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BOSTON ROAD BUSINESS ASSOCIATION HOLDS “MEET YOUR LEGISLATORS” EVENT CANDARAS CREDITS LOCAL BUSINESSES FOR VITALITY OF REGION

WILBRAHAM—Business leaders hailing from one of Hampden County's busiest corridors met informally with state legislators and local officials this morning to discuss myriad issues pertaining to the intersection of business and government. The Boston Road Business Association's (BRBA) “Meet Your Legislators” breakfast, held at Valley Stone Credit Union's Boston Road branch, was hosted by the Credit Union President and CEO James P. Nagy, and drew a crowd of approximately fifty business people, legislators and other officials.

House Speaker Pro-Tempore Thomas M. Petrolati (D–Ludlow), State Senator Brian P. Lees (R–East Longmeadow) and State Rep. Gale Candaras (D-Wilbraham) were on hand to meet with representatives of the business community. Other public officials in attendance were Wilbraham Chief of Police Allen Stratton, Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School Superintendent Paul Gagliarducci, Springfield City Council members Bruce Stebbins and Jose Tasado and Springfield School Committee members Antonette Pepe and Marjorie Hurst.

“I am pleased we have this opportunity to visit with people who contribute so much to our local economy. Boston Road is a crucial corridor of commerce in western Massachusetts and the businesses here serve and employ thousands of local residents,” Candaras said.

Local businesses represented at the event were Carlson/GMAC, the Eastfield Mall, Sandy's Body Wraps and Spa, Edible Arrangements, Soja & Abbot, Country Bank, The Gaudreau Group, AFLAC, the *Wilbraham-Hampden Times*, Hampden Bank, Point

of View Community Newspapers, Webster Bank, Arrowhead Mailing, Quinn's Fine Jewelry and Falcetti Music.



Rep. Gale Candaras (center) enjoys a laugh with area legislators and business leaders at the Boston Road Business Association’s ‘Meet Your Legislators’ breakfast at the Valley Stone Credit Union in Springfield.

The Boston Road Business Association is a non-profit corporation whose purpose is to unite businesses along the Boston Road corridor of Springfield and Wilbraham to share resources and stimulate and promote growth. Its members enjoy advertising and promotional programs, social events such as the “Meet Your Legislators” breakfast, and the opportunity to contribute to projects in one of the region's premiere business districts.

“That these businesses enjoy such success is certainly proof of the talent of their owners and employees, not to mention the vitality of our economy here in Hampden County,” said Candaras.