People to Watch: Linda Parkowski, of Kent Economic Partnership

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Linda Parkowski | PHOTO COURTESY OF KENT ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

Delaware Business Times highlights an annual list of individuals as "People to Watch" in the new year as we believe they will leave a mark on their industries or communities.

DOVER – Since she was hired back in 2018, **Kent Economic Partnership** Executive Linda Parkowski has worked to realize a new vision for Kent County. Core to that mission was warehouse and industrial space in the smallest county, to drive manufacturers and distribution companies.

In the upcoming year, that vision will soon include many projects to fit the bill, including one major warehouse to bring multiple tenants to East Dover.
Parkowski told city officials in late 2022 that the east side of the state capital was starting to heat up, and the upcoming Dover Logistics Center, with 297,000 square feet between two buildings, may be proof of that.
Other areas of Dover are attracting interest, like another potential large-scale warehouse to be built in the Enterprise Business Park.
By the end of the year, Dover had also been concentrating on smaller warehouses in East Dover, like a **flex warehouse** proposed by the Garrison Homes company off of Route 8, intended for small to medium users. The recent Rockport 2.0 study that shows the county's central location in the Mid-Atlantic region prime it best to target the $939 billion warehousing industry.
Meanwhile, Parkowski has also helped promote other initiatives, such as completing a rail access study with the Dover/Kent Metropolitan Planning Organization to highlight properties with coveted railroad access. She was also instrumental in creating the Kent County Growth Fund, which could offer businesses between $250,000 to $1 million for machinery, equipment, real estate purchases, renovations and more.