

# Chautauqua County

Department of Planning & Development

2020 Annual Report & 2021 Work Plan



# Today's agenda

- Fully Staffed and Realigned Department
- Current Projects and Initiatives
- Summary of 2020 Budget Reductions and Impacts
- Summary of 2020 Community Contracts and Occupancy Tax Contracts
- Administration of Boards
- CCIDA and CREDC 2020 Summary Report
- Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth



# Realigned and Fully Staffed

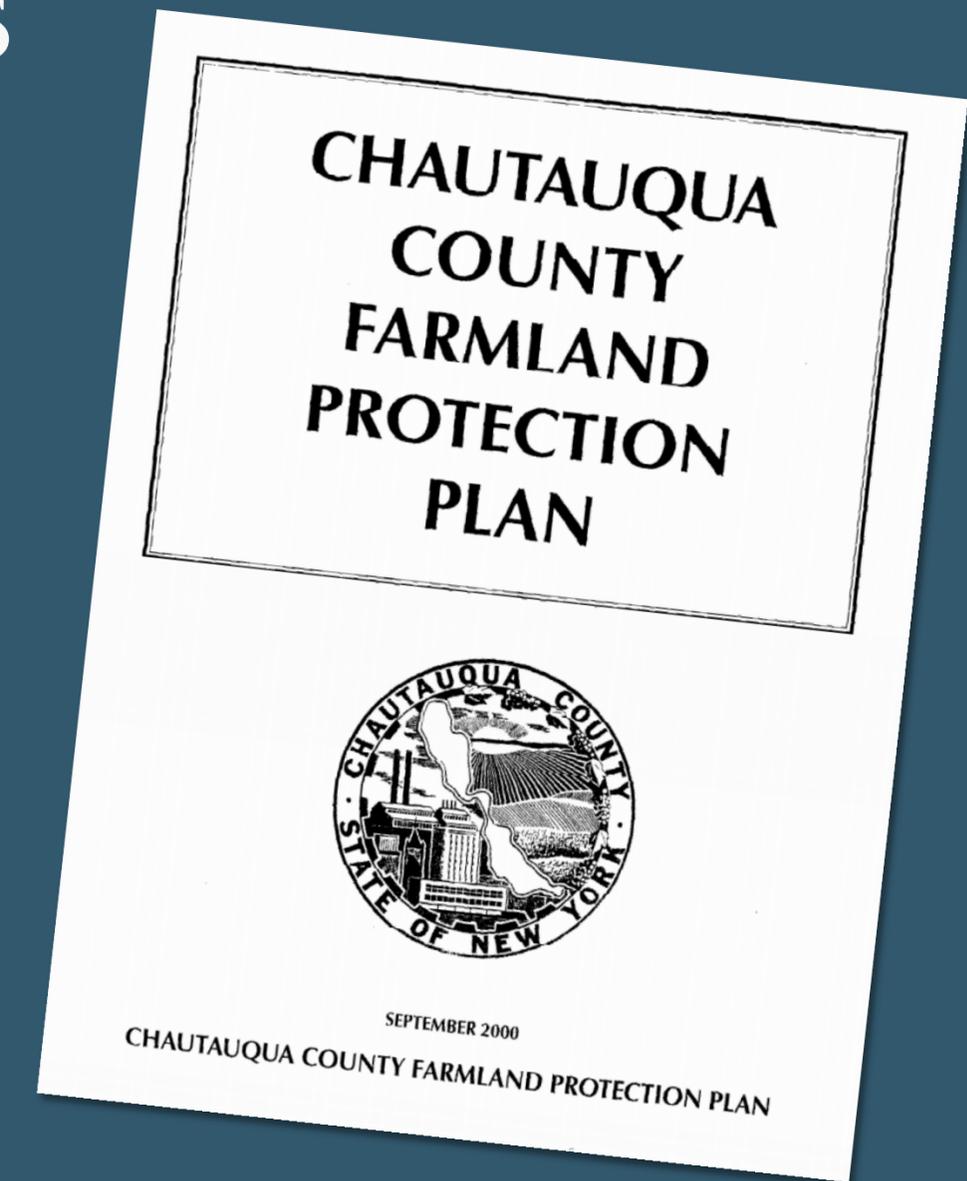
## Building Efficiencies and the Team

- In 2020, the County amended the Administrative Code to streamline the Department of Planning and Development. The most notable change was the elimination of the divisions of planning and community development and economic development.
- The closure of the Westfield office and relocation of staff to the BWB Center in Jamestown and Fredonia Technology Incubator in Dunkirk is complete. This has resulted in significant efficiencies and a much greater level of collaboration among staff.
- After the retirement of Don McCord, the position of Director of Planning and Community Development was filled with the a Special Projects Coordinator position. Rebecca Wurster was hired to manage all planning related activities as Planning Coordinator; Dave McCoy will continue to lead all watershed related work; and Nate Aldrich is leading economic development related activities.
- Chautauqua County's Planning & Economic Development Team is Best-in-Class.



# Department Initiatives

- Economic Development Strategy
- Chadakoin River Strategic Business Plan
- Agriculture Development & Enhancement Strategy
- Agriculture District Review
- Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP)
- Airport Strategic Business Plan
- Chautauqua Lake District



# Economic Development Strategy

## Project Description

Advanced under the Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth and funded by the County, CCIDA, and the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, the Chautauqua County Economic Development Strategic Plan was completed in August of 2020. The data-driven and results-oriented economic development strategy has set the stage for various public and private efforts that advance transformative projects and initiatives with countywide impacts. The Plan contains a clear vision with specific tactics, projects, programs, services, and policies to be updated or initiated. The Plan also contains recommendations regarding market conditions, capacity, resources, commitments to taking action, building trust and communication networks, and developing metrics for measuring and evaluating progress.



## Accomplishments to Date

- Launched the Partnership for Economic Growth
- Completed two phases of economic development strategy process
- Secured Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. funding for strategy development and startup-resources from NCCF and Gebbie Foundation
- Convened more than 100 stakeholders to develop strategy and ongoing in Work Groups

## 2021 Goals

- Advance 16 Priority Projects developed to advance the key recommendations of the strategy
- Develop public-private funding model for project implementation and organizational capacity



# Chadakoin River Strategic Business Plan

## Project Description

The Gebbie Foundation, County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency, Jamestown Board of Public Utilities, and City of Jamestown are developing a strategic action plan for enhancing the navigability of the Chadakoin River by small motorized watercraft, from McCrea Point Boat Launch to the basin where the City is developing the Jamestown Riverwalk. The business plan will identify projects, both economic and environmental-related, as well as marketing recommendations, that result in conceptual drawings, costing, a proposed timeline, suggested partnerships, and the identification of funding sources. This project will establish the groundwork for guiding the ultimate activation of the Chadakoin River for greater public use and ancillary development.

## 2021 Goals

- Finalize Strategic Business Plan
- Identify and Implement Short-Term Priority Projects
- Secure Funding Commitments

## Accomplishments to Date

- Secured approximately \$60,000 from various sources including the County, the Gebbie Foundation, the City of Jamestown, CCIDA, Lawson Boat, the Chautauqua Harbor Hotel, the Jamestown BPU, and other businesses and organizations.
- Issued RFP and hired C&S Engineers and the Harrison Studio to provide planning support services in the development of a multi-year strategic business/implementation plan.
- Hired additional support staff through CREDC to help manage initiative.



# Agricultural Development & Enhancement Strategy

## Project Description

The Chautauqua County Agricultural Development & Enhancement Strategy (CCADES) is an update to the County's 2001 Farmland Protection Plan. The objective of the update is to provide an accurate reflection of the current agricultural conditions in Chautauqua County and to devise strategies to increase the economic viability of the agricultural industry.



## Accomplishments to Date

- Secured a Farmland Protection Planning Grant from the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets
- Secured a grant from the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation
- Created a webpage on the Planning Department website to promote the plan and the process
- Held an initial kickoff meeting to begin the project process
- Conducted a Countywide tour to acclimate our consultants to Chautauqua County

## 2021 Goals

- Assess Chautauqua County's current agricultural economy
- Identify farmland proposed to be prioritized and analyze lands identified for potential protection
- Identify and select goals and strategies to invigorate Chautauqua County's agricultural economy
- Identify other county and municipal planning and land use programs' consistent with the Agricultural and Protection Plan
- Involve the farm community and interested citizens in development of the plan



# Agriculture District Review

## Project Description

The Department is providing support to the County Legislature through facilitating the state-mandated eight-year review of the County’s Agricultural Districts. At the same time, the County is looking to consolidate its districts to reduce administrative costs.

