Momentum
^ Building a bridge to prosperity

Ninth Annual Meeting of The Pawtucket Foundation

January 12, 2010

Transportation vital to future prosperity

Over $120M of state and federal money is obligated to fund major transportation infrastructure enhancements that impact Pawtucket’s urban core.

For years, The Pawtucket Foundation has championed the reestablishment of MBTA commuter rail service in Pawtucket. Thanks to a congressional earmark and a recent commitment from the Rhode Island Department of Transportation, a new commuter rail stop could one day be a reality.

In early 2010, RIDOT will submit the necessary documentation to federal officials to acquire nearly $2M in FTA funds for preliminary engineering and environmental permitting.

The end result of this work will provide a detailed roadmap, project timeline and cost estimate that will enable RIDOT to coordinate the necessary agreements with Amtrak, MBTA, City officials and acquire project financing for implementation.

Following the unveiling of a stunning new bridge design, city officials are hoping to capitalize on the spillover effect of this major transportation investment. An adjacent bicycle path, public art project and landscaping are among project elements yet to be completed.

No one can deny there are dramatic transportation investments scheduled that will improve Pawtucket’s urban core:

- Pawtucket River Bridge Replacement ($100M)
- Conant Street Bridge Replacement ($7M)
- RIPTA Bus Rapid Transit Line ($14.2M)
- Downtown Transportation Planning ($100K)
- Blackstone Valley Bike Path
- RIPTA turn-around at South Attleboro ($450K)
- Proposed commuter rail stop ($25M)

Now, more than ever, The Pawtucket Foundation is committed to developing partnerships to ensure local and regional policies can bolster these important investments. This will require the development of a legal framework to support and allow transit oriented development and regional cooperation among cities and towns.

This year, The Pawtucket Foundation became a proud partner with Coalition for Transportation Choice and the Blackstone Valley Partnership, both champions for a 21st century transit infrastructure.
Our advocacy mission has three prongs:

The Pawtucket Foundation represents the private business and not-for-profit sector in advocating for downtown, riverfront and gateway improvements...

1. **Revitalizing the Downtown**

Creating a dense, pedestrian-friendly urban core in Downtown Pawtucket with a mix of commercial, residential and civic uses is a central focus. We are working in partnership with the City and others to revitalize our Downtown to become a regional hub of mixed-use buildings with active storefronts, vibrant business and retail activity within a safe neighborhood community.

Together with local businesses and the local government, we are working to rebuild a residential and commercial district traditionally associated with a successful downtown.

The Pawtucket Foundation has focused on three areas: 1) promoting and advocating redevelopment of existing buildings in the Downtown 2) encouraging high-density infill development 3) marketing the positive attributes of the City.

As a catalyst project, The Pawtucket Foundation has proposed the development of a high-density, mixed use building on the municipal parking lot across from Pawtucket City Hall at the corner of Roosevelt Avenue and Exchange Street. The “Roosevelt Avenue Transit Oriented Development” proposal would create structured parking, ground floor retail and a mix of other appropriate uses to broaden the tax base and increase Downtown activity. Last month, the City of Pawtucket contracted a market analysis for the proposed development site.

2. **Capitalizing on the River**

The river is a spectacular resource for Pawtucket. It was once the fuel which propelled the American Industrial Revolution. Today, it offers new opportunities for urban redevelopment, recreation, environmental conservation and public enjoyment.

The Foundation encourages sustainable development along the river in accordance with the Tidewater Riverfront Strategy and Riverfront Plan. We seek to capitalize on the environmental, cultural and scenic attributes of the river. With the construction of the iconic new Interstate 95 Pawtucket Bridge and the implementation of the Blackstone Valley Bikeway, Pawtucket’s riverfront will become a premier destination representing a positive self-image for the City.

Earlier in the year, as part of the Foundation-led Pawtucket Proud Day, volunteers from local businesses, Tolman High School students and Downtown residents planted several new trees at the Tolman Esplanade, a city-owned property along the river. As part of the effort, the City’s Public Works Department, cleared debris, removed 30 bags of litter and removed graffiti from the historic stone retaining wall abutting the site.

3. **Rebuilding Transportation Gateways**

More and more, Cities are learning that the key to future economic prosperity is inextricably linked to investment in our transportation infrastructure. Indeed, Pawtucket is well-positioned to capitalize on the State’s investments for transit.

In October, The Pawtucket Foundation hosted a congressional breakfast that summoned over 100 leaders from the public and private sectors. Following the meeting, Pawtucket City officials and the Rhode Island Department of transportation made progress on furthering an FTA application to access earmarked funds for preliminary engineering for an MBTA commuter rail stop. The meeting also ignited the potential for regional transportation planning throughout the Blackstone Valley and Northern Rhode Island.

Earlier in the year, a Mayor’s Task Force unveiled a new iconic design for the new I-95 Pawtucket River Bridge which features artistic sculptures that are inspired by the art-deco eagles adorning Pawtucket’s City Hall.

