



# H I L L T O W N

## Community Development Corporation

Quarterly Newsletter

Issue 10C

Fall, 2010

## State Grants Awarded to Eight Hilltown Communities

On July 8<sup>th</sup> Governor Deval Patrick announced that 68 cities and towns in Massachusetts will receive \$33.6 million in federal Community Development Block Grants (CDBG).

**The towns of Chesterfield, Goshen, Westhampton, & Williamsburg** received \$1,161,382 to be used for housing rehabilitation (7 units); an elevator for Nash Hill senior housing; first time homebuyer counseling and assistance (6 purchases); and social service programs (childcare subsidies; elder in-home health visits; elder in-home assistance; family counseling; food pantry).

**The towns of Cummington, Peru, Plainfield, & Worthington** received \$874,410 to be used for housing rehabilitation (10 units); first time homebuyer counseling and assistance (6 purchases); Worthington handicapped access planning (ADA transition and self-evaluation and transition plan); and social service programs (childcare subsidies; elder in-home health visits; elder in-home assistance; family counseling; food pantry). This is the first year we are able to include Peru. Welcome aboard!

Hilltown CDC wrote these grant applications for the towns, and will administer the funds. If you live in the above-listed towns, you may be eligible to use these services. For details, **contact Hilltown CDC at 413-296-4536.**

## HILLTOWN CDC SEEKS PART TIME COMMONWEALTH CORPS MEMBER FOR ONE-YEAR PAID INTERNSHIP

Hilltown CDC has a one-year position starting in September for a talented adult to work on community outreach projects as a Commonwealth Corps member. There is a stipend of \$5,000 for 800 hours of service. Upon completion of the 800 hours, there

is a \$900 bonus. Hours are flexible; 17 – 20 hours per week. **If interested, send resume and cover letter soon to Seth Isman, Hilltown CDC, P.O. Box 17, Chesterfield, MA 01012 or to [sethi@hilltowncdc.org](mailto:sethi@hilltowncdc.org).**

## “VOTE NO ON 2” PICNIC AT SOLAR CIRCLE ON SEPT. 19TH

Residents of the Solar Circle affordable condominiums in Haydenville are hosting a “Vote NO on 2” potluck picnic on Sunday, September 19 from 12:30 – 3:30 p.m. to highlight the importance of voting “no” on Question #2 on the ballot in November. The Solar Circle picnic will feature food, music, children’s games, and tours of the complex’s super-efficient solar homes. The event is open to the public. RSVPs are requested.

A press conference at 2:00 pm will showcase the solar community as a tangible reason to Vote “NO” on Question #2 this fall to protect Massachusetts’ most important affordable housing law from repeal.

Solar Circle is a housing development for first-time homebuy-

ers built using the affordable housing law, otherwise known as Chapter 40B. This November, Massachusetts voters will weigh in on Question 2, which asks voters to repeal Chapter 40B, a law that has created 80% of the affordable housing built in Massachusetts outside of major cities over the last decade. Hilltown CDC recommends a “NO” Vote on Question # 2.

According to Laura Porter, a Solar Circle homeowner and new Hilltown CDC Board Member, “Construction of our homes was only possible because the Williamsburg Zoning Board approved a 40B Comprehensive Permit. We want to show people why this important affordable housing law should be kept on the books to help other working families like those here in Solar Circle, and seniors too.”

See **Vote NO on 2** on page 2

## YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND...

Each year, residents of the Northern Hilltowns—Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Peru, Plainfield, Williamsburg and Worthington—gather in public community meetings to dust off their community’s “to do” list, note what they have accomplished, and gather ideas for future community projects. This annual review, also known as the Community Development Strategy (CDS), is a necessary part of each town’s participation in the Northern Hilltowns Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. This year two successful CDBG applications secured over \$2 million in federal funding to support programs and projects serving elders and families in all of these towns. See article at left for more info.

**Please consider attending the meeting in your town:**

**Chesterfield: September 27 at 5:30 p.m., Town Office**

**Cummington: September 30 at 7:00 p.m. Town Hall**

**Goshen: September 27 at 7:00 p.m., Town Hall**

**Plainfield: September 28 at 7:00 p.m., Town Hall**

**Williamsburg: September 23 at 7:00 p.m., Town Hall**

**Worthington: September 28 at 8:30 p.m., Town Hall**

Public meeting for **Peru** was still being scheduled at press time.

