



Franklin Express Line

Volume 2, Issue 2, 11/01/10

Welcome

Welcome to this month's Express Line. We welcome all opportunities to bring your local government to you, to answer questions, address rumors, and explain our financial situation. Feel free to contact me any time to schedule a time to chat or to set up something more formal.



Spotlight



We've Been Up To:

[Franklin Hosts Successful Economic Development Summit](#)

On October 27, the Town of Franklin hosted an Economic Development Summit at the former Putnam Investments building on Washington Street. Over eighty attendees participated including representatives from Franklin's businesses and property owners and professionals from the Site Selection Field as well as State Representative Vallee, Senators' Ross and Spilka, and Council Chairman, Scott Mason.

Officials from the Massachusetts Office of Business Development, MassDevelopment, Massachusetts Alliance for Economic Development, Massachusetts Life Sciences Center, Massachusetts Biotechnology Council, and the 495/MetroWest Partnership were speakers and attendees.

Topics included the Massachusetts Economic Development Incentive Program (EDIP,) administered by the Massachusetts Office of Business Development and the Economic Assistance Coordinating Council, certified projects, tax increment finance agreements (TIF), economic opportunity areas, as well as State tax incentives. Franklin's six economic opportunity areas were highlighted and Robert Roche, President and CEO of Tegra Medical spoke of his positive experience in bringing his award winning business to Franklin.

Creating a favorable business climate and streamlined permitting for new and expanding businesses leads to increased commercial and industrial tax revenue to the town, new jobs, and economic vitality.

The event was organized by Franklin's Director of Planning and Community Development, Bryan Taberner.

[Town of Franklin Recognized by the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council](#)

The Town of Franklin was awarded a BioReady™ rating of gold by MassBio today, reiterating the town's commitment to the industry. The Gold BioReady™ certificate was presented to Town Council Chairman Scott Mason by MassBio's Director of Economic Development, Peter Abair, at Franklin's 2010 Economic Development Summit. Franklin joins 63 Massachusetts communities designated as bioready. Franklin received a bronze designation in 2008.

Robert K Coughlin, President and CEO of MassBio states "In a very brief span, Franklin has shown their willingness to work with the biotechnology industry to add jobs and attract investment. Already home to biopharma industry companies like Thermo Fisher Scientific, we know that Franklin is well-positioned for additional growth in this sector."



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High School Renovations - Update

Contracts have been signed with Daedalus Projects, Inc to be the Project Manager and Kastle Boos Associates as the Architect. The School Building Authority requires a Feasibility Study be done to determine existing conditions, building options, and preliminary cost estimates. The Architect will perform the study and then produce a Schematic Design. The SBA must approve and once that is received it will be brought to the voters to decide if they want to go forward with the project. The total contract price for the Feasibility/schematic design phase of the project is \$846,551. The original authorization was for \$1,000,000. Negotiations resulted in the cost reduction. The Town should receive 50% reimbursement from the State.

Regionalizing Opportunities

Storm Water Management

The Town of Franklin is taking the regional approach in dealing with new mandates for storm water run off from the Environmental Protection Agency. A team of representatives from the surrounding towns has formed to meet with the Environmental Protection Agency over proposed mandates for controlling storm water run off in the Charles River. The EPA has mandated that Franklin and the surrounding communities reduce phosphorus run off into the Charles by 50%. Cost associated with this pending mandate could have dramatic financial implications for property owners, builders, and developers, including the Town of Franklin. A regionalized approach makes sense and saves us all time and money. This is something we will be talking a lot about in the near future. Stay tuned.

Tuesday, November 2, 2010 is Election Day Remember to Vote

**It is your right, your duty, your responsibility, and
your voice.**

Franklin High School -Field House, Oak Street
Polls Open 6:00 am to 8:00 pm

Franklin's ballot will include local home rule questions 4 and 5 to revise the Town's Charter.

Ballot Question #4

Shall an act passed by the General Court in the year 2010 entitled "An Act Relative to the Charter of the Town of Franklin" be accepted?

Ballot Question #5

Shall the Town Treasurer-Collector be appointed, as provided in Sections 7, 8, 13, and 24 of said act, rather than elected?

Some Good News: The Town of Franklin was recognized by The National Committee For Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve as a "Patriotic Employer" and was presented with a plaque recognizing the Town of Franklin as an employer. The award is for "Contributing to National Security and Protecting Liberty and Freedom by Supporting Employee Participation in America's National Guard and Reserve Force"