



CITY COUNCIL REPORT

July 27, 2015

TO: Brian Kischnick, City Manager

FROM: Mark F. Miller, Director of Economic and Community Development
Glenn Lapin, Economic Development Specialist

SUBJECT: City of Troy & Troy Chamber Joint Business Roundtable Meeting

On July 21, 2015, the City of Troy and Troy Chamber of Commerce jointly hosted a Business Roundtable meeting at Troy City Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to bring together a wide range of Troy businesses to learn more about each business, receive input on how the City and Chamber can better serve our business community and to enable business representatives to meet each other. The meeting was facilitated by City Manager Brian Kischnick and Troy Chamber President Ara Topouzian.

Sixteen representatives from the following businesses were represented at the meeting: Inteva Products, Elba Labs, Stanley Engineered Fasteners, N.S. International, Witzenmann USA, Art of Custom Framing, Urban Retail Properties (Oakland Mall), Zoyo Yogurt, Gramma's Gardens, United Shore Financial Services, Amber Apartments, DMC Children's Hospital, Mamta Holdings (HTC Global Services) and Fresh Thyme.

The participants provided feedback on a variety of issues including positive experiences related to helpful customer service, building service processes and responsiveness. General discussion also took place regarding Troy as an ideal business location and the importance of talent recruitment. Comments related to specific code enforcement issues and plan review processes were also provided and will be followed up on. Feedback received following the meeting indicate that the meeting enabled introductions to occur between businesses, potentially leading to new business transactions.

As a part of our economic development strategies, the City of Troy and Troy Chamber of Commerce plan to hold Business Roundtable meetings twice a year to establish a regular dialogue with our business community partners.