

AGENDA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE
TUESDAY MARCH 24, 2026 AT 10:00 A.M.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Rondinaro, Jaynes, Halpin, Walker
STAFF ADVISOR/MINUTES: Nicole Smith, Clerk

- I. WATKINS GLEN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE – Nigar Hale, Executive Director
 - A. Report (attached)
 - B. The French Connection Project

- II. SCOPED – Wendy Shutter
 - A. February Report (attached)
 - B. Economic Development Fund Application – The French Connection: A Collaboration of Equals (attached)
 - C. Property Assessed Clean Energy Financing (C-PACE) Municipalities List (attached)

- III. PLANNING – Joann Lindstrom, Director
 - A. Resolution – Setting a Public Hearing for annual Agricultural District Enrollment for 2026 (attached)
 - B. Resolution – Set Public Hearing for annual review and modification of Schuyler County Agricultural Districts (attached)
 - C. Resolution – Authorize use of Economic Development funds and award to Schuyler County Partnership for Economic Development (SCOPED) (attached)
 - D. Resolution – Approve two-year appointment to the Schuyler County Environmental Management Council (attached)
 - E. Resolution – Introduce and set Public Hearing of draft updated County Comprehensive Plan (attached)
 - F. Resolution – Classifying a certain project as a Type I action and declaring the intent of the County of Schuyler to be lead agency for purposes of a coordinated review pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) for the adoption of an updated countywide comprehensive plan (attached)
 - G. Report (attached)
 - H. Discussion – Events: Walkability in Odessa & Local Government Land Use Training

- IV. CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION – Mel Schroeder, Executive Director
 - A. Report (attached)

- V. SOIL & WATER – Jerry Verrigni, District Manager
 - A. Nothing Submitted

- VI. TRANSPORTATION – County Administrator
 - A. ARC Report – Jen Lyn Fisher (attached)

- VII. OTHER
 - A.

TO: CDNR Committee

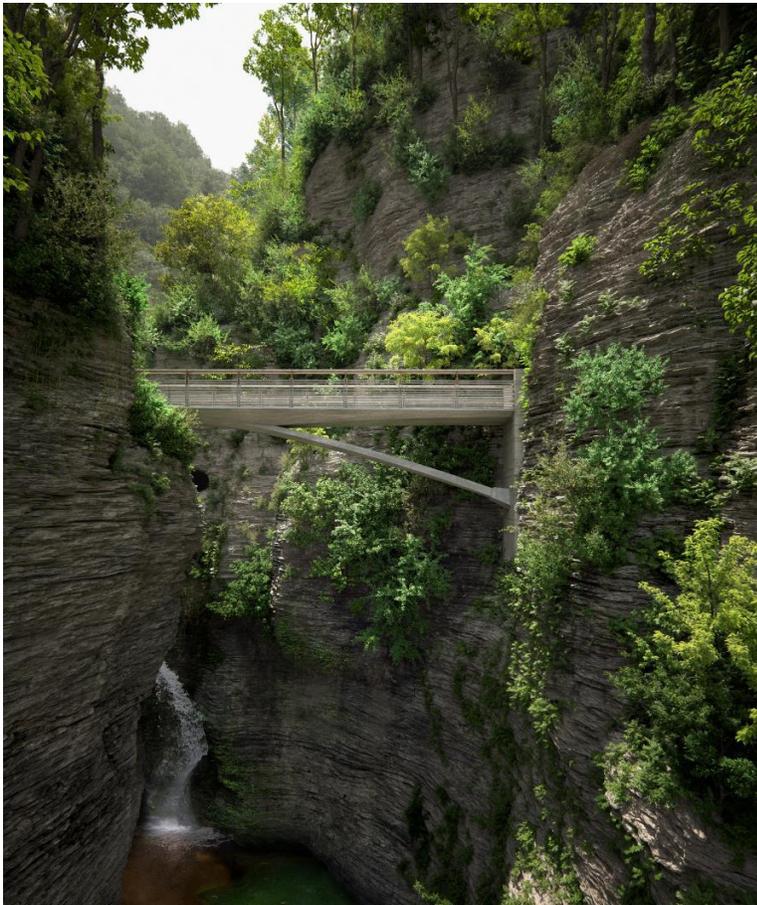
FR: Nigar Hale

DATE: 03.24.26

RE: T.P.A. Report

New York State Department of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

The Chamber hosted as presentation on behalf of Fred Bonn, Regional Director, Finger Lakes for the Acting Commissioner, Kathy Mosher at the Harbor Hotel. 40 members including the Finger Lakes National Park Service, attended to learn about Governor Kathy Hochul's 2026 Budget and receive an update on the replacement of the Sentry Bridge at Watkins Glen State Park.



Acting Commissioner revealed the timeline for the \$7.5 million project:

- April 2026 – New Bridge Placement
- Summer 2026 – Grand Opening, return to normal operations

The Sentry Bridge design elements:

- Conditions require weight to be carried on north rim of gorge
- Steel fabrication, lighter and stronger
- Arch honors history of the 20th century stone bridge
- In the stone wall, there will be a small cut-out that will reveal an image of what the former bridge looked like – designed with the intent for children to view this homage to its history.

Watkins Glen State Park Welcome Center visitation over the past five years has increased significantly - in fact this represents a 171.2% increase over the past five years. These represent direct conversations with our experience guides between May – October season.

- **2021 - 41,330**
- **2022 - 69,706**
- **2023 - 85,196**
- **2024 - 104,895**
- **2025 - 112,075**

Catharine Valley Wildlife Management Area (CVWMA) | Feasibility Study

Working with Joann Lindstrom, a request for proposal was sent to seven consulting firm. Three have submitted proposals. We have engaged DEC – DEC Region 8 Wildlife Manager DEC Region 8 Natural Resources Supervisor and about the Study and Region 8 Wildlife Biologist regarding their input in this process. Larson Design Group, Fisher Associates and Barton & Loguidice have submitted proposals and will be evaluated with a rubric/spreadsheet.

Tourism Assistance Program (TAP) applications will be evaluated by the TAP committee during the next month. Submissions by the following organizations include South East Seneca, Village of Watkins Glen International Motor Racing Research Center, Lucky Hare, Watkins Glen Promotions, Fireside Festival and FLX Studio & Makers Market. Applications will be posted on a designated Drop Box folder for the committee to review and score on the TAP rubric. A meeting will be scheduled for the week of April 13 to review award the grant. The committee includes G Walker, S Rosno, C Blowers, M Rondinaro, N Hale, C Kelce, K Povero, S Parrish and M Benjamin – representing the CDNR committee and Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce.

Digital Platforms: Bandwango – a case study – First Annual Watkins Wing Walk

The February 28th event to encourage patronage of downtown Village businesses during February while benefitting the Watkins Glen Montour Fall Rotary Grant program was undeniably a huge success. Utilizing a digital passport platform, 440 people registered to participate in the first Wing Walk – showcasing six tavern and restaurants culinary talents for chicken wings. Over \$12,000 was raised to support the program.

Bandwango makes it easy to run interactive events like this while encouraging visitors to explore multiple local businesses. Caitlin shared insights into the event's struggles and triumphs in assisting the Rotary using this system with our n Destination Growth Council. Public participation and usability were

discussed along with ideas for streamlining its use. The committee is currently recruiting members for a subcommittee to create a "locals only" discount pass.

Articles of Note

Sharing a story from Kathleen Wilcox:

[Top Finger Lakes Trends of 2026](#)

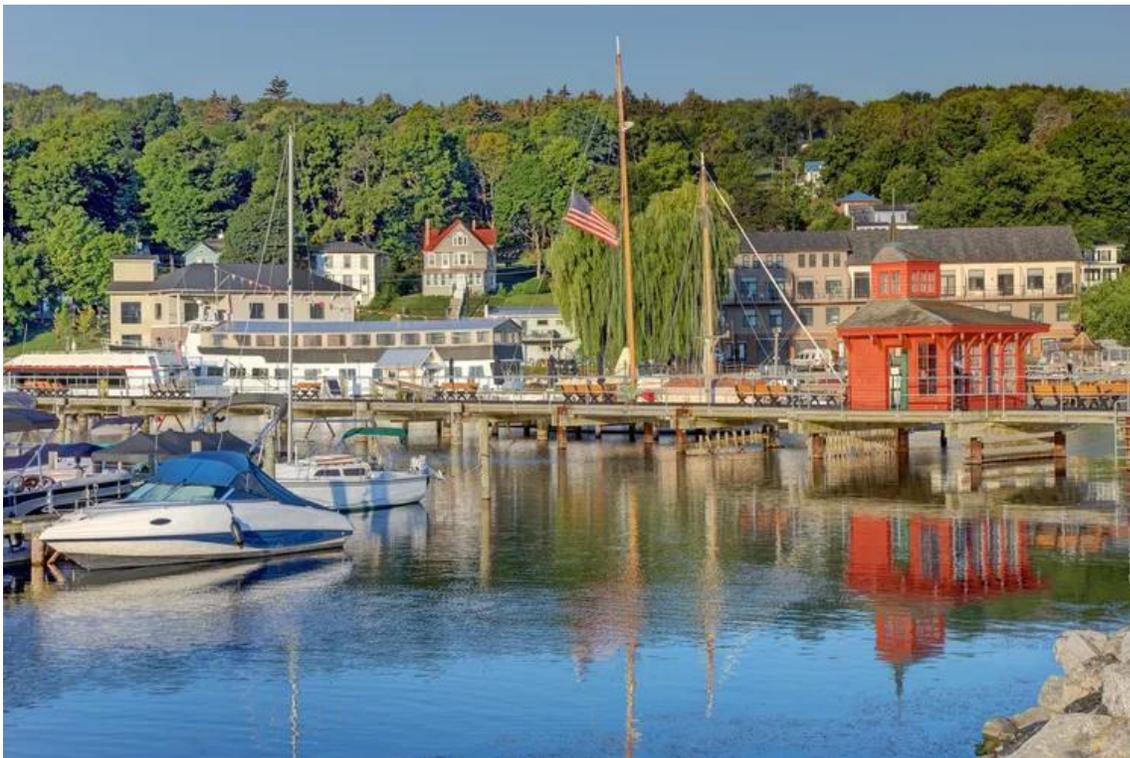
The Drinks Business

Readership:282K

<https://www.travelandleisure.com/watkins-glen-new-york-travel-guide-11887512>

Travel & Leisure | Kelsey Fowler

Readership: 19.0 MM (digital)





