

Community Relations Plan

**Former Uniroyal Tire Complex – Parcel #147-10
154 Grove Street
Chicopee, MA 01020**

**Former Facemate Complex – Parcel #173-1
West Main Street
Chicopee, MA 01020**



July 28, 2015

Overview

The purpose of this Community Relations Plan (CRP) is to describe the City of Chicopee's strategy to address the needs and concerns of residents who will potentially be affected by the proposed cleanup and future redevelopment of the former Uniroyal Tire Complex located at 154 Grove Street and the former Facemate Complex located at West Main Street in Chicopee, Massachusetts. Now part of RiverMills at Chicopee Falls, the former Uniroyal and Facemate properties consist of approximately 65 acres of post-industrial Brownfields situated in the Chicopee Falls neighborhood – the geographic center of the City. This CRP outlines how the City of Chicopee has involved, and will continue to involve, affected residents, City officials and local organizations in the decision-making process regarding the assessment, cleanup and eventual redevelopment of the subject properties.

These cleanup projects are being funded in part by two U.S. EPA Brownfields cleanup grants awarded in May 2014 to the City of Chicopee. These grants provide funds for the cleanup of Uniroyal Parcel 147-10 and Facemate Parcel 173-1. This CRP is designed to meet the overall community involvement requirements for the cleanup of subject properties under the grant awards as well as other U.S. EPA Brownfields funding the City may acquire in the future for these three parcels or other RiverMills properties.

Active residents, local organizations and civic leaders involved in neighborhood issues are important resources for the success of this Plan as they have an understanding of the subject properties, existing challenges and opportunities. Additionally, these individuals hold key positions of responsibility within the community. The City recognizes these citizens as points of contact and communication. The long-term success of the proposed cleanup projects and redevelopment will be enhanced by on-going citizen involvement – involvement that began when the City began planning the future of these properties in 2010. This on-going conversation with vested stakeholders will ensure the proposed cleanup projects are successfully executed and move the subject properties closer to the community-derived redevelopment goals as defined by the RiverMills Vision Plan.

Spokesperson & Information Repository

Chicopee's Department of Planning & Development will oversee implementation of cleanup activities at the subject properties with assistance from the City's Office of Community Development. Office and contact information are as follows:

Lee Pouliot ASLA, LEED Green Associate
Director
Department of Planning & Development
274 Front Street – City Hall Annex, 4th floor
Chicopee, MA 01013
(413) 594-1516
(413) 302-1513 (cell)
Email: lpouliot@chicopeema.gov

An individual Information Repository for each project has been developed and is available for review in the Planning Department at any time during normal business hours (Monday – Friday,

9:00a.m. – 5:00p.m.). A second copy of the Information Repository has been established at the Chicopee Public Library and is available for review during the Library’s normal business hours.

Additionally, all documents included in the Information Repository will be available digitally from Planning Department’s webpage (<https://www.chicopeema.gov/page.php?id=62>). Department Staff intend to launch a website for the City’s Brownfields Program by fall 2015. Entitled H.E.A.L Chicopee, the website is intended to become the Program’s primary outreach resource. A web address for the new website will be provided to the community on launch day and will be included on all public notices / project signs for each proposed cleanup project.

Former Uniroyal Tire Complex: Site Description & History

Site History

The former Uniroyal Tire Complex consists of approximately 28 acres of land, originally developed during the late 1800s. In 1870, the property was used as a lumber yard by the Chicopee Manufacturing Company. From 1896 to 1898, the property was owned by the Spaulding and Pepper Company, who manufactured bicycle tires. The Fisk Rubber Company, which later changed its name to United States Rubber Company and then to Uniroyal, Inc., manufactured bicycle automobile & truck tires and adhesives from 1898 to 1981. Uniroyal Inc. closed their plant in 1980 and sold the property to Facemate Corporation in 1981. Facemate leased portions of the Uniroyal buildings to various companies for manufacturing, printing, machine shops, office, storage and health care facilities, however, most of the Uniroyal property has remained vacant since Uniroyal ceased operations. Michelin North America, Inc. (MNA) acquired the assets of Uniroyal, Inc. circa 1990 and is considered the primary responsible party (PRP) dealing with residual contamination at the Uniroyal property.

Currently, 14 vacant buildings, encompassing nearly one million square feet, remain standing at the Site.

Site Location

The former Uniroyal Tire Complex is located at 154 Grove Street, in the Chicopee Falls neighborhood. The Site is bound by the Chicopee River (west,) the former Facemate Property and West Main Street (north), Grove and Front Street (east) and residential and small commercial developments (south).

