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MCDA President's Message

It was discussed at the November 15, 2012 General Assembly teleconferencing meeting about holding an all-day spring professional development training session in Bangor similar in format to the September 11, 2012 retreat at the Sea Dog. A suggested date was Thursday, May 30, 2013 which would allow attendees to coincide this training with the Maine Downtown Center Conference on Friday, May 31 in Belfast. Suggested topics for discussion included the following: proposed changes to the 2014 CDBG Program Statement; evaluation of the proposed changes to the 2013 CDBG Program Statement; the new Transportation Alternatives-MAP-21 legislation; panel on MDOT, DEP, EDA, RD projects and funding; and bringing in a spokesperson from Maine Real Estate Development Association (MREDA) to speak on economic and demographic forecasting with focus on the Great Bangor/Central/Northern Maine regions. Members are asked to email their suggestions along with suggested speakers and panelist to MCDA Vice President Darryl Sterling at:

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Central Maine Growth Council
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(207) 877-0087 Fax
Cell: 207-807-9062

Rodney Lynch, AICP



President, MCDA
2011-2013

Maine Annual Action Plan

Program Year 2013

The consolidated plan and state action plan address three grant programs – HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). In Maine, the HOME and ESG programs are administered by the Maine State Housing Authority (MSHA) and the CDBG program is administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD).

The Maine Annual Action Plan for the Program Year 2013 is organized into two main sections -

Maine State Housing Authority

MSHA anticipates using HOME and ESG funds as follows:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Rental housing and supportive housing development | <u>\$1,975,727 Rental Loan Program & CHDOs</u> |
| • Home Improvement | <u>\$ 308,707 Home Repair Program</u> |
| • Rental Assistance | <u>\$ 802,639 Stability Through Engagement Program</u> |
| • Emergency homeless shelter operations and essential services | <u>\$1,381,110 Emergency Solutions Grant</u> |

Department of Economic and Community Development

DECD's Office of Community Development anticipates distributing CDBG funds as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| • Housing Assistance Grants | <u>\$1,000,000</u> |
| • Home Repair Network Program | <u>\$1,700,000</u> |
| • Public Infrastructure Grant Program | <u>\$2,700,000</u> |
| • Downtown Revitalization Program | <u>\$500,000</u> |
| • Workforce Development Grant Program | <u>\$750,000</u> |
| • Business Assistance Grant Program | <u>\$2,700,000</u> |
| • Micro-Enterprise Assistance Grants | <u>\$700,000</u> |

A public hearing on the 2013 CDBG Proposed Program Statement is scheduled for October 10 at the DECD Office in Augusta. Written comments will be accepted until October 20. Once comments are compiled, they will be presented to the administration for comment. On November 15, all proposed changes will be submitted to HUD for approval. Once approved, the rule-making process and final program statement with applications will be developed and made available via the website. She also noted that the Letters of Intent will be accepted electronically. This year's priorities for the CDBG Program are public infrastructure, housing, and economic development. More information on the CDBG program can be accessed via DECD's website at www.meocd.org

MCDA Annual Meeting

Thursday, October 4, 2012

The MCDA Annual Meeting was held on Thursday, October 4, 2012 at Margaritas Restaurant in Augusta. A total of 23 MCDA members were in attendance. The following members were elected:

Mathew Eddy – Treasurer
Stephen Dyer – Board Member
Wade Hanson – Board Member

Other Executive Committee Members are:

Rodney Lynch – President
Darryl Sterling – Vice President
Joella R

CDBG Awards

Al Smith, retired Bath Community Development Director, was presented with the MCDA Lifetime Achievement Award and Ron Harriman was presented with a plaque for his many years of commitment as Treasurer.

CDBG Administrator of the Year

Darryl Sterling was selected as the CDBG Administrator of the Year. Darryl Sterling is the Executive Director of the Central Maine Growth Council. Previous to his current position, Darryl spent many years as the Town of Richmond's Director of Economic and Community Development. With 25+ years of professional experience at the local, regional and state levels in Maine and throughout New England, Darryl has shared his expertise in management, public relations, marketing, innovation, grant writing, planning, business consulting, and training to foster growth and development. He is a Certified CDBG Administrator. Through grant administration Darryl has facilitated 65 façade improvements and over 50 housing rehabilitation projects along with creating and retaining over 2,000 jobs. As a result of his dedication to the communities of Maine, Darryl received the Governor's Award for CDBG Administrator of the Year in August, 2009.