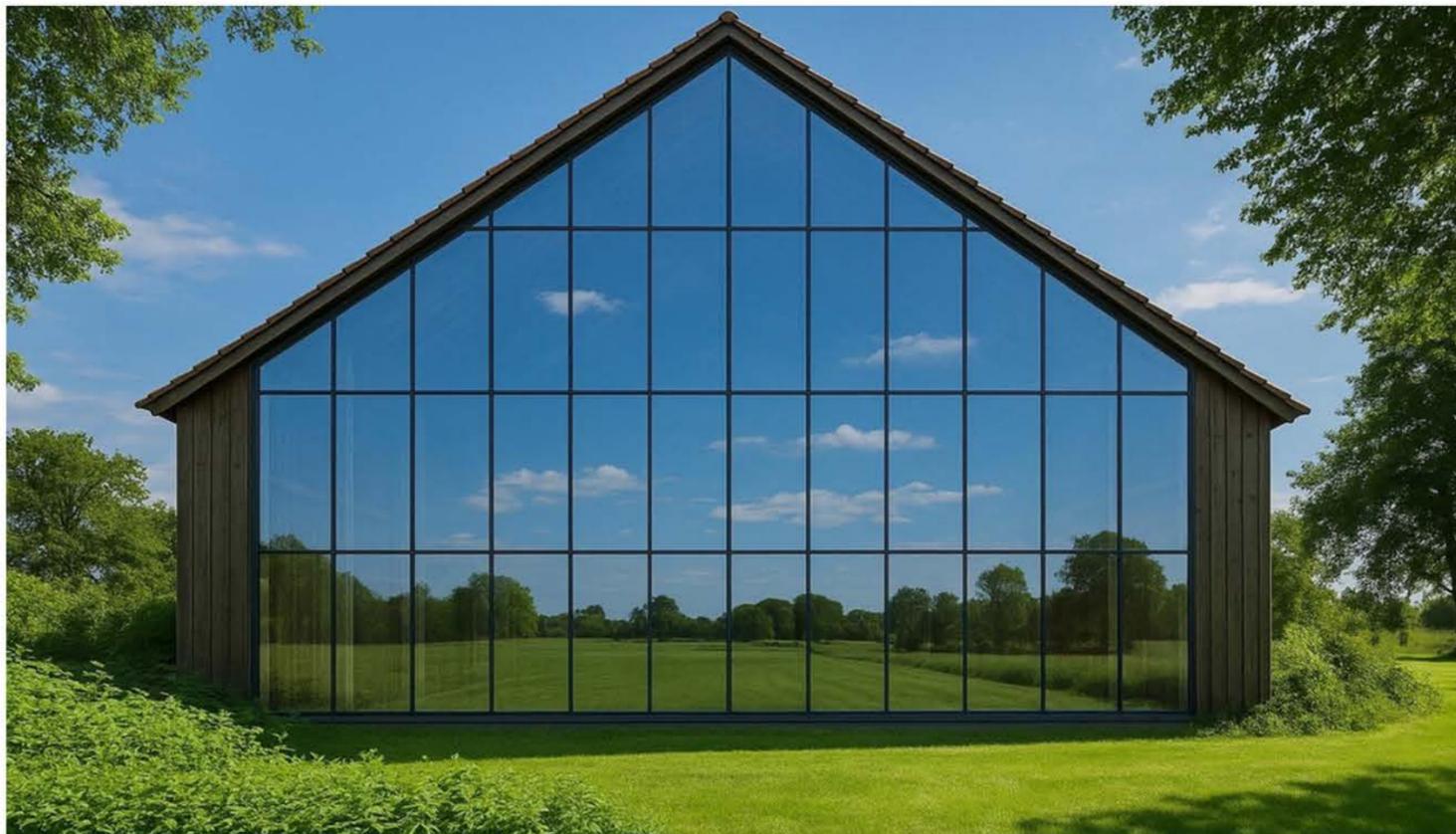


Sébastien LeSeurre

- 6th generation wine maker from Champagne, France
- Global perspective from training in 28 countries
- The choice of Hector was intentional
- Identified our terroir as worthy of international recognition



Purchased a vineyard in Hector



Plans to build a new destination vineyard, tasting room, and museum dedicated to wine culture



“Projects that expand opportunities for visitors to experience the wines of Seneca Lake help strengthen the overall tourism economy and reinforce the region’s identity as a premier wine destination.”

BRITTANY GIBSON

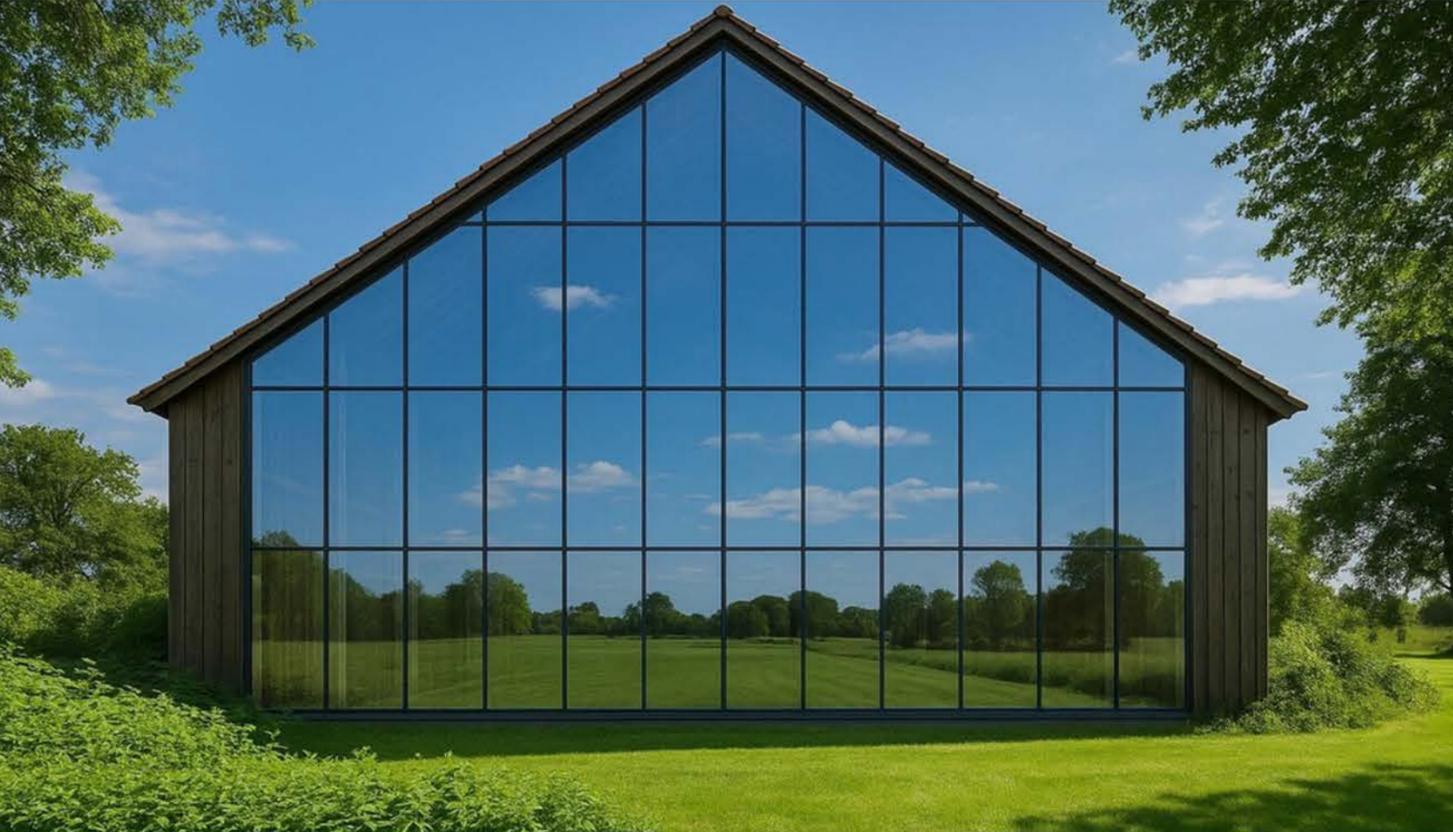
SENECA LAKE WINE TRAIL



Investment
\$2.2 million

County Investment

\$149,000



% of Project \$ Requested

.067%



“This project brings extraordinary cultural value, strong economic returns, and the magnetic experience that defines the future of Finger Lakes tourism.”

MATT BUSH

WATKINS GLEN / CORNING KOA



The establishment of
a new year-round asset

The original building survived for
over 500 years in France

Rebuilding it here will establish a
new life as a museum

A long-term generational
commitment to the our region



“I strongly support this type of global tourism awareness initiative. This will impact our region not only immediately but for years to come. This type of project will not get old or out dated, it will get better with time.”

