

QuickTracts Assessment

At the bi-annual meeting of the Utility Economic Development Association Connecticut's QuickTracts.com program was featured as one of 12 "shovel ready" programs in the nation. In a presentation by a representative from Wadley Donovan, a national site selection consultant, Connecticut's efforts were analyzed along with programs in New York, Virginia, North Carolina and Oregon. The consultant indicated that in order to be a legitimate shovel ready program, the following is necessary:

- Stated sale price
- Engineered sites
- Traffic approvals
- Land use approvals in place
- Infrastructure in place (gas, electric, water, telecom, sewer, etc)

Connecticut's program was described as "a good faith effort to expedite a project," which is an accurate description QuickTracts. In economic development it's important to accurately promote programs that can be delivered. In this regard the QuickTracts communities make the grade. However, when you compare the program to other states, our efforts to provide shovel ready sites don't make the grade.

QuickTracts.com Report Card		
Subject:	Grade	Notes:
Price	B	While Price is known on many sites, QuickTracts needs to uniformly list firm prices on all sites
Pre-Engineering	C	In order for QuickTracts sites to graduate to shovel ready sites they need engineered plans
Site plan approval	C	QuickTract sites should have pre-approved site plans
Clear Zoning	A	Sites listed on QuickTracts are clear on permitted uses
Infrastructure	A	QuickTract sites are served by the requisite utilities.
QuickTracts GPA	3.0	QuickTracts represents a good effort, yet more is needed to qualify as shovel ready