

Honorable Town Council of the Town of Richmond Rhode Island,

I hope this letter finds each of you in good health and high spirits. We are writing to you in response to your question of "What has the EDC has been up to?"

As concerned members of our community to bring to your attention a matter of utmost importance: the economic development of our town.

As leaders of our community, it is crucial that the Town Council takes on the ownership of economic development initiatives. Our town's growth and prosperity depend on strategic planning, innovative ideas, and effective implementation of policies that foster economic progress. I urge the Town Council to recognize the valuable role it plays in shaping our town's economic future.

Furthermore, I would like to draw your attention to the recommendations/actions put forth by the Economic Development Commission back in April of this year that we have only received feedback/responses from the Town Council on only two action items out of many. It appears the rest of the action items have been ignored. Some of these items are low hanging fruit for the council to adopt and implement.

These action items are as follows:

- Identify if Richmond is Open for business
- Develop a "How To Guide" for future businesses
- Develop an Open for Business Guide
- The endorsement of the Town Council attracting Commercial businesses to Richmond
- Recommend the revitalization of the town's website
- Town Council to identify one councilor to serve as an Economic development point person

This Commission has diligently researched and analyzed the needs of our community, proposing well-thought-out strategies to enhance economic opportunities, create jobs, and improve the overall quality of life for our residents. Their recommendations are the result of efforts and many conversations, and I strongly believe that our insights should be acknowledged and acted upon.

We kindly request the Town Council to give due consideration in providing the EDC with a response to the remaining recommendations before we can reply to the question of "What has the EDC been up to" By recognizing their expertise and incorporating their suggestions into the town's economic development policies, we can pave the way for a brighter future for all residents. We want to acknowledge the service and unwavering dedication of Michael Colasante and Samantha Wilcox in attending many of the EDC meetings.

We trust that you will approach this matter with the seriousness it deserves. Your proactive efforts in embracing economic development initiatives and responding to the Economic Development Commission's recommendations will undoubtedly have a positive impact on our town's growth and prosperity. It is time to put a stake in the ground and for our council to put their money where their mouth is.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to witnessing our town thrive under your capable leadership.

From: Bryan Lebeau
Sent: Friday, November 10, 2023 12:16 PM
To: Erin Liese
Subject: Fwd: Town Council Letter
Town Council Letter.docx