**Please Join Us!**

*“Beyond Planning – A Realistic View of Economic Development”*

**Greater East Grand Region Economic Planning Meeting**

**Thursday, March 26, 2020 – Weston Town Office – 3:00 – 5:00 PM**

As a draft feasibility plan is being prepared, guidance from those who have been down the path of economic development is critical to success. Special guest panelists from:

* **Southern Aroostook Development Corporation**
* **Sunrise County Economic Council**
* **Northern Maine Development Commission**

**Agenda**

3:00 Welcome & Introductions

3:10 Brief Economic Planning Committee Update

3:20 Panel Discussion on the following: From your perspective what is the most important economic

development advice you can offer the citizens of the Greater East Grand Region? Other topics to be explored:

* Transitioning from planning to doing - the pathway to short and long-term success
* Models for a local, ongoing economic development office/function
* Addressing large community development issues like housing, workforce availability/training
* Models for business ownership succession as current owners look toward retirement
* Prioritizing existing business needs and entrepreneurial business opportunities
* The balance between quality of life and new business opportunities

4:45 Summary – Key Contacts – Continue relationship building

5:00 Adjourn