

Chautauqua County Strategic Project Identification, Conceptualization & Implementation Strategy

Preparing for & Capitalizing on Funding through the CFA

Concept: Develop a strategic and proactive strategy for Chautauqua County (this is currently occurring in the north county through the LED) to capitalize on the funding available through the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) process and other sources by identifying, conceptualizing and packaging projects in partnership with the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council (WNY REDC), WNY Empire State Development (WNY ESD), the local development entities, municipalities, foundations and other stakeholders. The identified projects may be garnered from past and current plans, or they may be new concepts that arise from current thinking. The identified schemes, which will be cued up for future funding and implementation primarily through state funding sources, will also capitalize on present and future assets and opportunities.

The objective is to identify, vet and package CFA-ready projects throughout Chautauqua County that align with the Empire State Development/Department of Labor-identified priority economic sectors of food manufacturing, metal manufacturing, furniture manufacturing, machinery manufacturing, beverage manufacturing, plastics components manufacturing, tourism and other identified growth sectors. It should also align with projects identified in local plans, including (but not limited to) waterfront development projects in Jamestown, Mayville, Celeron, Dunkirk, Barcelona Harbor and Silver Creek; development of business parks on land already served by infrastructure, which was previously used for this purpose, to re-industrialize certain areas of the County (brownfield development versus greenfield development); and the creation of a NYS Welcome/Commerce Center at the I-90 Shortman Road Exit in Ripley. This focused strategy will culminate in an extensive catalogue of implementable projects with a high level of detail laid out on a timeline, all of which are aligned with regional and local priorities and ready to be implemented.

Scope of Work:

A. Introduction/Context/Purpose/Unique Approach

B. WNY REDC Strategies for Growth: Priority Investments – Summary of Growth Sectors

C. Assets and Opportunities in Chautauqua County (what do we have that others want?)

1. Existing Natural and Man-made Assets.
2. Current Events.
3. Opportunities for Development.

D. Review of Past Plans/Information Gathering/Data Mining

1. Past Plans/Studies.
2. Current Planning Initiatives.
3. Individual/Focus Group Interviews.

4. Identify/extract topnotch/relevant projects.

E. Gap Analysis

1. Identify what projects are missing from previously undertaken work, i.e., what hasn't been envisioned or tried?

F. Supplemental Information to Fill the Gaps

1. Undertake nominal planning initiatives to identify projects that have not yet been conceptualized.

G. Identification of Key Zoning/Environmental Challenges and other Barriers to Project Implementation

1. Identify environmental, zoning, financial or other issues that may create barriers to the project moving forward and identify potential solutions.

H. Proposed Projects Prioritized by Type of Development for CFA (other sources) Submission

1. Develop list of development projects by category, prioritized based on impact, cost and ability to implement.
2. Help stakeholders to conceptualize and package projects, including project description, location, costs, local match requirements, conceptual drawings, etc. for funding submission.

I. Timeline for Implementation, Stakeholders, and Sources of Funding

1. Develop a 5-year plan for implementing projects, including potential sources of funding (including the match), responsible parties, challenges to overcome and projected impacts.