

July 5, 2007

AIDA TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETING ON SHERIDAN DRIVE REDEVELOPMENT

The Amherst Industrial Development Agency (AIDA), in cooperation with the Town of Amherst, is requesting your ideas about the Sheridan Drive - Northtown area and is hosting a public input meeting on July 12, 2007 at 7:00 PM at the Sweet Home High School Community Room. The meeting will begin with a brief presentation describing the program and what the study will cover, followed by the opportunity for public comments.

In early 2006, the AIDA received grant funding from New York State Department of State to study the "Sheridan Drive Commercial District" from Niagara Falls Boulevard to Sweet Home Road. The State program provides funds for revitalization plans for areas affected by the presence of properties where there may be some environmental concerns impeding redevelopment. In this area, these potential sites include former gasoline stations, printing shops or other similar uses.

This study is part of a larger comprehensive redevelopment effort that includes the 2005 Town of Amherst Bicentennial Comprehensive Plan, Amherst Industrial Development Agency Enhancement Area Incentive Program, several smaller planning efforts in Eggertsville, Snyder and Harlem-Kensington, and the adoption of new zoning codes. The latter effort, new zoning codes, allows for mixed use/neo-traditional design with the intent of breathing new life into under-utilized properties, transforming them into vibrant mixed-use developments that are becoming increasingly successful in other parts of the country.

Input from the public received at this meeting will be used to form the foundation of the "vision" for the area's future and to generate ideas for what can be done to help the area be more successful. A second public meeting later in the year will be held to discuss the results of our study and confirm the ideas and priorities raised at this meeting.

Project planners would like to get input on:

- Specific boundaries for the study area (should residential areas be included? Should both sides of Eggert Road be included or only the side along Northtown Plaza?)
- What are the major issues? (Traffic? Aesthetics?)
- What are the major opportunities?
- What would you like to see happen in the area?

All interested residents, business owners, and landowners are invited to attend. There will be opportunity for everyone's comments to be heard.

Written comments, suggestions or ideas, should be directed via mail or e-mail to:

David Mingoia
Amherst IDA
4287 Main Street,
Amherst, NY 14226
dmingoia@amherstida.com