

NY Forward

Village of Chittenango LPC Meeting #3

August 20, 2025



LPC Code of Conduct

Each Local Planning Committee Member is reminded of their obligation to disclose potential conflicts of interest with respect to projects that may be discussed at today's meeting. If you have a potential conflict of interest regarding a project you believe will be discussed during the meeting, please disclose it now and recuse yourself from any discussion or vote on that project.

For example, you may state that you, or a family member, have a financial interest in the project, or you are on the board of the organization proposing the project. The conflicts of interest we have on file include *<none to date>*.

Do any other LPC members need to make a disclosure to the Committee?

Please inform the LPC co-chairs during the meeting if the need to disclose a conflict arises unexpectedly, and then recuse yourself from discussion or voting on the project.

Agenda

- Planning Updates
- Discuss Draft Strategies
- Downtown Profile Highlights
- Review Potential Public Projects
- Discuss Project Evaluation Criteria
- Upcoming Dates
- Public Comment



LPC Meetings: Schedule and Topics

MAY 1	JUNE 2	AUGUST 3	SEPT 4	EARLY OCT 5	LATE OCT 6
<p>Introductions and program and planning overviews</p> <p>Community's NYF application</p> <p>Boundary confirmation</p> <p>Public Engagement Plan input</p> <p>Open Call for Projects input</p> <p>Stakeholder list input</p> <p>Discussion of opportunities and challenges</p>	<p>Process and engagement updates</p> <p>Overview of past plans and recent investments</p> <p>Project evaluation criteria</p> <p>Characteristics of strong NYF projects and slates</p> <p>Vision and goals exercise</p> <p>Open Call for Projects</p>	<p>Process updates</p> <p>Finalize community vision, goals, strategies</p> <p>Downtown Profile key findings</p> <p>Review project evaluation criteria</p> <p>Discuss proposed public projects</p>	<p>Process and engagement updates</p> <p>Discuss proposed projects, identify projects to remove from consideration</p> <p>Discuss boundary amendments if needed</p> <p>Identify additional project information needed</p>	<p>Process and engagement updates</p> <p>Continue discussion of project evaluation criteria, proposed projects</p> <p>Identify additional project information needed</p>	<p>Process updates</p> <p>LPC vote on final slate of proposed projects</p>

Public comment at end of each meeting

1

Planning Updates



Engagement Updates

- Public Meeting Survey closed 7/7
 - 178 responses
- Pop-up event – August 19th Tuesdays in the Park
- Public Meeting #2 – September 23rd
 - Share vision & goals and potential projects



Pop-Up

Highest priority for downtown?

- Supporting and growing businesses
- Renovating existing buildings
- Splash pad

Type of public improvements?

- Park and trail enhancements

We Want to Hear from You!

What is your highest priority for the downtown area?
Place a dot sticker in the box of your top choice.

Adding new jobs 	Renovating existing buildings 	Building more housing
Improving bicycle and pedestrian access and safety 	Improving public gathering spaces 	Attracting new residents
Supporting and growing businesses 	Attracting more visitors 	Creating more arts and cultural activities

Other Priorities:
Use a sticky note to add your other ideas here.

Splash pad
+1 +1 +1 +1 +1

Creek clean up

Library columns are rotting

Sullivan Park Playground PLEASE!

Benches for the senior community

facade support for main st biz

Stinky park

SPRASH PAD

expand the Canal Museum attract visitors

gazebo near The Grand

What type of public improvement would you see in the downtown area?
Place a dot sticker in the box of your top choice.

Dr West Park expansion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional green space across Russell St • Yellow brick sidewalk extension to park 	Park and trail enhancements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADA fishing pier along Creekwalk • Pocket park near Village Office • Lions Botanical Park seating plaza
Marketing of village attractions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village gateway signage • Creekwalk entry arches • Mural downtown 	Other Use a sticky note to add your other ideas here.

What the downtown area might be like in 5-10 years after NY Forward projects are complete, what one word or short phrase do you hope to use to describe it to other people?

thoughts here.