The Complex is composed of a number of property parcels, of which Parcel #147-10 is part of. The following information summarizes details specific to Parcel #147-10. In addition, please see ***Attachment I: Subject Uniroyal Parcel.***

- ***Uniroyal Parcel #147-10*** represents 26.203 acres of former rail line that bisects the Uniroyal property. The Site is characterized as a strip of land running north from Grape Street along the Chicopee River and then bisecting the lower and middle tiers of the former Uniroyal Tire Complex before terminating at Oak Street. The strip of land was formerly the Boston & Maine Railroad right-of-way for a rail line spur off the main line running adjacent to the Connecticut River, west of the Uniroyal Site. Railcars historically delivered carbon black to the complex for use in tire manufacturing. In 2010, the City

contracted with the not-for-profit Iron Horse Preservation Society for the removal of rails and ties along a majority of the corridor. Rails and ties were not removed from the portion of the Site within the boundaries of the Uniroyal Site, which is the subject of the proposed cleanup project.

Redevelopment Vision

The former Uniroyal Tire Complex and neighboring Facemate property are part of 'RiverMills at Chicopee Falls,' a redevelopment project encompassing approximately 65 acres of post-industrial Brownfields properties. Visioning efforts for RiverMills were completed in 2010. The Vision Plan, developed with an emphasis on community desires, proposes the creation of an active and passive recreational network that reconnects the neighborhood to the Chicopee River. This network is the armature around which a mixed-use community of residential, commercial and office developments is molded.

The redevelopment program for RiverMills is based on extensive market analysis and envisions the following elements:

- active and passive recreational network;
- 33,500 square feet of new commercial/retail space;
- 131,000 square feet of new office space;
- 131 new residential units;
- a 34,500 square foot Recreational Center; and
- a 21,000 square foot Senior Center (opened in September 2014).

The first phase of redevelopment began during fall 2011 when the remaining Facemate buildings (northern portion of RiverMills) were demolished to prepare for construction of the City's new Senior Center, known as RiverMills Center. Additionally, the City has moved forward with Phase II of the Chicopee River Walk, a rail-trail conversion that will link the Uniroyal property to the City's downtown (south-west of the Site).

Nature of Threat to Public Health & Environment

Health Concerns

The proposed cleanup plan includes the preparation of specifications for the removal and/or in-place management of contaminated rail bed soils. Where residual contaminant levels meet acceptable risk management objectives under the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP), capping with two feet of an engineered barrier (i.e. parking areas) and/or three feet of soil in landscaped areas is often a cost effective strategy that is protective of both human health and the environment. The project will also include off-site management of recyclable and reusable material (rails, contaminated soil); all hazardous and special wastes (including rail ties); and any other deleterious materials that are not suitable for on-site capping. On-site consolidation of certain debris and/or contaminated soil in designated areas (i.e. parking, under buildings, etc.) would also be implemented where appropriate and consistent with applicable regulations.

The following contaminants, known to be residual contamination on Parcel #147-10, not only compound the above described health issues but have also been linked to additional health complications;

- **Lead** exposure has been linked to kidney and nervous/reproductive system damage. The Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. EPA and the International Agency for Research on Cancer have all determined that lead can also reasonably be considered a human carcinogen;
- **Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)** exposure has been linked to cancer and immune, reproductive, neurological & endocrine effects according to the U.S. EPA;
- **Arsenic**,
- **Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH)**; and
- **Herbicides/Pesticides**.

Today, the presence of this contamination places a disproportionate burden on Chicopee Falls' sensitive populations of youth, seniors and low to moderate income residents who already suffer from higher rates of asthma, other respiratory ailments, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and other disabilities.

Environmental Concerns

The Uniroyal Site represents 28 acres of Brownfields located at the geographic center of the City. The Site is considered blight on the neighborhood and provides no economic, social or environmental benefits to Chicopee. Most structures have deteriorated beyond economically feasible reuse and structural failures are considered imminent. This threat creates a significant environmental safety risk for the neighborhood and its residents.

The City responded by providing 24-hour security, which was eventually replaced with an alarmed, 12 foot high chain-link fence enclosing the entire Site. Chicopee's Police and Fire personnel monitor the alarm system 24 hours a day and continuously dedicate staff to visiting the Site. An entry protocol was also established and is strictly enforced when Site access is required.