DAWN BURLEW

PRESIDENT, WATKINS GLEN INTERNATIONAL



French Connection
the museum

**Telling the origin story of our
World-Class destination**

**Architecture & Wine
Making Culture**

Cultural Landmark



ENHANCES EXISTING CULTURAL ANCHORS

Corning Museum of Glass

Glenn H. Curtiss Museum

Cornell University

Erie Canal Heritage Corridor

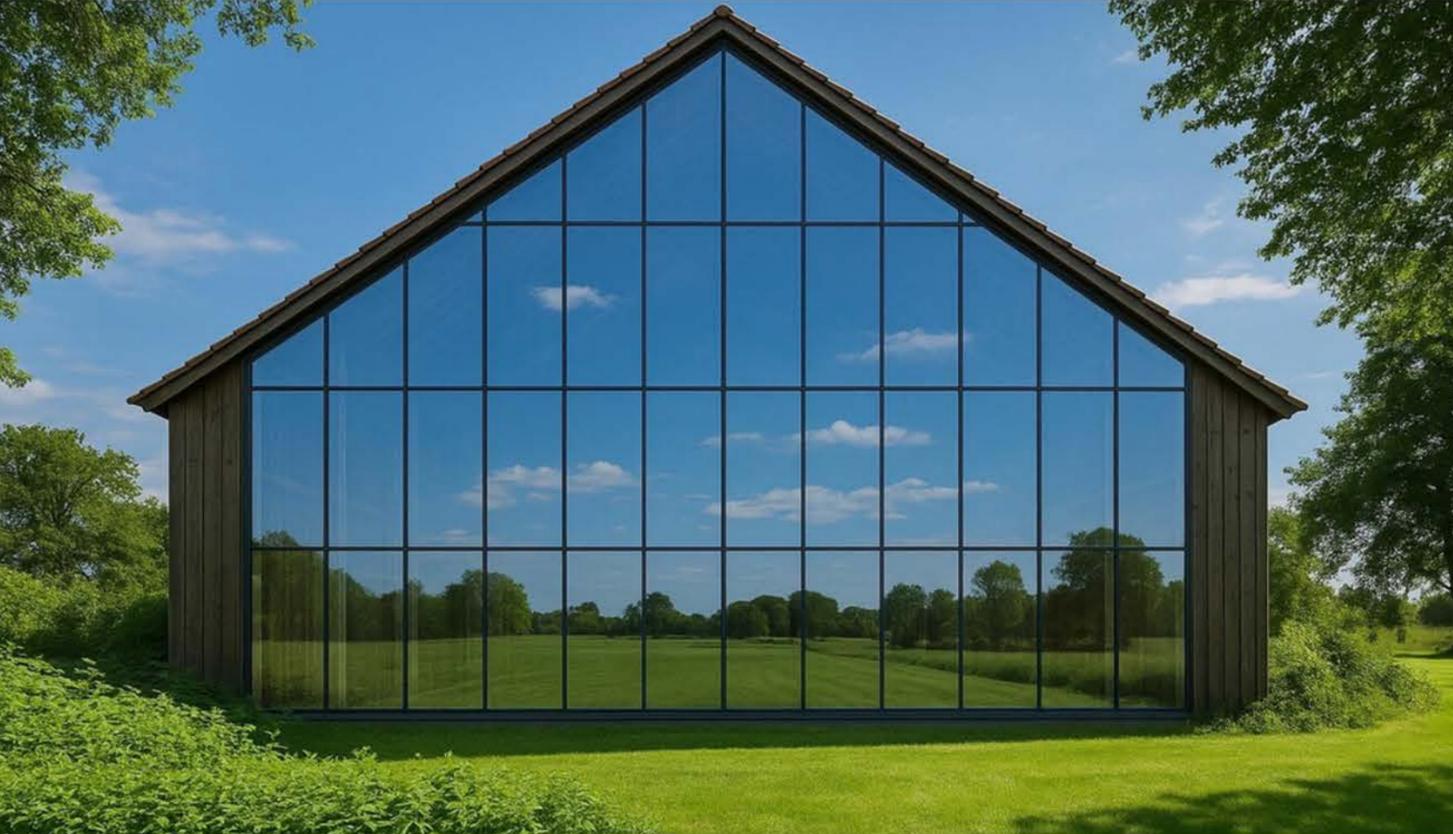




“Continued investment in high-quality visitor experiences helps build awareness of our region nationally and reinforces the message that Seneca Lake is a destination where wine, agriculture, and hospitality intersect in meaningful ways.”

BRITTANY GIBSON

SENECA LAKE WINE TRAIL



JOBS

6 Full-time | 7+ Part-time

employment-based

economic value \$532,682

based on 6 FTEs + 4.1 FTEs

***tasting room manager,
winemaker, vineyard
workers, museum curator,
tour guides***

What is the best possible outcome?

Increased visitation

Increased sales tax revenue

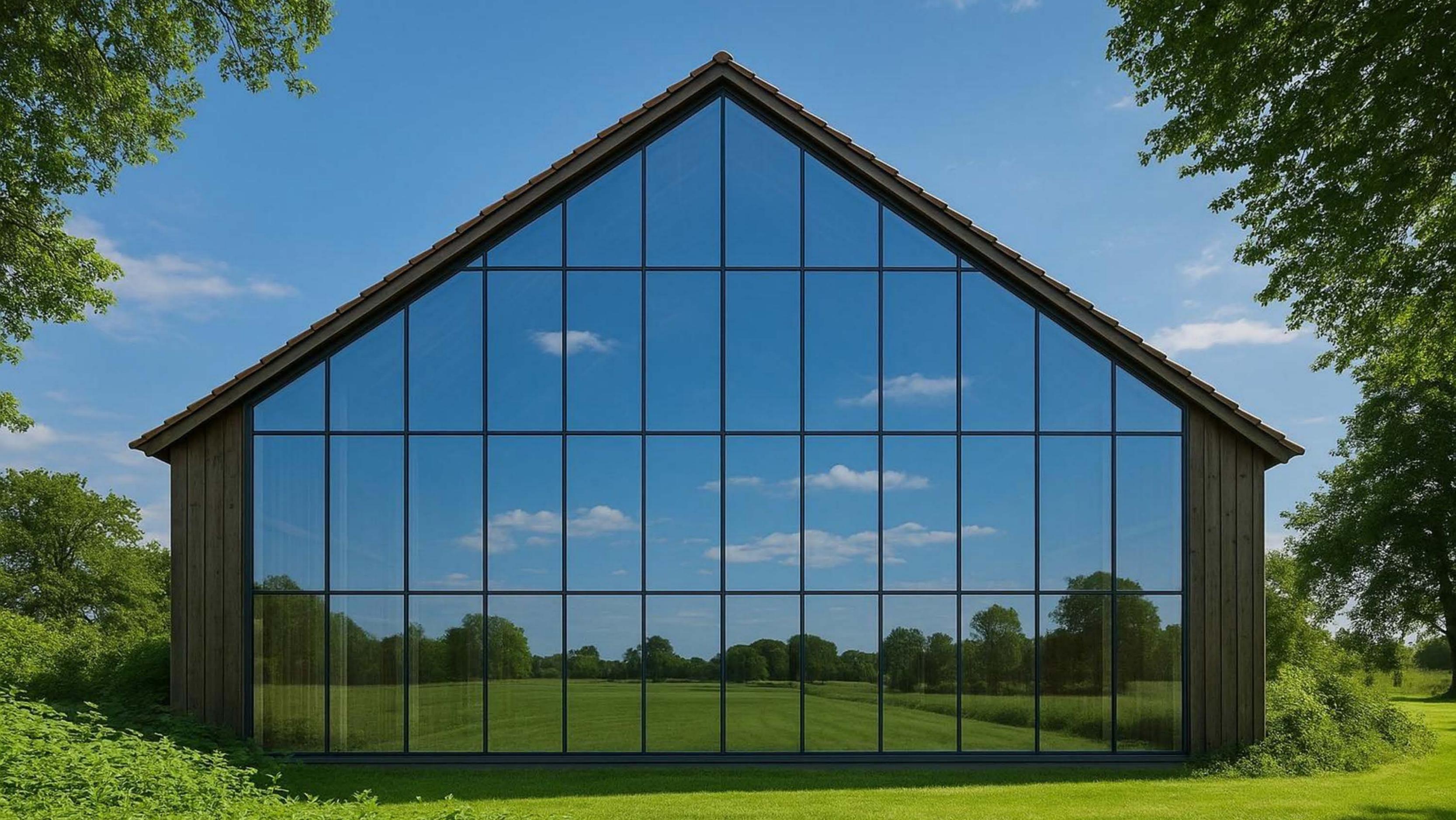
Increased employment

Increased economic development



“This is one of those rare sites capable of producing extraordinary wines.”

Sébastien LeSeurre





Schuyler County Partnership for Economic Development
216 North Franklin Street, Watkins Glen NY 14891
607-535-4341
Fax 607-535-7221

www.flxgateway.com

March 17, 2026

To: Honorable Mark Rondinaro, Chairman
CDNR Committee
From: Judy McKinney Cherry, Executive Director
RE: Report February 2026

Attraction of New Year-Round Businesses

- Camp Monterey: We have had significant issues (more recently) with vandals. Provided detailed information to two additional prospects.
- Continue to have contact with an assembly firm from Georgia that expressed interest in coming for a site visit to see the FLXGateway Enterprises building.
- Working with a Waverly business interested in moving to Schuyler County (On-going)
- Working with a whey-related production company that would have an investment of \$30 million and needs C-PACE designation by Schuyler County. Please see the end of report and attached details.
- Working on several projects related to the succession of existing businesses (On-going).

Industry Cluster Support (Ag, Tourism, Manufacturing & Lumber)

- Continue to work with Domaine LeSuerre regarding their CFA award requirements. Continue to work with the Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce to support their over \$2 million investment in Schuyler County. Please see the related Economic Development Fund Grant Request.
- Completing the reporting requirements for the Chickpea Trial, designed to assist our agricultural community with the opportunity to diversify.
- Met with a hotel prospect
- Met with a new glamping business.
- Met with Lucky Hare regarding opportunities.

Village, Downtown, Canal, Historic Development

- Met with Mayor DeNardo, Deputy Mayor Cherock, and a potential hotel prospect to discuss the site in the Village.
- Met with Julie Kruase regarding opportunities.
- Working with Margaret Lawrence and the IMRRC for a URI grant application to support the new construction of their building on Franklin Street. On-going
- Held meetings with Capriotti regarding the County Infrastructure grant.
- Assisting the Villages with grant support to close out Parks grants for both Montour Falls and Watkins Glen On-going

IDA

- Continue to market the site and have an interested developer who is working on their capital raise.
- Collected and disbursed PILOT payments for the following properties: 1st 2nd Development (former Guthrie Building), Above Grid Solar, Lin Zhu, TJA NY Dix Solar, NY Orange LLC Solar, NY Dix LLC Solar, and LSE Musca Solar.

Businesses

- Spoke with Connoe Evans regarding opportunities.
- Provided Trey Howard with information for his start-up.
- Met with Joe DeShaw regarding a new investment in one of the Villages.
- Spoke with Daniel Jenkins regarding opportunities
- Provided a letter of support for Lakemont Landing for their effort to win County Infrastructure funding to build housing. Also conducted a full economic impact of their project to support their application to Yates County.
- Met with Warren Roman of the IBEW.
- Spoke with Kurt Wegner regarding Camp Monterey
- Working with Finger Lakes Rail and a local attorney related to the rail crossing needed for the sale of lakefront properties.
- Met with Tyler Peckham regarding opportunities.
- Met with Sally Scaptura Clark regarding her property utilization in Watkins Glen.
- Working with a Perogie maker looking for a site for both manufacturing and retail.)On-going)
- Working with Steven Hohle regarding a new business opportunity (Ongoing)
- Meeting with Millicent Ruffin and her team at Corning, Inc. on a regular schedule. (Ongoing)
- Working with Allyson Adam-Anderson, who represents several property owners in Schuyler County who are seeking to sell their businesses. (Ongoing)
- Met with Brian Eshlinger regarding an opportunity.

Community & Partners

- Met with Dr. Terrance Finley and Omar Sanders (ESD).
- Met with Mayor Dustin Carnes.
- Spoke with Lix Corveleyn from Bethany Village regarding needs
- Attended FLX CDC Board Meeting (Ongoing)
- Attended the STC Board meeting. (Ongoing)
- Attended Council of Governments meeting (on-going)

- Presented to the Inter-County Association of Western New York the success of the County Façade Program.
- Spoke with Don Chutas regarding solar law/ host community benefit programs.
- Providing grant administration for Raymond Corp for sales tax abatements and employee tax credits. Working on another CFA application for them. (Ongoing)
- Met with VP Maritt Clay and VP Tony Wohlers of SUNY CCC. On-going)
- Attended Corning Community College Board of Trustees-related meetings. (Ongoing)
- Participated in the WIOA Executive Committee and Board meetings (Ongoing)
- Chair the WIOA Operations Committee Meetings (Ongoing)
- Chaired the Committee for Academic and Student Services for SUNY CCC (Ongoing)
- Continue to bring the Southern Tier IDAs and EDOs together monthly. (Ongoing)

State & National

- Attended REDC Ethics training course
- Spoke with Lauren Dalban of Inside Climate Change regarding nuclear energy
- Our AEDO accreditation reviewers are scheduled to arrive for the site evaluation in the first week of April. If successful, Schuyler County will have the second accredited EDO in New York State.
- Co-chair the Women in Economic Development for the International Economic Development Council (IEDC)
- Attended IEDC Leadership Conference.
- Participate as an accreditor for the IEDC accreditation process for economic development organizations in North America, which will be reviewing the State of North Dakota. On-going
- Co-chaired the Southern Tier Regional Eco Dev Council (REDC) meetings and Executive Sessions, Steering Committee Meetings, and Innovation Committee meetings. ONGOING

LINK to FLX Gateway dba of SCOPED Annual Report

<https://schuylercountypartnershipforec.box.com/s/6oj3ptkyxj6dsdak72kyx2vh8w6uzrsk>

C-PACE Financing

Property Assessed Clean Energy (Open C-PACE) Financing is a program adopted by an eligible local government that allows property owners to pay back clean energy upgrade costs secured through a municipal-based assessment lien. The C-PACE Finance program enables eligible commercially-owned and not-for-profit buildings in New York State to secure funding for energy upgrades and renewable energy projects. The bill is backed by a PACE lien, which is subordinate to municipal taxes and stays with the property. Financing is available through the Energy Improvement Corporation (EIC) for permanent improvement projects that reduce energy costs in existing buildings.

