



News from Livingston County, NY

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Livingston County Joins Statewide Competition for Economic Development Resources

Geneseo, NY, July 25, 2019 — Round 9 of New York State's Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) initiative is currently underway. The initiative is structured as a competition among 10 REDCs for more than \$750 million in state economic development resources. As a member of the Finger Lakes REDC, Livingston County is working closely with its municipal partners to pursue more than \$12 million in state grants to help fund over a dozen economic and community development projects throughout the county. If awarded, these grants require local matching resources such as cash or in-kind contributions.

Grants being sought include:

- Over \$570,000 for continued rehabilitation of the Opera Block building in Avon.
- \$30,000 to study food retail options in Lima, which currently lacks a high quality, affordable fresh food retailer.
- More than \$650,000 for recreational improvements to Livingston County's Al Lorenz Park, Bellamy Park in Mount Morris, the West Sparta Town Park, and Frontage Road Park in North Dansville.
- Over \$100,000 for waterfront revitalization in Geneseo and Livonia.

- \$500,000 to renovate historic buildings in the downtown districts of Avon, Caledonia, and Lima, with an additional \$20,000 for technical assistance specific to potential future renovations of Lima's American Hotel.
- Upwards of \$1 million to develop a regional public market in Livingston County.
- \$25,000 to develop a brand strategy for the Downtown Partnership of Livingston County and each of the county's nine village centers.
- \$100,000 to assist with business development at the historic Livingston County Poorhouse in Geneseo.

In addition to the above grants, the Village of Dansville is vying for \$10 million through New York State's Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI). The DRI invests \$100 million annually into 10 downtown neighborhoods across the state for the purpose of developing downtown strategic investment plans and implementing key catalytic projects that encourage revitalization.

County Administrator Ian Coyle said, "This multitude and range of grant requests is proof that Livingston County is abuzz with economic and community development activity. These funds play an important role in promoting economic growth and quality of life in our county and throughout the Finger Lakes region."

The deadline for grant applications is July 26, 2019 with the exception of the DRI grant application which was due on May 31, 2019. Winners will be announced later in the year. Since the inception of New York State's REDC initiative in 2011 and the DRI in 2016, the Finger Lakes region has been awarded over \$570 million for more than 700 projects.

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