## Community News

### HILLTOWN CDC SPONSORS WIREDWEST'S COMMUNITY-OWNED BROADBAND NETWORK PLAN

WiredWest is a Western Massachusetts coalition of 47 towns which are unserved or underserved by broadband. It proposes to build and operate a community-owned, open-access fiber-optic network that will reach **every home and business that wants service.**

The private sector doesn't consider rural areas profitable enough to build high-speed internet infrastructure with comprehensive coverage; therefore, many communities across the country are building their own networks. In the same way that rural communities formed co-ops and raised money for rural electrification in the 1930s, today rural communities are raising money for a business model that pays back the cost of the buildout over the long term.

State and federal funding totaling \$71.6 million will pay for a robust *middle-mile* network to serve 123 western and north-central Massachusetts communities. This wholesale network will bring **high-capacity fiber to the center of every town**, and will upgrade the connections for community anchor institutions such as town halls, fire stations and libraries. Even more importantly, it will provide the link to WiredWest's proposed *last-mile* network, enabling the extension of **fiber-optic connectivity to all of the homes, businesses and institutions** in unserved and underserved towns.

WiredWest expects to have a comprehensive governance, network and financial plan complete by early October, which will

enable the group to begin the financing process. The plan is being compiled with assistance from national and regional experts.

In the months before member towns approve a governance structure, the project needed a mechanism to solicit and manage interim funds, including applying for grants. The Hilltown CDC has stepped forward in a sponsoring arrangement to serve as WiredWest's fiduciary agent, which will greatly facilitate the next phase of the project.

All of us – particularly businesspeople and students – are significantly limited by a lack of sufficient broadband. **Without action, there will be serious long-term consequences for the communities we know and love.**

**Our futures are directly tied to wider high-speed internet access.** It will mean businesses can be more productive, reduce costs, have better access to customers and opportunities, and compete on a level playing field at a regional, state, national and international level, all without changing the rural character of the region.

**For more information about WiredWest, visit the web page: [www.wiredwest.net](http://www.wiredwest.net). You can sign up for news updates there, and also check in with WiredWest groups on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter.**

#### Vote NO on 2 continued from page 1

The 11 Solar Circle condominiums were built in an affordable cluster on just 3.5 acres of a 22-acre site by Hilltown CDC in 2008. Thanks to a 40B permit allowing this higher density, the remaining 18.5 acres were preserved as forest land. The result is long-term affordable housing (99 years) that is energy-efficient and environmentally friendly, just half a mile from the bus line to Northampton.

The 40B law encourages the production of affordable housing in all 351 cities and towns in Massachusetts so that all families can have housing opportunities. It sets the goal that each community provide at least 10% of its homes as affordable. As a result of the law, the number of cities and towns that have met the 10% threshold more than doubled, from 24 in 1997 to 51 today, with another 40 communities above 8%.

Hilltown CDC has joined a grassroots coalition of more than 400 individuals and organizations, representing hundreds of thousands of residents committed to protecting the affordable housing law. The coalition includes civic, business, religious, and academic leaders as well as senior, environmental, housing, and civil rights groups. For more information about the Vote NO on 2 Campaign or to get involved, go to the website at [www.protectaffordablehousing.org](http://www.protectaffordablehousing.org).

**To RSVP for the Sept. 19th picnic, contact Andrew Baker at the Campaign to Protect the Affordable Housing Law: 413-625-8465 or email [andrew@andrewbaker.org](mailto:andrew@andrewbaker.org).**

### COMINGS & GOINGS

We have had many changes this quarter. Serving as Interim Director after Andrew Baker's departure is Catherine Roegge, who is-and has been-the Fiscal Director for the last 10 years. Catherine will serve in both capacities until the Executive Director position is filled.

We also said goodbye to two Commonwealth Corps members who served with us for the last year, Patricia Corley and Barbara Solow. Patricia managed the Elder Small Home Repair Program and Barbara worked on outreach projects for the Economic Development program, including the Hilltown Spring Festival. Rachel Coll left earlier in the year to pursue interests closer to her home in the Berkshires. They will be missed! Two more Commonwealth Corps members, Heather Johnson and Sabine Prather, will begin in September. The Hilltown CDC is looking for one more Commonwealth Corps member to join our team. To apply for a Commonwealth Corps-funded internship, see ad on page 1.