Open Call for Projects

Closes August 22nd

- In past rounds of NYF, most forms submitted at deadline



Village of Chittenango

NY Forward Project Form

The Village of Chittenango has been awarded funds through New York State's NY Forward (NYF) program to fund catalytic projects in the downtown to spur revitalization. The Local Planning Committee (LPC) is seeking project proposals from the public for potential projects to be included in Chittenango's Strategic Investment Plan. Projects included in the Strategic Investment Plan will be reviewed by New York State and may receive funding from a total allocation of \$4.5 million.

Project proposals must be received no later than:

4:00 pm Friday, August 22

Applicants are encouraged to submit their form as soon as they are able.

There will be two opportunities to learn more about the Open Call for Projects and eligibility requirements:

Drop-In Office Hours
Wednesday, July 9
4:00 - 6:00pm

Chittenango Landing
Canal Boat Museum
717 Lakeport Road

Consultant team will be available to answer questions.

Zoom Webinar
Thursday, July 10
Noon - 1:00pm

Register in advance:
https://stantec.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_24MRbc4IS3yBOXE6PZqhiw

2

Vision, Goals, & Draft Strategies



What is it?

Downtown Vision and Goals

Vision: What will downtown Chittenango look like in 5–7 years?

- Provides a guiding framework for Chittenango's Strategic Investment Plan and decision-making regarding future development

Goals: How will Chittenango attain its vision?

- Clear statements of what needs to be accomplished to move towards the NYF vision.

Revitalization Strategies: What steps must be taken to achieve a specific goal?

- Discrete, measurable actions required to achieve a goal.

Vision

Revised 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 and events, active parks and public spaces, and thriving local businesses. We will continue to strengthen the connection between downtown and the Erie Canal along the Creekwalk Trail to attract visitors 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.”

Goals

Revised Goals

- Support a diversity of local businesses that meets interests of residents and visitors
- Provide a variety of housing types
- Improve downtown's buildings, streetscapes, and connectivity
- Enhance and promote Chittenango's attractions, businesses, and public spaces to visitors and residents

Strategies

Draft strategies

- Strategies are action statements to help meet each goal
- Strategies meant to guide village on how to continue revitalization beyond NYF projects
- Each project recommended for NYF funding should connect to a strategy... BUT
- Not all strategies need to be connected to a recommended NYF project.

Strategies

GOAL

Support a diversity of local businesses that meets interests of residents and visitors



DRAFT STRATEGIES

Increase retail and dining options that have active storefronts along Genesee Street

Attract visitor-oriented businesses that help extend the time visitors spend in the village

Support and retain existing businesses

Strategies

GOAL

Provide a variety of housing types



DRAFT STRATEGIES

Add more upper floor housing downtown

Increase multi-family housing options near downtown

Provide range of affordability options

Strategies

GOAL

Improve downtown's buildings, streetscapes, and connectivity



DRAFT STRATEGIES

Renovate and enhance mixed-use and commercial buildings along Genesee Street

Continue the yellow brick sidewalk to link downtown to other places of interest

Extend the Creekwalk from downtown to the Erie Canal

Strategies

GOAL

Enhance and promote Chittenango's attractions, businesses, and public spaces to visitors and residents



DRAFT STRATEGIES

Expand Dr West Memorial Park to better accommodate large events that bring residents and visitors together

Install gateway signage to direct visitors to downtown businesses

Install entry signage for the Creekwalk to increase awareness

Launch a marketing campaign to raise awareness of local businesses with residents

QUESTIONS FOR THE LPC

**Do the goals and strategies address the appropriate topics for downtown revitalization?
Would you add/delete any?**

3

Downtown Profile Highlights



What is it?