WADE HANSON
Economic Development Director
Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians



STEPHEN DYER
Senior Project Manager and Engineer
Ransom Environmental Consultants



DARRYL STERLING



MCDA Annual Meeting Guest Speaker was Mark Ouellette, Mobilize Maine

Mark Ouellette: Mark Ouellette, Executive Director of Mobilize Maine delivered his presentation on Mobilize Maine. This is a new economic development strategy that looks at an asset-based approach rather than needs-based. Mobilize Maine works with the economic development districts to define regional uniqueness and to define long term goals and objectives. The goal of this initiative is to create good jobs.

Bytes and Pieces

By Rodney Lynch, AICP

Augusta's longtime Development Director **Michael Duguay** has been hired by Summit Natural Gas of Maine which is planning to bring a pipeline into Augusta and the rest of the Kennebec Valley. The firm plans to build a natural gas pipeline from Windsor through Augusta to serve the Kennebec Valley, including Gardiner, Madison and Skowhegan. Construction would start in the spring. Mike oversaw development in the city for the last 13 years and is a familiar face in Maine's economic and community development community. He'll work out of the company's planned new Augusta offices. Duguay, who lives in Waterville, said he has had other job offers previously but always declined them, thinking he wanted to work for the city of Augusta for the rest of his career. But he said the Summit job is a perfect match for him and will give him the opportunity to be involved with the biggest economic development project he's ever worked on. "This is the first time I've ever felt there was more of a perfect match for me. It's a dream come true," Duguay said. "What I think Summit is going to be able to do in the Kennebec Valley is probably the biggest project I'll ever be associated with, making businesses more competitive and reducing the cost of energy for residents and businesses. "I didn't think I'd ever want to work anywhere else (than for the city of Augusta). But the integrity of the company and its principals, what they intend to do here, and their track record, just spoke to me."

Duguay's time in Augusta has included the expansion of Marketplace at Augusta; the construction of Augusta Crossing shopping center; expansions at Kenway Corp. and J.S. McCarthy printers; the redevelopment of the former Sanmina-SCI plant into the Central Maine Commerce Center; the demolition of the former Statler Tissue building; the creation of a regional entrepreneurship program; the construction, now under

way, of Maine General Medical Center regional hospital in north Augusta; and the recent revitalization of the downtown. Prior to working for Augusta he worked for the DECD Office of Community Development in the CDBG program. ***Best of success in your new job from all of us in MCDA.***

Deputy Development Director **Matt Nazar** will fill in for Duguay until a new development director is hired.

CES, Inc., a Brewer-based professional engineering consulting firm announced the recent hire of two new employees. **Cassie Tenan** has been hired as Marketing Specialist. Cassie will assist in developing marketing strategies and will focus on social media marketing and advertising. Cassie is a 2008 graduate of Pine Manor College (Chestnut Hill, MA) where she earned a B.A. in Communications with a minor in Visual Arts. CES has also hired **Levi Ladd, GISP, LSIT** as GIS Analyst. Levi brings more than 6 years of professional experience in GIS (Geographical Information Systems) and environmental surveying to CES.

Suzanne McKechnie has moved from the Sanford regional Growth Council to become the Director of the Kennebunk Chamber. Her last day in Sanford is /was February 7 2013. As of January 1, 2013 Sanford officially became a City.

Al Brigham sends greetings from the FEMA-Hurricane Sandy recovery mission in New York that his contact information is changing effective immediately. The Department of Commerce and EDA are engaged in a serious effort to reduce operating costs while increasing efficiency and maintaining the delivery of services to our clients. This effort includes closing single-person field offices across the country and having those individuals work out of their homes. Such is the case with the EDA's Portland field office, which will be fully closed by January 18, 2013. The phone service for the office has been disconnected, after which you will no longer be able to reach him or leave messages at the 207-347-3139 number which you may have in your contact list. Even

with the changes his position as the EDA's field-based EDR for Maine and New Hampshire remains the same; only, the work location and primary phone number have been changed.

Effective immediately, please address all mail and packages to him at the following address:

Alan Brigham
U.S. Department of Commerce
Economic Development Administration
34 Timberhill Road
Windham, ME 04062

For telephone and voice mail, please use his mobile number, 215-316-2965, which you may already have in your contact list. His e-mail address will remain unchanged:

alan.b.brigham@eda.gov<mailto:alan.b.brigham@eda.gov>

E-mail: abrigham@eda.doc.gov<mailto:abrigham@eda.doc.gov>

Phone: 207-347-3139

Fax: 207-347-3140

Mobile: 207-317-7692

Maine Rural Leader Receives National Award. During its annual meeting on August 27 in Grand Rapids, MI, Partners for Rural America conferred its highest honor on **Mary Ann Hayes**, executive director of Maine Rural Partners.

