



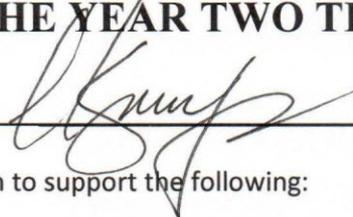
2019-059

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AMESBURY CITY CLERK

**CITY OF AMESBURY
IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND NINETEEN**

SPONSORED BY: 

BILL No 2019 - 059

Summary: A Resolution to support the following:

The City Council hereby resolves that traffic mitigation is an integral component of the current and future success for the City and that the proactive steps taken by the City to facilitate economic development are necessary to ensure positive and timely growth. Such growth potential is outlined in the document titled South Hunt Area District Improvement Area Financing and Development Report dated December 31, 2018, which shall amend any prior plans, and is incorporated herein by reference. The City Council hereby offers this resolution to confirm the support for economic development by supporting the application for 2019 MassWorks funds toward improving infrastructure for the Phase Two development program principally the South Hunt roadway improvements.

Be it Resolved by the City Council of the City of Amesbury assembled and by the authority of the same, considers this matter as follows:

WHEREAS, The Global facility is proposed with a total gross floor area of 410,000 square feet (SF), the athletic complex includes 5.5 hockey rinks, 2,500 event seats, 105,000 SF of fitness areas, a 7,000 SF medical office, 43,000 SF of office space, and a 100-seat conference room and restaurant. This facility is slated to attract 500,000 visitors per year to the City and region; and

WHEREAS, the City has experienced growth in the study area with the approval of developments such as Amesbury Heights (240 apartment units 40R), Baileys Pond (100 units townhouse), and Hatters Point (45 condos) all which will create traffic impacts in the area; and,

WHEREAS, beyond the recent projects the City owns two parcels of 38 acres and 7 acres which represent development potential in the South Hunt area; and,

WHEREAS, A review of tournament results for 25 tournaments nationwide finds an average of 2,700 Hotel room-nights per event; and,

WHEREAS, the principal purpose of the Massworks funding for Phase II is to support the traffic mitigation efforts to facilitate the Hotel proposal and increase access to the City site for office space, while addressing recently approved growth.; and

WHEREAS, the developer will be investing over \$3 million in roadway and utility improvements to serve the Hotel site and City owned property; and,

WHEREAS, South Hunt Road is the primary roadway for access to the Atlantic Center, the proposed Hotel, and it serves other industrial and commercial properties owned by the City, yet it has not seen any major improvement by the City in decades; and

WHEREAS, the City established the LEAD program (Leverage Economic Access for Development) to establish a proactive approach to creating access to development sites by addressing off-site constraints; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor recommended, and the City Council approved, funding for traffic improvements to facilitate the first phase of the South Hunt Area District Improvement Area Financing and Development Report dated December 31, 2018; and,

WHEREAS, the City has, moved forward with the Route 150/495 intersection project completing 25% designs and the MEPA process; and,

WHEREAS, the City has, and will continue to be, a partner with the economic development process and will make use of innovative methods which invest City funds, such as the Tax Increment Financing, District Improvement Financing; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the City Council does hereby support the application for 2019 MassWorks funding, to offset the site constraints of the proposed Hotel and development at the City vacant site, to continue the efforts for traffic mitigation, to enable future possibilities on City owned land, to leverage the private investments and City funds, and to facilitate the substantial opportunities of the Hotel and vacant City land.

Witness my hand and seal for the City of Amesbury this _____ day of _____, 2019

Christine Dixon, City Clerk

Date

Amesbury

Mayor C. Kenneth Gray
City Hall, 62 Friend Street
Amesbury, MA 01913-2884

(978) 388-8121
Fax: (978) 388-6727
mayor@amesburyma.gov

June 30, 2019

Matt Einson
City Council President
City of Amesbury
62 Friend Street
Amesbury MA 01913

Dear President Einson;

The City's ability to recognize, respond, and capitalize on economic opportunity is the key to our future. Since 2014 my administration has taken steps to ensure we are prepared to move forward when opportunity knocks. Throughout that time the three criteria for opportunity has been tax revenue, job creation, and economic ripple effect.

Unified in our desire to grow our economy, we need to continue to facilitate the Atlantic Sports Center opportunity. Your support has provided the first opportunity through the 2018 MassWorks Award for the 495/150 intersection project. Now on the advent of naming a Hotel, we are requesting support for a second MassWorks grant in this FY 2019 to improve South Hunt Road. In this regard please see the attached materials from the Community Development Director who will be available for the July 9th Council meeting to discuss the opportunity in more detail.

Sincerely,

Ken Gray
Mayor

Enc: 2019 MassWorks Support Resolution



Amesbury

William Scott
Director Office of Community Development
City Hall, 62 Friend Street
Amesbury, MA 01913-2884

(978) 388-8110 - 313
scottw@amesburyma.gov

Memorandum

To: Mayor Gray
Cc: Carl Pearson, Mike Gorman
From: William Scott
RE: MassWorks 2019 Resolution
Date: June 30, 2019

The attached resolution represents a sign of support by the City Council for a pending MassWorks Grant application for the redevelopment of South Hunt Road. Last year the Council supported the grant for the 495/150 intersection project which received a grant for \$2.5 million. That project has achieved MEPA approval and is submitting 25% design in anticipation of construction next summer.

Each phase of the South Hunt Area Development Plan is supported by new growth. The first phase by the Atlantic Sports Center (ASC) itself and the second phase by the ripple impacts of the ASC, the Hotel and vacant City parcels. This grant application for the 2019 MassWorks Round will address the issues of South Hunt Road and provide more optimum access to the Hotel site and the City site known as Margret Rice.

I will have a presentation available for the meeting on July 9th to review the current status of the projects. In this regard we have placed everything online.

The Council may review the materials for the intersection project and MEPA information at this page: <https://www.amesburyma.gov/community-economic-development/pages/route-150-at-i-495-and-south-hunt>

The DIF information is at this page: <https://www.amesburyma.gov/community-economic-development/pages/district-improvement-program-south-hunt-area-projects>