The review and consolidation process requires the County accept proposals for modifications to the districts, prepare a report on the status of agriculture within the districts, notify every landowner within the districts of modifications, hold a public hearing, and pass a resolution accepting the modifications through the County Legislature.

## Accomplishments to Date

- Prepared review and consolidation plans
- Posted Notices of Review in each district, on the County’s website, in local newspapers, and by mail to each municipality
- Set up web-page and online worksheet for public to submit modifications
- Prepared maps and GIS data needed for review process

## AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS

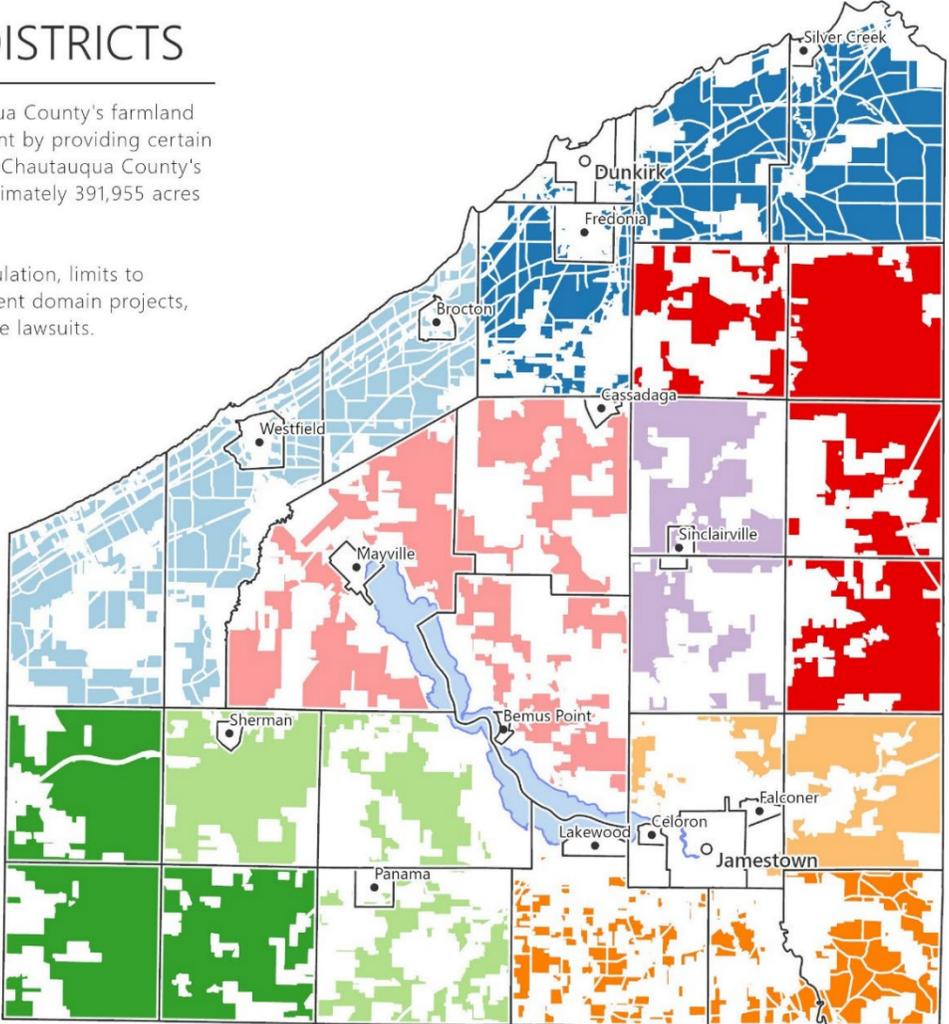
Agricultural Districts protect Chautauqua County’s farmland from the adverse effects of development by providing certain protections to the farming community. Chautauqua County’s agricultural districts encompass approximately 391,955 acres of land.

The benefits include limits to local regulation, limits to publicly funded construction and eminent domain projects, and discouragement of private nuisance lawsuits.

District	Acres	District	Acres
1	53,630	10	60,595
2	59,942	11	21,313
6	40,143	12	25,356
7	54,334	13	24,219
8	52,423		



- AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS
- Agricultural District 1
  - Agricultural District 2
  - Agricultural District 6
  - Agricultural District 7
  - Agricultural District 8
  - Agricultural District 10
  - Agricultural District 11
  - Agricultural District 12
  - Agricultural District 13



## 2021 Goals

- Prepare Report for the Chautauqua County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board
- Hold Public Hearing regarding Proposed Modifications.
- Pass Resolution to Accept Modifications.



# Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP)

## Project Description

The Department has been spearheading an effort to develop a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) for the County's 10 Lake Erie communities. Run by the New York Department of State (DOS), the LWRP enables communities to engage in thoughtful planning for their valuable waterfronts and to access grant funding to implement those plans.

## Accomplishments to Date

- Secured \$50,000 grant from DOS to create the LWRP.
- Secured additional \$70,000+ LWRP grant for kayak launches project.
- Multiple Lake Erie communities have won LWRP grants to implement priority projects.

## 2021 Goals

- Complete re-draft of LWRP and submit to DOS for approval; adopt LWRP; secure additional LWRP grant funds through DOS



# Airport Strategic Business Plan



## Project Description

The Airport Strategic Business Plan will be a condensed, useable document to help improve the financial and operational performance of the County Airports. The goal of the project is to rethink what the County airports can be in order to take advantage of local conditions and assets, rather than continue to do what we have always done and expect different results.

## Accomplishments to Date

- Project kick-off meeting held in February.

## 2021 Goals

- Analyze airport financial data; interview airport stakeholders; review previous airport plans; research comparable airports; develop SWOT and priority projects; complete Plan.



# Chautauqua Lake District

## Project Description

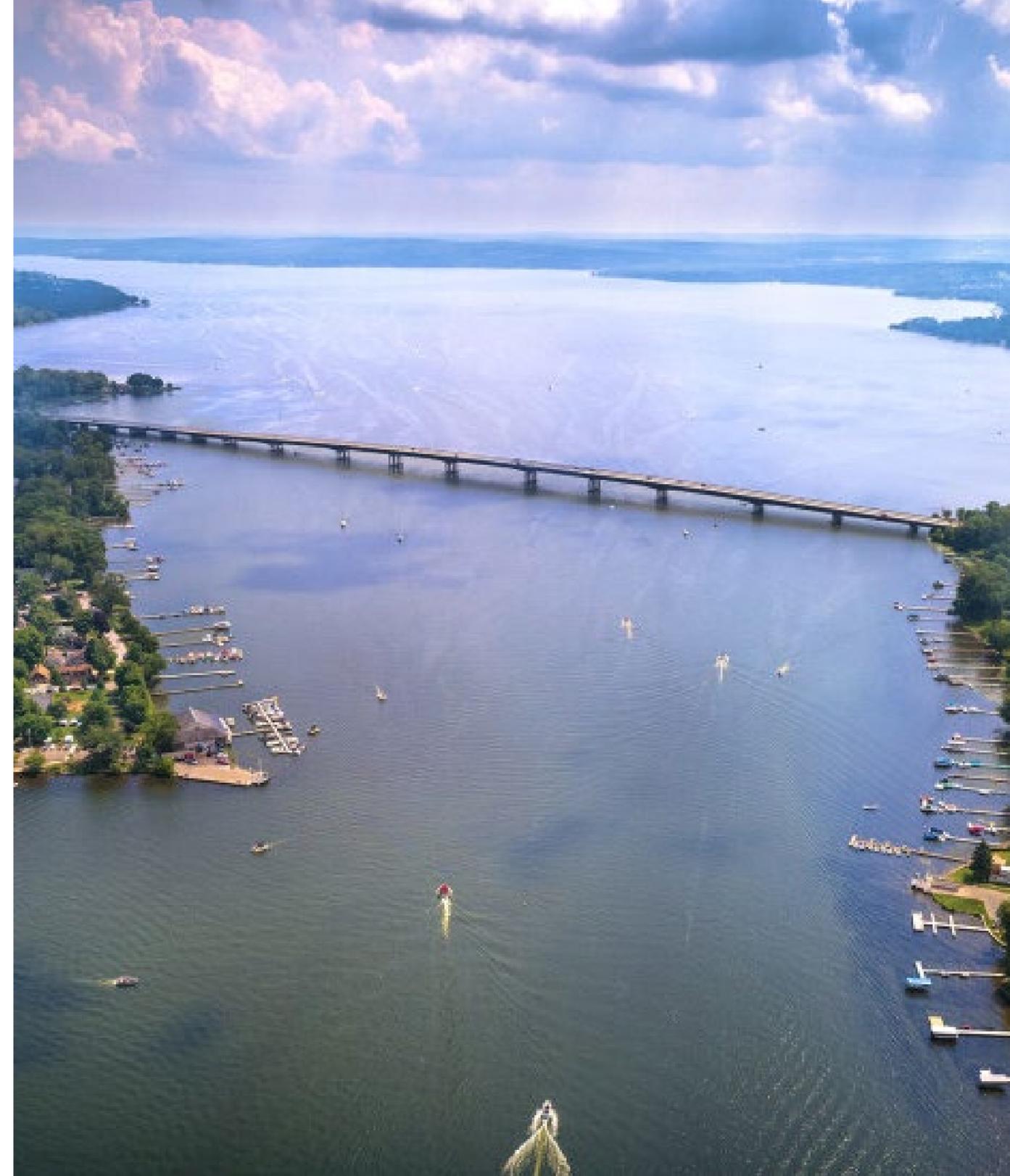
In 2018, Chautauqua County's Legislature appointed a group of local officials to explore forming a Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District to improve the health and use of the Lake. The Chautauqua Lake Protection and Rehabilitation Agency was tasked with evaluating needs and making recommendations to the County Legislature regarding the potential creation of a Chautauqua Lake Protection and Rehabilitation District. The Department provides staff support to this effort.

