

Narrowing the Geography

The Steering Committee is considering the creation of an Aroostook County specific **Small Business Development** subdistrict. Development Districts such as this are defined as “areas discernible as having patterns of intensive residential, recreational, commercial or industrial use or commercial removal of metallic minerals, and areas appropriate for designation as development districts when measured against the purpose, intent and provisions of this chapter.” 12 M.R.S.A. §685-A (1).

A Small Business Development subdistrict would not be appropriate in the more remote and undeveloped townships and would likely provide the most benefit to the townships, plantations, and towns that have, or are near, existing development and economic activity. In order to narrow the geographic scope of the proposal, and to better assess potential locations for the subdistrict, please consider these 18 plantations, townships, and towns:

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| 1. St. John Plantation | 10. Oxbow Plantation |
| 2. Cross Lake Township | 11. E Township |
| 3. T17 R4 | 12. Hammond |
| 4. Cyr Plantation | 13. Moro Plantation |
| 5. Hamlin | 14. Cary Plantation |
| 6. Connor Township | 15. Benedicta Township |
| 7. Winterville Plantation | 16. Silver Ridge Township |
| 8. Nashville Plantation | 17. Glenwood Plantation |
| 9. Garfield Plantation | 18. Reed Plantation |

Indicators that these locations have, or are near, existing development and economic activity include:

- Population of the townships, plantations, and towns;
- Proximity to service centers, retail hubs, or other locations (both organized and unorganized) that provide services or contain economic activity;
- The type and amount of major roads in the townships, plantations, and towns;
- Proximity to other transportation infrastructure such as airports, railroads, and seaplane bases; and
- Proximity to manufacturing and other major employers.

Consider your own knowledge of these areas. Are there other townships, plantations, or towns in the unorganized areas of Aroostook County that should be considered for a small business development subdistrict based on these indicators? Should any be removed from the list? Are there other indicators that should be considered for identifying townships, plantations, or towns for a small business development subdistrict?