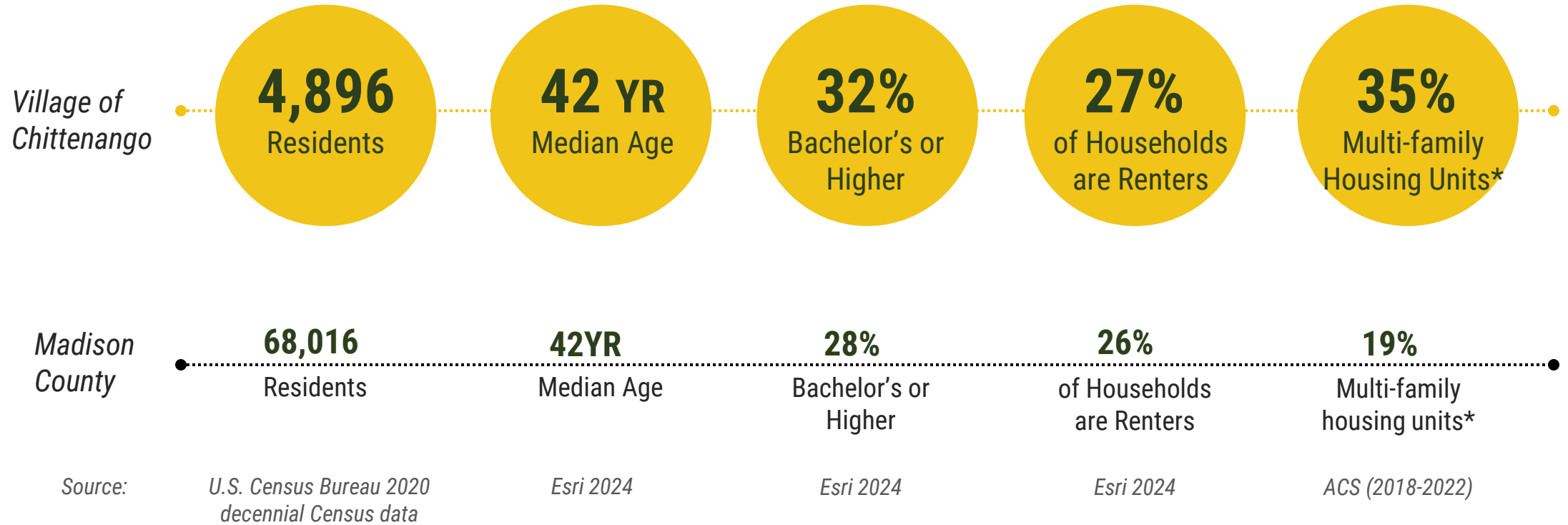
Downtown Profile and Assessment

Tells the story of the downtown, including its strengths, challenges, and future potential. Will be part of Strategic Investment Plan (SIP).

- Study Area boundary description and map
- Demographic overview
- Regional and historic context
- Recent plans and investment
- Alignment with REDC strategies
- Physical setting (land use/zoning, transportation networks, natural environment, etc.)
- Economic trends and opportunities
- Key observations: synthesis of trends, challenges, and opportunities

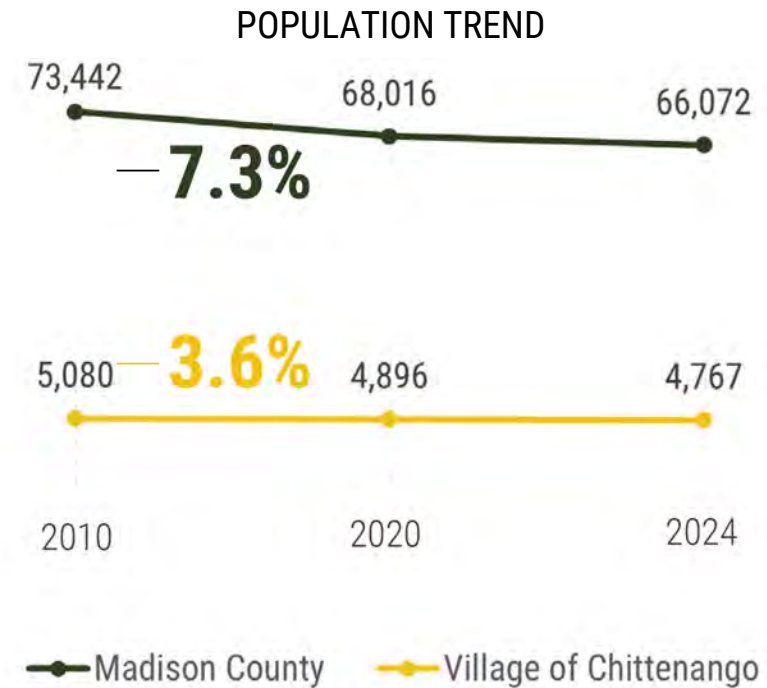
Downtown Profile

Demographic Overview



Chittenango's population has been declining

- The Village's population decreased by about 3.6% since 2010
- Madison County's population declined at twice the rate in the same period