## Accomplishments to Date

- Facilitated 10+ Lake Agency meetings to discuss details of Lake District concept
- Helped develop core components of potential Lake District plan
- Created community survey and collected over 1,200 responses

## 2021 Goals

- Determine community interest in the Lake District concept and proceed accordingly





# Project Highlights

- Site and Infrastructure Development
- Southwest NY Wireless Broadband Project
- NRG Reuse Alternatives and Feasibility Study
- Welch Trail
- Barcelona to Chautauqua Institution Trail (B2CI)
- Clean Energy Communities Grant
- Kayak Launches Grant
- Snowmobile Trail Maintenance and Development



# Site and Infrastructure Development

## Project Description

Consistent with the Economic Development Strategic Plan, this project seeks to improve the inventory of sites for development as well as prepare critical infrastructure for economic development purposes. The project includes the identification and analysis of known or suspected brownfields, and the development of tools necessary to remediate, market, and redevelop them into economically productive uses. In addition to brownfield redevelopment, the strategy includes efforts to prioritize investment in strategic greenfield sites to enhance the County's ability to market them to businesses looking to locate or expand within the region.



## Accomplishments to Date

- Secured County Capital Project Resources for Strategy Development, Land Acquisition, and Brownfield Remediation.
- Worked with IBN to identify suitable development sites/buildings for their WNY Site Identification Initiative.
- Hired CPL to conduct Industrial Park Siting Analysis.
- Submitted \$800,000 EPA Multipurpose grant to reestablish brownfields program.

## 2021 Goals

- Purchase at least 40 acres of land; define infrastructure needs and due diligence next steps for making site(s) development-ready; improve website and utilize IBN Atlas software to market key sites; and continue to build brownfield redevelopment toolbox.





# Southwest NY Wireless Broadband

## Project Description

This project provided needed broadband infrastructure to areas not covered in our three-county area of south western New York State. Within Chautauqua County, there are several thousand people without adequate access to broadband. This project provided for infrastructure improvements including additional radios, towers, and fiber back-haul infrastructure to close the gap for our region’s residences, small businesses, and agricultural entities that have been left with low latency, data cap driven satellite as their only option when it comes to broadband service.

This project placed new antennas at 3 locations across region. This project will also provide additional fiber backhaul to our WISP providers that are maxing out the currently available bandwidth.

### *Funding Partners*

Appalachian Regional Commission: \$392,000

Chautauqua County: \$150,000

DFT: \$80,000

Cattaraugus County: \$70,000

Allegany County WISP: \$92,000

**Total project cost: \$784,000**

## Accomplishments

In Chautauqua County, this project provided expanded broadband coverage to 4195 residential address. Throughout the three-county region, coverage was expanded to 437 small business locations, 87 agricultural locations, and 18 tourism destinations.



# NRG Reuse Alternatives and Feasibility Study

## Project Description

The County, CCIDA, and the City of Dunkirk are collaborating to advance a study to investigate environmental issues and options for the re-use of the mothballed NRG power plant in the City of Dunkirk. With the assistance of an Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) POWER grant and financial contributions from local partners, a planning effort, led by Bergmann, is looking at the major environmental-related challenges that will, in part, dictate what redevelopment alternatives are feasible for the site. Reuse concepts will be developed with recommended preferred alternative(s) identified. The study should be complete in April 2021.

## Accomplishments to Date

- Secured \$110,000 from various source, including \$60,000 from the Appalachian Regional Commission, to advance study.
- Issued RFP and selected Bergmann as the project consultant.
- Study is in final draft stage and will be unveiled this spring.

## 2021 Goals

- Finalize phase 1 of study
- Hold a public unveiling of the findings and preferred alternatives.
- Secure additional resources to conduct a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment, and other additional detailed analysis such as building/facility assessment, infrastructure and utility assessment, financial analysis, and energy modeling.
- Work closely with NRG to identify and advance next steps concerning site marketing and reuse.



# Welch Trail

## Project Description

In line with our County Greenway Plan and the Barcelona to Chautauqua Institution feasibility study, the Welch trail is planned to be a connection piece of the B2CI multi-use trail.

The Welch trail will help to promote access to the Chautauqua Creek – which does not currently have a public access point. The trail will act as destination point, providing recreational activities close to downtown Westfield.

## Accomplishments to Date

- Demolition of Portage Inn
- Completion of the Welch Trail Conceptual Plan
- Secured a grant from NYS OPRHP to design and construct the trail
- Completed and received approval for preliminary construction design plans

## 2021 Goals

- Finalize construction design plans
- Begin and complete trail construction



# Barcelona to Chautauqua Institution Trail (B2CI)

## Project Description

Consistent with both the Chautauqua County 20/20 Comprehensive Plan and the Chautauqua County Greenway Plan, this project seeks to develop a multi-use trail from Barcelona Harbor to the Chautauqua Institution (B2CI). The B2CI feasibility study divided the trail into five segments, each including a number of sub-segments.

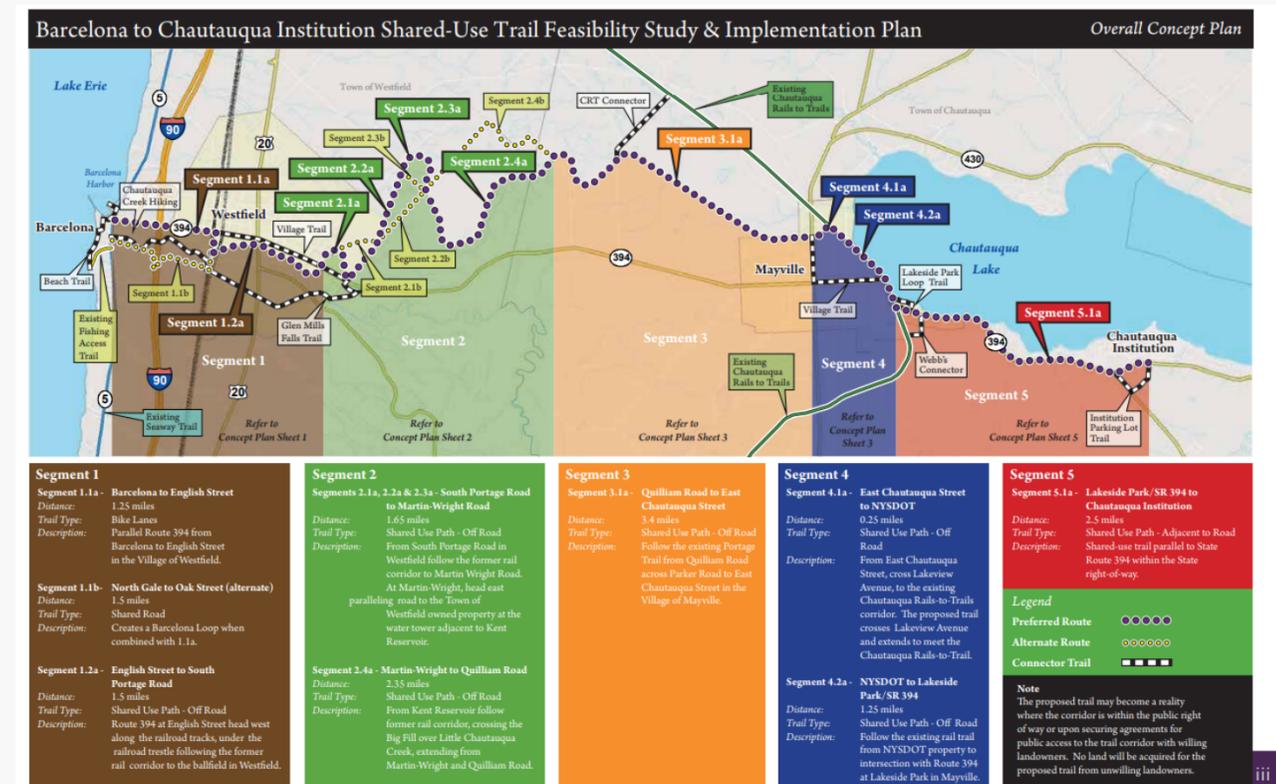
Currently, we are seeking to acquire easements along the former Jamestown, Chautauqua, and Lake Erie Railway, from Route 430 in Mayville to Martin Wright Road in Westfield. A portion of this trail is currently operated by Chautauqua Rails to Trails (CR2T) as the Portage Trail. CR2T has informal agreements with many of these landowners, however, easements will be required for further development and potential funding.

