

VILLAGE OF CHITTENANGO

CENTRAL NEW YORK
NY FORWARD

Public Meeting #1
June 11, 2025

<https://chittenango.gov/ny-forward/>



NY Forward

Meeting Agenda

- 1 Welcome
- 2 NY Forward Overview
- 3 Village Application Review
- 4 Next Steps
- 5 Visioning Exercises



2 NY Forward Overview

What is the NY Forward (NYF) Program?

State directs **\$4.5M investment**
to each of two communities
nominated by the
Central New York Regional
Development Council (REDCs)



NY Forward

Each community develops a
Strategic Investment Plan to
identify transformative projects to
be funded in part through NYF

Learn more: <https://www.ny.gov/programs/ny-forward>

NY FORWARD PROGRAM GOALS



**Enhance downtown living
and quality of life**



**Provide enhanced public
spaces that serve those of
all ages and abilities**



**Support an
active downtown with
a mix of uses**



**Create diverse
housing options for
all income levels**



**Encourage the reduction
of greenhouse gas
emissions**



**Provide diverse
employment opportunities
for a variety of skill sets
and salary levels**



**Grow the local property
tax base**

The NYF process is a partnership between

**Local Planning
Committee
(LPC)**

+

Community

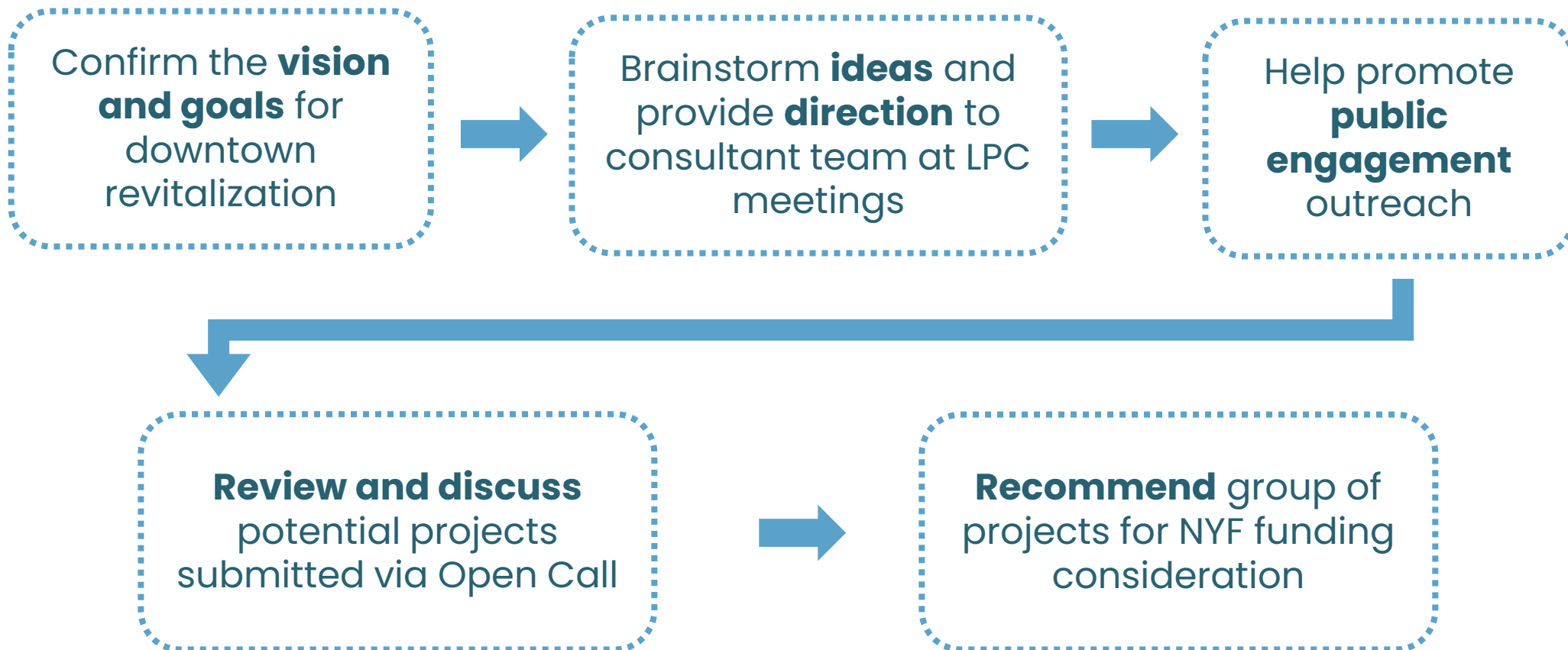
+

**New York
State**

+

**Consultant
Team**

Roles and Responsibilities



LPC Members

Co-Chairs:

Louis Cianfrocco, Mayor, Village of Chittenango

Kipp Hicks, Director, Madison County IDA

John Bonura

Scott Baldwin

Peg Engasser

Dana Kent

Allison Lehr

Melissa Stanek

Carrie Montroy

Jackie Mowers

Ashton Nelson

Ryan Powell

Ross Relyea

Deb Rose

Jacob Tanner

John Van Deusen



New York State Team



DOS

Department of State – NYF Lead Agency

DOS lead: Lissa D'Aquanni

ESD

Empire State Development

HCR

Homes & Community Renewal

NYSERDA

NYS Energy Research & Development Authority

Governor's Office

Regional Representative

Stantec's Urban Places

Planning
& Urban Design

Mobility

Complete Streets

Engineering

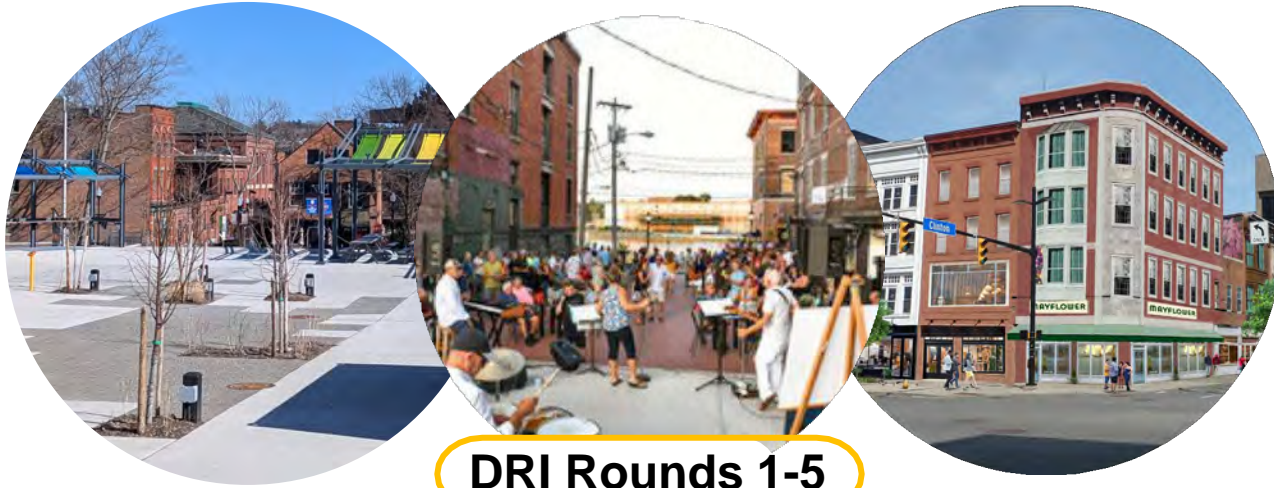
Landscape
Architecture



Team Members

Highland Planning – Community Engagement
BJH Advisors – Economic Development
Ideas & Action – Housing
M&P Engineering – Cost Estimating
Revby – Small Businesses
W-ZHA – Project Economics

CONSULTANT TEAM EXPERIENCE



DRI Rounds 1-5

Oswego, Elmira, Oneonta, Hudson,
Albany, Schenectady, Rochester



Oswego DRI



Hamilton NYF



NYF Round 1

Phoenix,
Hamilton,
Moravia



NYF Round 2

Brewerton,
Canastota

Overall NY Forward Process

☑ Village submitted an application to REDC and was awarded NY Forward funding

Now: • Community planning process solicits and develops potential NY Forward projects (now through December)

- Sponsors submit Open Call for Projects form
- Consultant team reviews project proposals and works with sponsors
- LPC votes to recommend list of projects for funding consideration (Strategic Investment Plan/SIP)
- *Note:* recommended projects should total **\$6–8M** in requested NYF funding