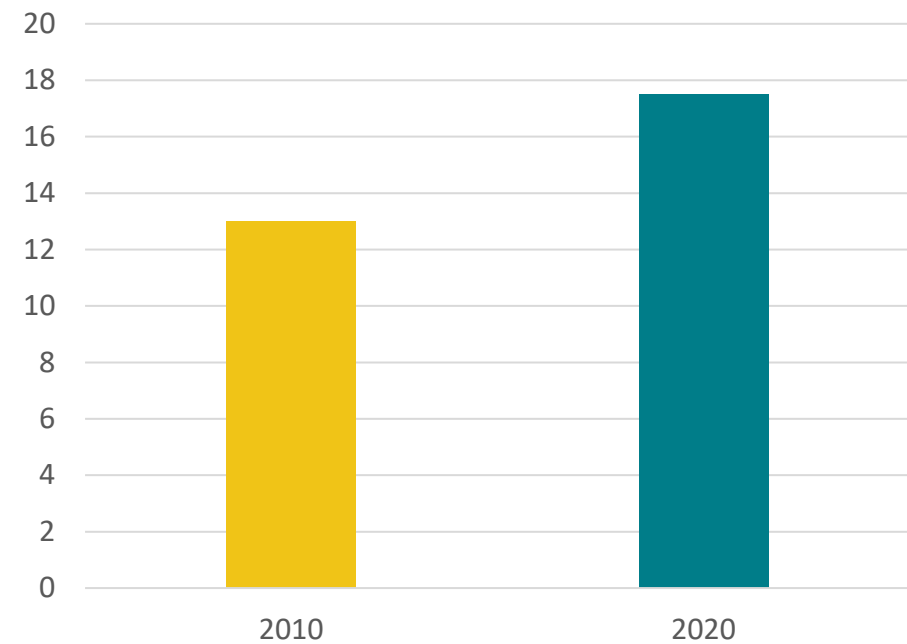
Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010 and 2020 decennial Census data; American Community Survey (ACS) 2018-2022; 2024 ESRI Projection

Downtown Profile

The proportion of households with seniors has grown

- The proportion of households with seniors aged 65+ has increased by 35% over the last decade
- Reflects broader national trends associated with an aging population
- This can have implications for the types of housing, services, and recreational opportunities needed in the area

HOUSEHOLDS WITH SENIORS 65+ [2010-2020]

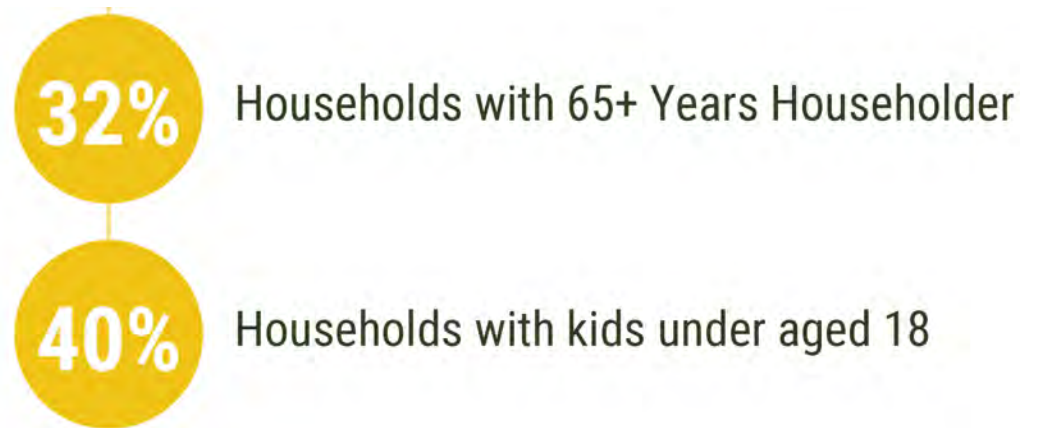


Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2020 decennial Census data

Downtown Profile

Chittenango has a high proportion of families with children

- About 40% of households include at least one child under the age of 18—approximately 40% higher than the Madison County rate of 28%
- About one-third of households include someone age 65 years or old

