By Bette Slayton, Bedford County Development Association

Permitted site and available workforce attract interest in Bedford County

An 82-acre pad-ready site in Bedford County’s Business Park II is attracting interest from eastern Pennsylvania and the Mid-Atlantic states. The fully permitted site, designed to accommodate a 780,000 s/f facility, is designated as a Keystone Opportunity Zone. The KOZ program offers meaningful tax savings through 2025. Ample water, sewer, gas and electric utilities are available.

Adjacent to three interstates (I-70/76 and I-99) the site offers prime access to the Mid-Atlantic Region. Distances to Philadelphia – 100 miles; NYC – 270 miles; Baltimore – 140 miles; Pittsburgh – 110 miles. Cities include: Washington DC/Baltimore – 140 miles; Philadelphia – 200 miles; NYC – 270 miles; Pittsburgh – 100 miles.

Equally attractive is the availability of a skilled and dependable workforce. With over 50% of the workforce labeled as “out-commuters” – people who leave the county for jobs – new employers will enjoy a loyal labor force eager to secure employment closer to home.

Bedford County is home to an 850,000 s/f Walmart Food Distribution Center and REI’s 525,000 s/f East Coast Distribution Center.

The county is also home to an impressive array of manufacturers including Kennametal, JLG, LB Foster, Rockland Manufacturing, Bedford Reinforced Plastics, CaptiveAire and others. Additionally, agriculture and tourism are major industries. The beautiful Omni Bedford Springs Resort and Spa offers world-class amenities including a Donald Ross golf course, award-winning spa, hiking and biking trails and delectable dining options.

For more information, including a drone video of the Bedford County Business Park site, go to Bedford County Development Association website.

Bette Slayton is president of Bedford County Development Association.