C-PACE Program offered by Nuveen <https://www.nuveen.com/greencapital/about-c-pace/what-is-c-pace>

C-PACE Program offered by EIC NY <https://www.eicpace.org/eicopencpace>

C-PACE Program offered by Clearwater <https://c-pace.com/new-york/>

SCHUYLER COUNTY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND APPLICATION

The Schuyler County Legislature has established an Economic Development Reserve Fund to provide resources for targeted community development and growth. These funds are earmarked for municipal projects designed to directly benefit a smaller subset of the county while positively impacting the overall county economy and is available to municipal governments and quasi-governmental organizations having business in Schuyler County.

The Community Development and Natural Resources Committee (CDNR) will evaluate applications for funding of local projects and recommend to the County legislature which projects should receive funding. To aid in these funding decisions, a specific rubric (attached to this application) has been designed to assist members of the CDNR Committee in prioritizing projects.

The county will distribute these funds (subject to availability) in consideration and evaluation of the following project priorities (in no particular order):

- Downtown/hamlet development
- Agricultural development
- Infrastructure upgrades/development
- Job expansion/retention
- Providing essential services to residents
- Improve quality of life
- Provide resources for gap in funding a project
- Tourism enhancements

Other criteria the legislature will consider include:

- Impact on the largest number of community members
- Serves a broad segment of the population
- Ability to leverage additional funding or private investment
- Innovative or creative solutions to existing regional challenges
- Organization's demonstrated ability to implement the project
- Demonstrates sound financial plans for future funding (sustainability) of the project/program
- Impact relative to county/ local municipality economy and tax base;
- Consistency with local and regional development goals and objectives;
- Numbers and types of jobs retained and /or created;
- Projects should have substantial benefits beyond their site. How will the project spur additional development, activity, or other improvements in Schuyler County?

The county will provide general guidance for the application process through the Planning Department. Contact Joann Lindstrom at (607) 535-8211 or jlindstrom@schuylercountyny.gov.

Completed applications and any supporting documentation should be submitted to the Office of the County Administrator via email: SBaker@schuylercountyny.gov. The county will communicate with project sponsors throughout the process to keep all parties informed. Awards also will be communicated and publicized at the convenience of the CDNR Committee and Schuyler County Legislature.

**SCHUYLER COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND
APPLICATION**

Project Sponsor:

1. Municipality/ Jurisdiction/ Organization: Schuyler County Partnership for Economic Development
2. Mayor/Supervisor/Director: Judy McKinney Cherry
3. Contact Information: [phone] 607.535.4341 [email] Judy@flxgateway.com
4. Address: 216 North Franklin Street Watkins Glen, NY 14891
5. Current Operating Budget: \$ 426,000
6. Current Unreserved General Fund Balance: \$ N/A

Project Information/ Background:

1. Project Name: **The French Connection: A Collaboration of Equals**
2. Project Location: 5747 SR 414 Hector
3. Purpose of Project : Expansion of one of the oldest vineyards in the Finger Lakes with the reconstruction of a 4100 sq ft tasting room and wine museum in a historic structure built in 1487 in Champagne, France to Hector NY.
4. Proposed Implementation Date of Project: **December 2025 – August 2026**
5. Amount Requested: \$ **149,000** Total Project Cost: \$ **2.2 million**
6. Total number of persons to be served by this proposal: **Because of the uniqueness of this project, it is expected to attract 20-40,000 visitors annually, which will have a positive impact on all residents in Schuyler County due to the sales and lodging and real estate tax revenue.**
7. Geographic Area Served:
Statewide
8. Is the project located in an Opportunity Zone? No
9. Has a preliminary environmental investigation been completed? Are there any known environmental issues on the proposed project site?
There has been no need for an environmental investigation, as the site has been under cultivation as vineyards since 1971

Proposal Narrative

This proposal narrative should briefly explain why your organization is requesting this grant, what outcomes you hope to achieve, and on how funds will be spent.

1. Statement of needs/problems

[What needs/problems will this project address? Why is this project important?]

The United States, under the current administration, is very focused on attracting foreign direct investment, especially for manufacturing facilities. Schuyler County has a rare and transformational opportunity to bring to the region both a manufacturing facility and a historically significant museum rarely found in the US. Domaine LeSeurre is in the process of acquiring a 20-acre vineyard and proposing the construction of a new production facility and hospitality center that will incorporate an extraordinary 15th-century structure (museum) that will augment and diversify the visitors to Schuyler County. This project addresses the county's need to attract year-round tourism and additional manufacturing, create unique cultural experiences, and strengthen the regional economy. Domaine LeSeurre anticipates drawing an additional 30,000 unique, year-round visitors annually from across the U.S. This will complement and enhance existing tourism anchors such as the Corning Museum of Glass, the Curtiss Museum, the Erie Canal Heritage Corridor, Cornell University, and the Finger Lakes wine region. This project has an employment-based economic value of \$532,682 with a total employment impact of 10.1 jobs based on direct employment of 6 full-time employees with an additional impact of 4.1 indirect and induced full-time equivalents.

The Seneca Lake region continues to produce wine for all palates. This project will provide a French-operated winery, with a growing demand for its wine, to move into Schuyler County and attract visitors seeking wine, nature, and meaningful experiences. This project will preserve and expand one of the oldest vineyards in the Finger Lakes to manufacture additional wine, while creating a unique agritourism destination featuring a traditional French oak structure, reassembled onsite to showcase rare heritage architecture.

Grant funding is needed to help offset a portion of this project to realize the full economic potential of this distinctive project. This investment will generate lasting value: amplifying the county's unique historical and cultural offerings for many years to come.

By supporting this project, the County will demonstrate its support of a new year-round attraction with manufacturing that enriches the region's tourism economy.

Domaine LeSeurre, one of the very few French winemakers in New York, is making an investment of over \$2.2 million dollars in Schuyler County, adding up to 6 full-time employees with robust benefits, including retirement, health, vision, dental, and 2 weeks of paid vacation. Additionally, they intend to hire 5-10 part-time staff.

2. Description of the target population

[How will the target population benefit from your proposed project? What is the estimated size of your target population? How was the target population involved in defining problems to be addressed and planning the program?]

The proposed project will benefit multiple populations within Schuyler County and the broader Finger Lakes region. Residents of Schuyler County will gain access to a unique cultural and historical asset that enhances local pride and community identity. The tax base will be enriched creating a positive long-term benefit for all the residents in the County. Moreover, an increase in year-round

manufacturing employment will be realized. By putting Schuyler County on national and international platforms with the new museum, the project provides long-term visibility and community-wide benefit. Hotels, bed-and-breakfasts, restaurants, wineries, breweries, transportation services, and tour operators across the region stand to benefit from increased visitor traffic. With an estimated 30,000 annual visitors, the project will contribute to year-round tourism, supporting small businesses and strengthening the local economy during traditionally slow seasons. Assuming a conservative estimate of 20,000 new unique visitors staying 2 nights with an estimated spend of \$365 per day, the net new sales tax (.04) to Schuyler County is \$584,000 per year, nearly a four-to-one ROI, in the first year.

The project will provide unique educational opportunities for students, who will have access to historical content and hands-on learning experiences. Schools can integrate the story of the 1487 museum and its reconstruction into curriculum units on history, architecture, engineering, and cultural preservation. Students and faculty from Ithaca College and Cornell University, particularly those studying history, architecture, engineering, hospitality, and regional planning, will have access to experiential learning opportunities and site development. This strengthens partnerships between Schuyler County and major regional institutions.

Tour operators specializing in heritage, architecture, agriculture, and wine tourism will benefit from a new, highly marketable destination tied to medieval European history and the Champagne region of France.

The estimated target population includes thousands of residents, approximately 30,000 anticipated annual visitors, more than 10,000 K-12 students in the greater regions, and thousands of college students from neighboring higher education institutions.

3. Description of project goals and objectives

[Clearly describe identified goals and objectives. Include a statement as to whether this is a new or ongoing project of the applicant.]

The primary goal of this project is to assist with the development of a new year-round attraction and wine production facility that leverages a new museum housing the historic reconstruction of a 1487 Champagne-region structure to strengthen Schuyler County's cultural identity, expand year-round tourism, and stimulate regional economic development. The project is designed to generate long-lasting promotional, educational, cultural, and tax benefits.

Project Goals & Objectives

1. Increase Year-Round Tourism and Economic Activity

Drive visitor engagement during all seasons, with an anticipated 30,000+ annual visitors, providing sustained support for local hotels, restaurants, wineries, and tourism-related businesses. This project will bring an initial investment of 2.2 million dollars to the County. It will further have an amplified impact of \$2,711,684 from operations annually, with a payroll impact of \$532,682, county tax impact from operations of \$44,129, and county-specific real property impact of \$42,531 annually.

2. Elevate Schuyler County's National and International Visibility

With the Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce taking the lead to develop and execute a marketing plan to promote this project to international and national channels such as Brand USA and Wine Water & Wonders to create widespread recognition of Schuyler County's cultural assets.

3. Provide Educational Opportunities for Students and Lifelong Learners

Deliver curriculum-supporting materials and experiential learning tied to history, architecture, engineering, winemaking, and film production for K-12 and college students.

4. Plans to accomplish goals and objectives

Some of the expected outcomes include:

1. A measurable rise in regional visitation, particularly during non-peak months, improves revenue stability for hospitality businesses.
2. K-12 schools and local colleges will incorporate project content into instruction, bringing students and adults to visit Schuyler County.
3. Increased visitor spending will support job creation and business growth throughout Schuyler County, and
4. Successful reconstruction and interpretation of a rare 15th-century structure will provide the region with an irreplaceable historical landmark.