Vacancy raises additional concerns. Civic and neighborhood pride is challenged in the face of such large-scale blight while the Site's appearance creates an aura of danger and disinvestment. Such qualities pose challenges for the City as it strives to re-imagine and re-invest in these properties while identifying avenues for private investment. A lack of interest from the private sector is clear, as evidenced by 30 years of vacancy at a Site with direct river access and stunning views of rich environmental and recreational resources.

Former Facemate Complex: Site Description & History

Site History

The former Facemate Complex consisted of approximately 20.2 acres and was developed in the early 1800s for the manufacture of textiles. Between 1823 and 1915 the Site was owned by the Chicopee Manufacturing Company which manufactured and processed cotton cloth. The property was bought by Johnson & Johnson in 1915, who continued production activities. In 1977, the property was purchased by Facemate Corporation, which produced finished cotton and synthetic cloth. Facemate Corporation was forced to shut down in 2003 due to bankruptcy and foreclosure proceedings.

The former Facemate property is located adjacent to the former Uniroyal property, consisting of approximately 28 acres. Together, the former Uniroyal and Facemate properties are known as RiverMills at Chicopee Falls, the largest Brownfields Redevelopment Project in Chicopee's history. To date, the City has invested over \$30 million at RiverMills to address site security, demolition, cleanup, site preparation and construction of the City's new Senior Center.

To date, the City has completed site-wide demolition and environmental cleanup in addition to subdivision of the property into five parcels: two redevelopment parcels, the senior center parcel, a new public way and a flood control parcel along the Chicopee River. Parcel #173-1, the subject of a proposed cleanup project, is one of the two redevelopment parcels created through this subdivision.

Site Location

The former Facemate Complex is located at West Main Street, in the Chicopee Falls neighborhood. The Site is bound by the Chicopee River (west,) West Main Street (east), private parcels (north) and the former Uniroyal property (south).

- ***Facemate Parcel #173-1 consists*** of approximately 4.6 acres and encompasses the southern portion of the former Facemate property. It includes former Facemate Building C (known as the Baskin Building), a rectangular brick warehouse building consisting of two (2) levels. Dimensions are approximately 146 feet by 38 feet with a finished space of approximately 11,000 square feet. In addition, please see ***Attachment II: Subject Facemate Parcel.***

Redevelopment Vision

The former Facemate property and neighboring Uniroyal property are part of 'RiverMills at Chicopee Falls,' a redevelopment project encompassing approximately 65 acres of post-industrial Brownfields properties. Visioning efforts for RiverMills were completed in 2010. The Vision Plan, developed with an emphasis on community desires, proposes the creation of an active and passive recreational network that reconnects the neighborhood to the Chicopee River. This network is the armature around which a mixed-use community of residential, commercial and office developments is molded.

The redevelopment program for RiverMills is based on extensive market analysis and envisions the following elements:

- active and passive recreational network;
- 33,500 square feet of new commercial/retail space;
- 131,000 square feet of new office space;
- 131 new residential units;
- a 34,500 square foot Recreational Center; and
- a 21,000 square foot Senior Center (opened in September 2014).

The first phase of redevelopment began during fall 2011 when the remaining Facemate buildings (northern portion of RiverMills) were demolished to prepare for construction of the City's new Senior Center, known as RiverMills Center. Additionally, the City has moved forward with Phase II of the Chicopee River Walk, a rail-trail conversion that will link the Uniroyal property to the City's downtown (south-west of the Site).

The Development Vision for Parcel #173-1 as defined in the RiverMills Vision Plan and Expanded Notification Form (EENF) with Phase I Waiver Request as submitted to the Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs/Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office includes re-use of the 11,000 square foot Baskin Building as commercial/retail space and the development of eight (8) residential units. This proposal received a MEPA Phase I Waiver on September 12, 2012.

Nature of Threat to Public Health & Environment

Health Concerns

The proposed cleanup plan includes the capping in place with on and off-site management of debris, wastes and contaminated soils. Where the residual contaminant levels meet acceptable risk management objectives under the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP), capping with two feet of an engineered barrier (i.e. parking areas) and/or three feet of soil in landscaped areas is often a cost effective strategy that is protective of both human health and the environment. It is likely that the project will also include off-site management of recyclable and reusable material (including contaminated soil); all hazardous and special wastes; and any other deleterious materials that are not suitable for capping on the Site. On-site consolidation of certain debris and/or contaminated soil in designated areas (i.e. parking, under buildings, etc.) will also be implemented where appropriate and consistent with applicable regulations.

