



Town of Windham

Economic Development Department

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Quarterly Report October 2025

Windham Economic Development Update

Thomas Bartell, Economic Development Director

Windham Economic Development Corporation Summer Meetups

Members of the Windham Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors gathered in North Windham in July to hear about the progress of the North Windham Sewer project and the new North Windham Public Safety building project from Town Manager Bob Burns. We also heard from Steve Puleo, Director of Planning, on new developments coming to the downtown area, as well as from Eric Giguere, owner of the North Windham Shopping Center, on the renovations to the Center as well as the new business tenants we are welcoming to Windham. The second meetup in August focused on our Windham Outdoors' parks and conservation areas as well as the revitalization efforts in South Windham Village. Windham's Parks and Recreation Director, Linda Brooks, led our discussion on current progress and future plans as we traveled to our parks and trails. Town Manager Burns discussed the Town's efforts in South Windham as well as the status of the Keddy Mill Superfund Cleanup. We will look to have additional meetups as projects progress.

Windham Outdoors Initiative

Windham's Economic Development Strategic Plan calls for Windham to become a Premier Outdoor Recreation destination and to attract both outdoor and indoor recreation businesses to our community.

Based on the recreation strategies of the Plan, the Economic Development Department, and the Windham Economic Development Corporation have been working closely with other departments and outside resources to make progress on these initiatives.

Grant progress:

Community Outdoor Recreation Assistance Program Grant. While the grant period has ended, the work continues.

Working along with Parks and Recreation, Windham Economic Development, engaged Dubois and King Consulting Firm to provide Concept Design and Preliminary engineering for the proposed Presumpscot Riverfront Park, and the connector trail and wetlands boardwalk from Franklin Drive to the Donnabeth Lippman Park trail network/playground area. The public meeting on August 6th at Windham Town Hall was successful in getting public input on the plan concepts and options for each of these projects. The final report from Dubois and King is being reviewed and will be presented in the coming months.

[Windham Town Hall, 8 School Road, Windham ME 04062](#)

The design and acquisition of brand specific multilingual kiosk and trail signage within Windham's 5 park areas is ongoing. Three digital kiosks have been acquired through the grant and will be placed at strategic locations.

Parks and Recreation Interns, and Steve Harmon, Windham GIS Project Administrator, continue to digitize all of Windham's trails and recreation features and are looking to utilize GIS data for Mobile App integration.

Cumberland County CDBG grant application: Forbes Lane Neighborhood Park

Another collaboration between the Windham Economic Development Department, and Windham's Parks and Recreation Director Linda Brooks, the Town applied for, and received a \$40,000 grant, with a Town match of \$10,000, from the Cumberland County CDBG Program to develop a neighborhood park on a 1.33 acre parcel of land purchased by the Town in 2021. The Town Council has formed a committee, and Linda will coordinate the design of the park with neighborhood residents, the Town Council, and Town Staff. Design meetings will start this fall.

Windham Outdoors Marketing

The WEDC has engaged, along with Windham Communications Director Roger Cropley, and Parks and Recreation Director Linda Brooks, Pine Point Creative to develop branding and marketing materials for the Windham Outdoors Initiative. Linda, Roger, and Tom Bartell, Economic Development Director, presented the Windham Outdoors website and various marketing materials to the Town Council at the July Council meeting. The branding and marketing materials have already been used in advertising. We have joined the Maine Tourism Association on behalf of the Town and are expanding our marketing campaign to reach the many visitors to Maine to showcase our Windham Outdoors. We will continue to market Windham as a great place for year round recreation as well as for recreation based retail and manufacturing businesses.

North Windham Sewer System

As construction continues on the new North Windham Sewer System, the work to connect the many businesses in the sewer area has begun in earnest. Property information is being gathered, and the contact list is being clarified. A contractor has been selected, and individual property Connection Program documents are being prepared. We are planning to have all existing customers ready for hookup to the new treatment plant in April 2026.

Windham Farmers' Market

The Windham Farmers' Market, located on Turning Leaf Drive in North Windham, began its 8th season on May 24th, and continued weekly until September 27th. The Market was established with a two-fold commitment to supporting local farmers, food producers, and artisans in their pursuit of economic viability; and in providing improved community access to fresh, healthy, and affordable local foods. We are pleased to acknowledge the resulting development of a cooperative, generous, and supportive market community of vendors and customers from Windham and surrounding areas. The Windham Economic Development Corporation proudly sponsors and Market Manager Lisa Fisher staffs the Windham Farmers' Market, and we look forward to working with our vendors and customers as we plan new opportunities in the future.

Monday Night Food Trucks at Windham Community Park

The second season of the Monday Night Food Trucks at the Windham Community Park/Public Safety Building on Gray Road, in Windham Center has been a great success. Sponsored by the Windham Economic Development Corporation and staffed by the WEDC and Windham Parks and Recreation Department, the Food Truck Nights ran every Monday evening, excluding holidays, from June 2nd to September 29th. This second summer season has hosted a variety of 13 different food trucks, a bounce house, music, and outdoor games for the enjoyment of Windham residents. On September 29th, we collaborated with Windham Public Safety to celebrate the Public Safety Open House. Over the winter we will begin planning for our 3rd season!