

## Office of the Mayor



---

*Christine Forgey, Mayor*

**Town of GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**

*Town Hall, 14 Court Square, Greenfield, MA 01301*

*Phone: 413-772-1560 Fax: 413-772-1519*

## ***Media Release***

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, May 8, 2006*

### **Town of Greenfield, Ceruzzi Holdings and the Friends of Wissatinnewag, Inc. Reach Agreement on the French King Property**

Mayor Christine Forgey is pleased to announce that an agreement has been reached between the developer of the French King Highway project, Ceruzzi Holdings, and the Friends of Wissatinnewag, Inc. "I invited all parties to come together on Friday, May 5, 2006, to openly discuss the plans and the future of the 10 acre parcel of the White Ash Swamp," said Mayor Forgey. "It has always been my objective to ensure that any developer exclude this parcel from their project."

Ceruzzi's Vice President, John Knofla, stated that they originally intended to develop the 2 acres that were usable from the 10 acre parcel. However, based on the extensive discussions with Mayor Christine Forgey and Marlene Marrocco, Director of Economic Development, they have agreed to revise the site plans and not develop any portion of the 10 acre parcel. Knofla cautioned the group that the development will probably require the cooperation of all parties with any road improvements necessary. During the meeting, all parties agreed to move forward to the next step with the goal of a win/win outcome. Eliminating the 10 acre parcel from the entire development will still leave enough room for the planned retail development.

Monique Fordham, spokesperson for the Friends stated, "We are extremely pleased that Ceruzzi Holdings has made this public commitment to preserve the 10 acres, and we were honored that so many spiritual leaders from Greenfield's interfaith community joined us at the table to witness Ceruzzi's promise. We now await the putting of pen to paper that will ensure that our Native American ancestors can rest in peace, not just for the short-term, but in perpetuity."

Ceruzzi Holdings' spokesman confirmed that plans include a big box discount department store though no specific tenant has been named yet. "Although we have multiple tenants interested at this time, we cannot divulge any names until the final agreements are reached and they sign the lease. At this time everything is on schedule according to our plan."

Contact: Mayor's Office 772-1560