## Accomplishments to Date

- Constructed a segment of the trail connecting Lakeside Park in Mayville to Route 430 in 2017 (I am guessing, Mark/Nate would know correct date)
- Secured a grant from NYS OPRHP to acquire trail easements to connect from Route 430 in Mayville to Martin Wright Road in Westfield
- Hired an appraisal firm to complete property appraisals
- Finalized template language for agreements with landowners

## 2021 Goals

- Work with County Law Department to obtain opinions of municipal counsel
- Work with County Law Department to finalize easement legal descriptions
- Create property boundary maps depicting the easement locations
- Finalize appraisal reports for each property
- Negotiate and secure easement agreements from property owners



# Clean Energy Communities Grant

## Project Description

The County was awarded \$150,000 to implement four clean energy projects. These include; 1) LED replacement of tunnel lighting at the Jamestown Airport; 2) Purchase of Electric Vehicles; 3) Installation of EV Charging Stations; and 4) LED replacement of parking lot lighting at DPF facility in Falconer. These projects are estimated to reduce the County's energy costs by \$40,000 per year.



## Accomplishments to Date

- Completed LED replacement of Jamestown Airport's tunnel lighting
- Purchased three electric vehicles (Chevy Bolts) for use by DPF employees
- Installed two level-2 dual-port electric vehicle charging stations (one at DPF facility in Falconer, one at the Jamestown Airport)
- Awarded additional \$15,000 rebate from NYS for purchase of Electric Vehicles.

## 2021 Goals

- Complete LED replacement of parking lot lighting at DPF facility in Falconer.
- Use leftover funds for an additional LED replacement project at the Jamestown Airport. Estimated additional annual cost savings of \$7,500.



# Kayak Launches Grant

## Project Description

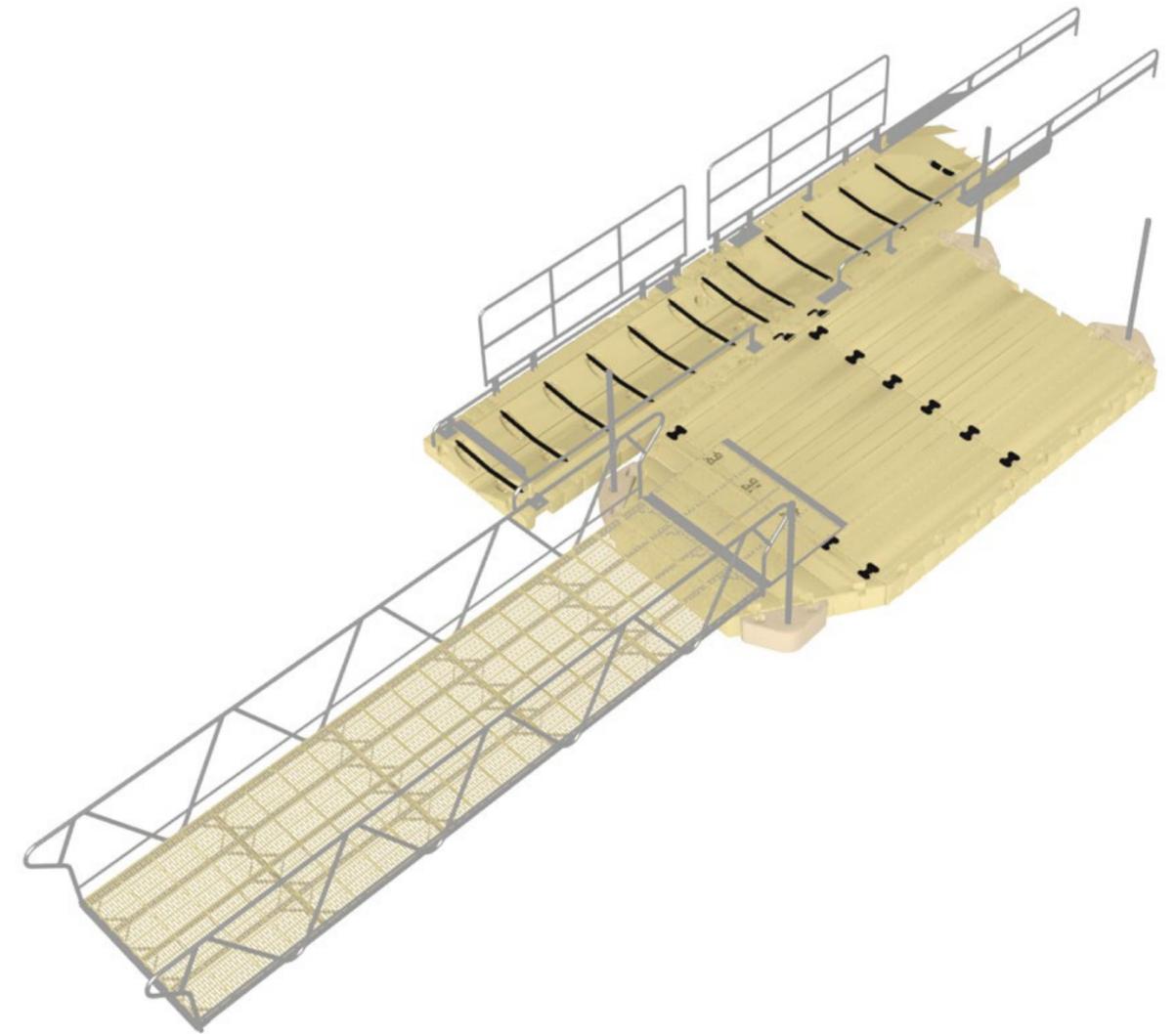
The County was awarded a \$73,155 grant by NYS DOS to install 5 kayak launches in Chautauqua County. Partnered with local municipalities (City of Dunkirk, Town of Hanover, Village of Silver Creek, and Town of Westfield) as well as local organizations (the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy and Lake Erie Management Commission) to provide local share. In total, project cost of \$109,631.80, with 4 of the launches designed to be ADA-compliant.

## Accomplishments to Date

- Secured funding through engaging stakeholders and local partnerships
- Selected lowest-bidder through RFP to purchase and install kayak launches
- Completed SEQR and secured all easements, permits, and permissions
- Purchased all materials and signage (ready for construction come Spring 2021)

## 2021 Goals

- Work with Municipalities to Install Project Signage
- Work with Vendor to Install Kayak Launches



# Snowmobile Trail Maintenance and Development

## Project Description

The County is the local sponsor for an annual Snowmobile Trail Maintenance & Development Grant through NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation. This year the county was awarded \$227,004.00.

