*, *YMCA/Body Renew Spa*, *Aero Hair Studio*, *Domino's*, and *Marshalls*.



## Industry Insights: Local Manufacturing in Focus

September 2025 - December 2025

This year, we worked closely with several of Winchester's key manufacturers to strengthen partnerships, understand operational needs, and support local industry growth.

Our team conducted on-site visits with Hubbell Power Systems and Fairchild Precision Parts on September 23, participated in workforce engagement at the CT State Community College Northwest Job Fair on September 25, and continued our outreach with visits to Cadco Ltd on October 7 and H-O Products Corporation on October 20. In November, we met with DRT Aerospace to round out our 2025 tour schedule. With five more manufacturers still to visit to complete the tour, we remain committed to supporting and showcasing Winchester's strong manufacturing sector.



## Partnerships That Power Our Community

January 2025 - December 2025

We are grateful for our continued partnership with Friends of Main Street Winsted, who welcome us to table at the annual Fall Festival. This year was especially exciting as we unveiled our new brand - Winsted & Winchester One-Win-Win Community!

We are appreciative of our close connection with the Torrington EDC, the Northwestern CT Chamber of Commerce, the Northwest Hills Council of Governments, John Fiorello from CT State Northwestern at the Entrepreneurial Center and Dr. Laura McCarthy.



## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Job Fair - 2025

Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The 4th Annual Winsted Job Fair, held at the Green Woods Hall Gym at CT State Community College: Northwestern, welcomed more than 100 job seekers and resulted in over 25 reported hires. The event brought together local employers and offered résumé assistance (offered by the Connecticut Department of Labor) along with free professional LinkedIn headshots with Awecast.

A special thank-you to the Town of Winchester, Awecast, the American Mural Project, CT State Community College Northwestern, the Northwest Connecticut Chamber of Commerce, and the Connecticut Department of Labor for their partnership and support.

## Closing Remarks, Looking Ahead to 2026

The Winchester EDC would like to thank you, our business community, for your constant support. We are truly fortunate to have you as part of our town, and we look forward to all that lies ahead in 2026.

Please let us know if you need any support, we're here to help. Thank you for contributing to Winsted's continued growth!



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