*Patricia, Rachel & Barbara*

The Hilltown CDC Board of Directors announces a new member, Laura Porter of Haydenville. Laura, the Green Careers Program Coordinator at Holyoke Works, brings expertise in community development, education and fundraising. Welcome, Laura!

## Economic Development

Contact Seth Isman at 413-296-4536, ext. 112 or [sethi@hilltowncdc.org](mailto:sethi@hilltowncdc.org)

### FALL BUSINESS WORKSHOPS

FALL WORKSHOPS ARE AT THE HILLTOWN CDC OFFICE, 387 MAIN ROAD, CHESTERFIELD

TUITION WAIVERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HILL TOWN RESIDENTS.

**October 6 – Beginning Excel** – Learn to use this spreadsheet program which has many business uses. Navigating the basic spreadsheet; formatting cells, columns, and rows; creating formulas; displaying your data as charts – **6 to 9 PM, \$35**

**October 12 – Get the Media to Tell Your Business' Story** – How to get your business and its products or services into the news (in a good way) – **6 to 9 PM, \$35**

**October 13 – Intermediate Excel** – Adding text boxes and images to a spreadsheet, creating charts from Excel data, linking Word and Excel. How to create Word tables from Excel files and convert Word tables to an Excel spreadsheet. Useful for anyone preparing a loan application – **6 to 9 PM, \$35**

**October 18 – Ask an Accountant** – CPA Caleb Harris answers your business questions – **6 to 9 PM, \$15**

**October 20, October 27 and November 3 – Creating Your Own Business in Quickbooks** – set up your own business, using your own information, in this computerized bookkeeping program. Includes demo Quickbooks software – **6 to 9 PM, \$90 for three sessions.**

**October 25 and November 1 – Guerrilla Marketing** – learn how to improve sales without spending money on advertising. Come to this workshop if you are frustrated by lackluster results from traditional marketing, or you are stuck in a rut due to a lack of money to market the way you'd like – **6:30 to 8 PM, \$60 for two sessions.**

**November 9, 16 and 23 – Marketing Your Website** – Take an overall “guerrilla” approach to your website marketing, with a minimal commitment of time and money. Learn to measure and evaluate website performance, read and interpret web traffic statistics, uncover the website strategies of your competitors and those you seek to emulate. Much more. **6 to 9 PM, \$90 for three sessions.**

Contact Seth (above) for more information and to sign up for classes

### FREE BUSINESS CONSULTING CAN MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE TO YOUR BUSINESS!

Hilltown CDC provides **free specialized business consulting** to small Hilltown businesses. The businesses must be located in the 20 Hilltowns served by our Economic Development Program and must have fewer than 20 employees, including the owners. **Expert help is available on many subjects.** We can find a consultant to help you solve your business problems. **Eligible towns include Ashfield, Becket, Blandford, Chester, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Hinsdale, Huntington, Middlefield, Montgomery, Otis, Peru, Plainfield, Russell, Washington, Westhampton, Williamsburg, Windsor and Worthington.**

If we can't help you, we'll find someone who can! *Contact Seth Isman at 413-296-4536 or [sethi@hilltowncdc.org](mailto:sethi@hilltowncdc.org).*

**Get Your Hilltown Business Directory Ad Now! See Item #4 at Right.**

### 4 WAYS TO BUILD YOUR BUSINESS WITH HILLTOWN CDC!

#### 1. Get Individual Business Consulting Free

Specialized business consulting is available to existing and prospective Hilltown businesses in 20 towns.

#### 2. Advertise in our Quarterly Newsletter

Reach over **7,000 households** in 10 Hilltowns. Only \$45 for business card size -- discounted for HCDC members.

#### 3. Exhibit at the Hilltown Spring Festival

*This year over 2,000 people attended.* Put your business name in front of 2,000 potential buyers.

