

NY Forward - Capital Region Coxsackie

Public Workshop #1

June 20, 2023



NY Forward

Welcome!

This is an interactive public workshop to get feedback on the vision and goals for downtown Coxsackie.

- We'll start with a brief overview of the NY Forward program and some key demographic highlights.
- Then we'll break into small groups with maps to discuss needs, challenges, goals, and opportunities.
- What we do today will lay the foundation for how projects that are submitted for funding are evaluated.

How to stay involved after this workshop:

- We want to hear from you! Send a note any time to: CoxsackieNYF@gmail.com
- Visit the Coxsackie NYF website to stay up-to-date and send comments: www.CoxsackieNYF.com
- There will be another public workshop on **August 30** to discuss the projects that have been submitted through the Open Call.

Welcome!

- WHY are you here?
 - We need your input!
- HOW will your input be used?
 - To help create the **vision and goals** for the future of downtown Coxsackie!
- IS this input valuable?
 - YES! It will help inform how potential transformative projects are evaluated.



Overview of NYF Program

What is NY Forward?

- NY Forward (NYF) builds on the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) program that was launched in 2016 to improve the vitality of urban centers across the State.
- Coxsackie was awarded a \$4.5 million grant by the Capital Region Economic Development Council to transform the downtown economy.
- Using an innovative “plan-then-act” strategy, each community prepares a Strategic Investment Plan to identify specific projects that promote downtown revitalization.
- The selected projects are then implemented over the next 2-5 years.

*“The NY Forward program focuses on creating **healthy, vibrant, walkable downtowns** that catalyze sustainable economic development and accrue numerous economic, social, and environmental benefits to the locality, the region and the State as a whole.”*



DRI and NY Forward Program Goals



Create an active downtown with a strong sense of place.



Attract new businesses that create a robust mix of shopping, entertainment, and service options for residents and visitors, and that provide job opportunities for a variety of skills and salaries.



Enhance public spaces for arts and cultural events that serve the existing members of the community but also draw in visitors from around the region.



Build a diverse population, with residents and workers supported by complementary diverse housing and employment opportunities.



Grow the local property tax base.