5. Timetable for implementation.

[Include a general timeframe and phasing for implementation]

The work plan includes the coordinated reconstruction of the 1487 structure, and a structured timeline for community engagement and marketing. These efforts will ensure that the project is completed efficiently and delivers maximum long-term benefit.

Phase 1: Planning and Pre-Production (Months 1-3)

Finalize architectural, engineering, and historical documentation for the construction of the new facility and the reconstruction of the museum artifact.

Complete all necessary permits and approvals

Engage the Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director to define marketing integration.

Phase 2: Site Preparation and Reconstruction (Months 4-6)

Prepare the 20-acre vineyard site for the construction of the production facility and hospitality center/museum.

Phase 3: Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening with State & County officials

Describe the jobs created as part of this project.

- a. **Current Employment:** Full Time # 0 Part Time # 0
- b. **Projected Employment Increases:** Full Time # 6 Part Time # 5-10
- c. **Minimum Starting Hourly Wage:** Full Time \$ 20.00 Part Time \$ 16.00

6. Describe the private support for this project.

Domaine LeSeurre will be investing \$2.2M into the facility project, which includes \$400k of private equity and the remainder traditional financing. This project will preserve and expand one of the oldest vineyards in the Finger Lakes to produce additional wine, while creating a unique agritourism destination featuring a museum and tasting room that includes a traditional French oak barn, reassembled onsite to showcase rare heritage architecture. While financing and \$400K in personal funds have been committed, a funding gap remains to bring this project to fruition. Additional support is critical to realize the full economic potential of this distinctive project. The Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce is

committed to the promotion of this unique asset. SCOPED will be the pass-through for this amount, and the Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce will be the sole project manager to execute the marketing plan.

7. Sustainability

Is this project a one-time funding request?

YES, this investment is only to keep to a reasonable schedule to ensure the timeliness for the grand opening for the Summer 2026 tourism season.

Will the project require ongoing investment? If yes, what are the long-term strategies for funding the project beyond the initial capital investment?

NO.

8. Dissemination

[Describe how the grantee organization will disseminate results of the project and publicize support from the Economic Development Fund.]

The Schuyler County Partnership/FLX Gateway organization will enter into an agreement with the Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce to ensure that #8 Dissemination is completed as per this application. The results of this project will be communicated widely through multiple platforms to ensure maximum reach, long-term visibility, and meaningful community impact. Because the reconstructed 1487 structure is designed as enduring cultural assets, dissemination will occur both at the time of the project launch and continuously for years to follow.

1.. The Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce will commit to the development and execution of a marketing plan that will include:

- Regional marketing efforts
 - Trade shows and tourism conferences
 - Travel itineraries, promotional videos, and destination marketing campaigns
- This ensures that promotion will attract visitors and the region's unique heritage.

2. Social Media and Website Integration

Project updates and educational content will be shared through:

- Domaine Le Seurre's social media channels
- The Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce's digital platforms
- Other Regional tourism social accounts and newsletters

These ongoing updates will extend engagement across multiple audiences before, during, and after project completion.

3. Media Outreach

Press releases, interviews, and features will be pitched by the Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce to:

- Local and regional news outlets
- Tourism and heritage magazines
- National media focused on travel, wine, culture, and history

This diversified media strategy will generate sustained public interest and awareness.

Recognition of Grant Support

The Watkins Glen Area Chamber of Commerce will ensure that the support from the Schuyler County Economic Development Fund will be acknowledged through multiple high-visibility channels:

- Inclusion in all promotional materials, including press releases, print materials, and social posts.
- Recognition on-site within the hospitality center acknowledging the grant’s contribution to the project’s success.

Budget

1. Applicant fiscal year: January 1 – December 31st

2. Project Period: October 2025-May 2026

3. Amount Requested: \$149,000

4. Request represents 6.7 % of the total project.

5. Request is NA % of your annual budget.

6. Amount of Private Investment included in the project: \$2,250,000

7. Other Funding

[If other sources of funding that have been applied for and applicable to the proposal. List each source and amount requested. If applicable, indicate if the status of the funding is pending, committed, or received and for what year] **NONE**

Source: Private Equity Amount: 2,101,000 Status: _____ Year: _____

Source: County EDF Amount: \$149,000 Status: _____ Year: _____

Source: _____ Amount: _____ Status: _____ Year: _____

On behalf of the foregoing Applicant, I acknowledge, understand and agree as follows:

1. The Applicant shall comply with all terms and conditions associated with Application for and receipt of such Economic Development Funds (“the award”), from the County of Schuyler (“the County”) including all terms and conditions of the County’s Economic Development Fund policies and any resolution or motion of the County Legislature approving the award. The Applicant will comply with, and be solely responsible for compliance with, any and all applicable state, federal and local laws related to the project that is the subject of this award (“the project”). The Applicant shall be solely responsible for entering into any necessary legally binding agreement(s) with third parties, consistent with the above requirements as well as with the County’s and Applicant’s stated economic development policies and goals.
2. Nothing herein shall be deemed to confer any rights or remedies upon any third party or upon any person or entity other than the Applicant, the County (“the parties”) and the parties’ respective successors, officers, employees and/or permitted assigns. Nothing herein shall render the County liable to any third party, their successors or assigns for any

charge, claim, cause and causes of action, suits, damages, judgments, executions, claims for injuries, damages, expenses and demands whatsoever, in law or in equity (including, without limitation, attorneys' fees) arising from or connection with receipt of the award. Nothing herein shall be deemed to create any employer/employee or agency relationship between the Applicant, the County and/or the parties' respective successors, officers, employees and/or permitted assigns. Nothing herein shall be deemed to create or devise to the County any ownership interest in the project. Nothing herein shall be deemed to create for the County any liabilities, causes of actions, actions, debts, sums of money, accounts, bonds, bills, covenants, contracts, controversies, promises, agreements, trespasses, variances, judgments, damages, executions, claims, demands whatsoever, in law, equity and/or admiralty related to the project beyond the advancement of the Economic Development Funds.

3. In consideration for the award herein, the Applicant shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County and its officers, employees and agents from for any charge, claim, cause and causes of action, suits, damages, judgments, executions, claims for injuries, damages, expenses and demands whatsoever, in law or in equity (including, without limitation, attorneys' fees) arising from or connection with receipt of the award or arising out of or caused by any act, omission, or negligence of the Applicant or its officers, employees, volunteers, or agents. The Applicant's duties and obligations pursuant to this paragraph shall survive the termination, completion or expiration of the project.
4. This Application shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York and the applicable laws of the United States of America.
5. **The Applicant understands, covenants and agrees that the County has sole discretion to award any, all, some or none of the requested Economic Development Funds, up to the full amount requested in the Application. The Applicant further understands and agrees that any further request(s) for funding shall require a new and separate Application.**
6. The signatory below certifies and affirms under penalty of perjury that he or she has read the entire Application (including all attachments hereto), that the representations made in this Application are complete and true to the best of his or her knowledge, information and belief and he or she has the authority to bind the Applicant to all terms and conditions of said Application.

Applicant

By Judith M. Cherry Executive Director
Name and Title

The foregoing application for Economic Development Funds is hereby accepted and approved by the County of Schuyler, in the amount of \$_____.

Payments to be made and distributed in the form, manner and time directed by the Schuyler County Legislature.

For the County of Schuyler:

**Chair
Schuyler County Legislature**

Project Evaluation:

The Schuyler County Legislature - Economic Development Fund Committee will review all applications based on some of the following criteria which appear in no particular order of importance:

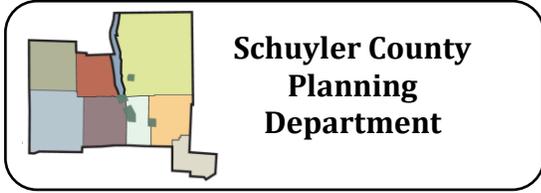
- Impact on the largest number of community members
- Serves a broad segment of the population
- Ability to leverage additional funding or private investment
- Innovative or creative solutions to existing regional challenges
- Organization's demonstrated ability to implement the project
- Demonstrates sound financial plans for future funding (sustainability) of the project/program
- Impact and county/ local municipality economy and tax base;

- Consistency with local and regional development goals and objectives;
- Numbers and types of jobs retained and /or created;
- Projects should have substantial benefits beyond their site. How will the project spur additional development, activity, or other improvements in Schuyler County?

Municipalities in New York State with an OPEN C-PACE Program

Last updated on October 31, 2023

1. Albany, County
2. Allegany County
3. Amsterdam, City
4. Auburn, City
5. Beacon, City
6. Bedford, Town
7. Broome, County
8. Buffalo, City
9. Canandaigua, City
10. Cayuga, County
11. Chautauqua, County
12. Clinton, County
13. Columbia, County
14. Cortland, County
15. Cortlandt, Town
16. Dutchess, County
17. Erie, County
18. Franklin, County
19. Genesee, County
20. Geneva, City
21. Glens Falls, City
22. Greenburgh, Town
23. Greene, County
24. Harrison, Town
25. Hastings-on-Hudson, Village
26. Hudson, City
27. Ithaca, City
28. Kingston, City
29. Lackawanna, City
30. Lewis, County
31. Lewisboro, Town
32. Lockport, City
33. Madison, County
34. Monroe, County
35. Montgomery, County
36. Mount Kisco, Town/Village
37. Nassau, County
38. New Castle, Town
39. New Rochelle, City
40. Niagara, County
41. Niagara Falls, City
42. North Salem, Town
43. North Tonawanda, City
44. Oneida, City
45. Oneida, County
46. Onondaga, County
47. Ontario, County
48. Orange, County
49. Ossining, Town
50. Otsego, County
51. Peekskill, City
52. Pelham, Town
53. Port Jervis, City
54. Poughkeepsie, City
55. Putnam County
56. Rockland, County
57. Rochester, City
58. Rye, City
59. Rye, Town
60. Saratoga Springs, City
61. Schenectady, City
62. Schenectady, County
63. Steuben, County
64. Suffolk, County
65. Sullivan, County
66. Syracuse, City
67. Troy, City
68. Ulster, County
69. Utica, City
70. Warren, County
71. White Plains, City
72. Wyoming County
73. Yates, County
74. Yonkers, City
75. Yorktown, Town



Joann Lindstrom, MPA
Director of Planning
105 Ninth Street, Unit 39
Watkins Glen, NY 14891
607.535.8211
www.schuylercounty.us/planning

To: Community Development & Natural Resources Subcommittee, Schuyler Co Legislature
From: Joann Lindstrom
Date: March 24, 2026
Subject: March Report

Planning Commission – The Planning Commission met on March 12 to review a referral from the Town of Dix to remove five trailers and replace them with 5-10 cottages as short-term rentals (potentially long-term). The Commission recommended this for approval.

The Commission approved a minor change to its by-laws at its January meeting (to accurately define a quorum).

Agricultural Farmland Protection Board

The AFPB met on February 17, 2026 and approved all requests for enrollment (attached).

