



Quonset Points

e-Newsletter

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Quonset Mission

The Quonset Development Corporation (QDC) is a real estate development and management company organized as a subsidiary of the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation.

QDC develops and manages the Quonset Business Park in accordance with the QDC Master Plan and in the best interests of the citizens of Rhode Island to attract and retain successful businesses that provide high quality jobs.

Quonset Gateway Groundbreaking

Gateway Poised to be an Engine
for Job and Economic Growth



After months of planning, the New Boston Fund development team officially broke ground on The Quonset Gateway on October 29th. The groundbreaking for the mixed-use development at the 72.5-acre entrance to the Quonset Business Park was celebrated by local residents, community leaders and elected officials who have worked to bring the project and its projected 2,000 jobs to North Kingstown.

Governor Donald L. Carcieri praised the Quonset Development Corporation (QDC) and New Boston for their efforts to create a Gateway that will serve as a catalyst for continued growth at Quonset, create new jobs and generate millions in tax revenue.

"Quonset is already an important part of our state's economic engine. In fact, this business park is home to 158 companies which provide gainful employment to 8,200 Rhode Islanders," said Governor Carcieri. "By breaking ground on the Quonset Gateway Project, we will further enable Quonset to realize its full potential."

"In the last five years, projects including the Gateway represent a private sector investment of \$300 million in Quonset, with another \$322 million in the pipeline," the Governor added. "Clearly, the Quonset Business Park is moving in the right direction."



QDC Board chair Saul Kaplan called the Gateway a significant step forward for Quonset as an engine of job creation and economic growth. "The impact of this private investment will be felt in Rhode Island, North Kingstown and Quonset for many years to come," he said.

It is expected \$144 million dollars in private investments will fund the Gateway project. There will be no public subsidies. During construction, the Gateway will create 1,060 construction jobs and at full build-out the development is projected to create 2,165 jobs.

"We invested in the Quonset Gateway because we believe in the opportunities that it will create for businesses and for the people who live and work here," said Jerry Rappaport Jr., President and CEO, New Boston Fund and chairman of the Urban Strategy America Fund.

No Silver Bullets

QDC Board Chair Saul Kaplan notes that there is no "silver bullet solution" that will boost the state's economy. Rather, Kaplan in a [**Providence Journal op-ed**](#) says, "Rhode Island needs to create an economy that produces high-wage jobs in industries that will be here for the long haul by leveraging our location in the knowledge corridor between New York and Boston and pursue growth in sectors that offer all Rhode Islanders an opportunity to move up the ladder... there is no scenario where Quonset - park or port - provides full-scale repositioning for our economy."

In an opinion piece, Kaplan also addresses the idea of a deep-water container port at Quonset.

Currently, 8,200 people come to work at Quonset every day at 158 companies. QDC has made major gains over the past five years with \$300 million in private investment, and another \$320 million in active proposals.

Quonset as a Good Neighbor: Sight, Sound Barrier Now in Place for Nearby Homes



Quonset Development Corporation (QDC) has completed the construction of an earthen berm designed to create a buffer between the Business Park and the residential neighborhood along its northern edge. Completed on October 29, the berm stands 8 feet high and runs 2,700 feet, or more than half-mile in length. It is planted with 500 evergreen trees that add another 5 to 6 feet in height.

Hydro seeding along the length of the berm includes wild flowers, winter rye and three types of fescue. The wildflowers will germinate next spring, providing various colors and soil stabilization.

The berm is constructed of approximately 40,000 cubic yards of soil. It runs along Newcomb Road, roughly between Pine River Drive and Mark Drive. The type of planting will require no mowing.

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