RIPTA pledged to develop a proposal to create a bus rapid transit line that terminates in Downtown Pawtucket. Also, RIPTA is working on preliminary designs to install a bus-turnaround 500 feet away from the MBTA commuter rail platform at South Attleboro, MA.
On Momentum

Last year at our eighth annual meeting of The Pawtucket Foundation Board of Directors, I unveiled our Blueprint & Bridge to Prosperity doctrine that outlines four pillars of prosperity: innovation, human capital, infrastructure and quality place.

This year, as we continue our work to make Pawtucket a better place to live, work and do business, our annual theme focuses on momentum - the energy, optimism and forward direction of the City.

Indeed, there is momentum in the arts with a growing number of downtown galleries. The award-winning Sandra Feinstein Gamm Theatre and multi-cultural Mixed Magic Theatre offer quality performing arts programming. Creative arts-related businesses have opened shop in Pawtucket and they created the first-ever Rocktucket block party during the 2009 Pawtucket Arts Festival. We partnered with Pawtucket Arts Collaborative to fund a $2,000 prize at a juried multi-cultural exhibit.

There is momentum in transportation planning in our Gateway City. An iconic Pawtucket River Bridge and a new Conant Street Bridge will mark the beginning of several transportation-related investments that also include a new MBTA commuter rail stop and significant improvements to RIPTA bus service in Pawtucket.

There is momentum in the Downtown as several buildings have been rehabilitated or are in the process of redevelopment. The Kelloway Center, Toole Building and historic McDevitt are joining the cast of redevelopment projects ongoing in historic Pawtucket. A Task Force is studying how to develop an infill transit oriented development site in the City’s urban core.

No one can deny the drastic transformation of the Downtown over the last decade. This year, we will build on this momentum as we continue our quest to build a bridge to prosperity.

Thomas A Mann Jr

Thomas A. Mann, Jr.
Executive Director
In Appreciation

The Pawtucket Foundation cannot exist without the committed support from local businesses, charitable organizations and our partners. We thank the following supporters for their total financial participation throughout FY 2009 and 2010.

Founder $10,000 & above
Bristol County Savings Bank
Citizens Financial Group
Collette Vacations
Hasbro Charitable Trust
Pawtucket Credit Union

Partners $5,000 - $9,999
Amica Mutual Insurance Company
Bank of America
Cox Communications
Memorial Hospital
Narragansett Bay Insurance Company
Navigant Credit Union
Pawtucket Red Sox
Sovereign Bank

Trustees $3,000 - $4,999
Blackstone Valley Community Action Program
National Grid

Incorporators $1,000 - $2,999
AAA New England
Am-Source LLC
Anonymous
Bank Rhode Island
Boys & Girls Club Pawtucket
Brady Sullivan Pawtucket Properties LLC
Dunkin Donuts
EB Properties
Excellent Coffee
Gates Leighton & Associates Gateway Healthcare, Inc.
George H. Fuller & Son Co.
Kelloway Realty Corporation
John J. McHale & Sone Inc
Major Electric Supply
Michael F. Horan
Morris Nathanson Design
New England Linen Supply
Northern Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce
Partridge Snow & Hahn LLP
Pascale Service Corporation
PNC Global Investment Servicing
PRM Concrete Corporation
Pui O. Inc.
Resource Controls
Schofield Printing Inc.
Teknor Apex Company
Tracey Gear & Machine Works
Troy Pires & Allen
Urban Smart Growth
Webster Bank
YMCA of Pawtucket
Friends $300 - $999
Abraham & Company
Alliance Blackstone Valley Federal Credit Union
Anthony R. Estrella
Anesthesia Care Inc.
Ayyoub Engineering Inc.
Berger Recycling
Beretta Realty Company
Bernard Mechanical
Bilodeau, Arria & Harrison
Blackstone Pawtucket
Blackstone Studios LLC
Blackstone Valley Tourism Council
Donna Brady
Comfort Inn/Ground Round Dupuis Oil
Freedom National Bank
Gencorp Insurance Group
Gordon R. Archibald, Inc.
Hayes & Sherry Ltd
Pamela Hughes
International Paving Corporation
Kenwood Realty
Leon C. Boghassian, III Lifespan
MAACO
NEPTCO
Pawtucket Mini-Storage
Pawtucket Redevelopment Agency
Places & Spaces Realty
Renaissance Creative Imaging
Rosihna LLC
Salve Regina University
Shove Insurance
Slater Mill
Thurlow Small Architecture

In-Kind Goods & Services
Ahlers Design
AO Web Design
ATR Treehouse
Bank of America
Blackstone Valley Tourism Council
Bristol County Savings Bank
Central Nurseries
City of Central Falls
City of Pawtucket
Collette Vacations
Copy World Printing, Warwick
Dunkin Donuts
Exchange Street Cafe
Fine Catering by Russell Morin
Fit-Tek
Sandra Feinstein Gamm Theatre
Gasbarro Wines
Gates Leighton & Associates
Habro Cakemix Studio
Innisfree Body Works
L’Attitude Modern Eatery
Lowes of North Attleboro
Magma Design Group
Mercury Print & Mail
Nice Slice Pizza
Northeastern Tree Service & Mulch
Quality Rental
Pawtucket Armory Association
Pepperonis
Schofield Printing Inc.
Stop & Shop
Kathy Sullivan
The Times & Neighbors

