





FAST FACTS

- Independent, private nonprofit focused on economic development
- Work "hand in glove" with CT
 Department of Economic and
 Community Development (DECD)
 and state-wide ED partners
- Primary focus: business engagement, retention and recruitment
- Similar model to ChooseNJ,
 JobsOhio, MassEcon, Enterprise
 Florida
- Fee-based membership organization 501(c)(6) with a 501(c)(3) foundation

ADVANCECT IS FIRING ON ALL CYLINDERS



Hendricson

Vice President, Partnerships

Business Retention & Expansion

- √ 9 expansion projects in last 5 months
 - > 1,450 jobs; \$275m capex
- ✓ CampusCT: 53k student visits, 1.2 visits/wk
- ✓ Numerous workforce & "concierge" projects
- Challenge: saying no, staying in our lane



Business Attraction

- √ 9 wins in last 5 months
 - > 350 jobs, \$10m capex
- ✓ Pipeline of 45+ projects, 639 leads
- ✓ Sector approach paying dividends
- Challenge: lumpy, uneven results so far



Vice President.

Research

Research, ED Projects

- ✓ Regional ED "best practices" analysis
- ✓ Sector spotlights, supporting biz attraction
- ✓ Project specific, rankings data analysis
- Challenge: prioritize highest-impact work



Marketing

- ✓ Lead-gen initiatives
 - Fam tour, India webinar, trade shows
- ✓ Rankings, earned media, social media
- ✓ "OneCT" co-op marketing
- Challenge: competition, resources, ROI

"TEAM CT" WINS FROM JANUARY - JUNE











CAPITAL



























Burke AEROSPACE



Mirador Announcement



ADVANCECT IS HERE TO HELP

AdvanceCT helps companies *choose* Connecticut...and then helps them *be productive* when they settle here.



Introduce clients to the state's innovation ecosystem



Discover and **develop** custom workforce solutions



Facilitate problem-solving with key stakeholders



Connect clients to educational and research institutions



Inform clients of important economic and local developments



THE ECONOMIC ACTION PLAN IS UNDERWAY

Governor's Workforce Council (GWC) Workforce established 9 Regional Sector Partnerships operational Broaden the base of skilled workers to meet \$70M CareerConneCT initiative funding 19 increasing industry demand job training programs Communities \$100M in Communities Challenge grants to fund downtown and TOD development Attract and retain talent by investing in vibrant and \$875M Communities Investment Fund for affordable communities for all A thriving, transformational inclusive growth \$150M Small Business Boost program inclusive Innovation CT economy \$120M in new investment capital including Support growth and generate inclusive economic launch of new Future Fund and ClimateTech opportunity within CT's most innovative and specialized (CT) Fund industries \$20M in Smart manufacturing/MIF support **Innovation Corridor Initiative underway Business Environment** 4 years Surplus and pension liability paydown Improve CT's environment and reputation for **Business One-Stop** starting and growing businesses AdvanceCT focus on marketing, rankings, and telling the Connecticut story

Initiatives Funded¹

& Operationalized

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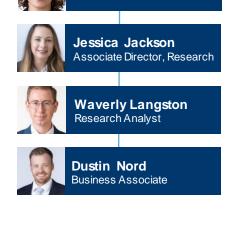


ADVANCECT TEAM



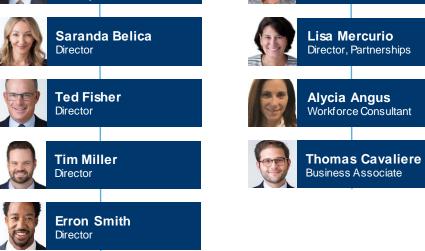






Rachel Gretencord

VP, Research



Francesco Ricigliano
Business Associate



ADVANCECT

Municipal Economic Development Best Practices September, 2022







What are your primary assets?

What are your challenges in the next ten years?

What are your game changers?



