CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

Work Group Priority Projects 2021



WORK GROUPS

PROJECT NAME

DESCRIPTION





Site and Infrastructure Development Program This project focuses on identification and analysis of known or suspected brownfields, and development of tools needed to remediate, market, and redevelop them into economically productive uses. The strategy also includes efforts to prioritize investment in strategic greenfield sites to enhance marketability to businesses looking to locate or expand within the region.



DEVELOPMENT



Chadakoin River Activation and Development Initiative The goal of this effort is to achieve the long-term vision of attracting additional tourists and visitors to spend additional time in downtown Jamestown, and improve the economic mobility of the waterfront for commercial development. Incremental steps will be taken to complete the requisite infrastructure, safety measures, programming, and marketing needed.



NRG Reuse Alternatives and Feasibility Study The County, County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency (CCIDA), and the City of Dunkirk are collaborating to advance a study to investigate environmental issues and options for reuse of the NRG plant in Dunkirk. The study is intended to identify viable alternatives for the site to leverage its location on Lake Erie and recent revitalization efforts in Dunkirk.



Online Business Academy

The Small Business Development Center Online Academy is working to include an entrepreneur certification program with modules on lifestyle skills, market research, product/service design, legal basics, management, and basic financials. The program will be paid for through a grant, and courses will be marketed to local and statewide entrepreneurs, small business owners, and educational institutions



Agricultural
Development and
Enhancement
Strategy

The Chautauqua County Agricultural Development & Enhancement Strategy (CCADES) is an update to the Farmland Protection Plan. It will provide a reflection of current agricultural conditions in Chautauqua County and devise strategies to increase the economic viability of the industry, encourage farmland protection, and increase interest and awareness of local agriculture.



Talent Attraction and Retention Initiative

This initiative seeks to develop and implement a cohesive recruitment and retention branding and marketing initiative, utilizing several forms of electronic and print media, to tout Chautauqua County's excellent quality of life and low cost of living. The project will identify target audiences and messaging, and suggest specific tactics to attract and retain residents.



Workplace Culture Advising Businesses in Chautauqua County need to step up their game to compete for talent locally, regionally, and beyond. This initiative is designed to assist select companies with evaluation of their workplace culture and comprehension of specific and actionable steps to improve employee morale and attract and retain qualified and skilled workers.



Housing Market Study

A county-wide housing market study has been identified as a priority project due to anticipated increase in remote work and desire to live in rural settings. This effort will involve two phases: inventory and analysis of housing, and analysis of future housing needs. Ultimately, it will develop strategies to attract developers engaged in county-wide housing projects.





Consolidated
Code
Administration
and Enforcement

This project will explore the practicality of, and action steps necessary to, consolidate zoning and building code administration and enforcement. This could result in efficiency and sharing of services, as well as the effectiveness of a single approach. Additionally, analysis of a consolidated housing court may be explored, dependent on resources and municipal interest.



Dunkirk Downtown Revitalization Initiative

The City of Dunkirk is positioned strongly to compete regionally in NYS's \$10 million Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) competition. CCPEG, CCIDA, and the City of Dunkirk are partnering with H. Sicherman/The Harrison Studio to present a compelling package of well-vetted and achievable, yet ambitious, public and private projects in a future call for proposals.





DEVELOPMENT

Trail Development

Consistent with the Chautauqua County Greenway Plan, trail development projects will be prioritized and considered in stages, dependent on available resources. Current priority projects include the completion of the Welch Trail in Westfield and Barcelona to Chautauqua Institution Trail (B2CI). Both are well underway, but will need additional funding to reach completion.



DEVELOPMENT



Village of Mayville Strategic Waterfront Activation Framework

The idea was developed with Village leadership around opportunities for Lakeside Park and Mayville's Chautauqua Lake shoreline. The framework will be developed to analyze opportunities, facilitate community and stakeholder engagement, and develop a series of individual public and private projects that will lead to the realization of a thriving waterfront community.



Fredonia
Downtown
Revitalization/
Smart Growth

In the interest of building off several recent awards, CCPEG will assist the Village of Fredonia with a series of subsequent downtown revitalization efforts. Priorities include facade improvements on Main and Water Streets, restoration of the historic fountains in Barker Commons, and continued efforts to assist with the sale, renovation, and reopening of the White Inn.





Lakewood Hartley Park Improvements

The Village of Lakewood and Lakewood Local Development Corp. are developing a multi-phase plan for improvements to the park to take advantage of its unique location on the shore of Chautauqua Lake, attract more users, and facilitate increased patronage of businesses along Chautauqua Ave. The first phase includes new playground equipment.



Tourism Transportation Shuttle

After Chautauqua Institution took the lead in convening partners to investigate the possibility of creating a tourism shuttle transportation system, Chautauqua Area Regional Transit System (CARTS), the County, CCPEG, and tourism stakeholders are working to develop a marketing/branding plan utilizing new CARTS trolley busses to make the transportation system a reality.



Lake Erie Wine Trail and Craft Beverage Development With a growing wine and craft beverage scene, and the possibility of creating a tourism transportation shuttle, an opportunity exists to encourage additional partnerships and connections among beverage destinations throughout the County, as well as develop a marketing campaign to promote producers of these beverages and their connections with other tourism destinations.