Later: • State team reviews SIP and awards projects from LPC's recommended list totaling **\$4.5M** in NYF funding

- Funded projects begin after contracting period
 - *Note:* NY Forward award is a reimbursable grant to project sponsors (sponsor pays initially and gets reimbursed later, typically when project completed)

NYF PLANNING PROCESS TIMELINE



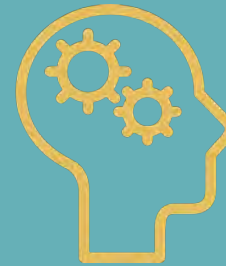
Visioning

Refine the community's future vision, establish priorities and gather input



Opportunities + Challenges

Understand the community's unique characteristics and key opportunities



Project Development + Evaluation

Identify, develop, and evaluate potential projects



Project Recommendations

Recommend projects that align with the community's

9 Month Timeframe (April – December 2025)

Two public meetings:

- Tonight: vision, goals, opportunities
- September: review projects submitted in Open Call

Project website: **chittenango.gov/ny-forward/**

- Online survey after each public meeting for those who cannot attend
- Past presentations and meeting summaries for review

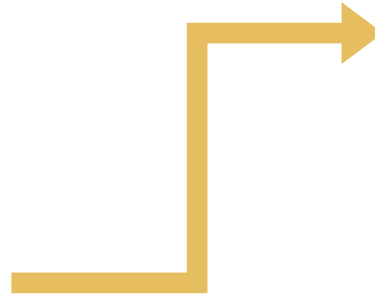
Key components of a Strategic Investment Plan



Project proposals needed

LPC will issue **open call for projects** that all project sponsors must respond to

- Village's application to the State identified potential project ideas – likely to change
- Actively working to identify additional projects
- Projects should be within the NYF boundary



SPREAD THE WORD!

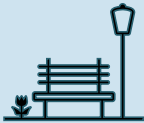
Open call for projects

- NYF focused on *implementable projects*, not just ideas
- Online form, office hours, webinar
- Requires detailed information about project sponsor, proposed project, funding, costs, etc.
- Consultant team available to discuss ideas
philip.schaeffing@stantec.com

Eligible project types



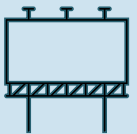
New Development and/or
Rehabilitation of Existing Structures



Public Improvements



Small Project Fund









Community Branding and Marketing
(Physical Components)

Ineligible project types

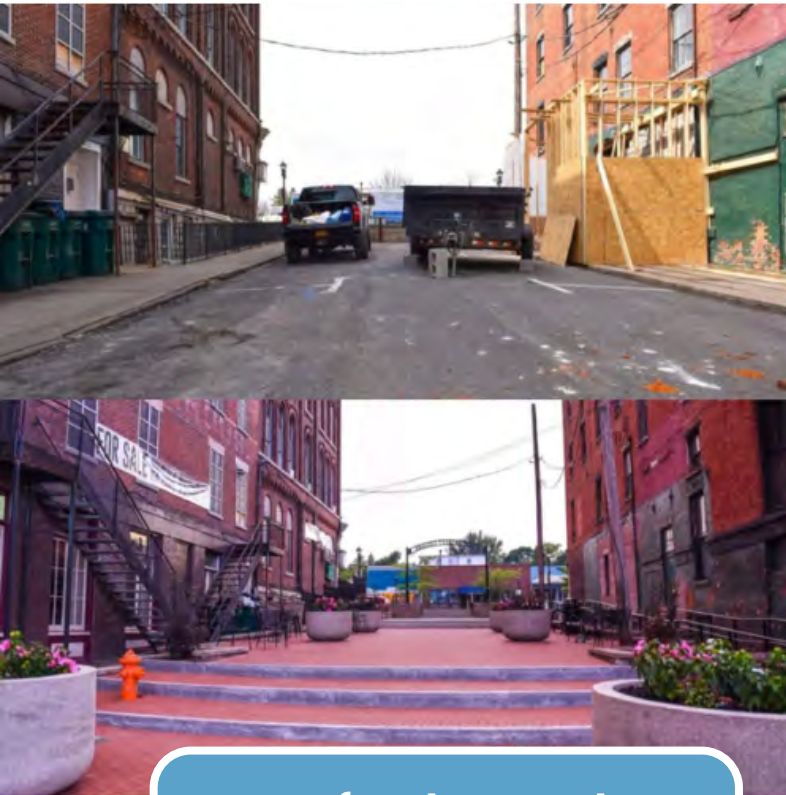
- Standalone planning activities
- Operation and maintenance (include staffing, utilities, rent)
- Deferred maintenance
- Pre-award costs
- Property acquisition
- Training and other continuing expenses
- Expenses related to existing programs