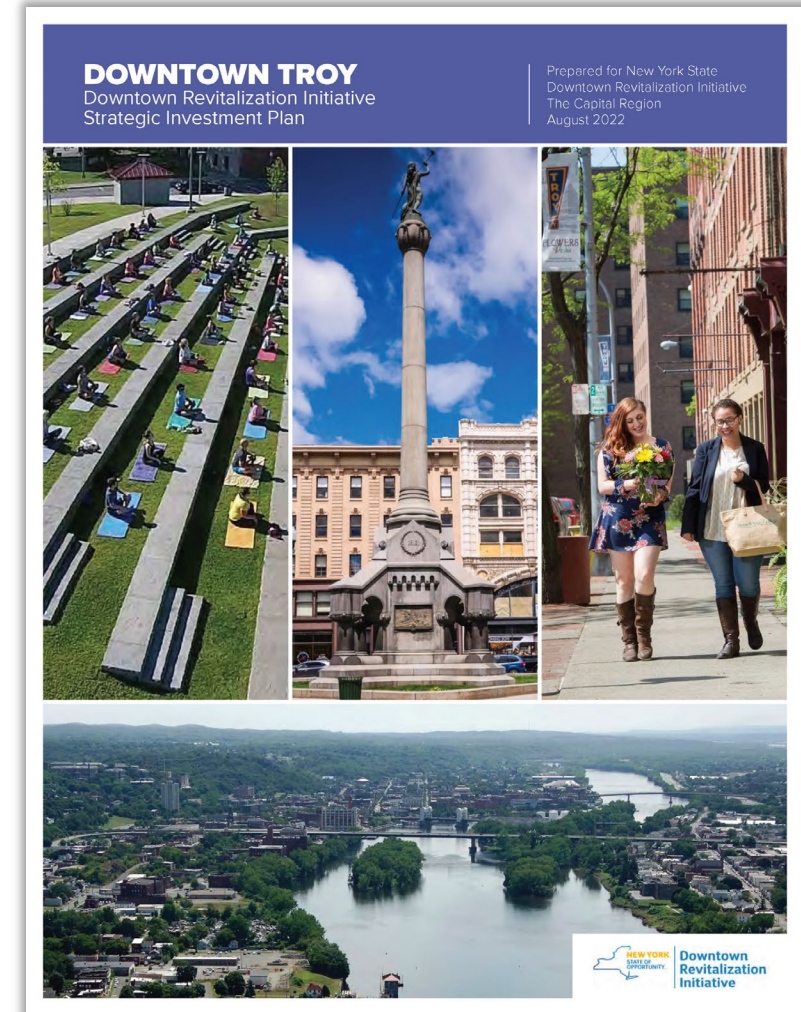


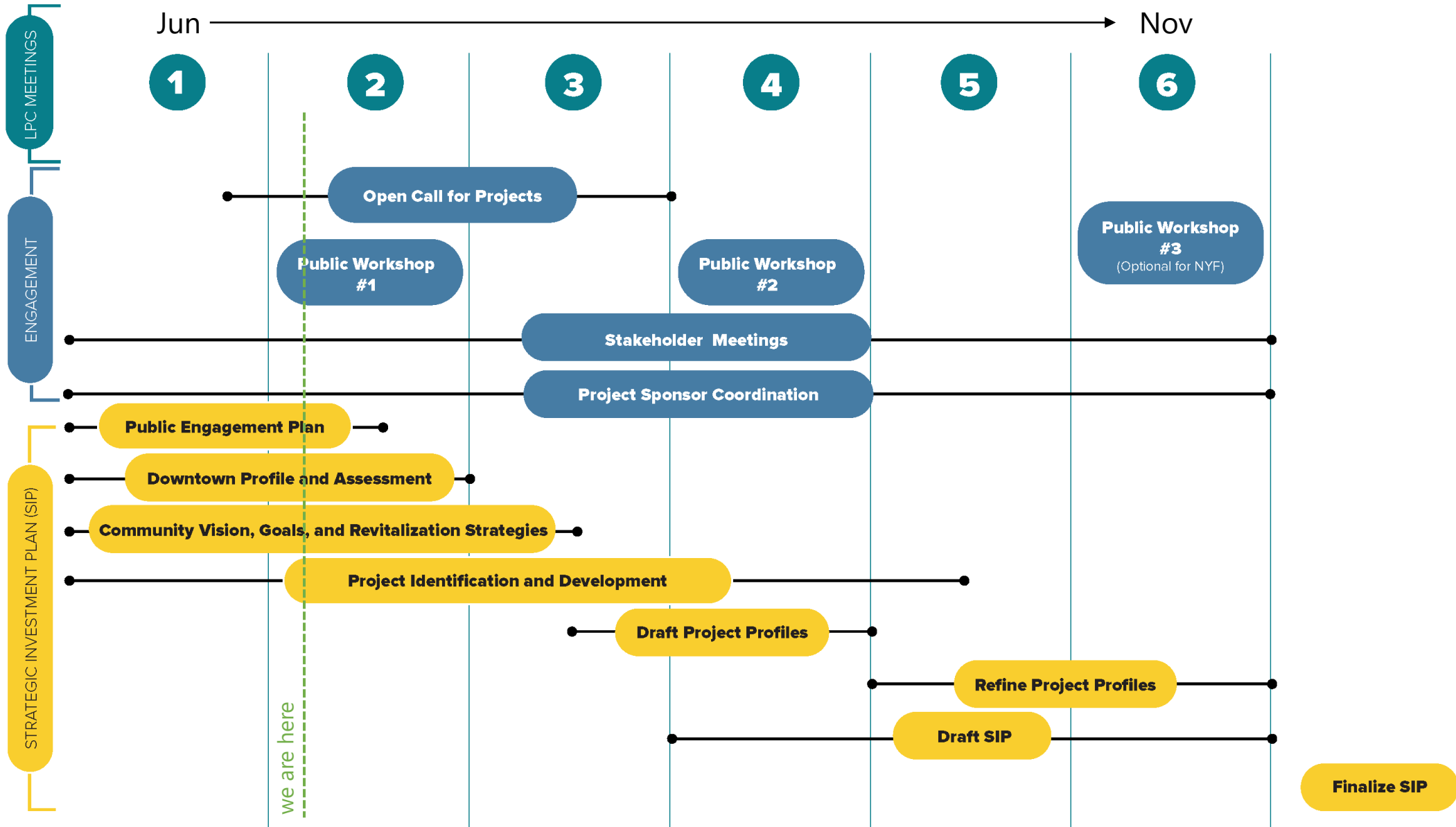
Provide amenities that support and enhance downtown living and quality of life.



Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support investments that are more resilient to future climate change impacts.

NY Forward Planning Process





Local Planning Committee (LPC)

Co-Chairs

Mark Evans

Mayor, Village of Coxsackie

Jeffrey Mirel

Principal, Rosenblum Companies; Capital Region REDC Co-Chair

Members

Nicole Bliss

Chair, Greene County Chamber of Commerce

Sarah Gray Miller

Owner, Unquiet Antiques and Ravish Liquors

Brittany Parks

Owner, Coxsackie Transport

Robert Van Valkenburg, Jr.

Chair, Village Planning Board

Bob Phibbs

Owner, The Retail Doctor

Sam Pigeon

President, Coxsackie-Athens Rotary

Alexandra Tighe

Vice President, Brawn Media

Jocelyn Lane

Owner, The Cask & Rasher Restaurant

Bob Irwin

Owner, Irwin Music

Michael Rausch

Historian, Town of Coxsackie

Ryan Palmer

Deputy Superintendent, Coxsackie Athens Central School District

Toni Carroll

Executive Director, Greene County YMCA

State Agencies

Department of State (DOS) will provide guidance and support for the planning process, manage the consultant team, assist in meeting preparation, and participate in review of documents.

- Matthew Smith, Matthew.Smith@dos.ny.gov

Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) will provide expertise in housing development, CDBG, and HCR grants and programs.

- Mary Barthelme, Mary.Barthelme@hcr.ny.gov

Empire State Development (ESD) representative will provide broad knowledge of development and information about State revitalization funding programs.

- Heidi Pasos, Heidi.Pasos@esd.ny.gov

NYSERDA will provide technical assistance related to decarbonization strategies and funding sources.

- Matthew Brown, Matthew.Brown@nyserda.ny.gov

Consultant Team

Buro Happold: project management and revitalization strategy

- Ian Nicholson, Ian.Nicholson@BuroHappold.com

Interboro: public engagement, architecture, urban design

- Daniel D'Oca, Dan@InterboroPartners.com

BJH Advisors: real estate analysis

EDR: landscape architecture, civil/ environmental engineering

Stuart Lynn: cost estimating

KK&P: food systems advisory

BURO HAPPOLD

INTERBORO



Project Development Process

1. Project Sponsors propose projects through the **Open Call**
2. Sponsors then develop Projects further, with support from:
 - Consultant team
 - State agencies (DOS, HCR, ESD, NYSERDA)
 - Municipal representatives
3. LPC evaluates Projects according to statewide criteria as well as local **vision and goals**
4. Strategic Investment Plan submitted to State, with a non-ranked slate of Projects totaling >\$4.5 million recommended investment



Open Call for Projects

- **All Projects must go through this process**
- All Projects must be submitted by a Project Sponsor with the capacity to execute
- Open, fair, and transparent process for LPC to vet project proposals
- Allows LPC and consultant team to obtain information in a consistent manner
- **Submission through the Open Call does not guarantee inclusion in the final plan**

How to Submit Your Project

- 1 Review the Eligibility Criteria**
on page 2 to make sure your project is eligible to be considered for NYF funding.
- 2 Review the Project Requirements**
on page 3 to learn about the requirements for projects and how your project will be considered by the Village of Coxsackie Local Planning Committee and New York State.
- 3 Review the Evaluation Criteria**
on page 4 to see how the State evaluates projects and to understand how the Village of Coxsackie LPC may evaluate projects.
- 4 Fill out the Project Proposal Submission Form**
on pages 5 through 11. Address each topic thoroughly and completely. The LPC will use this information to consider projects to be included in the Village of Coxsackie's Strategic Investment Plan.
- 5 Submit your Completed Application**
Submit your Completed Application (and any supplemental materials) either electronically, in-person, or by mail no later than **Wednesday, July 19 at 6pm.**