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE ANNUAL ENROLLMENTS TO AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE SEQR FOR ANNUAL ENROLLMENTS TO AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS

Environmental Management Council – Margaret King has been recommended by the Town of Montour to serve on the Environmental Management Council.

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT MARGARET KING TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Economic Development Fund –SCOPEd is requesting \$149,000 toward the relocation of a 1487 barn from Champagne, France to the Town of Hector.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE REQUEST TO SCOPED FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDS

Countywide Comprehensive Plan – The Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee approved the final draft on March 12th. It is available here:
<https://www.schuylercountyny.gov/566/County-Wide-Comprehensive-Plan>

The Planning Commission will review the plan at its May 14th meeting. The Public Hearing will be held during the County Legislature’s regular meeting on June 8th.

RESOLUTION TO SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR ADOPTION OF AN UPDATE TO THE COUNTYWIDE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Comprehensive Plans are Type I actions under SEQR, which require a declaration of Lead Agency.

RESOLUTION TO DECLARE LEAD AGENCY UNDER SEQR FOR UPDATED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

General Planning Efforts

Housing – Working with FLX Gateway, we are preparing a grant to the NYS County Infrastructure program on behalf of Capriotti Properties for construction of 36 market-rate apartments at The Flats on Broadway in Montour Falls (former Rural Urban Center). The request will be approximately \$500,000. The developer will be responsible for the match.

Odessa Walkability Project – Liv Lovejoy from the Southern Tier Central Regional Planning Board is leading this study. The first public meeting was held on February 24th. The Community Walk was held on Saturday, March 21st. Comments can be made during open hours of the Dutton S. Peterson Library in Odessa through April 6th (flyer attached).

Land Use Training – On Monday, April 13th, the Department of State will provide training at the HSC on Affordable Housing and Revising Zoning. This training is for members of Planning Boards, Zoning Boards, and County Planning Commissions (flyer attached).

LULA Training – The County Planners from Yates, Steuben and I will be presenting on Open Spaces, Viewsheds, By-Ways and Gateways at the Hammondsport Library on Monday, April 27th from 5:00pm-7:00pm for municipal planning and zoning staff (board members).

GIS – January Real Property updates
Worked with ESRI to clean up county data stored but not used online/credits
Extracted and packaged GIS data (for Sam) for a FOIL request
Completed Comprehensive Plan maps
Met with and obtained data from Canal Corporation to aid 911 with issues in future
Continued work on Mapping Hub
Continued development of Public Health dashboard
Working on creating a dashboard for Watershed

RE: SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT FOR 2026 –
PLANNING DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, in keeping with New York State Agriculture and Markets Law Art. 25-AA, Section 303-b, Schuyler County holds an annual agricultural district enrollment period from January 15th to February 15th of each year, and

WHEREAS, in 2026 the County did receive five requests from landowners for inclusion in Schuyler County Agricultural District #1, 2 and #3, and

WHEREAS, the Schuyler County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board did find on February 17, 2026 that these requests were comprised of substantially viable agricultural land contained wholly within parcels;

- 56.00-1-11.2 containing a total of 11 acres owned by Kenneth States in the Town of Hector – Ag District #1
- 71.00-4-13 containing a total of 28.52 acres owned by Ashley & Andrew Corbitt in the Town of Orange – Ag District #2
- 41.00-3-6.1 containing a total of 120.6 acres owned by Alice & Gary Conklin in the Town of Reading – Ag District #2
- 49.00-5-32; 49.00-5-30 & 49.00-5-31.2 containing a total of 47.8 acres owned by Elizabeth & Gordon Simpson in the Town of Tyrone – Ag District #2
- 67.00-1-7.132; 67.00-1-18.112 & 78.00-2-11 containing a total of 22.54 acres owned by Carl States in the Town of Catharine – Ag District #3

WHEREAS, Schuyler County has determined that the action to include 230.46 acres into Schuyler County Agriculture Districts #1, #2 and #3 is an Unlisted action and has completed the Short Environmental Action Form provided by NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets to assess any environmental impacts, and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the action to include 11 acres of farmland to Schuyler County Agricultural District #1; 196.92 acres of farmland to Schuyler County Agricultural District #2 and 22.54 acres of farmland to Agricultural District #3 will not have any significant negative environmental impacts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Schuyler County Legislature shall hold a public hearing for considerations by the Board on the inclusion of said parcels on April 13, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at its Regular Meeting of the Legislature and notice shall be published and posted as required by Agriculture and Markets Law § 303.

RE: SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR ANNUAL REVIEW AND MODIFICATION OF SCHUYLER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS – PLANNING DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, in keeping with New York State Agriculture and Markets Law Art. 25-AA, Section 303-b, Schuyler County must review requests for enrollment into its Agricultural Districts from January 15th to February 15th of each year, and

WHEREAS, landowner requests resulted in proposed modifications to Agricultural Districts through the addition of acres, and

WHEREAS, the Schuyler County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board did find on February 18, 2026 that all of the proposed changes meet the definition of viable agricultural land as defined by Agriculture and Markets Law Article 25-AA, and

WHEREAS, Schuyler County has determined that the action to add acres to Schuyler County's Agricultural Districts is an Unlisted action and has completed the Short Environmental Action Form provided by NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets to assess any environmental impacts, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Schuyler County Legislature shall hold a public hearing for consideration on the recommendations by the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board on May 11, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at its Regular Meeting of the Legislature and the Clerk is directed to provide proper publication and posting of such notice as provided for in Section 303-b (2) (b) of the Agriculture and Markets Law.

2026 ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS ENROLLMENT

AG DIST	TAX ID	OWNER	ADDRESS	TOWN	ACRES
1	56.00-1-11.2	KENNETH STATES	3511 LISK ROAD	HECTOR	11
ACRES TO ADD TO AG DISTRICT #1					11
2	71.00-4-13	ANDREW & ASHLEY CORBITT	2700 WEST ROAD	ORANGE	28.52
2	41.00-3-6.1	GARY & ALICE CONKLIN	2155 ALTAY ROAD	READING	120.6
2	49.00-5-32	GORDON & ELIZABETH SIMPSON	3311 BARKLEY HILL ROAD	TYRONE	5
2	49.00-5-30	GORDON & ELIZABETH SIMPSON	3311 BARKLEY HILL ROAD	TYRONE	23.3
2	49.00-5-31.2	GORDON & ELIZABETH SIMPSON	3311 BARKLEY HILL ROAD	TYRONE	19.5
ACRES TO ADD TO AG DISTRICT #2					196.92
3	67.00-1-7.132	CARL STATES	STEAM MILL ROAD	CATHARINE	10.89
3	67.00-1-18.112	CARL STATES	2932 STEAM MILL ROAD	CATHARINE	10
3	78.00-2-11	CARL STATES	2705 STATE ROUTE 228	CATHARINE	1.65
ACRES TO ADD TO AG DISTRICT #3					22.54
TOTAL ACRES REQUESTED FOR ENROLLMENT					230.46

RE: AUTHORIZE USE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDS AND AWARD TO SCHUYLER COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (SCOPED) – PLANNING DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Schuyler County Legislature has established an Economic Development Fund to provide resources for targeted community development and growth to Schuyler County towns, villages, and quasi-governmental organizations for economic and community development projects, and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 289-21 created a process to appropriate these funds, and

WHEREAS, the following entity has made application for Economic Development Funds: Schuyler County Partnership for Economic Development (SCOPED) for a project to partially fund the relocation of a 15th century barn from an area near Champagne, France to the Town of Hector that, once placed, is anticipated to attract more than 20,000 visitors to Schuyler County and create at least 7.5 FTE jobs, and

WHEREAS, the Schuyler County Community Development and Natural Resources Committee (CDNR) recommends the above funding request.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the above-described application for Economic Development Funds is hereby accepted and approved by the County of Schuyler, in the amount of \$149,000.00 and that the Chairman of the Legislature is hereby authorized to approve the application in accordance with the above, application approved as to form by the Schuyler County Attorney prior to adoption, funds to be paid in the following time and manner: within calendar year of 2026, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Schuyler County Treasurer is hereby authorized to transfer \$149,000.00 from the Economic Development Fund Balance account A890 into the Economic Development account no. 001.6989.0477.

Economic Development Reserve Project Score Card

Evaluator: County Administrator
 Date of Evaluation: 2/18/2026

Project #	Project Name / Applicant	Total Project Cost	Award Amount Requested	% of Project Funded by County
1	LeSeurre Barn Relocation	\$2,100,000.00	\$149,000.00	7%

EVALUATION CATEGORIES	Max Points	Points Awarded	Criteria
A Funding Score (Evaluates % Funding by County)	5	5	>75% County Funds = 0 Points 50%-75% County Funds = 2 Points <50% County Funds = 5 Points
B Priority Category Points (Priority Projects get 5 points, others 0) Agriculture development Job creation Improves quality of life	5	5	Give 5 Points if project is for: Downtown/hamlet development Agriculture development Infrastructure upgrade/development Job create/retention Provides essential services to residents Improves quality of life
C Job Creation >4 FTE	10	10	0 FTE = 0 Points 1-2 FTE = 5 Points 2-4 FTE = 7 Points >4 FTE = 10 Points
D Shovel Ready Project	5	5	No = 0 Points Yes = 5 Points
E Capacity to Complete Project	15	15	No Capacity = 0 Points Low Capacity = 5 Points Median Capacity = 10 Points Strong Capacity = 15 Points
F Overall Quality of Project/Plan	20	20	Poor Plan = 0 Points Average Plan = 10 Points Strong Plan = 20 Points
G Fills Community Need -- Strength of Impact on Locality	10	5	Low Impact = 0 Points Medium Impact = 5 Points Strong Impact = 10 Points
H Fits with County Priorities	5	2	Low Fit = 0 Points Medium Fit = 2 Points Strong Fit = 5 Points
I Project Sustainability & Feasibility Addressed?	10	10	No = 0 Points Yes = 10 Points
J Private Dollars Leveraged (As % of County Investment)	10	10	Less than 100% = 0 Points 100% - 200% = 5 Points >200% = 10 Points
K As a committee member, do you think this project should be funded? Yes/No If No, please explain in notes below.	5	5	No = 0 Points Yes = 5 Points
TOTAL:	100	92	

Project #1 Metrics: LeSeurre Barn Relocation	Total Project	County Portion
Jobs Created/Retained	7.5	0
Jobs Created/Retained Above Median Income	0	0
Dollars Invested Per Job Created/Retained	3.571E-06	0
Private Dollars Leveraged	\$ 2,100,000	\$ 149,000
Estimated Increase in Real Property Tax (5-yr avg)		
Estimated Sales Tax Generated (5-yr avg)		0
Expected Annualized ROI (5-year avg)	0	0
Investment Recoupment Time Frame (in Years)		

RE: APPROVE TWO-YEAR APPOINTMENT TO THE SCHUYLER COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL – PLANNING DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the Town of Montour seat on the Environmental Management Council is vacant; and
WHEREAS, the Town of Montour is recommending the appointment of Margaret King to fill the remainder of the vacant two-year term.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Schuyler County Legislature approves the appointment of Margaret King as the Town of Montour representative on the Environmental Management Council, for the term of April 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027.