Cherry Tree Project Funding & Implementation
Blackstone Valley Tourism Council
Collette Vacations
Largess Forestry
Luke Charitable Foundation
M. Barboza & Sons
Pui O Inc.
Storage America
City of Central Falls
City of Pawtucket

In Memory of Mr. Harry Leven, founder of Major Electric Supply
Allen Fitzpatrick

Officers
Daniel J. Sullivan, Jr. — Co-Chair
John J. Partridge, Esq. — Co-Chair
Kevin Tracy — Vice Chair
Karl Kozak — Treasurer
Michele Roberts — Assistant Treasurer
Michael Horan — Secretary

Staff
Thomas A. Mann, Jr.
Executive Director
Aaron Hertzberg
Program Associate

Directors
Robert Billington, Blackstone Valley Tourism Council
Richard Blockson, The Times
Donna Brady, Citizens Bank
Vincent Ceglie, Blackstone Valley Community Action Program* Alfred Degeen, Retired
Francis Dietz, Memorial Hospital*
James E. Doyle, Mayor* (Ex Officio)
Gary Furtado, Navigant Credit Union
Michael Gazdacko, Urban Smart Growth
John Gregory, Northern Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce
Michael Horan, Esq.* Mark House, Resource Controls

James Hoyt, Boys & Girls Club of Pawtucket
William Hunt, Shove Insurance
Dolph Johnson, Hasbro
Janice Kissenger, Slater Mill
Karl Kozak, Pawtucket Credit Union*
Richard Leclerc, Gateway Healthcare
Elizabeth Lewis, Partridge Snow & Hahn
William McHale, PRM Concrete Corp.
Esselton McNulty, YMCA Association of Pawtucket*
Morris Nathanson, Morris Nathanson Design*
Ross Nelson, Cox Communications
John J. Partridge, Esq., Partridge Snow & Hahn*
Antonio Pires, Troy, Pires & Allen (Retired)
Michele Roberts, Bristol County Savings Bank*
Greg Scown, Freedom National Bank*
Stewart Steffey, Narragansett Bay Insurance Company*
Richard Sugarman, Providence Metallizing Col, Inc.
Daniel J. Sullivan, Collette Vacations*
Kevin Tracy, Bank of America*
Ron Wiers, Kelloway Center
* Denotes Member of Executive Committee

Director Emeritus Richard Kazarian, Kazarian Antiques
Celebrating Pawtucket

Throughout the past year, The Pawtucket Foundation brought together over 1,000 business and nonprofit leaders, elected officials and other members of the community at events to celebrate success, focus attention on local issues and lend a hand.

The Pawtucket Foundation hosted its Eighth Annual Meeting in 2009, unveiling the policy initiative, Blueprint: Bridge to Prosperity to the 75 guests in attendance. The initiative framed the Foundation’s existing mission and highlighted a policy strategy for priority investments in innovation, human capital, quality place and infrastructure.

In addition, the Foundation welcomed seven new board members and announced the 2009 Person of the Year and Heritage Award Honorees to be recognized at the Foundation’s Awards Celebration in the spring.

With over 275 elite business and nonprofit executives in attendance, the Foundation’s Annual Awards Celebration Dinner continues to be Pawtucket’s premier event. Hasbro was the lead sponsor as we recognized Person of the Year, Tony Estrella, and Heritage Award Honoree, Alfred J. Verrecchia & Hasbro. Funds raised during the event make up a significant portion of the Foundation’s annual operating budget.

The Foundation’s Eighth Annual Awards Celebration Dinner will be held on April 27, 2010 at the Pawtucket Armory Center for the Arts.

In 2009, the Pawtucket Foundation worked with the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council and the Cities of Central Falls and Pawtucket to plant 65 Rancho Cherry Trees along Roosevelt Avenue. To commemorate the installation, a ceremonial tree planting and celebration welcomed 200 guests who came to see the trees.

Organizers are currently planning a Cherry Blossom Festival, complete with 5K Run/Walk, May Breakfast Cherry Pie Back-Off for May 1, 2010. Details are available at www.richerryblossomfestival.org or by calling the BVTC at 401-724-2200.

Each year, Pawtucket Proud Day brings together over 100 individuals to volunteer at key sites around the community. In 2009, 43 businesses contributed volunteers, supplies and funds to clean-up, landscape, plant, paint and build.

Featured projects included landscaping and planting nine trees along the esplanade at Tolman High School and participating in the official wall-raising at Pawtucket’s first Habitat for Humanity House. Volunteers also worked at Slater Mill downtown, PAC,YWCA and Tim Healey Way. Proud Day will be held on June 8, 2010.

The Pawtucket Foundation thanks the businesses and organizations that contribute to our events throughout the year. Sponsorships are available for all Foundation events. Information is available by contacting the Foundation staff or on our website at www.pawtucketfoundation.org.

Momentum: *Building a bridge to prosperity*