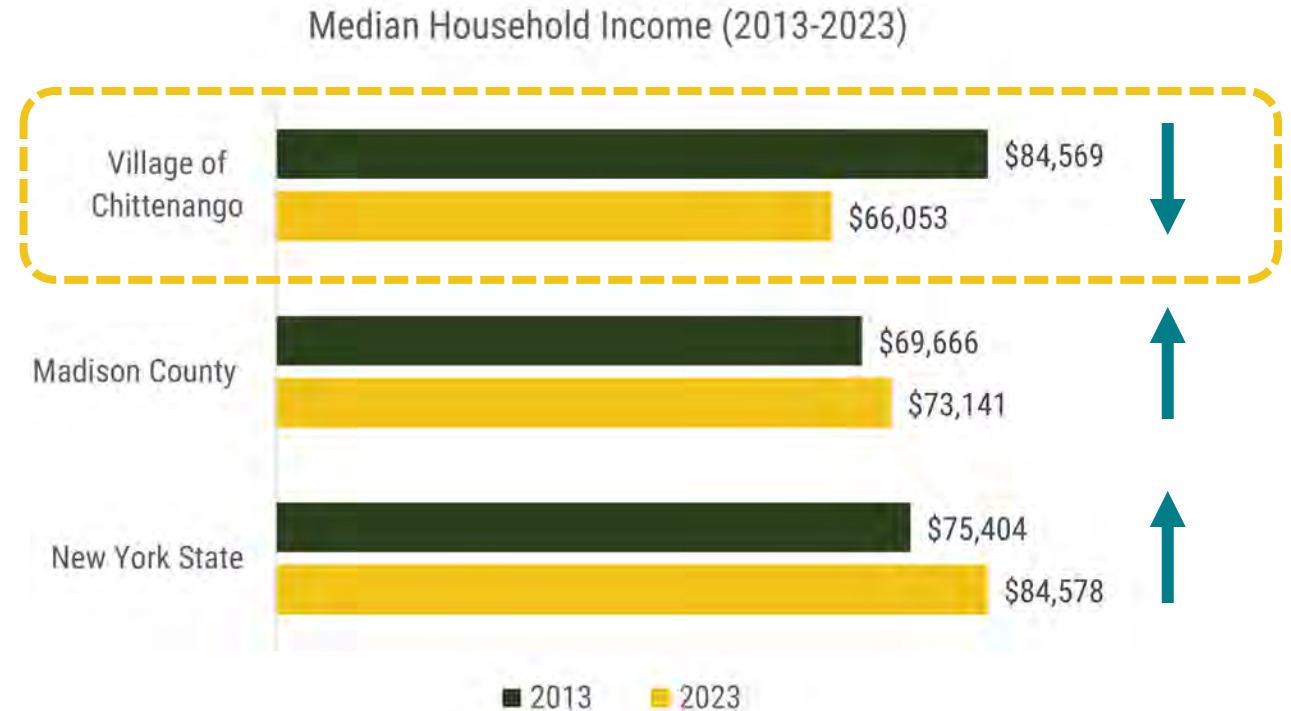


Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2020 decennial Census data

Downtown Profile

Chittenango's median household income decreased in past 10 years

- The Village's median household income dropped 22%, while median income for the County increased by 5%
- Possibly related to increase in senior households (who are most likely on fixed incomes) but unsure



Source: U.S. Census ACS: S1901 2023 5-Year Estimate
*2013 Income data presented in 2023 inflation-adjusted dollars