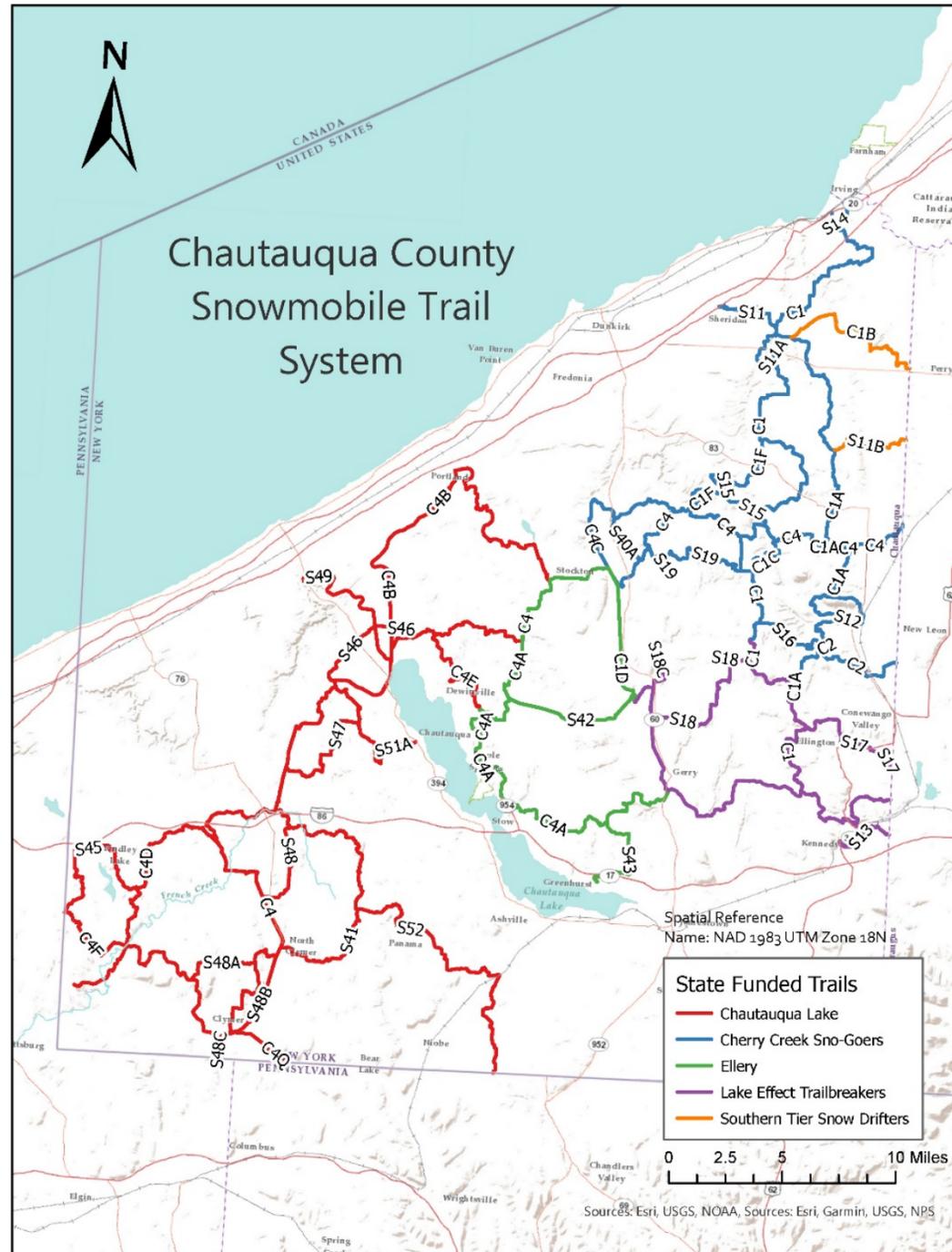
The County is responsible for the grant administration and works closely with 5 local snowmobile clubs. Our annual responsibilities include mapping GPS trail data, auditing claims, processing payments and contracts, and developing 3 year trail maintenance and development plans for each club.

## Accomplishments to Date

- Coordinated GPS data collection and mapping with members of each club
- Performed SEQR for new trail proposal connecting Cockaigne Ski Resort (trail was approved for funding in 2021-2022 season)
- Audited previous season's work claims and distributed previous season's award

## 2021 Goals

- Audit incoming work claims from each club
- Coordinate needed permission from Landowners, NYS DEC, and DOT
- Assist New Trail Development connecting Cockaigne Ski Resort
- Prepare 3-year Trail Maintenance & Development Plans





# Chautauqua Lake MOA

## Project Description

In 2018, Chautauqua County desired to bring the Chautauqua Lake stakeholders together to agree upon a Chautauqua Lake Management Consensus Strategy. The effort involved extensive stakeholder engagement and dialog to capture and address all of the relevant stakeholder concerns. The original Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was signed April of 2019 with a two year term. The MOA was generally successful in that an Integrated Lake Management Strategy was implemented, funding for lake maintenance increased significantly and no litigation occurred between the participants.

The MOA will expire on April 30, 2021. Chautauqua County intends to implement an improved stakeholder agreement that will build upon the successes and accomplishments of the previous agreement.

## Accomplishments to Date

A Steering Committee composed of the County Executive, County leadership and the Department of Planning and Development was created to formulate an approach to develop an updated stakeholder agreement. A consultant (WSP) was retained to facilitate the process.

Initial stakeholder feedback suggested that the original MOA had areas that should be improved, if a new agreement was to be successful. In response, the MOA was reformatted as a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that better addresses stakeholder's needs and is more respectful of municipal jurisdictions and lake management choices.

Seven virtual meetings with a total of twelve stakeholders have been held to review the draft agreement. Additional feedback has been obtained in writing from stakeholders that were unable to participate in the meetings.

## 2021 Goals

Going forward, feedback from the stakeholder meetings and correspondence will be analyzed and synthesized into a updated draft stakeholder agreement. Additional comments and edits on the draft agreement will be received from the stakeholders, with the objective of developing a MOU that is embraced by all signatories.

The overarching goal of the Chautauqua Lake Management Consensus Strategy or MOU is to formalize the “rules of engagement” among stakeholders. By doing so, we will be better positioned to foster unity within the Chautauqua Lake Community, leverage our limited resources and maximize the return on stakeholder investment in Chautauqua Lake and in Chautauqua County.



# 2020 Budget Results and Contract Summaries

- Department Local Share Cuts
- Community Contract Summaries
- Occupancy Tax Project Summaries



# Doing more with less

## COVID-19 Related Budget Reductions

### Department Local Share Reductions

*While painful, the Department of Planning and Development met the April 2020 mandate to cut our department's use of local share by a minimum of 15 %. We accomplished this in the following manner:*

- Reduction of 17.5 % of the \$696,030 budgeted for the 7 “Community Contracts ” ( $\$696,030 \times .175 = \$121,805$  reduction )
- Reduced employee and contractual budget in the former Division of Planning and Community Development by \$42,976 ( 10.4% reduction + 4.4% contract costs covered = 14.8 %)

### Occupancy Tax Reductions

Overall, the proposed reductions in the 2% and 3% OT Programs resulted in a total savings of \$463,024, which was a 29% overall reduction in the Occupancy Tax Local Share ( $\$463,024/\$1,616,574$ ). This included:

- 3% agency allocations were reduced equally (21%) (with the exception of the North County Shoreline Event, which was canceled; and Undesignated Off -Cycle Projects, which returned a balance of \$28,114 ).
- The 2020 adopted 2% Occupancy Tax budget was reduced by \$242,000 by moving the projects to 2021. This was justified by the fact that there is a backlog of water -related projects and this would allow our department, in conjunction with our contractors, to get caught up while still having projects implemented in 2020 from projects approved in prior years.
- Additional savings were realized based on the cancelation of several events funded through the competitive grants program for Tourism Product Development.



# Community Contracts

## Annual Agency Allocations

### 2020 Amended Contract Amounts (Reduced by 17.5%)

Cornell Cooperative Ext.	\$ 194,146
Chautauqua County 4H/Cornell	\$ 41,250
Chautauqua County Soil & Water	\$ 82,500
Chaut-Cattaraugus Library System	\$ 89,348
<i>Chautauqua Co. Ag &amp; Fair Assoc.</i>	<i>\$ 6,637*</i>
CCIDA Business Development & Promotion	\$ 84,110
CCIDA Business Assistance Program	\$ 48,803
JCC SBDC	\$ 28,589

*\*Canceled due to Covid-19 Restrictions*



# 3% Occupancy Tax Contracts

## Annual Allocations

### 2020 Amended Contract Amounts (Reduced by 21%)

Fenton History Center	\$ 7,900
United Arts Appeal/Fund for the Arts	\$ 21,725
Chautauqua Co. Historical Society	\$ 5,135
Historical Society of Dunkirk	\$ 2,370
National Comedy Center	\$ 41,080
Grape Discovery Center	\$ 11,850
<b>North County Shoreline Event Fund</b>	<b>\$ 10,000*</b>
CREDC - Gran Fondo	\$ 3,950
Chautauqua Co. Visitor's Bureau	\$ 434,500
Chautauqua County Snowmobile Federation	\$ 15,800

*\*Canceled due to Covid-19 Restrictions*



# 3% Occupancy Tax Contracts

2020 Projects Funded through the Competitive Application Process

## 2020 Contract Amounts

Luci-Desi Museum	\$	8,620
Jamestown Rebels Hockey	\$	6,864
Frewsburg Soccer Club	\$	2,986
<i>Babe Ruth World Series</i>	<i>\$</i>	<i>3,610*</i>
Dunkirk Waterfront Enhancements	\$	5,325
<i>Hello Jamestown Video Series</i>	<i>\$</i>	<i>6,980*</i>
RTPI Exhibit Marketing	\$	6,940
<i>Lily Dale Historical Walking Tours</i>	<i>\$</i>	<i>3,059*</i>
<i>Chautauqua Institution October Fest</i>	<i>\$</i>	<i>3,900*</i>

*\*Canceled due to Covid-19 Restrictions or other reasons*



# 2% Occupancy Tax Contracts

## Projects

Although we were able to sustain our Agency Allocations in 2020, no Project funding was available due to COVID related budget amendments. None the less, we were able to implement three projects with funding accrued from 2018.

