

City of Newburgh

Press Release

83 Broadway - City Hall, Newburgh, NY 12550

Phone: (845) 569-7301 Fax: (845) 569-7370

www.cityofnewburgh-ny.gov

For immediate release

July 8, 2010

Edward Lynch Named City of Newburgh Director of Planning & Development

Acting City Manager Richard Herbek has announced the appointment of Edward Lynch as Director of Planning & Development. Mr. Lynch's most recent experience includes more than 16 years with the Department of Development in New Rochelle, N.Y. A graduate of Columbia University with Masters Degrees in Urban Planning and Urban Design, Mr. Lynch also has a Bachelor's Degree in Architecture from Catholic University. He served in the Peace Corps after graduating from Columbia, an experience, he said, that changed his thinking about public service.



When Mr. Lynch arrived in New Rochelle, he said, "There were lots of vacant buildings downtown and a very negative attitude about the future." The City has radically changed since then with mixed use transit oriented development downtown, including a 40 story Trump Condominium and a 1000 unit Avalon Bay residential development, a mixed use family entertainment center and significantly more commercial development. As Planning Director and Clerk to the Planning Board, Mr. Lynch obviously had a role in making a positive change.

His prior work experience includes serving as Senior Consultant to the Chairman of the Royal Commission for Jubail and Yanbu Industrial Cities and later to the Dep. Ministry for Town Planning in Saudi Arabia. He was also Senior Planner for the Boston Redevelopment Authority and Assistant Professor at Northeastern University in the Graduate Program of Political Science, and Technical Advisor to the Venezuelan Foundation of Municipal Development (FUNDACOMUN) and the Barquisimeto City Council. He was Division Chief in the Miami, Florida Planning Department, and worked in a management role with Florida's largest new town developer.

His biggest challenge in his new job, he noted, will be “to make the residents and businesses think more positively about the future and to help sow the seeds for long term development that is economically sustainable while being sensitive to its current physical and environmental context.” He added, “Working in Newburgh provides a personal and professional opportunity to help make significant changes at a critical time in the City's history. Newburgh is a beautiful historic settlement on the Hudson with incredible natural and physical amenities, a very involved and diverse community, but a recent past of disinvestment. I hope to make a positive, lasting contribution.”

“Ed Lynch has a wealth of experience in bringing positive change to urban environments,” said Acting City Manager Richard Herbek. “I am very pleased that he is joining our team.”