

INTRODUCTION

The Wayne County Planning Department provides a variety of services designed to have a positive impact on the quality of life of the residents of the County. Recognizing that the return of tax dollars to the County is a priority, the staff of the Planning Office makes every attempt to apply for relevant grants to improve the physical appearance of the County, repair and replace aging infrastructure, improve housing stock and provide greater recreational choices and social opportunities for our residents. Although our most visible efforts involve the preparation and administration of grants, the staff also attends local meetings, provides technical assistance and supports communities with their planning and improvement initiatives. A synopsis of our activities for 2005 follows.

GRANT APPLICATIONS AND AWARDS

- Prepared and submitted a NYS Environmental Protection Fund grant in the amount of \$350,000 for the Town of Rose to develop a public park. **(still awaiting grant award announcements)**.
- Wayne County USDA Sustainable Ag Research & Education (SARE) grant for \$9,250. **(still awaiting grant award announcement)**
- Provided technical assistance for a USDA RBEG grant for Northern Biodiesel (\$99,500).
- Prepared and submitted Quality Communities application for \$40,000 for a countywide GIS needs assessment. **(not awarded)**
- Prepared and submitted applications for NY Main Street funds for the Village of Clyde (\$200,000) and the Hamlet of Savannah (\$187,986). **Both programs awarded full amount requested.**
- CDBG/TA application for Village of Sodus Point for \$15,000 **Awarded \$16,000.**
- Submitted SARA grants for Williamson (\$2,675) and Huron (2 separate grants in the amounts of \$24,616 and \$17,735). **All grants were awarded the full amount requested.**
- Applied for a grant from the Genesee Transportation Council to study truck traffic patterns on Route 21 in the Town and Village of Palmyra. **Awarded \$16,000 to conduct the study.**
- Prepared and submitted a Shared Municipal Services Incentive Grant for Huron and Wolcott for \$60,000. **(still awaiting grant award announcements)**
- Prepared and submitted a Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund grant in the amount of \$37,960 to conduct a countywide GIS needs study. **(still awaiting grant award announcement)**

PURCHASE OF DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS PROGRAM GRANTS

- Town of Macedon – US Department of Agriculture (2-farms, 150 acres, \$ 91,598 awarded which completed funding on \$410,000 project)

- Town of Walworth – US Department of Agriculture (2-farms, 240 acres, \$157,955 awarded which completed funding on \$584,000 project)
- Town of Ontario - US Department of Agriculture (1-farm 305 acres, \$ 230,512 awarded which completed funding on \$890,000 project)
- Town of Macedon – NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets 10-2004 & US Department of Agriculture 4-2006 submissions - \$594,702 awarded to protect three farms and 318 acres.
- Town of Walworth - \$892,000 to protect two farms and 240 acres.
- Town of Ontario- \$583,812 to protect one farm and 327-acres.
- **To date, \$6,139,862 has been awarded for farmland protection to fully protect 3240 acres and 14 businesses in three towns.**

GRANT ADMINISTRATION

- Closed out Red Creek CDBG T/A grant of \$18,000. Village completed downtown visioning process and an economic development and marketing plan.
- Continued administration of the \$419,000 Marion HMGP grant for the Union Street drainage project.
- Distributed \$57,700 in grant funds to four snowmobile clubs in Wayne County for trail maintenance and development.
- On behalf of the Towns of Sodus and Huron and the Village of Sodus Point, continued administration of the \$30,000 Sodus Bay Harbor Management Plan grant, worked with the planning consultant and coordinated all activities with the Sodus Bay Intermunicipal Committee.
- Continued activities on the development of the Amtrak Station. Developed modified plans for submission to CSXT and finalized and executed an engineering agreement with CSXT.
- Began administration of \$388,000 CDBG housing rehab grant for the Town of Huron, including the preparation and execution of all contracts, establishment of administrative policies, retention of a lead assessment contractor and intake for homeowners.
- Continued working on the \$40,320 grant for the Edgett Street Bridge project. Project cannot reach closeout until bridge ownership is resolved. NYS Canal

Corporation may assume ownership after Newark, Arcadia and Wayne County all declined to do so.