We currently have a backlog of sixteen projects from 2020 and 2021 (about \$480,000) which we hope to implement as Occupancy Tax Revenues return to normal levels, or if Federal American Rescue Plan funds become available to restore revenues lost due to COVID 19 restrictions.

Since 2009, we have implemented 105 projects with a \$3.4 million investment of Occupancy Tax revenues. This local investment, has in turn, leveraged substantial Private, State and Federal investment.



# 2% Occupancy Tax Contracts

## Annual Allocations

Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Alliance: \$300,000

- Over \$7 million in projects delivered or being implemented
- The “Keepers of the Science” for Chautauqua Lake
- Coordination of the Jefferson Project
- Allocation of County funding and Charitable Foundation Giving

Chautauqua County Soil & Water Conservation District: \$35,000

- Roadside ditch stabilization
- GIS-based analysis of priority areas

Lake Erie Management Commission: \$30,000

- State and Federal Advocacy
- Public Access improvements
- Education and Outreach
- Water Quality Improvements

Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy: \$10,000

- Education and Outreach

Findley Lake Watershed Association: \$5,000

Cassadaga Lakes Association: \$3,000

Bear Lake Association: \$1,500



# 2% Occupancy Tax Contracts

## Watershed-Related Contracts

### 2020 Lakes & Waterways Grant Award

- Mid-Knight Holsteins (Built with 2018 funds)
- Chedwell
- Lighthouse Point
- Boat Stewards
- Morse
- Park
- Summer Haven
- Mission Meadows
- Town of Chautauqua

LEMC City of Dunkirk Fish Grinder

LEMC Town of Hanover Fish Grinder

LEMC Chadwick Bay Broadcasting

LEMC Drain Marking

LEMC Greystone Nature Preserve – Handicap Accessible Facilities

LEMC-Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance



# 2% Occupancy Tax Contracts

## Watershed-Related Contracts

Advance to Soil & Water for WQIPs

Advance to Village of Lakewood for Stormwater Improvements

Chautauqua Lake Floating Vegetation Management Match (Skimmers)

CLA License for Skimmers

Project Management Services Chautauqua Lake Floating Vegetation

MOA/MOU – Chautauqua Lake Consensus Strategy

Lake Gage Maintenance & Operation

NEXUS – Federal Advocacy for Water Resources Funding

Keefe Ag

Reliance Dairy

Silver Creek Dam

Star Point Ag

Jamestown Riverwalk 1

Jamestown Riverwalk 2

West Dutch WQIP

Dutch Hollow Main WQIP

Dormitory Authority State of New York

Town of Chautauqua License for Mobitrac



# 2% Occupancy Tax Contracts

What does the future hold?

Implementation of the 16 grant projects from 2020 and 2021 (New contracts & amendments)

Co-funding opportunities:

- Jefferson Project on Chautauqua Lake
- USACE - Chautauqua Lake Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study
- South Chautauqua County Water District (Town of North Harmony, Chautauqua and Chautauqua Institution)

Advocacy and co-funding for Operation & Maintenance Projects:

- Barcelona Harbor
- Dunkirk Harbor
- Cattaraugus Creek Harbor

Potential Ice Jam/Flood Mitigation Projects:

- Sunset Bay
- Silver Creek
- Walnut Creek
- Canadaway Creek
- Crooked Brook



# Administration of Boards

- County Planning Board
- Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board
- Food Policy Council
- Lake Erie Management Commission





# County Planning Board

## Project Description

The Chautauqua County Planning Board provides local governments with reviews of zoning amendments and other planning actions, undertakes the annual completion of a six-year capital improvement program, and supports other planning efforts as allowed under the power and authority established in the Chautauqua County Charter and New York State General Municipal Law, Article 12-b, Section 239(c).

## Duties

- 239 Review
- Assist in the preparation of the County Comprehensive Plan and updates
- May undertake studies relevant to the future growth, development, and protection of the county and municipalities
- May assist a municipality in the study of ways to obtain economy, efficiency and quality in the planning and provision of municipal services
- May collect and distribute information relative to county or municipal planning and zoning

## 2021 Goals

- Carry out the annual capital projects review process
- Identify ways in which the Board can provide assistance and education to the municipalities of the County
- Serve as an advisory Board to guide County planning efforts
- Review municipal referrals of planning and zoning actions as needed



# Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board

## Project Description

The Chautauqua County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board is a board of the County Legislature. The board's mission is to enhance economic viability of the agricultural industry and preserve and protect the viable farmland in Chautauqua County.

The Board is tasked with advising the County Legislature on matters related to agricultural districts. They also respond to Notices of Intent which are needed when state agencies, local governments, or public benefit corporations seek to acquire farmland or use public funds for certain construction activities in an agricultural district.

## Duties

Encourage farming in Chautauqua County Advise the Chautauqua County Legislature on establishing, modifying, continuing, or terminating agricultural districts

Review Notice of Intent filings pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law 25AA

Sections 305.4 and 305-a

Support, implement, and update the goals of the Chautauqua County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan

## 2021 Goals

Complete the update of the County's Farmland Protection Plan

Establish an implementation plan to move the recommendations of the plan forward

~~Approve and submit proposed modifications of Agricultural Districts to the County Legislature~~



# Food Policy Council

## About the Council

As a recommendation of the 2018 Cultivating Prosperity in Chautauqua County report, the Chautauqua County Food Policy Council was created to bring together stakeholders within the local food system to strengthen and build healthy sustainable communities.

The Council consists of 13 members that each represent a portion of the food system.

## Accomplishments to Date

- Established a countywide Food Policy Council
- Recruited and formed the initial Council
- Developed a website to inform our community about the Council and food systems
- Created a survey to identify assets and programs within our County's food system
- Developed a food system asset map to provide support to local businesses and to connect those within the local food supply chain

## 2021 Goals

- Develop a sustainability plan for the Council
- Identify specific recommendations within the Cultivating Prosperity report to work towards
- Act as an advisory board for those facing policy issues within the food system

**CHQ Food System Map**   

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**Abers Acres**  
884 ROUTE 394, KENNEDY

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**Aldi**  
3878 VINEYARD DR, DUNKIRK

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**Aldi**  
930 FAIRMOUNT AVE, JAMESTOWN

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**Vinewood Acres Fruit Farm**  
PERSONS RD., WESTFIELD

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**BIG LOTS**  
21 S MAIN ST, JAMESTOWN

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**Big Lots**  
1170 CENTRAL AVE, DUNKIRK

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**Big Tree Maple**  
2040 HOLLY LANE, LAKEWOOD

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**Brigiotta's Farmland Produce & Garden Center, Inc.**  
414 FAIRMOUNT AVENUE, JAMESTOWN

