

BOLTON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

History of Community Development Program Monies

Program Mission Statement

The Bolton Community Development Program is a revolving loan fund that seeks to leverage private equity for economic development that promotes and results in sustainable economic growth, job creation, expanding tax base, and a year-round community.

In 1983 The Sagamore was deemed a qualified project for the federal Urban Development Action Grant (UDAG) program based on its potential to create permanent jobs, and promote economic growth with a potential regional ripple effect. As a result the Town of Bolton was the recipient of a \$5,275,000 UDAG for the project. \$250,000 was used for upgrades and improvements to the town waste water plant. \$5,000,000 was lent to the Sagamore Restoration Project \$25,000 was to be reimbursed to the developer for the application fee. It was absorbed by the town.

The grant money, combined with \$65 million dollars in private equity, went into the restoration and construction of the Sagamore. The hotel and golf course were restored to their former grandeur, and sufficient infrastructure was added to operate a year round resort and conference center. Re-opened in 1985, the Sagamore was placed on the National Register of Historic Properties.

The Town of Bolton received \$900,000 in interest from the Sagamore during the years between 1983 and 1989. In 1989 the town received a payment in the amount of \$1,000,000. In 2008 the town received \$4,000,000.

For 27 years the Sagamore has been a year round economic engine for the Town of Bolton and the area. The hotel had an annual payroll of \$19 million dollars and had created 470 permanent positions and 400 seasonal jobs. These 800+ jobs were at all levels: executive, middle management, technical, sales, culinary, housekeeping and all levels of support. In addition to property and school tax, the hotel generated \$2,225,000 in sales tax revenue and \$650,000 in occupancy tax revenue annually.

The cooperation of the Town Board serving in the 1980's in helping to secure this grant for the Sagamore re-birth was visionary. They understood the stewardship that they were undertaking, and they were committed to using the funds to develop and create economic sustainability in the Bolton area through the use of these funds; the specific purpose for which it was granted by the Federal Government.

In 2009 the current Town of Bolton Board has created the Community Development Program with \$4,000,000 balance of the monies loaned from the Urban Development Action Grant awarded by the Federal Government.