


**DIRECT TECHNICAL MENTORING
MAIN LEATHERS TANNERY PLANNING
AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH,
DOVER-FOXCROFT, MAINE**

NJIT TAB was contacted by Piscataquis County Economic Development Council (PCEDC) on behalf of the Town of Dover-Foxcroft, Maine seeking NJIT TAB assistance. Specifically, they requested NJIT TAB develop a strategy for community consensus building regarding the redevelopment of the Maine Leathers Tannery brownfield project, and facilitate such consensus building activities. The site is a former woolen mill (1829-1953) and leather tannery (1955-1975). Environmental Assessment began in the 1990s and identified Lagoons, sludge pits, and buried drums which resulted in soil, groundwater and surface water contamination. The approved remediation strategy for the site is excavation, consolidation, and capping of the impacted soil, which is anticipated to occur in 2011-2012.



Legend

 Maine Leathers

0 200 400 800 1,200 Feet

NJIT TAB prepared various assistance options and a time line for assistance. NJIT TAB reviewed site related documents. NJIT TAB assisted the Town of Dover-Foxcroft with developing a community engagement framework and then led a design Charette with the Core Stakeholders and public. NJIT TAB provided a detailed presentation on the visioning process, existing applicable plans, studies & strategies, local geography, local population information, local economic information, and the status of the Maine Leather's Site Environmental investigation and remediation plans. In



addition, NJIT TAB discussed potential Recreational / Open Space reuse options. (Previous discussions with the Core Internal Working Group revealed that the preferred reuse option was Recreational / Open Space). After the presentation, an interactive discussion was initiated and facilitated by NJIT TAB. A consensus was reached for the short-term redevelopment goals for the site.

NJIT TAB conducted a second Charrette with the Core Stakeholders for the purposes of achieving consensus on short-term site uses and activities, identifying opportunities to coordinate cleanup activities with priorities for reuse and redevelopment, and developing a list of potential long-term site uses and activities. Three development options for the site were then presented including: a river park; a riverside arboretum and gardens; and a Brown's Mill conservation area. Participants provided feedback on each option and on specific elements comprising each that they preferred.

Once the outreach was completed NJIT TAB provided the Town of Dover-Foxcroft with a Meeting Summary/ Report of Findings which will ultimately serve as a support document for the Town's Master Plan. In addition, any future redevelopment plans for this site will be checked against this Report of Findings.