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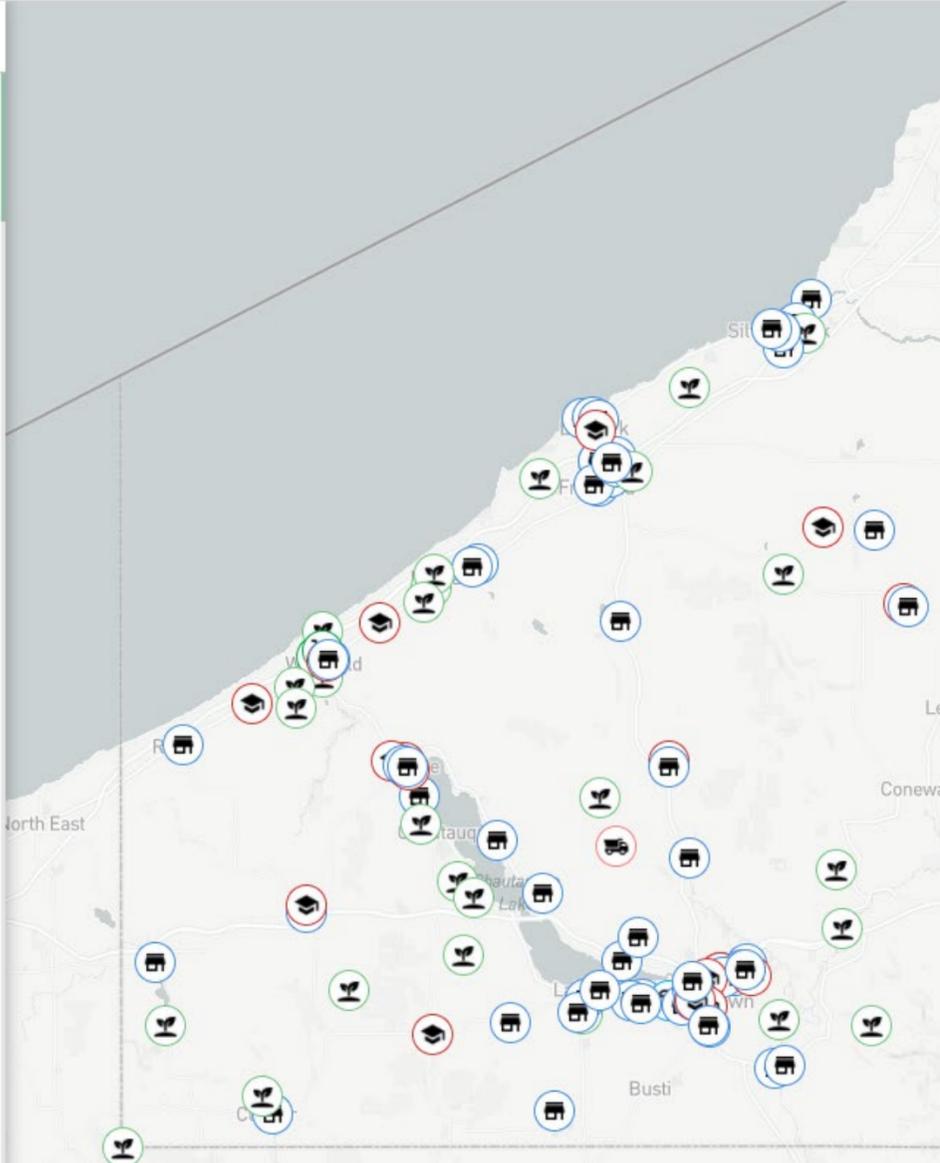
**Brocton Food Pantry**  
7081 E RT. 20, WESTFIELD

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**Cabana Sam's Sunset Bay Grill**  
1028 S SHORE DR, IRVING

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**Carlberg Farm Produce**  
1621 CARLBERG RD., JAMESTOWN



# CCIDA and CREDC

- 2020 Summary Report
- 2021 Work Plan
- Partnership for Economic Growth



# CCIDA and CREDC

## 2020 Summary Report

In total, the CCIDA and CREDC, working with its many partners, were successful in committing and/or leveraging just under \$47 Million in investment in the County in 2020, despite these challenges.

### **The AI-Tech Revolving Loan Fund and PILOT Incentives**

The CCIDA approved just over a dozen typical incentive transactions in 2020, which resulted in a total investment approved/committed of \$41.3 Million (excluding Round 1 of the EDA Cares Act Loan program, the Emergency Working Capital Loan Program, and grants made via CREDC for the PPE program). These transactions resulted in a total job creation over 3 years of just under 200 full-time equivalents, and the retention of just over 300 jobs.

### **Emergency Working Capital Loan Program**

In response to the COVID-19 crisis and the impact it was having on businesses throughout Chautauqua County, the CCIDA provided low-interest loans not exceeding \$10,000 to businesses throughout Chautauqua County. This program was approved by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) before it was launched. This emergency funding, which originated from the AI-Tech Loan Fund, was used for working capital needs, and the normal application and securitization requirements were relaxed.

### **Personal Protective Equipment Matching Grant Program**

The CCIDA Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Grant Program had two components. Component 1 involved a 50/50 matching grant program for the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE) and other materials needed by businesses (e.g., thermometers, face masks, face shields, tape, barriers, and other implements) to comply with the Governor's workplace safety mandates. The second component involved the provision of technical assistance services provided by JCC's health experts in order to assist companies in developing safety plans that would identify what they needed to do in terms of the provision of PPE, in re-designing of their workplace layouts, in revising work schedules, etc., in order to protective their employees and customers.

### **CCIDA/EDA Cares Act Revolving Loan Fund**

The CCIDA was awarded \$10.5 Million in funding in the 3rd quarter of 2020 as part of the Federal Economic Development Administration's (EDA) Cares Act Stimulus funding, which was to be used for working capital, the purchase of equipment, and other defined purposes to keep their businesses viable. Just as with the Emergency Working Capital Loan Program, collateral requirements were relaxed and the interest rate was set at a low 2.44%.



# CCIDA and CREDC

## Other Initiatives Undertaken by CCIDA/CREDC in 2020

- Started earnest search for suitable land for industrial park expansion – negotiated with landowner in northern Chautauqua County. Additional funding in the amount of \$130,000 secured from County through capital projects fund;
- Inventoried all county brownfields, suspected brownfields, and/or properties within a BOA (over 400), working collaboratively with the municipalities and other stakeholders along with consultant (Prospect Hill);
- Worked with Invest Buffalo Niagara (IBN) to identify suitable development sites/buildings in Chautauqua County for their WNY Site Identification Initiative. Six are to be highlighted in Newmark Frank’s detailed report;
- Worked with Gebbie Foundation, City of Jamestown, BPU, RTPI, and other stakeholders, along with consultants (C&S/H. Sicherman) on Chadakoin River Strategic Business/Activation Plan;
- Worked with City of Dunkirk and other key stakeholders, along with consultant (Bergmann), on NRG Reuse Alternatives and Feasibility Study;
- Initiated eminent domain proceedings for Roberts Road access to Roberts Road Freezer, LLC and county-owned brownfield site;
- Initiated proactive Business Retention initiative with Business Development Managers;
- Revamped website to support and highlight COVID-19 news bulletins for businesses, and answered calls from hundreds of businesses to interpret state mandates related to the pandemic; and
- Worked with Empire State Brands to secure funding to undertake a feasibility study, and assisted them in securing a \$2.2 Million state grant.



# CCIDA and CREDC

## CCIDA & CREDC 2021 WORK PLAN

The following projects and initiatives are being pursued in 2021 by the CCIDA and CREDC:

- Revamp/Rethink CCIDA Website;
- Fully Commit CCIDA/EDA RLF CARES Loan Fund;
- Purchase at Least 80 acres of Land to Expand Industrial Park(s);
- Investigate Pros and Cons of Instituting a Local Labor Policy;
- Complete NRG Reuse Study;
- Fully Consolidate Planning & Development/CCIDA locations;
- Complete Phase II of Brownfield Strategy & Implement Recommendations (including infrastructure needs);
- Update Computer Equipment;
- Implement MOU for Chautauqua Lake;
- Develop Airport Master Plan in-house;
- Implement New CRM System (Sales Force);
- Re-think Marketing Strategy – Collaborate with CCPEG, CCDPD, CCVB, and perhaps others;
- Package and Seek Funding for 16 CCPEG Projects;
- Find a Buyer for 26 E. Talcott Street;
- Finish/Implement Chadakoin River Strategic Business Plan and initiate the implementation process;
- Finish Eminent Domain Proceedings for Roberts Road Property and Secure Easement;
- Finish “Agriculture as Economic Development” Plan;
- Assist Empire State Brands in Launching Integrated Hops and Barley Processing Facility;
- Fully implement Proactive Business Retention Initiative;
- Work with County Stakeholders on Talent Attraction Initiative; and
- Continue providing articles for “Building Chautauqua” Article.

