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Warwick mayor's message: The Warwick Station District

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I recently had the opportunity to make a presentation before the state Economic Development Corp. and governor Chafee regarding the city's vision for the Warwick, RI, the 70-acre parcel surrounding the intermodal train station and T.F. Green Airport.

The discussion centered around our Development District Master Plan, prepared by Goody Clancy and Associates in cooperation with city staff, which we are in the process of finalizing and adopting. The plan aims to promote shared parking, walkability and connectivity within the district; provides for development of 1.5 million s/f for mixed uses that will attract new businesses and the workforce they rely upon; offers convenient residential and commuter opportunities; and creates a strong, vibrant sense of place that will appeal to businesses, residents, developers, and tourists.

The District plan would also take advantage of its proximity to Providence, thereby supporting regional growth, by enhancing connectivity to and complementing business opportunities in our capitol city; enhance efficiency and travel convenience to Boston; and providing a competitive advantage in contending for new business activities that can take advantage of a mobile workforce.

Tourism, Rhode Island's second-largest industry, has become increasingly dependent on multimodal accessibility. The District will take advantage of this trend by supporting existing businesses and activities serving tourists and business travelers, while luring new companies looking to relocate close to a multi-modal transit hub. This will provide economic development opportunities through increased tax revenue, jobs, higher income levels and revitalization throughout the District and the city as a whole.

There are a number of development opportunities available in the District and its outskirts. If you are interested in moving or expanding your business, I encourage you to contact us to see why the Development District would be perfect opportunity for you.

Scott Avedisian is the mayor of Warwick.

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