Downtown Profile

Chittenango's share of multi-family (2+) housing units has been increasing

- Buildings with 5+ units make up about 25% of housing units
- Another 12.5% of housing in 2-4 unit configurations
- Total housing stock has decreased slightly in past decade



Local job sectors are fairly diversified

- Healthcare, Education, and Retail are top 3 local employment sectors (together, 39% of local jobs)
- Transportation, Professional Services, and Public Administration are the fastest growing jobs in Chittenango

This information is about jobs located in Chittenango, regardless of where workers live

Downtown Profile

The number of employed residents has declined in past decade

- Chittenango saw a 13% decline in its number of employed residents from 2013-2023
- Likely related to declining population, and increase in share of seniors
- About half of residents work in either Healthcare and Social Assistance or Retail Trade industries.
- Both sectors have seen increase in number of employed residents in past 10 years.

This information is about jobs held by residents, regardless of where their jobs are located

Key Observations

- Recent increase in multifamily housing – build on momentum to retain and attract residents
- Potential to further leverage Empire State Trail and regional recreation assets to market active lifestyle and draw visitors downtown
- Many downtown businesses (besides restaurants) are service-oriented with less active storefronts, not conducive to walkable environment
- Drawing residents living west of creek to downtown regularly has been a challenge – consider business mix, public realm and events, marketing
- Oz theme is established component of village's attraction – further strengthen?

QUESTIONS FOR THE LPC

Anything surprising in the trends, or local context to help explain them?

Are there other key observations relevant for downtown revitalization?