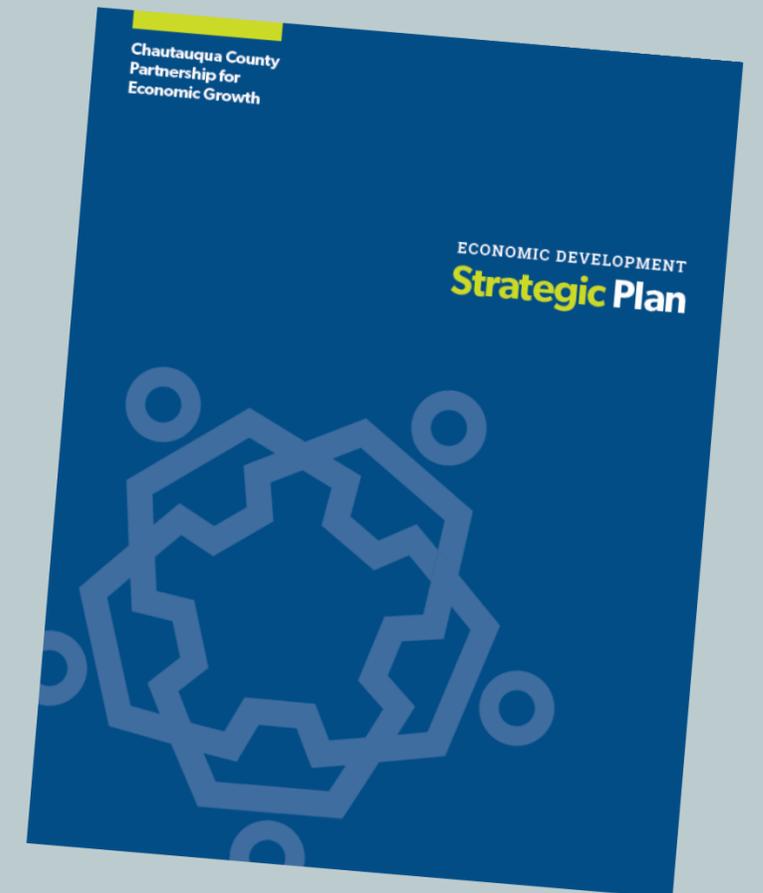


# Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth (CCPEG)



Formed in 2019, the Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth brings together public and private leaders to focus on countywide and regional economic development projects. It also serves as the catalyst and broker of resources for advancing economic prosperity efforts and is the central coordinating entity for the formation, retention, development, and attraction of sustainable jobs and advancements to quality of life in Chautauqua County

The Partnership brought together more than 100 stakeholders to develop a comprehensive countywide Economic Development Strategic Plan which now serves as the roadmap the county's economic development partners to

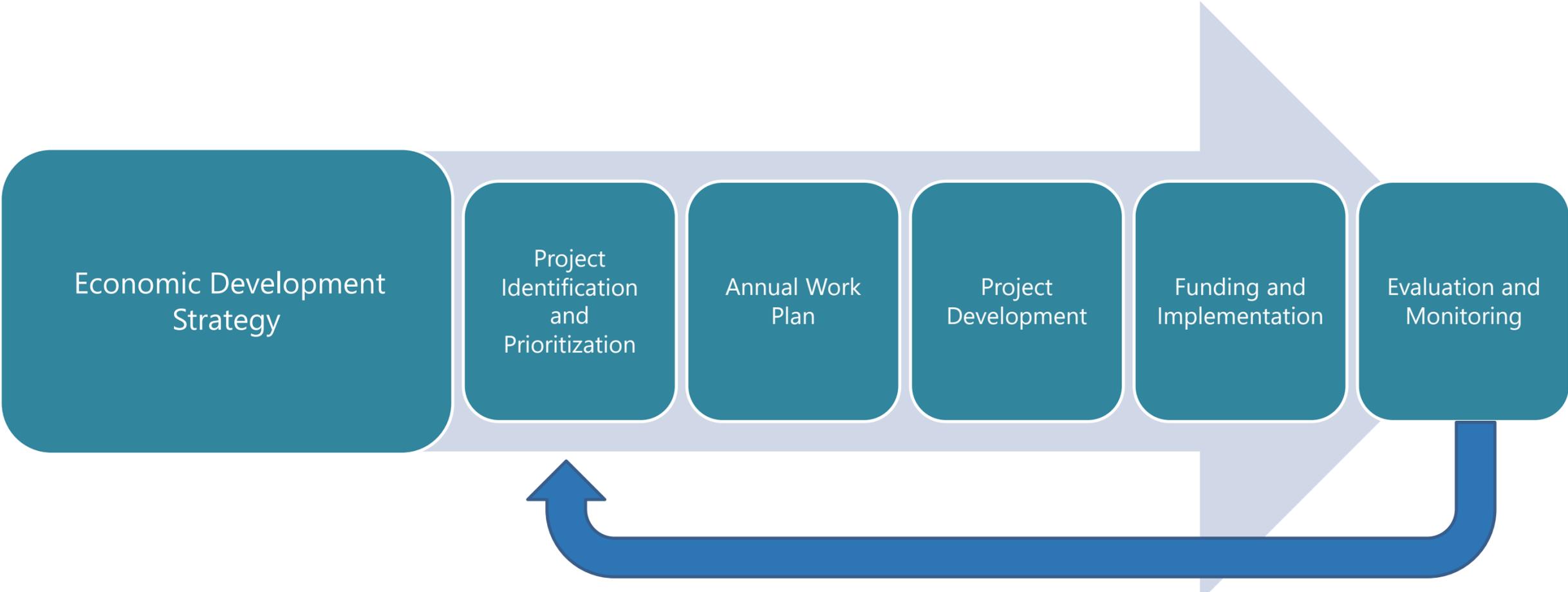


# Summary of Accomplishments

- Finalized the Economic Development Organizational Plan (Phase 1).
- Launched and developed CHQpartnership.org.
- Secured funding from the Ralph C. Wilson Jr. Foundation, through a collaboration with NCCF, to advance the Comprehensive County -wide Economic Development Strategy (Phase II) and contracted with Camoin 310.
- Pivoted during the Covid -19 pandemic to realign priorities and take into consideration post -Covid economic recovery.
- Finalized Chautauqua County Economic Development Strategy in August 2021.
- Funded and filled Economic Development Specialist Position through CREDC – Monica Simpson.
- Contracted with several consultants (CPL, H. Sichertman, and others) to provide on -call support related to the conceptualization and implementing priority projects.
- Secured funding from the Gebbie Foundation to implement the Chadakoin River Strategic Business Plan and hire a second Economic Development Specialist through CREDC – Kristen Kathman.
- All work groups are convening regularly to identify and advance projects even with funding uncertainty.



# CCPEG Work Group Process

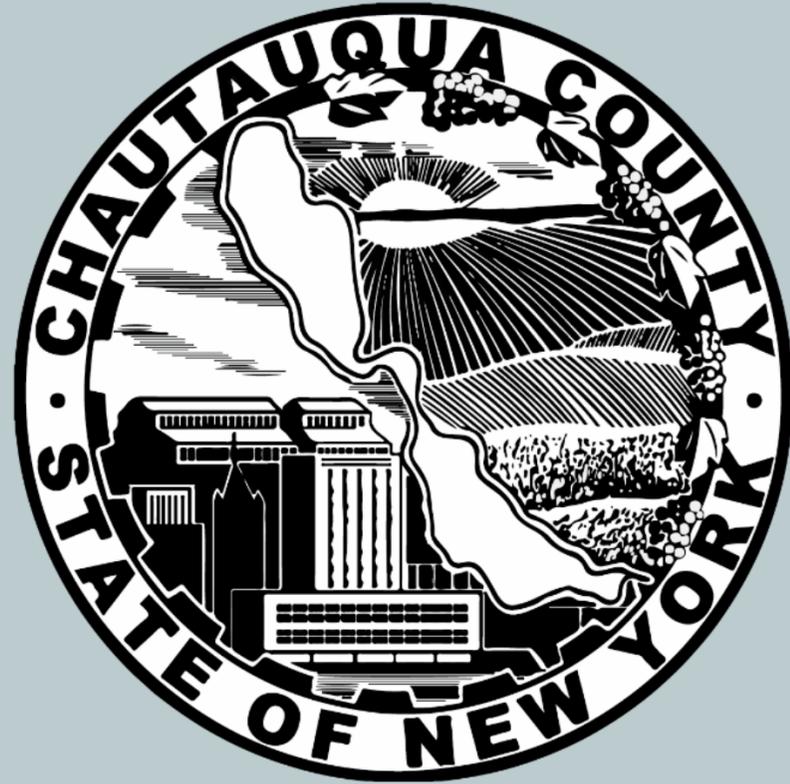


# 2021 Work Plan

## 2021 Priority Projects

1. Site and Infrastructure Development Program	9. Consolidated Code Administration and Enforcement Feasibility Study
2. Chadakoin River Activation and Development Initiative	10. Dunkirk Downtown Revitalization Initiative
3. NRG Reuse Alternatives and Feasibility Study	11. Trail Development
4. Online Business Academy	12. Village of Mayville Strategic Waterfront Development Framework
5. Agricultural Development and Enhancement Strategy	13. Fredonia Downtown Revitalization/Smart Growth
6. Talent Attraction and Retention Initiative	14. Lakewood Hartley Park Improvements
7. Workplace Culture Improvement as a Recruitment/Retention Strategy	15. Tourism Transportation Shuttle
8. Housing Market Study	16. Lake Erie Wine Trail and Craft Beverage Development





# Questions

Let's make this our best year yet.