

Hunterdon Freeholders' Sites Tour Examine Plans For East Amwell Economic Goals

East Amwell was the latest stop last week on the Freeholder's tour of Hunterdon County Economic Development projects, as Freeholder Board Director Shaun C. Van Doren and Deputy Director Susan J. Soloway met with East Amwell officials, in downtown Ringoes, to discuss the Township's economic goals for the future.

A main topic of discussion was the recently approved county economic development grant in support of East Amwell's efforts to revitalize Ringoes. East Amwell Mayor Rick Wolfe and Township Committeeman Chris Sobieski walked the Freeholders, along with Economic Development Director Marc Saluk, through the Ringoes village outlining plans to utilize the grant and provide an update on the townships' specific goals and objectives.

The site visit was another for the Freeholders, as part of a countywide effort to focus on both county-funded municipal economic development projects and agri-tourism businesses along the Hunterdon 579 Trail.

Soloway, the Freeholder Board's economic development liaison, stated, "The municipal economic development grant program is helping our towns focus on the right areas for economic growth. It is proving to be a very successful cooperative effort between the county and our municipalities."

Other municipalities receiving economic development grants this year include Lambertville, Kingwood Township, Milford, and Frenchtown.

"The grant will allow us to update the 2014 Ringoes Village Study as well as our planning and zoning along the nearby 31/202 corridor," explained Wolfe.

Wolfe stated that the effort will result in a land use plan element being incorporated into the township's master plan, thus allowing for the creation of new ordinances that promote revitalization and economic development.

Soloway said, "The county's economic development personnel are currently working with members of the township's planning board to assist in this effort. When you see first-hand the projects moving forward throughout the county, and the great people leading them, it's difficult not to be excited about Hunterdon's future."

Soloway added, "Mayor Wolfe also detailed the township's current planning efforts to revitalize around growth in the agribusiness and agritourism sectors – a chief focus in the county's economic strategy."

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The Freeholders' economic development sites tour is focusing on business projects along the Hunterdon 579 Trail, in addition to locations with county-funded economic development projects. Previous stops have included a visit to the site of the future county park along the Delaware River in Milford, and the Mount Salem Vineyards in Alexandria and the Stockton Market in Stockton, both Hunterdon 579 Trail venues.