

# Franklin Industrial Sites On Fast Track

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The state approved 20 parcels in the Franklin Industrial Park as a priority development site Thursday, according to Bryan Taberner, Franklin's director of planning and community development.

Priority development sites allow efficient industrial permitting and guarantee businesses that municipal permitting will be completed in 180 days.

The 20 parcels are also part of the Franklin Industrial Park Economic Opportunity Area, which allows the owners of the properties to negotiate tax increment finance agreements with the town for new commercial or industrial projects that create permanent new jobs.

In July, the state also approved 30 sites within Franklin's Forge Park as a development priority site, which is also an economic opportunity area.

While Franklin has had many businesses locate in its industrial parks over the years, the recession has contributed to more empty and underutilized industrial properties, and it is hoped the combined priority development sites and economic opportunity areas will help the town attract more businesses, Taberner said.

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