Schuyler County Environmental Management Council

105 Ninth Street, Unit 39
Watkins Glen, NY 14891

Phone: 607-535-8211
Fax: 607-535-8193

Membership Application (Please Print)

I, Margaret King am requesting to serve a 2-year term on the Environmental Management Council Representing the Town of Montour.

Name: Margaret A. King

Date: 2/5/26

Address: 4790 CR 14
Odessa NY
14869

Phone No.: 607-592-8470

Email: megking76@gmail.com

Applicant's Interests

A little about me... I have taught special education for more than 20 years and love working with children. I appreciate the diversity of the students I work with and enjoy the problem-solving aspects of special education. I love nature and am fascinated with the natural sciences. I am especially interested in native plants and their ecological role in the environment. I pursue ways to live more sustainably, support the environment, and connect with nature. In my personal life, I enjoy gardening (vegetables and native perennials), foraging, and hiking with my husband and dog. As an empty nester, I have found myself with more time to pursue my own interests and connect with my community. Participation in the Environmental Management Council provides an opportunity to do those things in a way that supports our community and local environment.

Term of Service: 2 years

M A King
Signature

2/5/26
Date

This section is to be filled out by Municipal Representative

The Municipality of Town of Montour approves this membership application.

Darryl Scott
Signature Authorizing Representative

3/10/2026
Date

Internal Use Only:
Received: _____ Sent to Municipality _____ Legislature _____

RE: INTRODUCE AND SET PUBLIC HEARING OF DRAFT UPDATED COUNTY
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - PLANNING DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, Schuyler County adopted its most recent Comprehensive Plan on July 13, 2015 (Resolution No 15-215), and

WHEREAS, a Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (“Committee”) was designated by the Schuyler County Legislature to review and prepare amendments to the Countywide Comprehensive Plan under General Municipal Law 239-d(2), (Resolution No 24-303), and

WHEREAS, the Committee has prepared a recommended updated plan to address housing, infrastructure and land use needs, and

WHEREAS, by resolution duly passed, on March 10, 2026 the Committee recommended adoption of the updated plan to the Schuyler County Legislature and has filed a copy of the resolution and proposed Draft Updated Comprehensive Plan with the Clerk of the Schuyler County Legislature, and

WHEREAS, this plan will be sent to the Schuyler County Planning Commission, the Southern Tier Central Regional Planning & Development Board, the Schuyler County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board, and Schuyler County’s municipal legislative and planning boards for review and recommendation under GML 239-d(4) and (5), and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Schuyler County Legislature hereby introduces the Draft Updated Comprehensive Plan to be considered, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Draft Updated Comprehensive Plan shall be referred to the Schuyler County Planning Commission, the Southern Tier Central Regional Planning & Development Board, the Schuyler County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board, and Schuyler County’s municipal legislative and planning boards for review and recommendation under GML 239-d (4) and (5), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a public hearing shall be held on June 8, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. at the Meeting of the Schuyler County Legislature, with all other interested parties given the opportunity to be heard, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Legislature is directed to cause notice to be published in the official newspaper at least ten (10) calendar days in advance of the hearing; further notice shall also be mailed to each town and village chief executive officer and the chair of each board as set forth above at least ten days before such hearing, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

RE: CLASSIFYING A CERTAIN PROJECT AS A TYPE I ACTION AND DECLARING THE INTENT OF THE COUNTY OF SCHUYLER TO BE LEAD AGENCY FOR PURPOSES OF A COORDINATED REVIEW PURSUANT TO THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT (SEQRA) FOR THE ADOPTION OF AN UPDATED COUNTYWIDE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN - PLANNING DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, Schuyler County adopted its most recent Comprehensive Plan on July 13, 2015 (Resolution No 15-215); and

WHEREAS, a Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee (“Committee”) was designated by the Schuyler County Legislature to review and prepare amendments to the Countywide Comprehensive Plan under General Municipal Law 239-d(2), (Resolution No 24-303); and

WHEREAS, the Committee has prepared a recommended Draft Updated Comprehensive Plan to address housing, infrastructure and land use needs; and

WHEREAS, by resolution duly passed, on March 10, 2026 the Committee recommended adoption of the updated plan to the Schuyler County Legislature and has filed a copy of the resolution and proposed updated plan with the Clerk of the Schuyler County Legislature; and

WHEREAS, this plan and any amendments thereto are subject to the provisions of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) under General Municipal Law 239-d(3); and

WHEREAS, the adoption of a Comprehensive Plan is a Type I action under SEQRA, which requires the designation of a Lead Agency; and

WHEREAS, this plan will be sent to the Schuyler County Planning Commission, the Southern Tier Central Regional Planning & Development Board, the Schuyler County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board, and Schuyler County’s municipal legislative and planning boards for review and recommendation under GML 239-d(5);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Schuyler County Legislature intends to declare itself Lead Agency under SEQRA;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this plan and notice of intent, “Lead Agency,” be sent to the Schuyler County Planning Commission, the Southern Tier Central Regional Planning & Development Board, the Schuyler County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board, and Schuyler County’s municipal legislative and planning boards;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the County Legislature, with assistance of the County Planning Department, is hereby authorized and directed to arrange for distribution of the notice of intent to be “Lead Agency” and is hereby authorized to take such actions as are necessary and appropriate to assist the County in fulfilling the requirements under SEQRA for the Project;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

SAVE THE DATES



1 Tuesday, February 24th, 5:30 - 7:00 pm
@ Odessa Community Room

2 Saturday, March 21st, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
Meet @ Dutton Library

3 Sunday, April 12th, 2:00 - 4:30 pm
@ Odessa Community Room



4 OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE YOUR INPUT



1

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING

Set the stage. Join us to learn about previous planning efforts, understand the purpose of this project, and share your thoughts on priority, opportunity, and concern areas.



2

COMMUNITY WALK

Observe conditions. Join us for an approximately 1 mile walk around downtown Odessa where participants are encouraged to take notes on what they see at a pedestrian-level and identify problem areas and opportunities as they experience Odessa streets as a pedestrian. After, the group will gather to discuss their observations over refreshments.

3

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION MEETING

Give feedback. Review recommendations and strategies based on findings from the first meeting, walk, and charrette. Depending on those results, this could look like voting on different remedies, getting clarity on plan materials, or commenting on other facets of the plan.



4

CHARRETTE

Monday, March 16th through Monday, April 6th @ Dutton Library

Drop by your local library at your convenience to share your thoughts on possible methods to improve walkability in your community (hands-on activities). Activities will be available during regular library hours for the duration of the charrette.

All sessions are open to the public. We highly encourage you to attend at least one meeting and to invite your friends & neighbors!

LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAND USE TRAINING

MONDAY APRIL 13, 2026

Human Services Complex 323 Owego St Montour Falls, NY

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

5:30PM-7:00PM

REVISING ZONING

7:30PM-9:00PM

**Registration is required
email or call**

**jlindstrom@schuylercountyny.gov
or 607-535-8211**

DINNER PROVIDED

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Department of State
Local Government



Mission: To sustain and support our community through collaborations that put experience and research to work.

Vision: Honoring the past, preparing for the future through: life-long learning; sustainable agriculture and natural resources management; healthy adults, youth and families; engaged communities.

TO: Schuyler County CDNR Committee
FROM: Melissa C. Schroeder, *CCE Executive Director & Sr. Issue Lead*
RE: March Update
DATE: March 18, 2026

Operations and Governance, *Melissa C. Schroeder*

- Our 2025 Annual Report is a teamwork effort at CCE. Our report highlights a snapshot of the work we do at CCE as we have shifted away from lots of text over the last three years and included photos to help tell our story. You can view our 2025 edition by visiting the link: <http://cceschuyler.org/resources/2025-annual-report>
- Revisited a monthly newsletter format to help people find all of our programs in one place outside of social media. Our second edition can be viewed by visiting the following link: <https://cceschuyler.org/resources/march-2025-ccesc-newsletter>
- Working on updates for all administrative and risk management tasks for our upcoming season at Hidden Valley 4-H Camp.
- Working on submission of new grant proposal with funding from NYS 4-H on a Thrive Lab proposal. This grant would have CCE work with students in middle and high school on food system work and connect them to agriculture. It is very competitive with only two new grant proposals in NYS receiving funding. Announcements for funding will be made in mid-April.

Ag and Natural Resources, *Brett Chedzoy Ag and Natural Resources Issue Lead*

- Brett has recently presented on forestry and agroforestry topics for a regional Master Gardeners volunteers training, an agroforestry conference at the Rodale Institute, a nationally viewed webinar for land management professionals, and the annual NY Water Quality Symposium.
- Over the next three weeks, Brett will lead five tours at Cornell's Arnot Forest for students from local universities.
- the 8-week annual training for new Cornell Master Forest Owner volunteers begins next Tuesday, starting with weekly virtual sessions followed by a comprehensive field day at



Mission: To sustain and support our community through collaborations that put experience and research to work.

Vision: Honoring the past, preparing for the future through: life-long learning; sustainable agriculture and natural resources management; healthy adults, youth and families; engaged communities.

the Arnot Forest. Over 100 new trainees are registered, making it our largest cohort to date.

- Funding was recently confirmed by the Upper Susquehanna Coalition to assist with the establishment of 6-acre silvopasture demonstrations on six farms in the watershed in 2026, including two in Schuyler County.

Horticulture, Shawn Tubridy (*Horticulture and Garden Educator*)

- March is a busy month for the Master Gardener Program! The final session of the Southern Tier Master Gardener Volunteer Training was held on March 14th with 3 new Schuyler County Master Gardener Volunteers and at least 2 people who are interested in joining the next Master Gardener Volunteer training that starts in September.
- All of the donated seeds have been sorted and many of them have been re-donated to the local libraries and schools with a few bags still waiting to be delivered to their destinations.
- The Seed to Supper Program will be starting soon. One class will be starting on March 19th at the Elizabeth B. Pert Library in Hector and the other on March 25th at the Community Room in Odessa. The program consists of 5-session and will be offered on alternating Thursdays with the same Master Gardeners teaching the same lessons at both locations.
- On March 21st a Spring Seed Sowing Workshop is scheduled to help people get their seeds started to help them be able to garden on a budget.
- On March 28th “Exploring Plant Medicine” will be offered with Shawn Tubridy and (volunteer)Sue Neal. In addition to learning about the history, safety, legalities, identification and uses of herbs, participants will be making an herbal preparation to take home with them. This workshop

Commercial Agriculture, Alec Moore (*Commercial Ag Educator*)

- NYS Beginning Farmer Competitive Grant program applications opened up March 16th. This is a grant for those who have been farming less than 10 years. Farmers can make proposals for up to \$210,000 with 5% matching funds. Applications will be accepted up to June 14th. Proposals can be for projects ranging from infrastructure, equipment, marketing, and training.



