



City of Beacon, New York

Office of the Mayor
Lee Kyriacou, Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Beacon Sets Dates for Forums on Community Development

BEACON, NY —The first of two forums on community development organized by Beacon Mayor Lee Kyriacou will be held on Thursday, February 6th at 7 pm in Memorial Hall. The second will be on Saturday, February 29th at 10 am in Memorial Hall, 413 Main Street in Beacon. All are welcome to attend and participate.

The forums are designed to be educational, and to encourage participation from residents. Each forum will have two components, the first of which will be an educational segment, where residents will hear about the city’s Comprehensive Plan, development activity, and recent zoning changes to better manage development. The second component will be a community input segment, where residents will have an opportunity to discuss these issues, using the help of an outside facilitator with planning and zoning expertise.

“Given the rapid pace of Beacon’s turnaround and its recent development, it’s important for us as a community to have a two-way conversation on development and its impacts – to understand what zoning changes have already taken place, and what still needs to be done.” Mayor Kyriacou said, “I trust residents to have an open and respectful dialogue on a topic that affects the future of the community we all love.”

About the City of Beacon:

Beacon, New York is located on the eastern shore of the Hudson River 60 miles north of New York City, with a population of 15,000. Originally a Native American settlement, the area was purchased from the Wappinger Tribe in 1683 and settled by Dutch and other Europeans, leading to the riverfront community of Fishkill Landing on the Hudson, and the mill community of Matteawan on Fishkill Creek. The two communities were incorporated together as the City of Beacon in 1913, named for the Revolutionary War signal fires on Mount Beacon. Beacon thrived as a 19th and 20th Century factory city, but as factories closed after WWII and the local economy declined, the city went through a period of hard times. Today, Beacon has successfully reinvented itself as a 21st Century river community centered around tourism, the arts and access to the scenic Hudson River heritage area. A diverse and thriving small city, it is now home to DIA:Beacon (one of the largest exhibition spaces in the country for modern and contemporary art), a network of Hudson River parks connecting to Fishkill Creek and Mount Beacon trails, and a vibrant historic Main Street of art galleries, shops, cultural venues and restaurants.

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