The following contaminants are likely to be present on Parcel 173-1 and not only compound current health issues but have also been linked to additional health complications;

- **Asbestos** exposure has been linked to lung cancer, mesothelioma and nonmalignant lung/pleural disorders including asbestosis according to the Agency for Toxic Substance and Disease Registry (ATSDR);
- **Lead** exposure has been linked to kidney and nervous/reproductive system damage. The Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. EPA and the International Agency for Research on Cancer have all determined that lead can also reasonably be considered a human carcinogen;
- **Mercury** exposure can severely impact the nervous system and permanently damage the brain, kidneys, lungs and developing fetuses according to the ATSDR.
- **Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)** exposure has been linked to cancer and immune, reproductive, neurological & endocrine effects according to the U.S. EPA;
- **Petroleum hydrocarbon** exposure typically affects the nervous system. These compounds can also affect the immune system, blood, skin, lungs and eyes. According to the ATSDR, some studies have found certain compounds may also be carcinogenic and have effects on developing fetuses; and
- **Other heavy metals and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH).**

Today, the presence of contamination on Facemate Parcel #173-1 places a disproportionate burden on Chicopee's Falls sensitive populations of youth, seniors and low to moderate income residents who already suffer from higher rates of asthma, other respiratory ailments, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and other disabilities.

Environmental Concerns

Facemate Parcel #173-1 represents 4.6 acres of Brownfields located at the geographic center of the City and part of a 65 acre Brownfields redevelopment project. The Site is considered blight on the neighborhood and provides no economic, social or environmental benefits to Chicopee.

The City responded by providing 24-hour security, which was eventually replaced with an alarmed, 12 foot high chain-link fence enclosing the entire Site. Chicopee’s Police and Fire personnel monitored the alarm system 24 hours a day and continuously dedicate staff to visiting the Site. An entry protocol was also established and is strictly enforced when Site access is required. Following completion of site-wide demolition and cleanup activities, the security fence was deactivated on the entire Facemate property.

Vacancy raises additional concerns. Civic and neighborhood pride are challenged in the face of such large-scale blight while the Site’s appearance creates an aura of danger and disinvestment. Such qualities pose challenges for the City as it strives to re-imagine and re-invest in these properties while identifying avenues for private investment. A lack of interest from the private sector is clear, as evidenced by 30 years of vacancy at a Site with direct river access and stunning views of rich environmental and recreational resources.

Community Background

Target Community Profile

Uniroyal Parcel #147-10 and Facemate Parcel #173-1 are located in the Chicopee Falls neighborhood. Chicopee Falls is one of the oldest neighborhoods, of a mixed-used character, including low to moderate income residences, commercial, light industrial and public service. The neighborhood is home to the Church Street Historic District and the Edward Bellamy House; home of the Edward Bellamy Society and Chicopee Historical Society.

Chicopee Falls is divided into two U.S. Census Tracts: 8107 and 8108. Uniroyal Parcel 147-10 is located in Tract 8108, while Facemate Parcel 173-1 is located in Tract 8107. **Table I** details basic population data and clearly shows that the populations of the Census Tracts individually and the neighborhood as a whole are composed of significant numbers of both youth and senior citizens. As noted, a significant number of Veterans also call Chicopee Falls home. **Table II** shows that the neighborhood suffers from significantly higher unemployment and poverty rates while very high percentages of households earn below City, State and national median household income levels.

Table I: Youth & Senior Citizen Populations

	Census Tract 8107	Census Tract 8108	Chicopee Falls
Total Population	6,151	3,823	9,974
Population < 19 years	1,443 (23.5%)	1,008 (26.4%)	2,451 (24.6%)
Population > 65 years	946 (15.4%)	568 (14.9%)	1,514 (15.2%)
Total, Both Categories	2,389 (38.8%)	1,576 (41.2%)	3,965 (39.8%)
Veteran Status	658 (13.1%)*	375 (12.9%)*	1,033 (10.4%)*

(Population percentages based on 2010 U.S. Census data)

(*Estimates based on American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, not accounting for margins of error)