Eligibility Requirements

Projects must also meet the following eligibility requirements to be considered:

-  Identified project sponsor with capacity and legal authority to undertake project
-  Project sponsor has site control
-  Large enough to be truly transformative to downtown
-  Must be able to break ground within two years of receiving NYF award
-  Financing commitments largely secured – or demonstrated to be able to be secured
-  Includes decarbonization techniques
(if new construction, substantial renovation, or building addition)

Implementable Projects vs. “Good ideas”



**NYF funds must be
designated toward
capital initiatives!**





3

Village Application Review

NYF BOUNDARIES

Village of Chittenango's Preliminary NYF Boundary

 Proposed boundary
in application

Along Genesee Street
From Old Erie Canal south to
W Genesee Street

Potential projects should be within
boundary – or nearby and make a
case for inclusion



Draft vision statement

“The Village of Chittenango envisions a vibrant and welcoming community that celebrates our unique heritage, embraces sustainability, and fosters innovation. Our downtown will be a dynamic hub where history meets the future, drawing residents and visitors alike to enjoy our rich cultural offerings, active public spaces, and thriving local businesses. Through the Creekwalk Trail system, our downtown area is directly linked to the Empire State Trail, and we will continue to strengthen the connection to attract visitors from all over the world to our downtown. We commit to nurturing a connected, inclusive, and resilient village, where every voice shapes our journey, and every project strengthens our collective identity.”

* From Village application

Project ideas from the Village's application*

Private Sector: Potential \$13.8M Total Investment

- **Building Renovations, Small Business Support:** support building renovations, new construction, and various improvements of commercial, retail, institutional, recreational and historic buildings. Eleven potential projects identified in application.

Public Sector: Potential \$1.2M Total Investment

- **Dr. West Park Enhancements:** Install a dance floor and new bathroom facilities to bolster current events
- **Creekwalk Amenities:** Gateway, landscaping, and other improvements to beloved community creekside trail
- **Genesee Street Streetscape:** Improving Genesee Street streetscape in line with Vision 2020
- **Sullivan Free Library Improvements:** Roof replacement and exterior column replacement at existing library
- **Chittenango Fire Company Renovations:** Façade and roof improvements
- **Gateway Signage & Public Art:** Concentrated marketing and branding campaign inclusive of public art
- **Small Project Fund:** Establish a façade improvement grant program

* These projects will not be automatically considered by the LPC.
All projects must submit an [Open Call for Projects form](#), available online.

4 Next Steps

Upcoming Process

- ➡ • **Online survey on project website** – share with those who could not attend tonight so they can provide their input as well: <https://chittenango.gov/ny-forward/>
- ➡ • **Open Call for Projects** – stay tuned for release of form and office hours for interested sponsors
- **Project development** – consultant team will work with sponsors who submit an Open Call form to strengthen project for funding consideration
- **Public feedback** – September open house to review submitted projects
- **LPC vote** – LPC endorses slate of potential projects for NYF funding consideration

Meetings

- LPC Meeting #1: 5/20
- ➡ **Public Meeting #1:** 6/11
- LPC Meeting #2: 6/25
- LPC Meeting #3: Aug
- **Public Meeting #2:** Sept
- LPC Meeting #4: Sept
- LPC Meeting #5: early Oct
- LPC Meeting #6: late Oct

Open Call for Projects: June – July

LPC approves project slate: late Oct

Strategic Investment Plan: Nov – Dec

5 Visioning Workshop

We need your input

Discuss openly, but respectfully.
There are no bad ideas!

Draw, write, speak –
whatever works best for you.

Exercises

INDIVIDUALLY

Review the Vision Statement and complete questions.

IN GROUPS

Discuss project ideas, opportunities, and challenges of the NYF area.