➔ **To submit online:**

Go to
www.CoxsackieNYF.com

➔ **To submit via email:**

Email your completed application and any supplemental materials to
CoxsackieNYF@gmail.com

➔ **To submit a hard copy, mail or hand-deliver:**

Village Hall
119 Mansion St.
Coxsackie, NY
12051

- ? Questions regarding project eligibility, evaluation, or the project forms can be directed to **Ian Nicholson** at CoxsackieNYF@gmail.com**

Open Call for Projects

Jun 26 - Office hours (virtual) to discuss projects

Jul 10 - Deadline for questions

Jul 19 - Deadline to submit projects

Email address for questions and project submissions:

CoxsackieNYF@gmail.com

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Project Development

Eligible Project Types

- New development and/or rehabilitation of existing downtown buildings
- Public improvement projects
- Small Project Fund
 - locally managed, \$300,000 max
 - 25% matching requirement
- Branding and marketing

Ineligible Activities

- Standalone planning activities
- Operations and maintenance
- Pre-award costs
- Property acquisition
- Training and other program expenses

Project Development

Project Requirements

- Shovel-ready in 2 years
- Project size/scale – large enough to be transformative
- Project sponsor capacity – public, non-profit, private entities
- Financing
- Matching and leverage
 - 20% required for private sponsors
- Decarbonization



LPC Meetings

- Venue: Village Hall at 119 Mansion St
- LPC Meeting #2: Wed, Jun 28, 6pm
- LPC Meeting #3: Wed, Jul 26, 6pm
- LPC Meeting #4: Wed, Sep 13, 6pm
- LPC Meeting #5: Wed, Oct 25, 6pm
- LPC Meeting #6: Wed, Nov 8 (if needed)
- All are open to the public and include opportunity for public comment



Public Workshops

- Public Workshop #1 – **IN PROGRESS!**
- Public Workshop #2 – **Aug 30, 6pm**
- Venue: **High School cafeteria**
- Interactive engagement
- Solicit ideas and feedback
- Today is focused on big-picture vision and goals
- Next workshop will focus on the project proposals received thru the Open Call



NYF in Coxsackie

NYF Boundary

COXSACKIE
NY FORWARD

www.CoxsackieNYF.com



NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY NY Forward

300ft



Preliminary Downtown Vision

“The Village of Coxsackie is a quaint waterfront community characterized by a historic, vibrant, compact, and walkable downtown with a beautiful view of the Hudson River. The Village will leverage its best attributes including the area’s natural beauty, rural nature, and small town feel to create a community where people want to:

LIVE in a safe, walkable, waterfront, historic downtown setting made up of multi-generational families, a dynamic younger generation and new neighbors set against the scenic beauty of the Hudson River.

WORK in a downtown that has a wide variety of commerce ranging from art and cultural venues to hospitality and retail and restaurant support services resulting in a must-see destination that meets the needs of both tourists and residents alike.

PLAY along a revitalized waterfront that provides public access for active and passive recreation opportunities and a wide variety of art and cultural activities offering a unique mix of activities in a scale that is both accessible and affordable.”

