



Hopkinton Chamber of Commerce Supports The Growth Study Committee's Formal Recommendation To Create a "Town of Hopkinton Economic Development Office"

Hopkinton is a growing and diverse residential community largely defined by its rural self-image, its highly rated school system, and its family oriented recreational offerings. But it is also home to divisions of two large global corporations, several small local family businesses, and everything in between. It's clear that businesses both large and small play a significant part in community vitality and the quality of life in Hopkinton. Having a broad-based business presence in town ensures a robust inventory of well-paid jobs along with a variety of services, shops, restaurants, and yet to be developed hotel and event venues. We are a growing community whose resident population could approach 25,000 by 2030. Our annual town budget is approaching \$ 100 million. It is time for Hopkinton to establish an Economic Development Office.

Job Description -- Role, Duties, and Activities --

- Be the "sales and marketing" department for the town of Hopkinton.
- Establish regular outreach and connection with Hopkinton's business, industrial, and commercial citizens.
- Develop collaborative relationships with area-wide business development entities -- chambers of commerce, the 495 Metrowest Partnership, the Massachusetts Office of Business Development, the Massachusetts Biotech Council, etc.
- Be aware of property searches in the area. Make sure the market is aware of the opportunities and vacancies in Hopkinton.
- Assist town leaders in developing relationships with Hopkinton's industrial citizens. Create a regular give and take leading to a more common understanding between business and governance.
- Maintain a data base of all commercial and industrial properties in Hopkinton -- occupancy, square footage, lease rates, taxes, etc.
- Know what challenges are coming up and prepare the town when they occur.
- Open avenues of communication around what is important to business; what infrastructure, transportation, and support services are appropriate? What commercial enterprises in the way of stores, restaurants, hotels, banking services, are needed? How can we partner together to bring needed amenities to our business and industrial zones?
- Coordinate a closer relationship between our best-in-class school department and our business community.