Individual exercise:

- Review the vision statement
- Write/Annotate: What resonates with you, what could be better
- Identify strengths and challenges facing downtown

NY Forward - Village of Chittenango Individual Vision Statement Exercise

Please help develop the Chittenango NYF Vision. Read the draft vision statement that was included in the application and let us know what resonates with you, and what could be better.

DRAFT VISION STATEMENT:

The Village of Chittenango envisions a vibrant and welcoming community that celebrates our unique heritage, embraces sustainability, and fosters innovation. Our downtown will be a dynamic hub where history meets the future, drawing residents and visitors alike to enjoy our rich cultural offerings, active public spaces, and thriving local businesses. Through the Creekwalk Trail system, our downtown area is directly linked to the Empire State Trail, and we will continue to strengthen the connection to attract visitors from all over the world to our downtown. We commit to nurturing a connected, inclusive, and resilient village, where every voice shapes our journey, and every project strengthens our collective identity."

The vision statement is forward-looking and should:

- Be specific to Chittenango
- Highlight unique aspects
- Include key characteristics and aspirations

WHAT RESONATES WITH YOU:

WHAT COULD BE BETTER / WHAT IS MISSING FROM THE VISION STATEMENT:

Forward - Village of Chittenango Individual Opportunities and Challenges Exercise

is in identifying Village of Chittenango's **strengths, challenges, and areas of opportunity**. Please id to the following questions.

ARE DOWNTOWN CHITTENANGO'S STRENGTHS TO BUILD FROM?

ARE CHALLENGES TO ADDRESS?

OPPORTUNITIES EXIST FOR NY FORWARD TO BUILD ON?

What will Chittenango look like in 5–7 years, after NYF investment is complete?

- Future-focused, aspirational, inspiring
- Locally-specific
- Concise
- General enough to not be affected by short-term changes

Vision example from NYF Round 1:

Downtown Sleepy Hollow will be a vibrant, welcoming, and easily accessible community in the Mid-Hudson region that showcases its legendary history, celebrates its cultural diversity, and offers a model for sustainable living. Made famous by Washington Irving's short story, the Village of Sleepy Hollow will become a year-round destination for residents and visitors alike by building upon its strengths—a charming and walkable mixed-use district located near to public transit, thriving immigrant-owned small businesses, and the beautiful Hudson River waterfront. In doing so, the Village will cultivate a downtown that expands opportunities for all.

Group discussion:

Identify a notetaker and reporter at your table

- Identify strengths and challenges
- Review potential projects and suggest new ones
- Agree on 3–5 shared priorities: **what should NY Forward help achieve?**

Report back to the room on your priorities

VILLAGE OF CHITTENANGO, NY
NY FORWARD PROGRAM

VISIONING SESSION

NEW YORK
STATE OF
OPPORTUNITY

NY Forward

JUNE 2025

NYF AREA MAP

Potential Projects Identified in Village's Application*

Private Project Ideas

- 1 Retail Expansion
- 2 Upper Floor Housing
- 3 New Senior Housing
- 4 Museum Expansion and Facade Improvement
- 5 Upper Floor Housing
- 6 Sports Facility
- 7 Exterior/ Interior Business Improvements
- 8 Facade Improvements + Housing Rehab
- 9 Community Center
- 10 Business Expansion
- 11 Museum Site Improvements

Public Project Ideas

- 1 Dr. West Park Improvements
- 2 Creekwalk Amenities
- 3 Genesee Street Streetscape
- 4 Sullivan Free Library Exterior Improvements
- 5 Chittenango Fire Company Exterior Improvements

Other Potential Project Ideas

- Gateway Signage
- Public Art
- Small Project Fund: Facade Improvements

Note: * These project ideas are provided for information only. All project sponsors must submit an Open Call for Projects form to be considered for NYF funding, whether or not they were included in the Village's application. Details may change.

What features draw people to this area today?

LOVE

What challenges should be addressed?

CONCERN

What are potential projects that would have a significant positive impact? Think big!

OPPORTUNITY

TOP FIVE PRIORITIES

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

After tonight: take the online survey

Survey available on project webpage:
<https://chittenango.gov/ny-forward/>

- One section for those who could not attend tonight
- One section for everyone
- Survey available online until **June 27**.



<https://forms.office.com/r/bqxztiUqXa>

Chittenango NYF

Help us with your ideas to continue
the Village's momentum!

<https://chittenango.gov/ny-forward/>



NY Forward