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- 2026 pruning workshop will be held March 28th. We are adding 2 hours of instruction this year to allow more time to cover the broad range of topics. So far registration is looking strong again with over 30 attendees signed up so far.
- Numerous one on one consults and questions answered for homeowners and farmers.
- NYS recently opened up the Food and Fiber Processing Grant Program to support the scaling of new products and existing ones that are produced and harvested in NYS. This will allow for the construction and renovation of facilities and installation of equipment. This grant will give priority to projects focused around fruits, vegetables, grains, beans, plant and animal fiber. This is a larger grant accepting proposal from \$250,000 to \$2.5 million.

Environmental Outreach and Education, *Position vacant (shared Environmental Sciences Educator Cayuga/Seneca/Schuyler)*

- The current position description has been reviewed along with input from Seneca, Schuyler and Cayuga on the feasibility of keeping this unique position. The CCE Schuyler Board will discuss this position opportunity on Thursday, March 19 during their scheduled board meeting.

Energy Program Area, *Carrienne Tribe-Filhart (Community Energy Educator and Advisor)*

- Working in collaboration with the Village of Montour Falls Library System to present a workshop to the community on “Understanding and Optimizing your Electricity Bill” which will also include some DIY measures folks can utilize in their own spaces as well as an Energy Kit worth \$40.00 to those attending.
- Attending the Hector Sustainability Meeting on March 18.

Youth and Family Development Program Area

Parenting Education, *Paula Goodrich (Parenting Educator Home Visitor, PEHV)*

- March 7th “Little Sparks” event at the Family Play and Resource Center had two new families join the group. The theme was spring days and we are now averaging seven



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families for the group activities which is a fair amount of people to balance in the Center.

- Numbers referred for Parenting Education are slowly climbing. We are seeing quite a few families with infants and toddlers who need both support and resources on maintaining healthy relationships and safe living environments for their children.
- Attended “Let’s Talk Health: Rural Voices for Cancer Prevention” sponsored by UR Medicine, Wilmot Cancer Institute and Pivotal Public Health partnership held at the Silver Spoon Café. The conversations were strong in identifying barriers to precancer screenings and cancer informational sessions. Working with families who are underserved in the healthcare area I am looking forward to sharing with families I work with.

4-H Youth Development, Kim Seaman (4-H Program Coordinator)

- 4-H Esports club met on March 7th. We continued working on our fundraiser and welcomed two new members. Our next meeting is May 2nd.
- Zombie Apocalypse at Odessa is in its third session; it is the most popular afterschool science and math enrichment that 4-H provides.
- Continue to support the Watkins Glen 21st Century Afterschool program as the coordinator.

Upcoming events

March 21st - Simple Circuits Sparks Club

March 25th – Simple Circuits Hector Library

April 4th – Pinwheels (in support of Child abuse awareness month)– Hector Library

School and Community Wellness, Daniela SilvaPenagos (School and Community Wellness and Community Coordinator/Educator)

- On March 13th attended Odessa School’s Makerspace Night offering activities for the students to create using reusable materials. Also shared the seed library with students encouraging them to take seeds that they can grow at home.
- Collaborated with community partners to expand upcoming nutrition education opportunities. Meetings were held with staff from the Hector Public Library and Montour Falls Memorial Library to discuss and schedule future nutrition education programming.



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- Completed a grant proposal through the Community Foundation of the Southern Tier Fund for Women to support a community nutrition initiative titled “**Nourish Her Balance.**” This proposed project is designed to address women’s hormonal health and empower women through evidence-based nutrition education and supportive learning spaces. The program concept focuses on increasing awareness of the relationship between nutrition, hormonal balance, and overall well-being. Grant funding decisions are expected in April.

Up-Coming Events and workshops

<http://cceschuyler.org/events>

- **The South-Central Agriculture Newsletter can be found here:** <https://cceschuyler.org/agriculture/ag-news>
- **Explore our new CCESC Quarterly newsletter here:** <https://conta.cc/3HDegKi>
- **Where to find CCE Schuyler?**

Facebook:

CCE Schuyler- www.facebook.com/ccesc

Hidden Valley- www.facebook.com/HV4HC

Schuyler County 4-H- www.facebook.com/Schuyler4H

Hidden Valley Camp Alumni Group- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2262526130>

Instagram:

CCE Schuyler- [@cceschuyler](https://www.instagram.com/cceschuyler)

Hidden Valley- [@hiddenvalley4hcamp](https://www.instagram.com/hiddenvalley4hcamp)

Link-Line Call Center Data

Complaints (3):

- Caller claimed that bus was taking up too much of the road and not giving enough space. Could not be reached when contacted for further details.
- Caller claimed that bus was following too closely in winter weather. Driver was re-trained and safety item was addressed in monthly staff meeting.
- Caller reported driver being impatient and rude to two different riders on one trip. Driver re-trained by director on tone.

Unmet needs/Service Denials (5):

- (1) Service denial for same-day request.
- (4) Unmet needs due to no available volunteer drivers or no available transit programs.

Total Calls	352
Average Calls/Day	17.6
Call Details	
<i>Call Type</i>	
<i>Email</i>	5
<i>Missed Call</i>	19
<i>Phone</i>	281
<i>Social Media</i>	0
<i>Voicemail</i>	42
<i>Walk In</i>	8
<i>Service</i>	
<i>Arc</i>	4
<i>Combo</i>	3
<i>Dial-A-Ride</i>	87
<i>Fixed Route</i>	153
<i>N/A</i>	7
<i>Office for the Aging</i>	72
<i>Rideshare</i>	0
<i>MAS</i>	2
<i>Veterans Services</i>	22



Link-Line Partner Agencies

<i>Office for the Aging</i>	
<i>Cancellation</i>	3
<i>Information</i>	6
<i>Referral</i>	3
<i>Reservation</i>	59
<i>Unmet Need</i>	0
<i>Veterans Services</i>	
<i>Cancellation</i>	1
<i>Information</i>	0
<i>Referral</i>	0
<i>Reservation</i>	21
<i>Unmet Need</i>	0

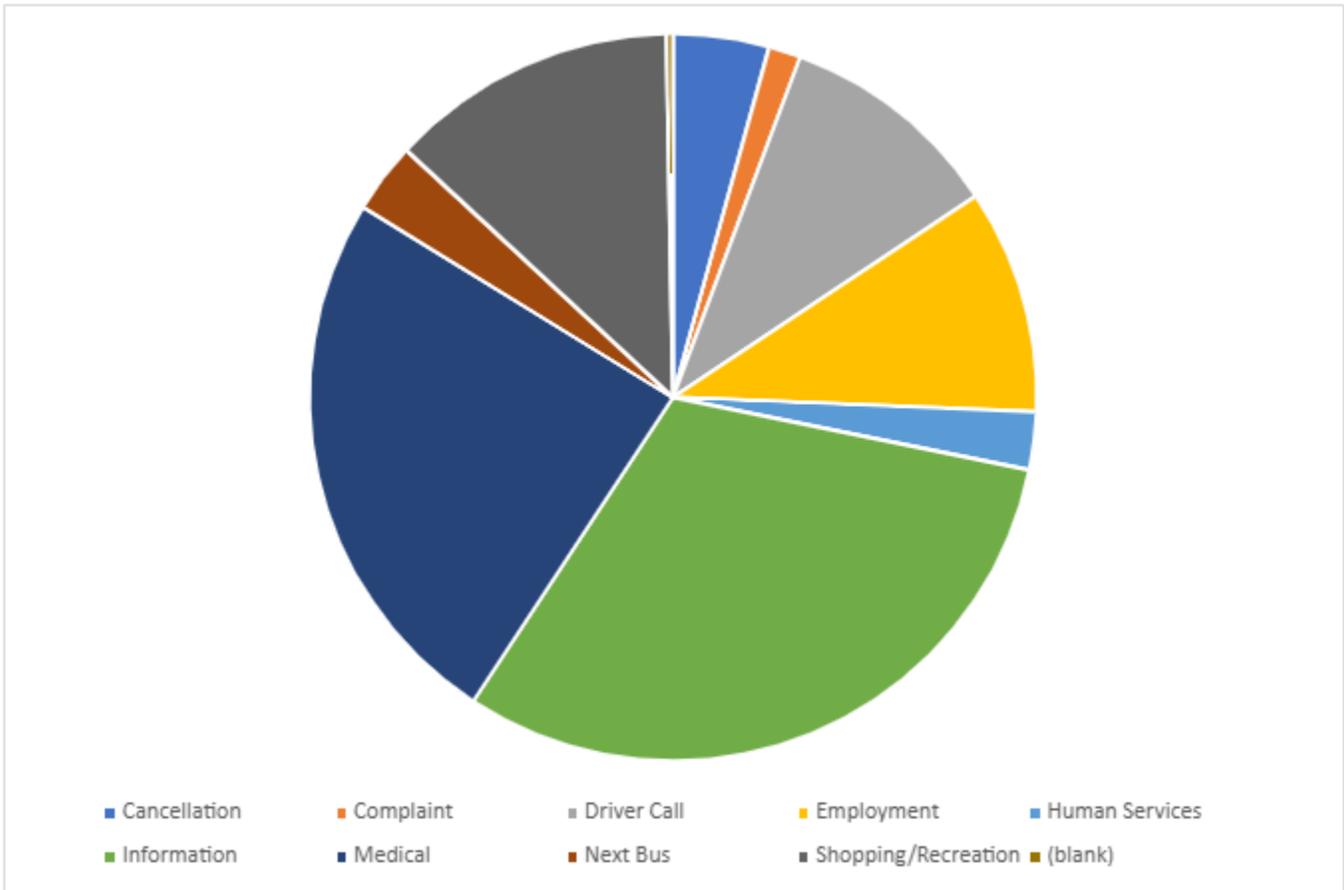
*OFA transportation contacts were at 72, with a 100% positive referral or scheduling rate for the month.

*VSA contacts went up to 22, also with a 100% scheduling rate for the month of February.

* Contacts for the month were at 352, a little lower for the shortest month.

* Unmet Needs were primarily due to a lack of available programs or drivers.

* Walk-ins went down to 8 for February, lower than the average.



In February, general information calls regarding public transit or transportation programs were the most popular. After *Information*, *Medical* requests were also a significant reason for people contacting Transportation Link-Line. Many of those can be attributed to the volunteer driver programs that assist clients of Office for the Aging and the Veterans Service Agency.

Transportation, Mobility, and Planning Updates:

National RTAP Community Rides Grant: RTAP has officially announced everyone who was awarded grant funding. Now it's time for us to get to work! Virtual kickoff meetings have begun. Both the Transportation & Mobility Advisory Committee and the Human Services Coordinated Committee have been updated at quarterly meetings.

NYS DOT 5310 & 5311 Oversight Compliance Reviews: Members of transportation management attended virtual training to prepare for the mid-year compliance review. Representatives are expected on site in July, though much of the review will be handled virtually ahead of their arrival.