- Resumed administration of Seaway Trail shoulder widening grant in the amount of \$128,000. Began preparation of the required design report and completed the SEQR review.
- Continue administration of the \$70,000 Recreational Trails program grant to develop a trail between Wallington and Sodus Point and rehabilitate Red Creek abandoned railroad bridge. Developed the contract for the salvage of rails from Wallington to Sodus Point and amended the grant program to allow for a cash match from the County provided from the proceeds of the sale of the steel rail.
- Continued administration of the Schoepfel environmental restoration project. Project will close out is still dependent on the receipt of environmental easement language is received from DEC. Repeated attempts to obtain this language have resulted in no response from DEC.
- Genesee Transportation Council Unified Planning Work Program grant in the amount of \$20,000 for Macedon, Walworth and Ontario to conduct a cluster development feasibility study.
- Continued administration of the Clyde River Dredging grant in the amount of \$40,000. A project stakeholder meeting was held in February to redefine the scope of the project to a 40' wide, 3-4' deep channel. According to DEC and the Army Corps of Engineers, who were both present at the meeting, the new scope would most likely be accepted by the permitting agencies. DEC required sediment sampling, which was completed in December. We await a report from DEC concerning the sediment sampling results before we can proceed with the dredging.
- Continued to participate in the administration of the \$600,000 Wayne County Agribusiness Microenterprise Program in partnership with the Industrial Development Agency. This program helped retain 1 FTE, 1 PTE and 15 seasonal workers in 2005.
- Administered grant to Town of Lyons for \$10,000 to purchase equipment and make repairs to the local cemeteries.
- Administered Town of Sodus grant for \$75,000 for purchase of an ambulance.
- Administration of \$7,500 grant for new school caution light in Marion.
- Continued administration of the following grants received from Congressman Walsh:
 - a) Palmyra Livestock Barn - \$500,000

- b) Sodus Point Park Improvement Project - \$300,000
- c) Newark Developmental Center Re-use Study - \$100,000
- d) Savannah Elementary School Alternative Strategy Study - \$74,400

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM AND OTHER COMPUTER RELATED TASKS

- Completed and printed maps for several departments, municipalities and groups including: WC Planning (CAD No 1, Clyde River and Sodus Bay IC Maps), Town of Galen Planimetric Maps, Town of Rose Zoning Maps, Village of Clyde Zoning Maps, Village of Lyons Map (orthoimagery for Mike Santelli) and Town of Walworth Zoning Maps.
- Continued to make improvements to the Planning website by posting meeting minutes and other relevant information.

WAYNE COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

- The Wayne County Planning Board reviewed 204 zoning and subdivision referrals in 2004 over the course of 10 evening meetings. Photographs in the form of power point presentations and written Preview Committee comments are provided for each referral the Board reviews. Maps utilizing tax parcel boundaries, wetland boundaries, flood zones and orthoimagery are also created and provided for many of the referrals that the board reviews.

AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT REVIEW

- The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets certified the County's first Consolidated Agricultural District (CAD) this year. CAD No. 1 includes the Towns of Ontario, Walworth and Macedon. The required review of CAD No. 2 is underway, which will include the Towns of Williamson, Marion and Palmyra. With assistance from Data Processing, 3,458 letters were mailed to landowners that own land in existing certified agricultural districts and a new Microsoft Access program was developed to more efficiently process Landowner Worksheet responses.
- The annual Agricultural District Review Period (January 1st –January 31st) resulted in no additions to any of the County's Agricultural Districts.

SNOWMOBILE TRAIL SYSTEM

- Oversee all paperwork for mileage reimbursement from New York State for approximately 150 miles of snowmobile trails in Wayne County.
- Liaison between residents and municipalities and the four snowmobile clubs and New York State Snowmobile Council.
- Liaison between four clubs and New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. State requires the sponsor (Wayne County) to be the contact and will not directly deal with clubs.
- Working with clubs to resolve trail conflicts and develop new trails and connections.

