

## **Board of County Commissioners**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## Hunterdon Economic Program Overcame Pandemic Challenges To Support The Local Economy

The Hunterdon County Economic Development team more than met the challenges in support of the local economy throughout the pandemic year of 2020, Freeholder Matt Holt reported at the final County Freeholder meeting in December.

Holt, the Board's liaison for Economic Development, stated, "From boosting tourism, to providing valuable assistance to municipalities, to working together with other Counties in our region, the Hunterdon County Economic Development Division provide itself a valuable resource as businesses dealt with restrictions imposed by the state.

Both the Hunterdon Main Streets and 579 Trail initiatives are bringing needed attention to the County's agribusiness and tourism opportunities and those efforts could not have been implemented at a more appropriate time than during this year."

Holt noted, "The Economic Development office also took action to provide key information for our businesses during the pandemic, including;

Working together with Warren and Sussex County to create A Gateway to Resources for Business Reopening during the darkest days of the economic shutdown earlier this year.

Working in coordination with the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce to create a Joint COVID-19 Business Resource Page

And adding a new JobsHunterdon link on the website that now makes the local job searches easier."

"In addition to the seven municipal economic development grants authorized by this Board this year, there are other projects that will have long term positive value, including moving forward to create the County's first riverside park and the adjacent economic growth it will spur in Milford.

Hunterdon County's economic development effort this year has laid the ground work for the county's economy to adapt to the new normal and thrive in the post pandemic world. It has been a team effort by this Board and our staff. I thank all for their commitment to our county's future," Holt concluded.