New Hampshire

Littleton: The Little Town that Could

Greg Eastman
Hunkins & Eaton Insurance Agency Littleton Industrial Development Corporation

Dave Harkless
Littleton Bike and Fitness
Mt. Eustis Ski Hill / Gathering of the Jack O’ Lanterns
Littleton, NH
The little town that could
Littleton NH is located 20 miles west of the Mt Washington Hotel in Grafton County

- Population 6,000
- Town Manager Form of Government with 3 Member Select Board

Littleton is:

- An Economic Hub/Employment Center of the North Country.
- Lowest Electrical Rates in New Hampshire
- Located along two major highways – I-93 and I-91

Like many communities, Littleton is a very Proactive Community with a high level of volunteerism.
Littleton’s Revitalization story begins in the late 1960s, and we are still evolving.

Our two major Employers at the time: Henschel Shoe Company and Connors and Hoffman

In the late 60s and early 70s, the shoe industry was in decline, the jobs were leaving town.

LIDC was first conceived in the 1970’s by the business people who held a great vision.

Area businessmen recognized the problem...studied the options, and then began to pursue the idea of an Industrial Park...a very Progressive idea at the time, from a rather conservative community.

All these efforts were about JOBS JOBS JOBS!!
The Littleton Industrial Park was built in Three Phases...

Phase I:
1973 – 1982 $506,000

Phase II:
1984 – 1985 $1,807,600

Phase III:
1992 – 2000: $1,592,093

Total: $4,000,000
Hitchiner Manufacturing Purchased both Shoe Factory Plants

Now consolidating operations to Milford, NH
Littleton Industrial Park
Funding Sources

- Economic Development Administration
- Farmers Home Administration (now USDA Rural Development)
- Town of Littleton
- State of New Hampshire
- LIDC
## Amount Invested 1973 To Present:

**Total cost of Planning, land acquisition and development:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDA</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town of Littleton</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIDC/Farmers Home/State of NH</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Cost:** $4,000,000

## PAYBACK:

**Property Tax Revenue:**

1977 to 2014: $10,133,425

**Number of Jobs:** 1,200-1,500

**Annual Payroll:** $60,000,000

**Annual Economic Benefit**

Wages: Factor 3x

$180,000,000
Current tenants of the Littleton Industrial Park

BURNDY CORPORATION        HARRISON PUBLISHING
TENDER CORPORATION         LITTLETON COIN COMPANY
NEW ENGLAND WIRE CORPORATION  GREENVILLE SCREW
TUITE ENTERPRISES          DODGE CONSTRUCTION
ROTOBEC USA                TIME WARNER
SECURED NETWORK SERVICES    DIRECT TV
GENFOOT AMERICA, USA       FEDEX GROUND DISTRIBUTION CENTER
SCHWANN’S SALES            POULSEN WAREHOUSE ENTERPRISES
Phase IV - Present

- EDA Grant of $80,000 in Progress

- Current Construction/Expansion:
  - Rotobec
    - 23,000 sq ft. Expansion
  - Tender Corporation/Dan Herbert
    - 117,000 sq ft New Construction

- $15,000,000 in new Construction Costs
- 50-75 New Jobs Created
River District Development Project

The River District Commission is a master-planned community group of state and town officials and local residents dedicated to revitalizing the Ammonoosuc River district in Littleton, New Hampshire.
It All Starts With One Person

Ray Cloutier, Property/Business owner along the Ammonoosuc River

In 2012, he brought attention to his neighborhood

Hosted a Plan NH Design Charette in September, 2012
The Littleton River District
Design Charrette Recommendations

1. Define the River District
2. Celebrate the River
3. Complement, not Compete with Main Street
4. Develop in Phases
Formation of River District Redevelopment Commission

Mission:
Make the Riverfront area a “destination” and an integral part of the success of the Commercial and Residential Growth of Downtown Littleton.