SEQR REVIEWS

- Completed the following reviews to fulfill Wayne County's requirements under SEQR:
 - 1) Clyde River Dredging Project
 - 2) Dispose of Surplus County Property located in the Town of Wolcott
 - 3) Dispose of Surplus County Property located in the Town of Huron

NEPA REVIEWS

- 1) Sodus Point Park Project - completed
- 2) Palmyra Livestock Building - completed
- 3) 2005 HOME Program – completed
- 4) Seaway Trail Surface Improvement Project – completed
- 5) Wayne CAP HUD funded supportive housing grant - completed

JOINT MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

- On behalf of Wayne County, the Planning Department administers the Joint Municipal Improvement Project Fund, which was established to encourage retail development in central business districts. The following awards were granted by Wayne County in 2004:
 - 1) \$45,000 to the Wayne County Soil and Water Conservation District to subsidize the cost of a new weed harvester for Sodus Bay. Other contributors included Save Our Sodus, Inc. (\$25,000),

- the Soil and Water Conservation District (\$30,000) and Senator Michael Nozzolio (\$50,000).
- 2) \$18,369 to the Village of Lyons to subsidize the cost of repairs to the Water Street Bridge near Abbey Park.
 - 3) \$17,400 to the Town of Ontario for streetscape improvements to their central business district.

GENERAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- **Sodus Bay Intermunicipal Committee**

Most of the committee's time this year was spent working with FES Associates on the development of the Sodus Bay Harbor Management Planning Document. The first round of required public information meetings was held this year to review the Draft Inventory and Analysis and changes recommended by the public have been considered by the Intermunicipal Committee for inclusion in the final Plan.

- **General Ag Economic Development**

- a) Town of Ontario Proposed Comprehensive Plan now includes 9 pages of Ag impact and policy, a dramatic improvement from one paragraph in the 1996 plan
- b) Town of Sodus Master plan presentation- 20 people
- c) Presented with American Farmland Trust at GFLRPC training "Planning for Agriculture (50 people)
- d) Had 10 meetings with farmers
- e) Attended 5 Town Board meetings
- f) Presented to the American Planning Association Upstate conference concerning farmland protection
- g) Attended two Wayne County Farm markets meetings
- h) Helped Gary Wells implement an agri-tourism grant
- i) Together with the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, helped organize a public meeting in Lyons about CAFO farms in January, which was attended by 50 people.
- j) Attended two CAFO meetings in Galen
- k) Helped Tourism with an Apple Tasting Map and B&B map
- l) Currently assisting the American Farmland Trust with the establishment of a statewide agricultural land trust

- **Information Sharing**

Responded to over 300 tax parcel map and data base, flood zone, census, agricultural district, wetland, zoning and other miscellaneous (scans, copies, downloads) requests from consultants/engineers, other planning departments, county departments, realtors, appraisers, Bishop Sheen and county constituents.

- **Ginna Drills**

Members of the Planning Staff participated in two emergency preparedness exercises relative to the Ginna Nuclear Power Station.

ORGANIZATIONAL REPRESENTATION

The Planning Staff is represented on the following public and non-profit Boards and organizations:

- Canal Society of New York
- NYS Association for Solid Waste Management Board of Directors
- Federation of NY Solid Waste Management Associations Board of Directors
- Sodus Bay Intermunicipal Committee
- Montezuma Audubon Conservation Center Committee
- Friends of Montezuma
- Wayne County Water Quality Coordinating Committee
- The Sodus Bay Historical Society, Inc.
- DEC Region 8 NYS Open Space Plan Advisory Committee
- Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council Planning Coordination Committee
- Genesee Transportation Council UPWP grant committee
- Finger Lakes Culinary Bounty
- WEDC Microenterprise Loan Review Committee
- Wayne County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board
- Wayne Economic Development master plan steering committee
- NY Farm Net Board of Directors
- Growing New Farmers Consortium professional development committee
- Cornell Program Work Team for Agricultural Community Economic Development

MEETING ATTENDANCE

The staff of the Wayne County Planning Department attended approximately 350 meetings, which included Town and Village Boards, local planning boards, civic and business organizations, non-profit organizations and related professional organizations in 2005.