#### 4. List your business in the next Hilltown Business Directory.

Join 300 local businesses in the 2011 Hilltown Business Directory. It's distributed to over 13,500 households, and it's online all year. The last day to sign up is October 10th. **For only \$40, what will 13,500 Hilltowners buy from you?**

***Hilltown CDC Economic Development wants to work for you.***

Contact Seth Isman for details or to share suggestions:  
[sethi@hilltowncdc.org](mailto:sethi@hilltowncdc.org)

## First Time Homebuyer Program

Bea von Hagke at 413-296-4536, ext. 115  
or [beavh@hilltowncdc.org](mailto:beavh@hilltowncdc.org)

## WANT TO BUY A HOUSE BUT AFRAID TO TAKE THE PLUNGE? EDUCATION IS YOUR BEST SOLUTION!

A few quotes from past participants:

*“Wealth of knowledge”*

*“I feel safer”*

*“Very informative and educational”*

Buying a home is like putting together the pieces of a puzzle. The first step of the process is to look at the picture as a whole, then work with the individual puzzle pieces. Hilltown CDC offers assistance with those puzzle pieces through the provision of **First Time Homebuyer Workshops** (each presenter talks in depth about a piece of the puzzle), **personalized 1 on 1 counseling**, and **financial assistance**. If you want to buy your first home but are a bit leery of the process and afraid of taking on the financial responsibility of owning a home, then educating yourself is the thing to do! The more knowledge you have, the better prepared you will be and the more successful you will be in your homeownership.

**Next workshop-Location to be announced:**

**November 9, 10, 16, and 17<sup>th</sup> 2010, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.**

**Also available—Financial Assistance:** \$4,500 grants for down payment/closing costs and \$30,000 deferred payment loans for help buying the house **and Homebuyer Counseling:** see article (below right).

**For more information, contact Bea, above.**

### \*\*\* SEEKING INPUT \*\*\*

### \*\*\* HOUSING FORUM \*\*\*

Hilltown CDC is seeking community input regarding the design and implementation of current and future housing programs. The First Time Homebuyer program includes workshops, counseling and financial assistance. The Housing Rehabilitation program provides loans to address a variety of repair needs. The Housing Development program focuses on preserving and developing affordable housing options (rental and homeownership). If you have participated in any of these programs, or would like to provide input on them, this is a great opportunity to do so! For more information on these programs, visit [www.hilltowncdc.org](http://www.hilltowncdc.org).

Please plan to attend the forum at Hilltown CDC on **Wed. October 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm**. **FREE PIZZA** provided. Make your voice heard! Bring your thoughts and ideas to share in our efforts to improve housing programs in the Hilltowns.

RSVP to Sarah at: [sarahs@hilltowncdc.org](mailto:sarahs@hilltowncdc.org) or 296-4536, ext 117 by Monday, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>.

*Hilltown CDC administers the State-funded housing programs in eight towns on behalf of the lead towns of Chesterfield and Cummington.*

## Housing Rehabilitation

Sarah Szczebak at 413-296-4536, ext. 117 or  
[sarahs@hilltowncdc.org](mailto:sarahs@hilltowncdc.org)

## DO YOU LIVE IN PERU? DO YOU NEED HOME REPAIRS? CALL US!

Hilltown CDC is building a waiting list for home repairs. Interested homeowners may contact Sarah (above) for more information and to be added to our waiting list.

**There is currently no waiting list in Peru! Call today!**

### Eligible Improvements May Include:

- Roof and foundation repairs
- Sewer tie in and septic repairs
- Heating systems; oil tank removal
- Handicapped accessibility work
- Plumbing and electrical repairs
- New wells drilled; pump repairs

### Program Benefits Include:

- No interest, no monthly payments
- Loans may be entirely forgiven
- Detailed work specifications
- Project oversight
- Contractor selection assistance

### Eligible Homeowners Should:

- Live in a single-family, owner-occupied housing unit (condos are not eligible for this program)
- Be current with property taxes and mortgage payments
- Fall within the income guidelines (*below*)



### **HOUSEHOLD INCOME GUIDELINES/LIMITS:**

Household Size	Maximum Gross Annual Income
1	\$43,800
2	\$50,050
3	\$56,300
4	\$62,550
5	\$67,600
6	\$72,600
7	\$77,600
8	\$82,600

The eligibility of program applicants will be determined on an individual basis. Other restrictions or requirements may apply.

*Note: The Hilltown Community Development Corporation's Housing Rehab Program provides services to Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg, and Worthington. Funding is not available in all seven towns at all times. If you live in a town not listed above, the Housing Rehab Program for your area may be administered by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission at 413-781-6045.*

## Pre-Purchase Homebuyer Counseling

If you want to buy a house but are not sure you can afford it or if you are concerned about your credit or debt, contact Bea (above left) to set up an appointment for **One on One Homebuyer Counseling**.

