

## **2009 Activites of the Economic Development Committee**

In 2009, the Committee met on 2 occasions with representatives of the Simon Properties to discuss their holdings in Tewksbury. The Committee was clear in directing Simon to notify the public at large if there is a significant change in their development program from the original Mills proposal. The Committee met the owners of Riverview Park on Woburn Street to discuss their development program of a 225,000 square foot building at the former Raytheon site.

The Committee held 2 business breakfasts in 2009. The first was co-sponsored with the Greater Lowell Chamber of Commerce and was held at the Senior Center. The second Business Networking Breakfast was held at the Library in June 2009 and was very successful.

On April 30, 2009, the Town was awarded the designation as a Gold Bio-Ready Community by the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council.

The initiative to update the Town of Tewksbury's website started with the Economic Development Committee's meeting on March 3, 2009.

- EDC discussed with an interested party, redevelopment challenges at Purity Plaza. The plaza is a commercial condominium with multiple owners. The former Purity retail location supposedly received lease payments for nearly a decade with the facility remaining vacant. The owner of the plaza has not accepted invitations by the committee to discuss future plans or assistance that could be provided.
- EDC was involved with Woburn Street Corridor Study that was conducted by NMCOG.
- EDC has looked at a few different options to file for an Economic Target Area under the State's Economic Development Incentive Program. An application should be forthcoming in the summer of 2010.