

Base Redevelopment Leadership Award Steve Levesque, Executive Director, Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority, Maine

As head of first, the planning LRA for Naval Air Station Brunswick, and now, the implementing LRA, Steve Levesque has been the leading force turning what could have been a devastating economic blow to Maine's Midcoast region into an exciting reuse project full of potential for helping the area recover from the air station's closure.

With an optimistic outlook, Levesque's leadership has both enriched and accelerated the redevelopment of NAS Brunswick into Brunswick Landing, a high-tech business campus focusing on aviation, renewable energy, advanced composites and education. Much of the success so far in promoting the base's redevelopment can be attributed to Levesque's strong working relationship with the Navy, the state's congressional delegation, the governor's office, the legislature, local officials and the business community.

Highlights of the LRA's accomplishments to date include the FAA's approval of the authority's application to obtain the Navy airfield via a public benefit conveyance; opening Brunswick Executive Airport and eight new businesses prior to the air station's formal closure; working with state officials to create the Jobs Tax Increment Financing program, which dedicates a portion of the state's income tax proceeds from newly created jobs at Brunswick to the LRA; and approval of the Maine Jobs Bond which included a \$3.3 million bond package to fund property improvements at the base.