Enhance the “Historic Littleton” brand with emphasis on our beautiful river, walkability, energetic/involved citizens, and the proud history of our town.
The River District Redevelopment Commission Priorities

- Fix infrastructure
- Improve streets & alignment
- Complete Phase 2 of Main Street reconstruction
- Redo Saranac & Meadow Street entrance
- Commercial & residential development
- Implement “Demonstration Projects” in 2014
River District Project Benefits:

- Increased Economic Activity
- Creation of 500 Jobs
- Enhanced Downtown Pedestrian and Bicycle Access
- Improved Public Safety
- Improved Transportation and Utilities Infrastructure
- Enjoyment of Scenic River and Riverfront
- Enhanced Tourism Activity
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phase I</td>
<td>Ammonoosuc Street Interconnection</td>
<td>$1.4 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase II</td>
<td>Saranac Street Reconstruction</td>
<td>$1.4 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase III</td>
<td>Saranac Street / Meadow Street Intersection</td>
<td>$1.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase IV</td>
<td>Riverwalk / Pedestrian Bridge</td>
<td>$1.2 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phase V</td>
<td>Main Street Reconstruction Phase II</td>
<td>$2.2 million</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Project Cost</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7.5 million</strong></td>
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</table>
## Project Funding Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US DOT TIGER Grant</td>
<td>$3,400,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal Econ. Dev. Administration</td>
<td>$1,300,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Town of Littleton</td>
<td>$  600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH CDFA Comm. Dev. Block Grant</td>
<td>$  500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH CDFA Tax Credits</td>
<td>$  400,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Business/Individual Contributions</td>
<td>$  250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Borders Program Federal Funds</td>
<td>$  250,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rails to Trails Grant</td>
<td>$   50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Sources</td>
<td>$  750,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Funding</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,500,000</strong></td>
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State/Federal Support

- NH Governor Hassan
- US Senators Ayotte and Shaheen
- US Representative Kuster
- NH Department of Transportation
- NH Community Development Finance Authority
- Governor’s Councilor Kenney
- Grafton County Economic Development Council
- Northern Borders Regional Commission
River District Partnerships

LIDC - Littleton Industrial Development Corporation

LITTLETON WATER & LIGHT

NCIC

THE MAIN STREET OF THE MOUNTAINS
littleton area
NEW HAMPSHIRE Chamber of Commerce

TOWN OF LITTLETON
NEW HAMPSHIRE

AHEAD
Affordable Housing, Education & Development
Bringing people home since 1991

GRAFTON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Littleton Main Street Inc.

NORTHCOUNTRY COUNCIL, INC.
BETHLEHEM, NH
2014 Ribbon Cutting for Pollyanna Gateway

2015 Harmony Park
How do we create the buzz that makes our town a place where folks want to live and raise their families?

- Get active people involved
- Create unusual events or scenes
- Don’t bog them down with meetings
- Empower them
- Recognize their efforts
- Market it through social media
We Built a Beautiful Bridge
Let’s Have an Event That Showcases The Bridge and River
Get The Kids Involved
Add a Few Zombies
Bam!
The Gathering of The Jack O Lanterns is now Littleton’s largest annual event.
Opportunity:
Take A Beautiful Town Ski Slope That Has Been Closed For over Thirty Years
A group of 5 folks decided to try and re-open the slope without using property tax dollars.
If We Build It, They Will Come
Last Fall, We Turned The Lights Back On!
Cut The Ribbon!
3 years of hard work and last winter kids skied Mt Eustis once again!
Littleton Main Street
Keys To Success

- Walkable downtown with sidewalks and safe crosswalks
- Pleasant fixtures, i.e., light poles, parking meters, bike racks
- Flowers and banners for the different seasons
- Coaxing the stores to keep their window themes fresh and neat
- Getting shops to stay open past 5pm
- Organize retail events
- Info or welcome center with helpful, knowledgeable staff or volunteers
Got any famous residents past or present?
Take an alley and make it a focal point
Put a bunch of donated pianos out on the main street for everyone to enjoy.

Be Glad Make Music Project
Promote and Reward Individuality
Find out More About Littleton, NH

Town of Littleton
www.TownofLittleton.org

Littleton Area Chamber of Commerce
www.littletonareachamber.com

Littleton Community Website
www.GoLittleton.com