

**Town of Windsor Locks**  
**Economic and Industrial Development Commission**  
**Meeting at Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**  
**March 27, 2025**  
**6:30 PM**

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Doug Glazier called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**2. Roll Call**

Present: Chairman Doug Glazier, Bob Crochetiere, Dave Montemerlo, Neal Cunningham, Frances D'Elia, Barbara Palmer

Absent: Alan Gannusico, Kurt Brace, Malekhai Paquette, Shane O'Connor

Guest: Dan Carstens, Foreign Trade Zone Administrator

**3. Approval of the Minutes from February 27, 2025**

Dave Montemerlo made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 27, 2025 meeting. Neal Cunningham seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Public Input on EIDC Matters Only – None**

**5. Action Items**

**a) Foreign Trade Zone – Discussion with Dan Carstens**

Dan briefly explained what the FTZ is and how it is funded. He explained that the EIDC owns the grant for the five counties represented and he administers it on our behalf. He explained that Foreign Trade Zones are physical areas designated as such and are considered to be outside U.S. Customs territory and are not subject to U.S. Custom duties. He also explained that all five counties in CT are part of this grant – Hartford, Tolland, Windham, Litchfield and Middlesex. The one in Windsor Locks is in Crown Park. To understand how an FTZ works, Dan used the assembly of a car as an example – he described that the parts may come from all over the world and shipped to an FTZ here (free from U.S. Customs duty taxes for assembly). There are not any duty taxes paid on the parts at this point but once the car is assembled and ready for the market, it becomes part of U.S. commerce and tax is applied. A handout is attached to better understand how the FTZ helps build a stronger U.S. economy. The Commission as, well as members of the public, were given the opportunity to ask Dan questions.

**b) Planning and Development Highlights**

Doug updated the Commission on the progress of the new Senior Center and Police Station by mentioning that the project was proceeding as scheduled with a completion time of late summer/fall. A concern was brought up by Frances D'Elia about additional noise (from sirens) and whether landscaping and beautification would be part of the project at its completion.

**c) Main Street Redevelopment – Update**

There wasn't a lot of information regarding updates, however, the Commission once again shared their concerns about traffic controls, the possibility of a round-about, drop-off areas for passengers using the train station and issues with the traffic signals at the bridge on Rt. 140/159.

**6. Open Time**

Additional discussion took place between the Commission and a couple of visitors at the meeting about the traffic issues on Main Street and the drop-off area at the train station.

**7. Adjournment**

Dave Montemerlo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Neal Cunningham seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:38.

*Respectfully submitted,*



*Valerie Mercey  
EIDC Recording Secretary*

Attachment:

*“Five Ways the U.S. FTZ Program Helps Build a Stronger U.S. Economy”*



Created by Congress in 1934 to encourage investment and promote U.S.-based manufacturing and distribution, exports and American jobs, Foreign-Trade Zones (FTZs) are designated areas physically in the United States, but considered to be outside U.S. Customs territory, where goods can be stored, assembled, manipulated, modified, relabeled, repackaged and re-exported, free of U. S. Custom duties. FTZs are in every state and Puerto Rico.

**# 2 CREATING AMERICAN JOBS  
EMPLOYING MORE THAN**

**550,000  
U.S. WORKERS  
IN A FOREIGN-TRADE ZONE**



*Example: Airbus Americas, Inc. Mobile AL (FTZ #82) aircraft manufacturing operations have grown since 2015 to support more than 15,000 Alabama jobs.*

**# 5 STRENGTHENING COMPLIANCE**

To operate in an FTZ, companies must adhere to strict security requirements, comply with stringent U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) rules, and strictly observe a variety of U.S. laws and regulations. They have close and transparent working relationships with CBP officials, who consider FTZs a model of compliance and a “CTPAT security best practice.”



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**# 3 INVESTING IN AMERICAN COMMUNITIES  
ADDS BILLIONS  
OF INVESTMENT DOLLARS INTO LOCAL ECONOMIES**



FTZs benefit U.S. communities by attracting new businesses, increasing local employment, expanding the tax base, and enhancing infrastructure.

*Example: Through its FTZ production facility, BMW Manufacturing Co., Spartanburg SC (FTZ #38) turned a struggling textile town into an automotive manufacturing and exporting powerhouse.*

**# 4 PROMOTING U.S. EXPORTS**

**HELPS U.S. BASED COMPANIES BE MORE COMPETITIVE IN THE GLOBAL MARKETPLACE**

*Example 1: Thanks to the FTZ program's cost savings and competitive benefits, Kubota North American Corporation, Atlanta, GA (FTZ #26) now exports 35% of its American-made sub-compact tractors, utility vehicles, and lawn mowers to Europe and Australia.*

*Example 2: The cost-competitive advantage from the FTZ program allows Kawasaki Motors Mfg. Corp. U.S.A., Lincoln, NE (FTZ #59) to export 20% of its U.S. production of JetSkis and Mule and Teryx lightweight utility and sport vehicle to the EU, Australia, Canada, and Japan.*

**# 1 INCREASING THE COMPETITIVENESS OF U.S. BASED COMPANIES**

By providing mechanisms to optimize supply chains and minimize a product's landed cost, FTZs improve U.S.-based companies' cost competitiveness, allowing them to offer more affordable and innovative products.

*Example: FTZ duty savings on its inputs allows Piramal Critical Care, Inc., Bethlehem PA (FTZ #272) a U.S. based anesthesia products manufacturer, to compete with duty-free foreign products in U.S. and global markets*

SOURCES: 85th ANNUAL FOREIGN-TRADE ZONES BOARD REPORT TO THE U.S. CONGRESS; U.S. BUREAU OF ECONOMIC ANALYSIS 2022 EXPORT DATA; 2020 FTZ ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY, NAFTAZ; U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION DATAWEB