Table II: Demographic Information

	Target Community		City of Chicopee	Hampden County	Massachusetts	United States
	Census Tract 8107	Census Tract 8108				
Population	6,151*	3,823*	55,298*	463,490*	6,547,629*	308,745,538*
Unemployment Rate	12.1% ±5.9 [^]	6.8% ±3.3 [^]	8.7% [†]	8.5% [†]	7.1% [†]	6.7% [†]
Poverty Rate	3.8-11.2% [‡]	6.1-21.7% [‡]	11.3 – 15.5% [§]	17.8 – 20.6% [°]	11.6 – 12.2% [°]	15.8 – 16.0% [°]
% Minority	12.1%*	15.9%*	13.2%*	23.5%*	19.6%*	26.7%*
Per Capita Income	\$25,265 ± \$2,862 [‡]	\$22,160 ± \$2,392 [‡]	\$24,056 ± \$1,143 [§]	\$25,626 ± \$742 [°]	\$34,907 ± \$338 [°]	\$27,319 ± \$46 [°]
Median Household Income	\$51,585 ± \$10,931 [‡]	\$40,366 ± \$7,530 [‡]	\$46,396 ± \$2,119 [§]	\$48,865 ± \$2,517 [°]	\$65,339 ± \$645 [°]	\$51,371 ± \$53 [°]

*Data from the 2010 Census data

[^] Median Percentages based on 5-year ('08-'12) American Community Survey Unemployment Estimates

[†] Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics

[‡] Based on Margins of Error in 5-year ('08-'12) American Community Survey Estimates

[§] Based on Margins of Error in 3-year ('10-'12) American Community Survey Estimates

[°] Based on Margins of Error in 1-year ('12) American Community Survey Estimates

The Massachusetts Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) lists portions of both Census Tracts 8107 and 8108 as meeting two of four Environmental Justice population criteria. The criteria met include: households earning 65% or less of statewide household income and 25% or more of residents are minority. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) has classified Chicopee as an Economically Distressed Area (EDA), defined as an area within the Commonwealth that is eligible for targeted assistance under the Brownfields Act. Further, the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI) lists Census Tract 8108 in Severely Distressed Status and Tract 8107 in Eligible Status for the New Market Tax Credit (NMTC) Program which the CDFI administers. Such classifications are based on demographic information, including income, poverty and empowerment zone status.

Chicopee is also a federally designated Empowerment Zone/Entitlement Community per the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), with all block groups in Tract 8108 and three of the five block groups of Tract 8107 defined as having 51% or greater total number of low to moderate income residents.

Key Community Partners

The City of Chicopee has partnered with the following community organizations that are committed to supporting the redevelopment of the Uniroyal and Facemate properties:

- **Friends of the Chicopee Senior Center**, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the construction of the City's new Senior Center (known as RiverMills

Center). The group has launched an ambitious fundraising campaign to support design and construction activities as the Center is located on a portion of the Facemate property. With this project underway, the group has placed emphasis on supporting the cleanup and redevelopment of additional RiverMills properties as the new Center is located a ¼ mile from the property;

- ***The Chicopee Council on Aging***, has been an avid supporter of RiverMills Center, working tirelessly to identify an appropriate site for many years. The Council's mission emphasizes the physical, mental and spiritual well-being of the City's older adults and has a vested interest in seeing the RiverMills project developed in a way that enhances the activities and programming of RiverMills Center;
- ***The Edward Bellamy Society/Chicopee Historical Society***, has worked tirelessly to advertise community meetings, disperse/collect community surveys and circulate RiverMills Vision Plans. The group is also working to establish a collection of images, plans, maps and memorabilia regarding the Uniroyal and Facemate properties and has played a key role in preserving Chicopee's rich industrial heritage;
- ***The H.E.A.L Chicopee team***; Cornell Master of Landscape Architecture students. Lee Pouliot, who is proposed as the project manager of this grant, is one of the H.E.A.L team's members. He is a lifelong Chicopee resident and currently is the Director of the Department of Planning & Development.

Chronology of Community Involvement

Community engagement regarding the Uniroyal and Facemate properties has been on-going since the redevelopment visioning process began in February 2010. The planning team, led by VHB, Inc. held three public meetings throughout the process, at which over 50 community members participated. Information gathered from these meetings informed a 'preferred' vision, which was revealed to the community in December 2010.

Also in February 2010, a team of Cornell Master of Landscape Architecture students initiated a parallel master planning project known as 'H.E.A.L Chicopee: A Strategic Plan for the Uniroyal/Facemate Properties.' The team's extensive community outreach efforts resulted in the participation of over 1,000 community members. The students documented seven oral history interviews, 404 community survey responses and 682 student visioning responses. The students partnered with the Chicopee Public School System, the Chicopee Historical Society/Edward Bellamy Society, the Chicopee Public Library, the Chicopee Senior Center, local businesses as well as the professional team. The data gathered was used to define strategies addressing historic preservation, stormwater/flood management and Brownfields remediation. A redevelopment framework plan was developed that addresses varying market conditions plausible by 2030.