The Ron Shaffer Award for Excellence in Collaborative Leadership is presented to an individual who embodies the values, skills and impacts necessary to build a national and state rural development partnership that meets the needs of rural America.

Hayes was recognized for the diverse collaborative initiatives created under her leadership at Maine Rural Partners since 2004 and their impacts at the juncture of where policy, research and practice meet. Partners for Rural America vice chair and 2011 Shaffer Award recipient Chris Marko of Oregon made the award presentation.

Marko stated, "Six letters of nomination were received from a diverse mix of your local, state and national colleagues containing over a dozen reasons why Mary Ann should be honored with this award. While she exemplifies her commitment to Rural America every day, the following noteworthy accomplishments driven by her

collaborative leadership deserve special mention: Maine's Farm Energy Partners Network; Enactment of the Community-Based Renewable Energy Pilot Program; and publication of the Realizing Maine's Worth report,

Upon receipt of the award, a surprised Hayes said, "I am deeply honored and humbled to be selected by my colleagues for the Ron Shaffer Award. I don't feel qualified to join the ranks of those rural champions who have been recognized in prior years. But with my name joining this illustrious list, I will endeavor ever harder to live up to the standard of excellence Ron Shaffer represents and continue with our shared mission of revitalizing Rural America. On behalf of myself and everyone at Maine Rural Partners, thank you so much." (We at MCDA think you deserve this coveted award!)

Two former state senators and a former legislative aide are among those selected to serve on the state staff of U.S. Senator Angus King. Among the seven new regional representatives is former Republican Sen. **Christopher Rector** of Thomaston, who while in the Legislature, was involved economic and community development especially the State CDBG program and promoting the Communities for Maine's Future bond issue. He currently serves on the Thomaston CDBG Advisory Committee. Because of his background, along with Senator King's, he is knowledgeable about the benefits of the CDBG to Maine and its communities.

Rockland City Manager James Smith announced that **John Holden** of Winterport will be assuming the duties of the community development director. "John brings more than 20 years of knowledge and experience in working with community and economic development," Smith said in an email message. "He holds a masters degree in Community Economic Development from the University of Maine and a bachelor's degree from Bowling Green State University in Ohio. Holden most recently worked for Eaton Peabody Consulting Group in Augusta and previously worked for USDA Rural Development in Lewiston and for the Eastern Maine Development Corporation in Bangor. John is well known in the Maine economic and community development community and we wish him the best of success in his new job. He started work in January. Holden will replace former Community Development Director Audrey Lovering, who resigned in October 2012.

MCDCA Membership News



John Y. Edgecomb, surrendered to the forces of cancer on November 1, 2012. He was the Community Development Director for the City of Presque Isle for 14 years and town manager for Mapleton, Chapman, and Castle Hill for 15 years. Some of his proudest accomplishments during these work years were overseeing the construction of the Presque Isle Forum building, the birth of Aroostook Centre Mall, creation of the Presque Isle Landfill, and acquisition of the rail bed for a bike/walking path for the City of Presque Isle. While guiding Mapleton, Chapman, and Castle Hill he took pride in the cooperation between the three towns and the extensive work on comprehensive planning that allowed a boom in home construction in the area. John was a long time member of the Maine Community Development Association.

Maine Food Strategy

Mary Ann Hayes, Executive Director of Maine Rural Partners, distributed a flyer entitled *The Maine Food Strategy* at the MCDCA Annual Meeting. This is an initiative to create a broader and more strongly connected network of organizations, agencies, businesses and individuals contributing to the food system in Maine. Mary Ann Hayes will serve as the MCDCA Liaison to the project. The Maine Food Strategy is an action plan for strengthening Maine's farming, fishing, and food economy.

A 2009 report published by the USDA Economic Research Service ranked Maine as the ninth (9th) most food insecure state in the nation and the most food insecure state in New England. Over the past several years, critical elements and needs of the local food systems have emerged. Addressing food insecurity, includes both availability and affordability, as well as healthy foods are priorities requiring assistance by all – so *get involved!* www.mainerural.org

The availability of local, healthy foods is critically important to the health of Mainers. Not only does it prevent chronic disease and promote wellness, a bountiful, sustainable harvest is the foundation of food and financial security.



ABOUT MCDA

MCDA's Purpose

TO PROVIDE FORUMS TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND FOSTER COMMUNICATION RELATING TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND CONCERNS, AND TO PROVIDE EDUCATION AND TRAINING THROUGH WORKSHOPS.