Preliminary Downtown Goals

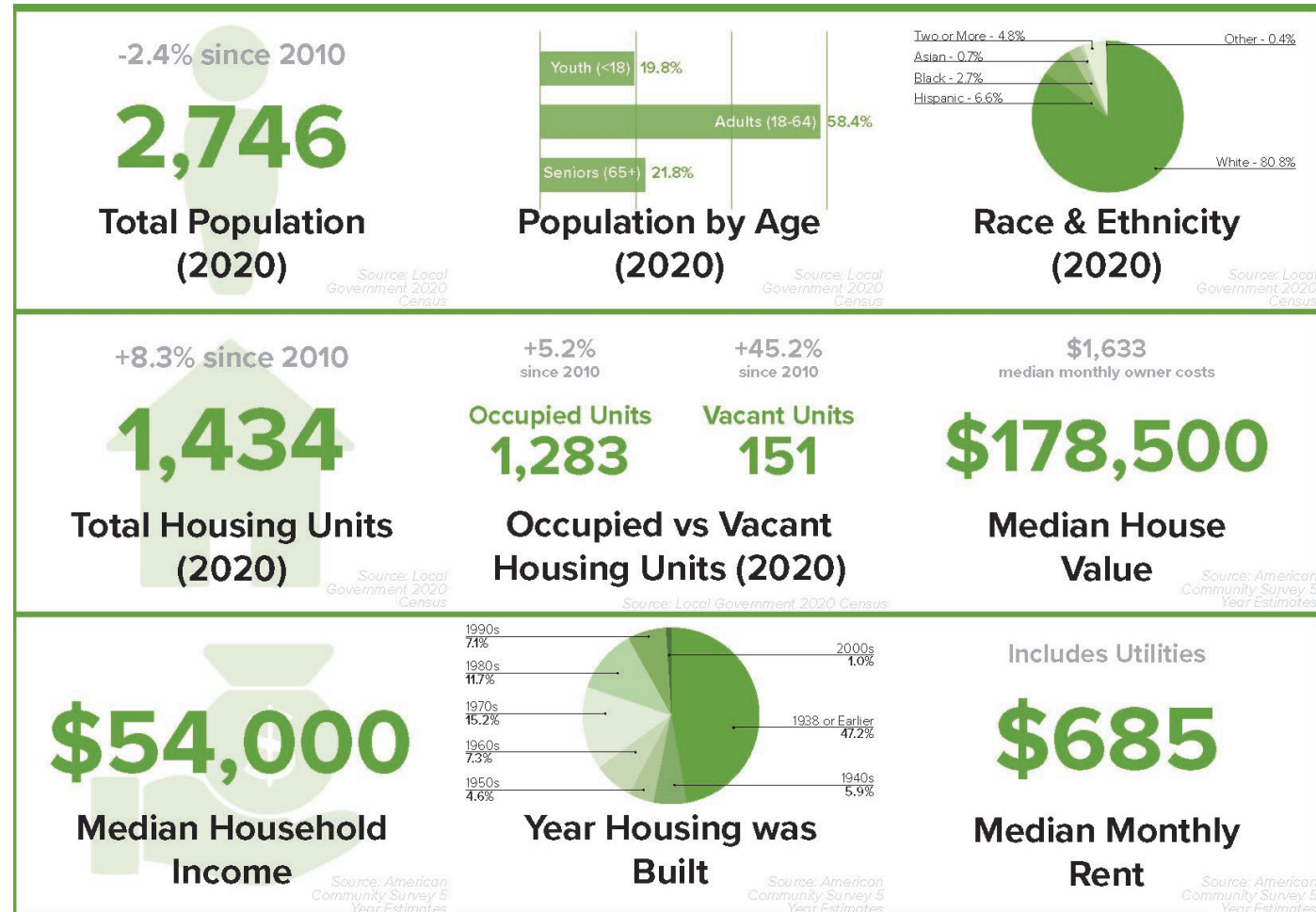
- Growing coxsackie
- Historic preservation meets forward progress
- Open space and Hudson River
- Housing options and opportunities
- Food and beverage options
- Commercial, retail, mixed-use historic buildings
- Arts and culture
- Walk- and bike-ability
- Resiliency



James Newbury Hotel

Demographics

- Population overall has been slowly declining over the last decade (-2.4%).
- But the population aged 20-34 (+2.3%) and over 55 (+52%) has actually been increasing.
- Top Private Job Sectors in 2022:
 - Wholesale Trade 33%
 - Transportation and Warehousing 21%
- Highest growth in jobs since 2012:
 - Educational Services 173%
- Residents are commuting to
 - Town of Coxsackie (21%)
 - Albany (12%)



Potential Needs and Challenges

- diversifying the local economy beyond its traditional sectors
- ensuring sustainable growth without compromising natural resources and small-town charm
- providing additional housing, including workforce housing
- making streets safe and inviting for walking and biking
- making Village “gateways” inviting
- raising downtown profile to people passing thru on NY-385
- filling remaining vacant buildings and lots

Goals and Opportunities

- building eco-tourism, outdoor recreational activities, and agritourism
- strategic location on Thruway and 9W allows access to larger markets and employment opportunities (30 minutes to Albany)
- remote work trends allowing more flexibility for people to live where they want
- an accessible waterfront directly adjacent to the Village center – without any train tracks or steep topography impeding access - Hudson River's "Front Porch"
- investment momentum already underway, from both public and private sources

Questions?



Let's discuss!