## Social Services News

Contact Charlie Hayes at 413-296-4536, Ext. 20 or [charlieh@hilltowncdc.org](mailto:charlieh@hilltowncdc.org)

### SOCIAL SERVICES RECAP

Again, it is Fall and a great time to take a good look at the Social Services offered through Hilltown CDC. Wonderful news has arrived; our programs have all been awarded another year of State support. This means that HEN (Hilltown Elder Network), HOPE (Health Outreach Program for Elders), Families Together and the Hilltown Food Pantry will continue to bring their much needed specialized services into the Hilltowns. A new program will bring *Childcare Subsidy activities* to the area (see article below, right). In addition, the HEN Program has begun a new initiative to introduce its services into the southern Hilltowns region.

The **HEN** expansion area includes Huntington and Peru and may soon incorporate Chester and Russell, as well. Home chore assistance, including cleaning and laundry, food shopping and meal preparation, seasonal heavy chore assistance, escorted transportation and snow removal will be offered to income eligible elders. HEN has provided these same services within the seven northern Hilltowns for almost 17 years. Over 125 elders get the much needed assistance required to remain living independently, safely and in their own homes. **Call Hilltown CDC at 413-296-4536 to request a contact list of HEN Town Coordinators.** HEN is supported by Mass CDBG funds, Hampshire County United Way, The Schwartz Charitable Foun-

ation, The Pierce Trust, The Boynton Fund and the Town of Williamsburg.

House-bound elders who require specialized in-home nursing & podiatric care will be pleased to know that the **HOPE Program** will continue to be available to them. In both the northern and southern Hilltowns, together with HEN services, nearly 200 individuals will find that healthy and independent living remains within their reach. **Call 413-238-4131 for information and appointments.**

The **Hilltown Food Pantry** will continue to make regular distributions of emergency supplementary foods to over 250 income eligible residents of both the northern and southern Hilltowns. Distributions will be made from the Goshen site. **Call 413-586-6564 for schedules and details.**

**Families Together** is a program designed to help families remain intact, happy and functional. Services ranging from informational workshops to family development and health issues are provided, as is personal, private, family counseling. As many as 50 beneficiaries will be served. **Call 413-238-4155 for information.**

### NEW CHILDCARE SUBSIDY PROGRAM TO SERVE FAMILIES IN HILLTOWNS

The Hilltown CDC is pleased to announce a new **Childcare Subsidy Program** that will assist eligible families in paying for their childcare costs for children ages 0-5. This program will serve families living in the towns of **Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Peru, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg and Worthington.**

To be eligible for a subsidy, families must meet income requirements and the adults(s) must either be working or be enrolled in an educational or vocational program during child-care hours. If your gross household annual income is below the limits listed, you may be eligible:

- Household of 2 \$50,050
- Household of 3 \$56,300
- Household of 4 \$62,550
- Household of 5 \$67,600
- Household of 6 \$72,600

Daycare providers and preschools in which children are enrolled must be licensed and can be located in any town, not limited to the eight towns listed above.

**Funds are available NOW** so please call for an application. Subsidies are expected to be available through September 30, 2011.

Interested families should contact Jennifer Reagan at [conreag@comcast.net](mailto:conreag@comcast.net) or 413-230-8552.

### NEEDS SURVEY 2010 FOR HOUSING & SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAMS

Hilltown CDC is focused on addressing the needs of Hilltown residents like you. To help us better serve you, please take a few minutes to complete an on-line survey about the First Time Homebuyer Program, the Housing Rehab. Program, Affordable Housing, the Health Outreach Program for Elders (HOPE) Program, the Families Together Program and the Childcare Subsidy Program.

Please visit our website: [www.hilltowncdc.org](http://www.hilltowncdc.org) and click on the link to the **Housing and Social Service Needs Survey 2010** to take the short survey. Your time and input will greatly assist Hilltown CDC and local towns to better serve you.

*If you prefer to complete the survey on paper, please contact Bea at 413-296-4536, ext. 115 or [beavh@hilltowncdc.org](mailto:beavh@hilltowncdc.org).*

Visit our website at [www.hilltowncdc.org](http://www.hilltowncdc.org)

# HILLTOWN CDC THANKS OUR MEMBERS AND FUNDERS!

At the close of our fiscal year, we offer our sincere **THANKS** to all our members and supporters listed below and on the next page. During the fiscal year (July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010) 144 individuals and 77 businesses joined or renewed their Hilltown CDC memberships. YOU contributed a total of \$10,881.00! Together, your contributions make it possible for Hilltown CDC to keep working to meet affordable housing needs, assist local businesses, provide needed social services and help our town governments. Thanks also to our funders and business sponsors.

