

## City of Fitchburg, Massachusetts, Master Planning, Lower Main Street Revitalization: Intermodal Center, College Expansion, and Urban Design.

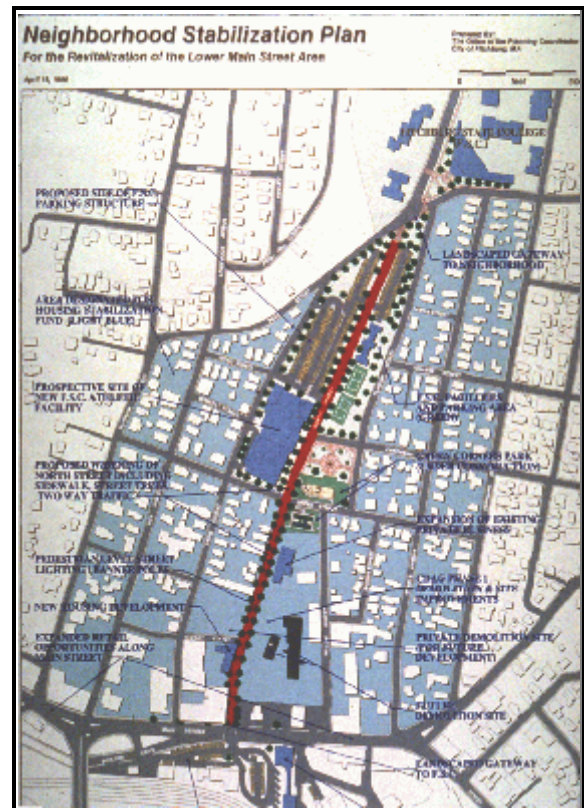
**John J. Behan, AICP** was a long-term employee of the City of Fitchburg Office of the Planning Coordinator. He served as community development planner, senior planner and deputy planning coordinator. His work helped maintain and strengthen the economic, cultural, and natural and cultural resource base of this historic mill town. He developed the Watershed Protection study, wrote several successful grant applications, including the



**Downtown Fitchburg MA.**

restoration of Fitchburg's Historic Upper Common. Later as an employee of The Saratoga Associates, Mr. Behan directed the Lower Main Street Revitalization project as the principal-in-charge and senior planner. A collaboration among neighborhood residents and property owners, the state college, city leadership and civic organizations, this plan was the successful precursor to a larger city-wide master planning activity.

The successful lower Main Street program is currently being implemented include a new intermodal transportation facility, neighborhood park improvements, streetscape and infrastructure improvements, a new central fire station, and a major investment decision by the state college to, for the first time, construct a major sports and recreation complex in the center city as a community development initiative. **Behan Planning Associates, LLC.** has continued to assist the Fitchburg community as consulting planners. The firm was responsible for “kicking-off” Fitchburg's Vision 20-20 Master plan Program as a consultant to the planning office. The firm assisted the city in completion of the master plan report including consultation on planning and economic policy, report content, and design.



**Lower Main Street Revitalization Map.**