

# The Town of Spring Lake

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CHARTERED IN 1951

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ETHEL T. CLARK, MAYOR

## ADMINISTRATION

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RHONDA D. WEBB, TOWN CLERK  
JOHN H. JACKSON, TOWN ATTORNEY

TO: Mayor, Board of Aldermen  
FROM: Michael Uskiewicz, Town Manager  
DATE: February 24, 2010  
CC: Carl Manning, Thanena Wilson, Jonn Thomas, Anita Green

## RE: February 5, 2010 Economic Development Meeting Synopsis

On Friday, February 5, 2010, I had the pleasure of meeting with Carl Manning from Kingdom Community Development Corporation, Thanena Wilson and Anita Green from Cumberland County Community Development Corp., Jonn Thomas from the Spring Lake Chamber of Commerce as well as Mayor Clark. The main purpose of this meeting was to discuss what Cumberland County Community Development Corp (CDBG) does and how they can partner with Spring Lake. Critical issues such as the homeless population in the Town, water and sewer, Spring Lake Transit System and recreation opportunities were discussed.

The Cumberland County Community Development Corporation is federally funded on an annual basis. CDBG partnership fund programs for home rehab and can be used for public services, transportation issues, childcare, health care and programs along those lines. They have specific guidelines, including income guidelines, that have to be met. They work with the Towns and service organizations such as Social Services, Department of Mental health, etc. They also do citizen surveys to work on priorities and to find out how to focus their efforts and properly target their funding.

They recently held a Community Meeting in Spring Lake which yielded excellent citizen turn out. This meeting was held in the Community Center. This meeting enlightened them to several areas that citizens felt needed some attention in Spring Lake. One major area was the homeless population. As you are aware, Spring Lake currently has no facilities or programs set up to support this demographic of our population. For a community our size, this is a challenge that needs to be addressed. Other areas that we identified that should be addressed include lack of social services and the health department. Public Services are key to a thriving and growing community.

CDBG also has programs within its scope that can assist with transportation. Funds are limited; however, with the proper application, some funding may be able to be acquired to aide with its new transit system. In its most recent study, the Town was surprised at the actual number of riders who utilized the bus system. It is truly a service needed in the Town and it is growing at a fast rate.

The Town also recognizes the need for more water and sewer services. In addition to this, the economic development plans for the Town are taking off and the revitalization of downtown is being pursued seriously and aggressively. The Town wants to spur development, not just residentially but also commercially. There is a want, reaffirmed at the Community Meeting, for such amenities as restaurants, movie theater, recreational opportunities, local parks, etc.

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The CDBG can assist the Town in going after applicable grants and funding; some avenues that have not been explored previously. This is a positive. We need to keep moving forward and utilize the resources we can, as a Town and a community, to achieve the positive results we seek. We need to be proactive and put together a forward thinking plan that encompasses the growth we want and anticipate. Partnering with developers, groups such as CDBG, will make this a reality.

CDBG has come on board as a partner with the Town to help move forward and assist where they can and lend their expertise. We welcome them to the team and look forward to great things happening. We have added them to our website, as well as Carl Manning's group, so as to keep updated to progress and information.