4

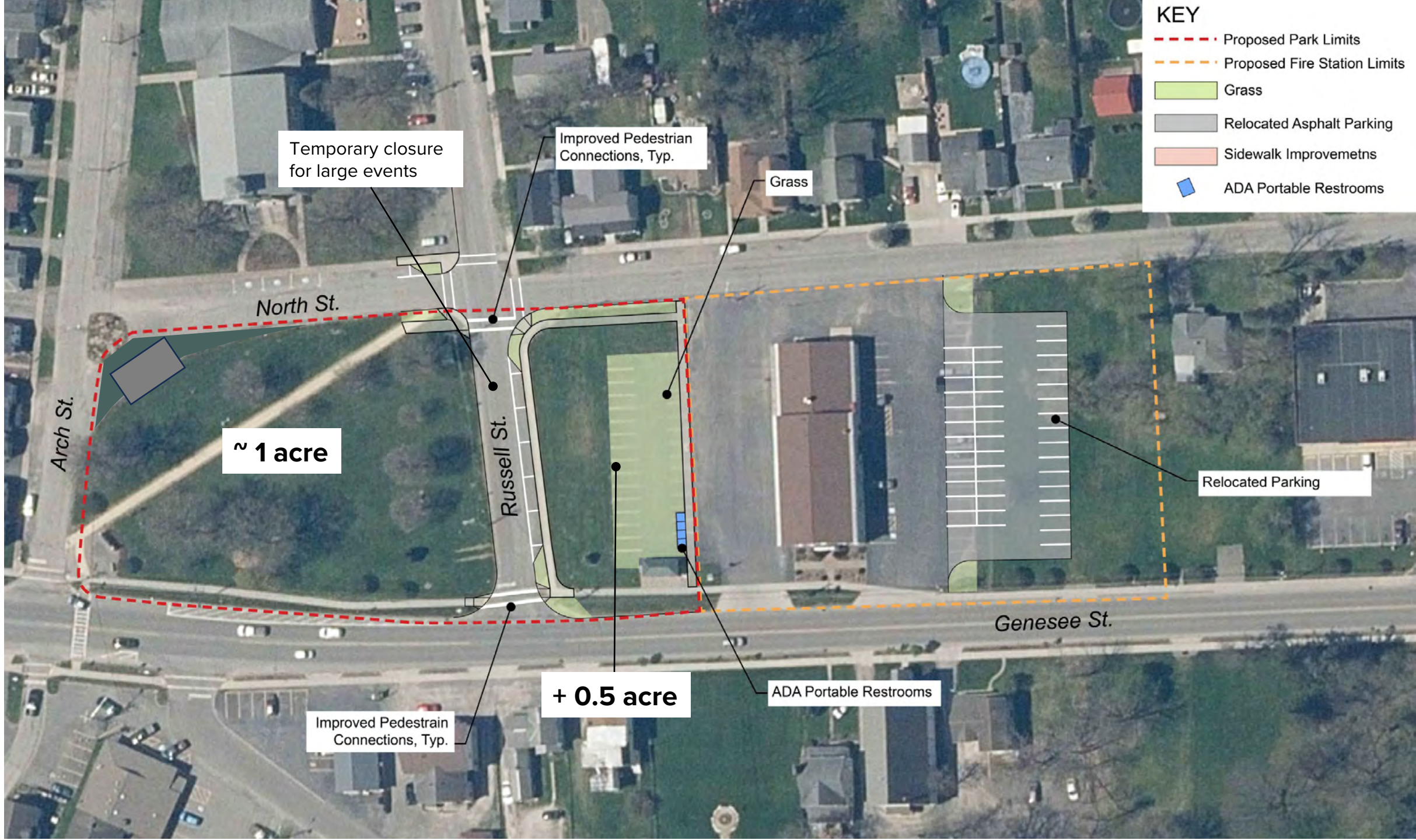
Project Discussion



Dr West Park Expansion

Increase public space available for large events through coordinated effort with Fire Department

- Extend park space north across Russell Street
- Replace parking at fire department
- Extend yellow brick sidewalk north to park



Village Marketing and Promotion

- Replace digital sign at Genesee and Tuscarora
- Install gateway arches at Creekwalk entrance points
- Create public art mural on downtown building
- Add 2 gateway signs along entry roads to village



Creekwalk gateway arch example

Park and Trail Enhancements

- Create pocket park near Village Office
- Rebuild ADA fishing pier along Creekwalk
- Install seating plaza at Lions Botanical Garden