MCDA Meetings

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION TAKES PLACE AT THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION. FOUR (4) REGULAR MEETINGS FOR THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ARE HELD ANNUALLY THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF MAINE. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE CALLED BY THE PRESIDENT OR MAJORITY OF OFFICERS ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS.

MCDA Newsletters

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS HIGHLIGHTING COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ARTICLES OF SPECIAL INTEREST THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF MAINE ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP.

Benefits to Becoming a Member. . .

MCDA Funding Directory

Training and Workshops

Legislative Advocacy

Affiliation with Other Agencies and Organizations

Links to Funding and Business Agencies

MCDA's ability to network with multiple partners

Who's Invited to Join????

ANY PERSON, MUNICIPALITY, OR FIRM EMPLOYED BY OR INTERESTED IN ECONOMIC AND/OR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

THE COMPOSITION OF MCDA'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP OFFERS NEW MEMBERS AN EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE BASE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND AVAILABLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES. THE TENURE AND EXPERIENCE OF THIS ASSOCIATION CAN PROVIDE NEW MEMBERS WITH A MULTIPLE RESOURCE BASE ON A VARIETY OF PROPOSED PROJECTS IN YOUR COMMUNITY. I AM/AM NOT INTERESTED IN SERVING ON ONE OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:

- ✓ ADVOCACY
- ✓ COMMUNICATIONS
- ✓ FINANCE
- ✓ PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- ✓ MEMBERSHIP
- ✓ OFFICER/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

DID YOU KNOW!!!!!!!!!!!!

There are 491 municipalities in the State of Maine, yet there are only 17 municipalities who are members of the Maine Community Development Association (MCDA). Now, more than ever, MCDA urges each municipality to become a member of the organization. MCDA is an affiliate group of the Maine Municipal Association (MMA) and as such enjoys the same status regarding lobbying. MCDA's Advocacy Role is to weigh in on proposed legislation and policies that impact community development in Maine. This organization is the "voice" of community development policy making in Maine.

Each year, prior to the distribution of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, the State Department of Economic and Community Development's (DECD) Office of Community Development (OCD) holds public hearings on the upcoming program statement. Each year, proposed changes to the CDBG program are prepared and made available during the public hearing forums. Little or no representation among municipalities is on hand to provide comments on the program changes that would have a direct affect on their communities needs.

Focus on cutting federal spending and decreasing the national debt has resulted in continual decreases of the CDBG budget over the past few years. CDBG is vitally important for Maine communities since it is the only flexible source of federal assistance available to address a wide array of rural community development needs. OCD administers the CDBG funds through an annual competition based on scoring criteria adopted in the rule-making and program statement process. OCD works collaboratively with MCDA to review proposed changes and garner support for the CDBG program. This is the time for the MCDA membership to provide feedback on the CDBG program.

Please join and make your 'voice' count!

Please visit our website at www.maineecda.org for a membership application or contact any member of the Board of Directors.

Maine Community Development Association

Local Government Center
60 Community Drive
Augusta, ME 04330-9486

(207) 623-8428 or
1-800-452-8786

www.maineecda.org

MCDA Subcommittee Members:

Advocacy

Daniel LaPointe (Chair)
Tony Levesque
Ron Harriman
Al Smith
Wade Hanson
Noel Musson

Communications

Joella Theriault (Chair)
Tony Levesque
Mary Walton
Ken Arndt

Finance

Mathew Eddy (Chair)
Executive Committee

Professional Development

Darryl Sterling (Chair)
Jim Gulnac
Joella R. Theriault
Steve Dyer
Wade Hanson
Mathew Eddy
Noel Musson
Suzie Paradis

Membership

Steve Dyer (Chair)
Michael Bush
Suzie Paradis
Tony Levesque
Jonathan Edgerton

Nomination

Al Smith (Chair)
Wade Hanson
Paul Bernier

2012-2013 MCDA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President:

Rodney Lynch, AICP
Town of Thomaston
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Rockland, ME 04841
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Term Expires: October, 2013

Vice President:

Darryl Sterling
Central Maine Growth Council
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(207) 680-7300

Term Expires: October, 2013

Treasurer:

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Term Expires: October, 2013

Secretary:

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Term Expires: October, 2013

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Term Expires: October, 2013

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Term Expires: October, 2014

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Term Expires: October, 2013

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Term Expires: October, 2014

Suzie Paradis

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Term Expires: October, 2013