TAKING A PULSE

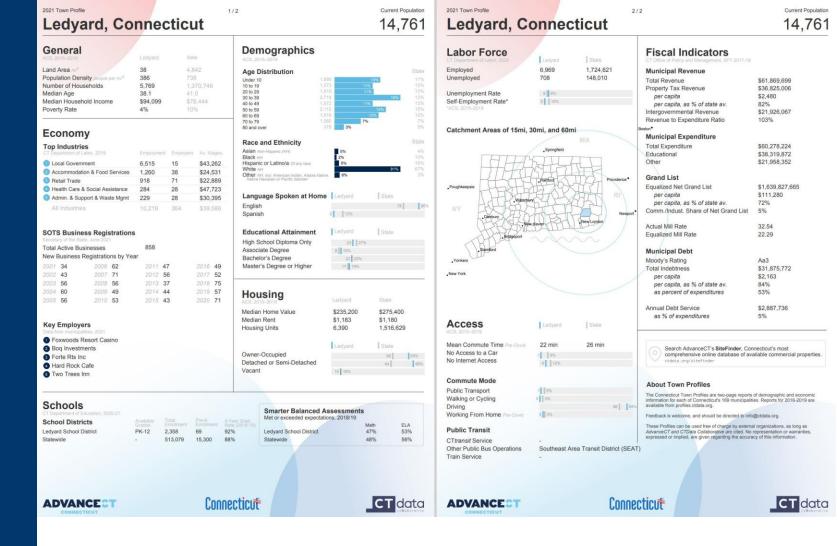




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TAKING A PULSE



SECTION ONE

Your Town:

Municipal Economic Indicators in a Regional and State Context



REGIONAL, STATE AND NATIONAL CONTEXT

Demographics

- Needed services differ depending on population characteristics
- Population characteristics to build on

Employment and Commuting

 Industry patterns and resilience to structural and cyclical economic changes

Fiscal Health

 Resources for and constraints on your local government's ability to act

Housing

 Important for your town's fiscal health and to attract and retain residents



SECTION TWO

Economic Development:

What is It and Why is It Important?



DEFINITION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Business retention
- Business expansion
- Business recruitment
- Business creation
- Character of your community





WHAT IS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT?

Why should you care?

- **Conscious** activity
- Fiscal health
- Character of your community





WHAT IS YOUR REPUTATION IN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MARKETPLACE

What is the Marketplace

What is the Product

Who is the Customer

In the absence of a clear brand, who is determining your Reputation





A Town for all Seasons



BUSINESS PERSPECTIVE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

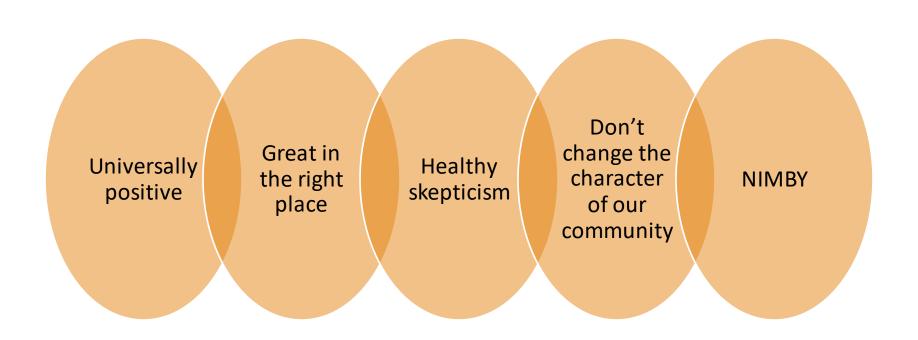


"We want to locate where we are wanted, where government appreciates our contribution to the economy, and values local ownership, where people understand that it is a good thing for the community if we make money. We want to work with officials who are focused on growing the economic pie, and who value our business activity because we export goods and services out of the Pioneer Valley, yet the profits stay in the valley. We want local government to create a favorable playing field for all business activity, and to be active in keeping track of the "customer satisfaction level" of its businesses. We want to be in a town where government is strategically focused on providing a business-friendly place."

- The Holman Doctrine



HOW DO DIFFERENT AUDIENCES VIEW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT?







