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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN POTTSTOWN GAINING MOMENTUM



By Peggy Lee-Clark, Executive Director, Pottstown Area Industrial Development, Inc. (PAID)

Pottstown has been rediscovered and is being appreciated for all that it has to offer. Businesses are moving into and choosing to stay in Pottstown due to its increasing assets.

One such asset is the diversity of properties that are available for development. There are many buildings that still have the beauty of original architectural features that display craftsmanship not found today. There are traditional office structures in an office park setting and lots which are blank slates. For retailers who want to be in a small shopping center or be part of a downtown district, there are many opportunities.

A common challenge for today's businesses, especially in the manufacturing sector, is the need for a skilled workforce. Pottstown offers access to a public-school system that has academic tracks and technical skills integrated for students, a community college, and community groups offering important parts of a workforce development continuum.

Businesses who want to make a commitment to substantial improvements to a property can benefit from the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Abatement (LERTA) program. Unlike other boroughs or municipalities, there are no limitations for LERTA consideration on where in the Borough businesses locate, and it includes borough and school taxes.

Moving of people and goods is a necessary function of any business. Pottstown has that covered as well through its transportation assets. There is easy access to Route 422, a municipal airport, and an established bus system.

Lastly, Pottstown is rich with quality of life. In addition to public schools and the community college, there is The Hill School, a well-respected private institution with a rich history. Medical care is available through a full-service hospital that has partnered with Nemours and Fox Chase Cancer Center raising the level of care provided. A major portion of the Schuylkill River Trail runs through the Borough. There is an ever-expanding recreational district that includes, parks, a historic home, a carousel, mini golf, and the Colebrookdale Railroad. Even though it has long celebrated its ties to cars, it is an extremely walkable and bike-able community.

If you haven't considered Pottstown as a location for your business, we hope you will. Come find out how you can be a part of its revitalization.

Pottstown Area Industrial Development, Inc. (PAID) provides services to businesses and organizations seeking to invest, expand, or re-locate including with site selection, commercial and industrial real estate development and redevelopment, financing and workforce development. For additional information, please email Peggy Lee-Clark at pleeclark@paidinc.org.

