

EDC Mission Statement

Economic development is a process that takes great vision, teamwork, and follow-through. The participation of business owners, community members, and town government is essential to our success. Portland's business community represents a diverse spectrum, ranging from technology to tourism. The mission of the **Economic Development Commission (EDC)** is to work to promote and retain our existing businesses and to attract new businesses appropriate to our community.

The **EDC** is a volunteer commission composed of five Portland residents appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Commission represents a partnership between citizens, town officials and the business community to foster and promote the economic growth of our community. The **EDC** employs a part-time business consultant, sponsors a quarterly Business Breakfast, and holds numerous promotional events throughout the year.

The Portland Business Journal (PBJ) is a quarterly newsletter published by the **EDC**. The PBJ spotlights local businesses, provides a listing of upcoming **EDC** events, and provides a link between business owners, town government and members of the community. Copies of the **PBJ** are available at Town Hall, the Portland Library and on-line.

The **Community Partners Program (CPP)** was established by the **EDC** to recognize the important contributions of time and money made by local businesses in supporting activities important to the community. Members of the **CPP** are issued a window decal intended to recognize the contributions made by the business and serve as a reminder to customers of the importance of local businesses contributions in the success of community programs. Applications are available from the **EDC** web page.

The **Economic Development Commission** meets the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Portland Library, 20 Freestone Avenue. Residents and members of the business community are invited to attend. We welcome any suggestions you may have regarding improving Portland's business climate.