

# PUTNAM COUNTY EXECUTIVE

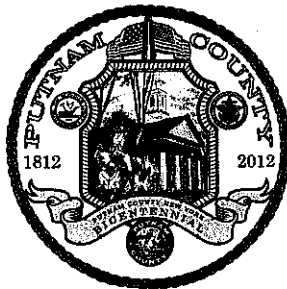
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MaryEllen Odell  
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Director of Constituent Services



June 28, 2013

Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council  
33 Airport Center Drive #201  
New Windsor, NY 12553

Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council:

The Village of Brewster's Opportunity Area application has my enthusiastic support. The Opportunity Area designation is a key component of the Village's renaissance and will serve them well as they move forward to plan and implement positive change.

Putnam County has a vested interest in the revitalization of this historic village. The Village of Brewster, located in the northeastern corner of Putnam County, is a hidden gem with a very diverse community; it has all the ingredients and potential to become a vibrant Main Street and downtown.


Known as the hub of the Harlem Valley, the rail station is still the vibrant lifeline that made Brewster the center of commerce in our region. Our county's farms, mines and timber-stands once provided the raw materials that traveled through Brewster's rail station to build the towering skyscrapers of NYC and our dairy farms provided the milk for Borden's Condensed Milk Factory located on the Village's East Branch of the Croton River which supplied troops during the civil war. Our history is replete with success and we look forward to working with the Village to align our goals and prepare an integrated comprehensive plan to the benefit the residents of not only the Village of Brewster but all residents of Putnam County.

The village has several assets that could be used to increase community engagement, which would help reveal the vibrancy we believe is there, but is presently obscured. We look forward to integrating our County initiatives with Brewster's future and will work with them closely on revisions to their Comprehensive Plan as they have worked with us on our endeavors.

Putnam County stands at the ready to assist the Village with their positive transformation.

Thank you for this opportunity to express our support for this application.

Sincerely,

  
MaryEllen Odell  
County Executive  
Putnam County