## **Amherst:**

Vincent & Susan Biggs

## **Ashfield:**

Seth & Maryellen Cranston  
Nancy Hoff, Ashfield Hardware & Supply  
Jim Lobley,  
Broadstone Home Improvement

## **Belchertown:**

Warren Hubley,  
New England Small Farm Institute

## **Blandford:**

Maureen Costello, Sheepgate  
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Jack Milman, The Celebration, Inc.  
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Kenneth & Barbara Pease  
Harriet Plehn  
Barbara Porter  
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[davenportchildcare@netzero.com](mailto:davenportchildcare@netzero.com)

## CORRECTION

The Business Profile on the Blue House Café in the Summer Newsletter should have given credit for the great sign out front. It was designed and painted by Katy's brother, Cummington artist and signmaker, Ted Eiseman.

Ted can be reached at 413-268-9215.



## ~ Hilltown CDC Art Shows ~

**9/21 - 10/28: Sophia Wessel** from Brattleboro, VT will show watercolors of New England barns & houses.

**10/28 - 12/31: Lynne Graves** of Worthington will show her photographs of people, places and food.

Visit the Hilltown CDC weekdays, 9 am- 4:30 pm

The Hilltown CDC shows different art every 6-8 weeks. To exhibit at the Hilltown CDC, call Sherry at 296-4536.

To put YOUR ad in the HCDC Newsletter, call 413-296-4536

## HILLTOWN CDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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*We encourage all Hilltown adults to consider serving on the Board or on a Committee, particularly women, minorities, people with low or moderate incomes and people with disabilities. If you are interested, call Hilltown CDC at 413-296-4536.*

## CHESTERFIELD HIGHWAY GARAGE PROJECT

For well over three years, the Town of Chesterfield, through its elected and appointed leadership, has been assessing its current and long-term community building needs, focusing on three potential building projects: Town Offices, Public Safety (Emergency Management, Fire and Police) and the Highway Department.

A citizens' Building Committee was appointed by the Select Board to study, evaluate and recommend options and solutions for each of the three identified community facility needs. So far, the Town has invested over \$200,000 in studies, schematic and construction design options, site evaluations, and more.

As a result of citizen and Select Board decisions in 2009 and 2010, the Highway Garage Project was determined to be the rational and responsible first priority for action because of urgent and well-defined needs and an existing and satisfactory site already owned by the Town. Preliminary design studies led to Town approval of funds to hire an architectural firm to produce detailed, construction-level drawings by the end of the summer of 2010.

This extremely short design development schedule has been met, in order that the Town might benefit from unique, time-limited Federal funding assistance which could **reduce the tax burden on citizens for construction by nearly a million dollars over a 40 year financing period.**

Scarcely twelve percent of Chesterfield's eligible voters attended a

Special Town Meeting on August 31, 2010 where the Highway Garage project was rejected by a 57-49 vote. Because there was such low turnout among tax-paying citizens, and because statements from many citizens indicated a perception of conflict between the Highway Garage and future Town building priorities that could not have been advanced to the 'shovel-ready' state necessary to obtain Federal stimulus funds, the Select Board will make every effort to invite a more representative turnout among the citizenry **to reconsider the project at another Special Town Meeting.** This meeting will be scheduled at the earliest opportunity in order not to miss a rapidly-closing window for Federal funding assistance.

The Select Board wishes to improve the general understanding of the Town's commitments to all areas, in a planned, defensible sequence of financing capacity, and to remind the Town of the uniqueness of the current conjunction of Federal stimulus funds, low interest rates, and construction bids that are typically well below estimates.

The long-term, big-picture interests of the Town, its current and future citizens and tax-payers deserve a more involved, better-informed public. The Select Board and other Town leaders hope this extra effort will assure the Town's interests are best served.

**Please watch for an announcement and plan to attend this important meeting.**



**Yes, I want to support the Hilltown CDC.  
My tax-deductible contribution is enclosed.**

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Individual Membership - \$15/Person  Visa Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

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**PLEASE HELP HILLTOWN CDC SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY —  
Mail to: Hilltown CDC, P.O. Box 17, Chesterfield, MA 01012**