Potential pocket park location

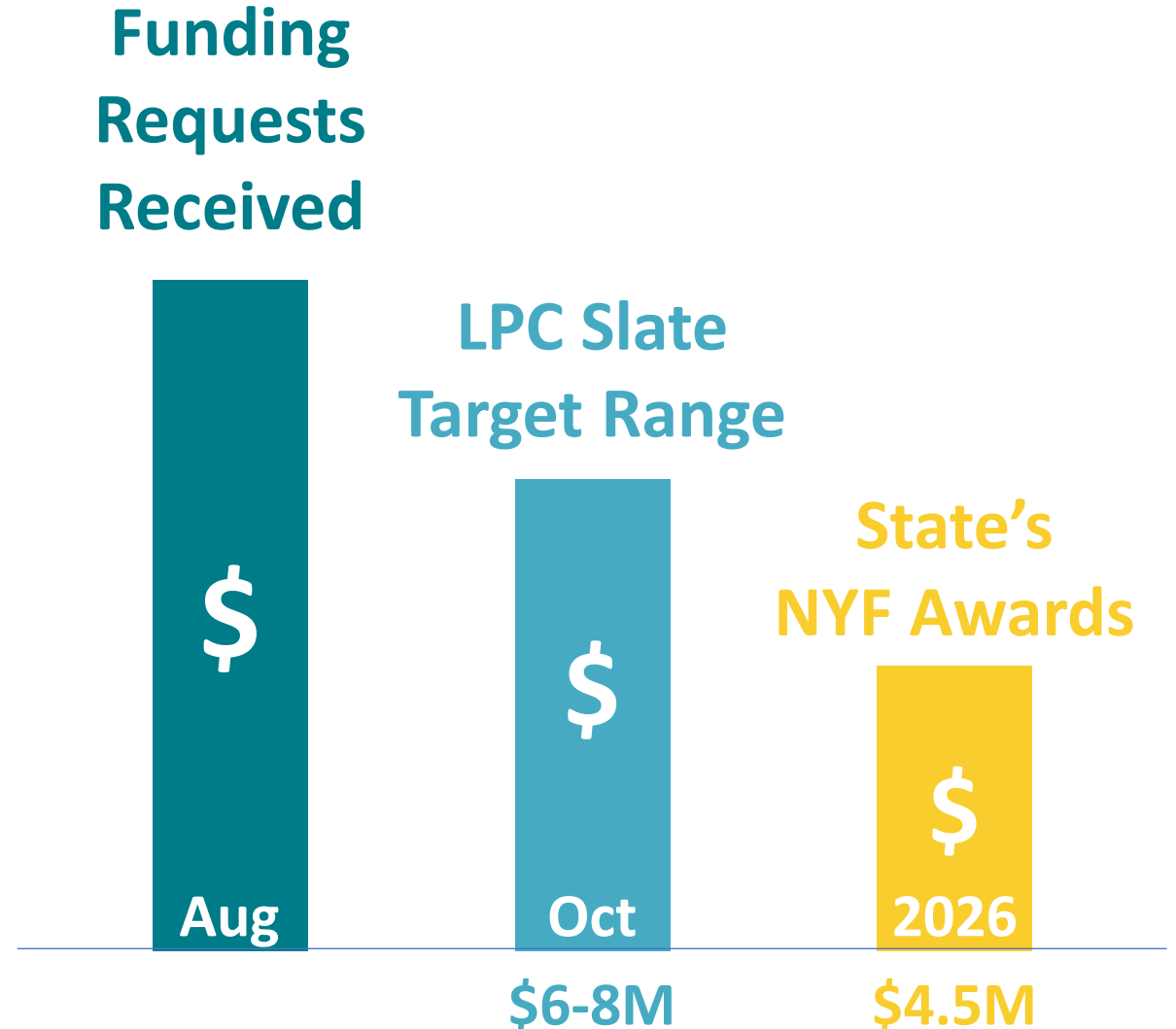
Strong NYF Project Slates

- Meet multiple NYF goals for downtown revitalization
- Mix of private and public projects
- Synergy between projects due to location (clustered together) and/or type (housing, retail, + recreation projects)



Final Slate of Recommended Projects

- In late October, LPC will vote on slate of projects to recommend for funding consideration by the State
- Final slate of projects takes into consideration feedback from the public among other factors
- The total amount of requested NYF funds will have a higher dollar amount than what will be awarded



5

Project Evaluation Criteria



Project Eligibility



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 (\$100,000+ total cost)



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)

Project Eligibility



Evaluation Criteria

The LPC should consider the following.

The consultant team will provide information to support your evaluation.

- ☐ **Alignment with Local and State Goals.** Projects must advance the goals established by the LPC and the State for the NYF community.
- ☐ **Catalytic Effect.** Projects must have a significant positive impact on the revitalization of downtown.
- ☐ **Co-Benefits.** Projects must result in benefits to the community, beyond just the project developer, such as additional economic activity and improved quality of life.
- ☐ **Project Readiness.** Projects should be well-developed and ready to proceed as soon as possible upon the award of funding.
- ☐ **Cost Effectiveness.** Projects must represent an effective and efficient use of public resources.

QUESTIONS FOR THE LPC

Are there other evaluation criteria the LPC would like to consider?

6

Upcoming Dates



Open Call for Projects

Closes August 22nd

- Encourage sponsors to submit
- Sponsors will be paired with consultant team member(s) to strengthen proposal
- Project details can evolve and change between now and mid-October



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Future Meetings

LPC Meetings

LPC#1: Tuesday, May 20

LPC #2: Wednesday, June 25

LPC #3: Wednesday August 20

LPC #4: Tuesday, September 23

LPC #5: Wednesday, October 15

LPC #6: Wednesday, October 29

Public Meetings

Public Meeting #1: June 11

- Kick-off and Opportunities/Challenges

Public Meeting #2: September 23

- Vision and Goals, Potential Projects

NYF Pop-Up

August 19 at Tuesdays in the Park

Save the Date: September 23 Open House

**High School
6:00 pm**

- Present public feedback summary, vision and goals, Downtown Profile highlights

➔ Share potential project information for public consideration



7

Public Comment