Is there a difference between:

Economic Development
Community Development
Real Estate Development





TRANSACTIONAL vs TRANSFORMATIONAL

Transactional

Do the deal

Make the numbers work

Get building permit and other approvals

Not much community input

Focused on specific property

Looking for financial incentives

Fiscal impact

Transformational

Interdisciplinary approaches

Creating attractive and inviting places

More complex and comprehensive ways of measuring success

Measure real community-wide benefits and outcomes, not just activity

Consistent with community vision



10 PLACEMAKING PRINCIPLES

- 1. Community is the expert
- 2. Create a place, not a design
- 3. Partners
- 4. Observe
- 5. Vision
- **6.** Short term improvements
- 7. Triangulate
- 8. "It can be done"
- 9. Form supports function
- 10. You are never finished





Economic
Development
Choices:
Big Box vs. Main
Street
Development





Land Consumed (acres) 19.0
Total Prop. Taxes /Year \$366,477
Total Prop. Taxes /Acre \$19,288
Residents/Acre 0
Jobs /Acre 5.2

DOWNTOWN CORNERSTONE

0.18 \$71,680 \$398,222 44 22



SECTION THREE

On the Ground:

Roles and Responsibilities of the Town's Economic Development Team





WHO IS ON THE TEAM?

- Elected officials/municipal offices
- Boards and commissions (P&Z, conservation, etc.)
- Business community and citizens
- Schools and universities
- Chambers, nonprofits and regional ED organizations
- Advocates: housing, transportation, preservationists, environmentalists
- Commercial real estate industry: brokers, developers and site selectors
- Government: state and federal



WHAT DO YOU CONTROL LOCALLY?

- Land use regulations
- Property taxes
- Creating great places
- Relationship with local businesses



WHAT DEFINES YOUR ECONOMIC FUTURE?

WHAT ARE YOUR CHOICES?



TOWN OF LEDYARD



ZONING REGULATIONS

APPROVED - DECEMBER 13, 2018 EFFECTIVE - FEBRUARY 1, 2019 REVISED - March 9, 2020

REGULATORY PROCESS NEEDS TO BE . . .

- Predictable
- Clear
- Reliable
- Consistent
- Effective (Does the right thing)
- Efficient (Does things right)

One of the best business incentives is a streamlined regulatory process.



RESPONSIBILITES OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION & STAFF

Planning Function

What do we envision for the future of development in town?

Marketing Function

 How do we share information about the town with businesses and information about businesses with consumers?

Advisory Function

 How do we connect our businesses to the information and resources they need to thrive?

Advocacy Function

 How do we communicate the importance of economic development-related policies and procedures to those who may not be familiar with them?



COMPONENTS OF A SUCCESSFUL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Planning

- Adopt strategic plan of economic development
- Contribute to the POCD
- Identify areas of town for development
- Grant opportunities

Marketing

- Common understanding of what the town is (and unique attributes)
- Elevator speech
- Maintain contact with commercial real estate community
- Realistic understanding of your community's current economic situation – know what you control and collect data
- Spread good news eNews, social media, local media, ribbon cuttings
- Heritage tourism Enhances quality of life



COMPONENTS OF A SUCCESSFUL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Advisory

- Single point of contact liaison between the business and the Town
- Business visitations
- Ambassador efforts and partnerships
- Anchor institutions
- Financing solutions DECD, local banks
- Incentives local and state
- Workforce strategy that includes businesses, colleges and high school
- Shovel-ready initiatives DOT permits, wetlands flagging, utility extensions
- Utility contacts
- Host events to cement connections between businesses, governmental agencies, and other relevant organizations

Advocacy

- Intergovernmental relations know your reps, grants
- Initiate an application to change a zoning district, propose an economic development zone, present proposed regulations
- Appear before other land use commissions meeting and present position
- Review all other commissions agendas and minutes to keep abreast of developments and timelines





- Physically
- Socially
- Economically



INCREASING VALUE IN YOUR COMMUNITY





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Connecticut

ADVANCECT

Engage. Retain. Recruit.

AdvanceCT is a private nonprofit economic development organization that drives job creation and new capital investment in Connecticut through business attraction, retention, and expansion, in close cooperation with state, regional, and local partners.







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