

Town of Wethersfield

Planning and Economic Development Department

Monthly Report

January 2012

A Monthly Report from the Planning and Economic Development Department

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RECENT PROJECTS

- A CO has been issued for a change of use and façade improvements for the former Tim Horton's restaurant building at 486 Silas Deane Highway. The tenant is Farmington Bank. A ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for Thursday January 19 at 10 a.m.
- Plans have been approved and completion is nearing to renovate the former Angelino's restaurant at 1115 Silas Deane Highway in the Wethersfield Shopping Center into a Thai restaurant the Tamarind Grill.
- Façade improvements have been completed at the Dunkin Donuts at 225 Silas Deane Highway and at 1030 Silas Deane Highway.
- A CO has been issued for interior renovations to accommodate a furniture and clothing consignment store Kids At Heart at 732 Silas Deane Highway.
- PZC approved plans for a small engine repair shop to be located in the rear of 512 Silas Deane Highway (former Ritz Camera).
- Wethersfield Monument Company has opened in 512 Silas Deane Highway (former Ritz Camera).
- A final inspection is scheduled for January 13 for the Tilted Kilt at 1151 Silas Deane Highway.
- At 580 Silas Deane Highway a new restaurant Bella Anthony will soon be opening in the former Bluto's.
- At 685 Silas Deane Highway the Great Wall take out restaurant has opened.
- At 137 Main Street Primary Residential Mortgage Inc. has opened.
- A new veterinary clinic has opened at 60 Beaver Road — Beaver Brook Animal Hospital.
- The PZC approved an 8-24 referral for planned improvements to Wethersfield High School.
- Plans have been filed by Metro PCS for improvements to the cell tower at 75 Wells Road.
- The Tobacco Place has opened at 202 Silas Deane Highway.
- Mr. Tint has opened at 1812 Berlin Turnpike.
- Diana Stutz Design has relocated to 280 Main Street.

OTHER NEWS AND INITIATIVES

Developer/Tenant Contacts

- Discussed interest with developer for the redevelopment of the former Fun Zone at 1290 Silas Deane Highway.
- Met with potential buyer of the office building at 1290 Silas Deane Highway.

Redevelopment Agency

- Working with property owner and developer interested in redeveloping 1000 Silas Deane Highway. Pursuing possible brownfield grant/loan opportunities with State of Connecticut to assist.

Economic Development and Improvement Commission

- Approved small Façade Loan application for site improvements and façade improvements at 271 Main Street — Main Street Creamery and Café.
- Approved Façade Loan application for site improvements and façade improvements at 334 Silas Deane Highway for a mixed use building.
- On December 8, the EDIC hosted the Salute to Business event at the Wethersfield Country Club and recognized the accomplishments of 17 new businesses, 18 businesses that have been in town for 30 years, five façade improvement projects and seven special awards for outstanding contributions to the town's economic development.



- The EDIC hosted a fall business breakfast meeting at the Wethersfield Country Club.

Tourism

- iBrochure — Completed work with Madden Media on the development of an electronic promotional brochure (iBrochure) which will be used as an alternative to our printed brochure in response to inquiries received from our recent ad in the CT Getaway Guide. Please visit the [Historic Wethersfield web site](#) to review.
- The commission is working with the Pita Group on a number of marketing initiatives relative to our recent grant from the CT Commission on Culture and Tourism. Specifically, we just completed the design of our fall ad and work is underway to complete the spring ad.
- Work continues on the implementation of the Wayfinding Signage project. The sign fabrication is underway and is anticipated that sign installation can occur through the winter and spring.

Plan of Conservation and Development

- The PZC has retained Planimetrics Inc. to assist us with the review and update to the 2000 POCD. Staff have been promoting a series of upcoming meetings designed to encourage citizen participation. On Jan. 18 at 7 p.m. the PZC has invited all boards and commissions to attend a meeting and on Jan. 31 at 7 p.m. at the Community Center a public meeting has been scheduled and all members of the public are strongly encouraged to attend. A [web site](#) has been set up for this purpose and we have recently installed lawn signs throughout town.

Economic Development Department