The H.E.A.L team held two community meetings; the first on March 1, 2010 at the Edward Bellamy House; the second on May 26, 2010 at Chicopee High School. Approximately 30 residents attended the first meeting and 40 attended the second. The May 26th presentation was recorded and broadcast on a local cable community access channel.

Efforts to keep the community informed have occurred through numerous avenues. Copies of all presentations and reports have been made available at the Chicopee Public Library and for download from the City's website. Local newspaper and news stations have also covered most activities with reports and articles. The final H.E.A.L presentation was recorded and aired numerous times on the local community access channel. Additionally, the City has created a page off its main website specifically for the Uniroyal/Facemate Site. The H.E.A.L team also utilized the social networking site Facebook to connect with City residents and the online tool Survey Monkey to develop/distribute survey materials.

Key Community Concerns

The community has been a key stakeholder and participant in the planning process for RiverMills. Through a variety of communications, meetings and other outreach venues, the community has been generally supportive of the required assessment and cleanup activities that must be completed to allow for redevelopment. To date, no major concerns regarding the cleanup activities planned for the Uniroyal parcels have been raised by the community.

The City will continue to communicate with and involve the community in the redevelopment process while addressing any concerns that are raised as these cleanup activities are planned and implemented.

Continued Community Involvement

In addition to any on-going involvement efforts, detailed in the above sections of this CRP, the following efforts will be utilized during the proposed cleanup projects to keep the community informed of and involved in the projects as they progress. A significant tool that will become active in fall 2015 is the City's Brownfields Program website: H.E.A.L Chicopee, specifically designed to serve as a clearinghouse of information regarding all projects administered through the City's Brownfields Program. The new website will include a feedback mechanism for visitors to ask questions or submit community ideas/concerns for each targeted property. A project sign will be erected at each project site to provide information to residents on where to find locate project information.

Should a language barrier be identified, the City will make every effort to procure appropriate interpreters. The City is also prepared to accommodate those with special needs such as the blind and the deaf.

In addition, the following efforts will be utilized during the proposed project to keep the community informed of project progress and outcomes:

- ***Analysis of Brownfields Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) 30-Day Public Comment Period:*** The City will prepare and release the ABCA for this proposed project for the required 30-day public comment period. The ABCA will ensure the most appropriate cleanup alternative is selected and communicated to the community. At the close of the 30-day public comment period, the City will respond to significant comments received and then finalize the ABCA;

- **Public notice:** The City will post a public notice in the local newspaper, The Republican, announcing the start of the public comment period, the details about the public meeting, and the availability of the ABCA & information repository for public review;
- **Public Meetings:** The City estimates holding one public meeting during the ABCA Public Comment Period, for each project site;
- **Mailings to Abutters and Media Outlets:** Informational mailings and public meeting notices will be sent to Site abutters, both residences and businesses (within a ¼ mile radius of the subject parcels) and all local media outlets (including The Republican, the Chicopee Herald, the Chicopee Register, News 22 (WWLP) and News 40 (WGGB)). The City anticipates these mailings to coincide with each of the planned public meetings;
- **Project Sign Posting:** A project sign will be posted and will remain posted at each project site which briefly describes the project and includes contact information;
- **Partner Presentations:** The Planning Department will to provide annual presentations to the Edward Bellamy Association/Chicopee Historical Society as means of communicating progress on the overall RiverMills project and on this proposed cleanup project;
- **Social Media:** As part of the City's overall Brownfields Program, the Planning Department will begin utilizing social media outlets to distribute project information and solicit feedback from the community. Currently, the Department envisions utilizing Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and YouTube. Other venues will be considered as appropriate;
- **Information Repository:** An Information Repository for this project has been developed and is available for review in the Office of Community Development at any time during normal business hours (Monday – Friday, 9:00a.m. – 5:00p.m.); and
- **Planning Development Webpage:** All documents included in the Information Repository will be available digitally from the Planning Department's webpage (<https://www.chicopeema.gov/page.php?id=62>). Additionally, the Planning Department will post all public notices and other meeting advertisements on the webpage and associate these events with the city-wide event calendar.

Attachments

- I. Subject Uniroyal Parcel #147-10
- II. Subject Facemate Parcel #173-1