

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Village of Owego DRI – TCIDA \$2.5M Multisite Program:
 - Four projects were completed in 2024:
 - 223 Front Street - Owego Elks Lodge Emporium roof replacement
 - 187 Main Street full building rehabilitation with a rooftop deck and establishment of Kathy Cakes and Owego Brewing businesses
 - 130 Temple Street – rehabilitation and transformation of rear building Annex from commercial space into six independent age 55+ apartments
 - 68 North Avenue – rear deck addition
 - 37-41 Lake Street façade work is complete and architectural drawings are in process on upper-floors interior apartments
 - Additional projects are progressing with anticipated completion in 2025
- Restore NY Round 8 grant funding was secured for rehabilitation of 10 and 14-16 Whig Street in the Village of Newark Valley in the amount of \$732,420
- Restore NY Round 8 grant funding was secured for rehabilitation of 81 North Avenue in the Village of Owego in the amount of \$165,000
- Work continued on Restore NY projects in the Village of Owego, Fuddy Duddy’s and Tioga Trails.
- CDBG Neighborhood Depot – building construction was completed and was opened in November 2024 with Racker, Tioga County Rural Ministry, United Way and CCE Tioga occupying and operating in the new building.
- Assisted the Village of Waverly with progressing both public and private projects for the \$4.5 million New York Forward award.
- Secured a CDBG Microenterprise grant in the amount of \$212,500 to establish a countywide microenterprise assistance program. The program will allow the County to subgrant up to \$35,000 in funds to new and existing small businesses with 5 or fewer employees.

PLANNING

- The Tioga County Planning Board reviewed and made recommendations on 22 municipal referrals for proposed development including three high profile projects in the Town of Owego: ALDI of Owego and Taco Bell on State Route 17C and Tractor Supply on State Route 434.
- Over 50 acres of viable farmland were added to the Spencer Agricultural District #1 and Owego Nichols Agricultural District #2.
- Completed the Tioga County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2024 project with final FEMA approval on 5/30/2024 and an expiration date of 5/29/2029.
- Submitted an EPA Communitywide Brownfields Assessment \$500,00 grant application to fund a consultant to conduct environmental evaluations and reuse plans for eight abandoned and underutilized properties throughout Tioga County. Award announcements are expected in May 2025.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Secured a CDBG Public Facilities grant in the amount of \$243,333 for Catholic Charities Tioga Outreach Office for their Tioga Mobile Fresh Café project.
- Tioga County Foundations Coalition created one document that contains all nine charitable foundations' grant requirements to make it easier nonprofit organizations' understanding and accessibility.

SUSTAINABILITY

- Tioga County Sustainability held its first paint collection event in partnership with GreenSheen at which 31,555 pounds of latex paint and 4,720 pounds of oil-based paint were collected free of charge to Tioga County residents.
- Tioga County Sustainability held its first annual Pumpkin Smash event, in partnership with CCE Tioga, Tioga County Tourism and Tioga County Farm Bureau in an effort to divert Halloween jack-o-lantern and pumpkin waste from the landfill and use it for composting or to feed livestock.
- 26.3 tons of electronics were recycled through the Broome County Household Hazardous Waste program and our partnership with municipalities cleanup events.

WORKFORCE

- Organized and held a Talent Supply Table Gathering that included presentations from the New York State Department of Labor, Broome-Tioga BOCES, Menlo Micro, iM3NY, CTE Technical Assistance Center of NY, and the New York State Department of Education.
- Facilitated tours of Tioga County major employers for local students, schools, and BOCES staff at Tioga Downs Casino and Resort, Crown Cork and Seal, Best Buy Distribution Center, Raymond Hadley, and V&S Galvanizing.
- Facilitated school participation in the annual Home Central Trades day at which over 90 students from all six school districts learned about potential careers in skilled trades from local contractors, union representatives and vendors.

TIOGA COUNTY PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

- Partnered with Southern Tier Economic Growth (STEG) to stabilize and fully rehabilitate a single-family house at 32 Lyman Avenue in the Village of Waverly.
- The Land Bank continued to partner with the Owego-Apalachin Central School District on the rehabilitation of a single-family house at 103 Liberty Street in the Village of Owego the OACSD Building Trades Program.
- Completed environmental remediation, interior demolition of the third floor as well as brick repair and repointing on three exterior sides at the mixed-use historic building at 81 North Ave.
- Completed environmental remediation, interior gutting and roof replacement to a single-family house at 121 Providence Street in the Village of Waverly.
- A private developer completed the rehabilitation of a single-family house, which TCPDC first stabilized with foundation and HVAC repair, at 10 Watson Ave in the Village of Newark Valley. The private developer listed and sold the house.

- Secured a \$438,316 New York Main Street grant award for 62-64 North Ave in the Village of Owego to completely renovate upper-level apartment units as well as increase units from six to seven.

TIOGA COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

- The TCIDA was awarded \$99,000 in funds from the USDA Rural Business Development Grant program for funding to support the TCIDA Equipment Lease Program to provide low interest lease opportunities to start-up and expanding small businesses.
- TCIDA RR Crossing Study in Town of Richford - The TCIDA contracted with Larson Design Group to conduct a preliminary engineering and design report for the replacement of a railroad bridge located in the Town of Richford that causes downstream flooding damage to homes on State Route 79. Funding was provided by FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.
- Raymond Hadley water study - The TCIDA contracted with Larson Design Group to evaluate the construction of water distribution and service infrastructure to provide municipal water from the T. of Van Etten to a business located in the neighboring V. of Spencer in Tioga County, NY. This evaluation addressed the feasibility of several alternatives for water distribution construction. Funding was provided by Empire State Development.
- Lounsberry Industrial Area Expansion Study - The TCIDA was awarded \$90,000 in funds from the USDA Rural Business Development Grant program and \$26,500 from the Appalachian Regional Commission for the TCIDA Lounsberry Industrial Sites Engineering Plan. This plan will include geotechnical engineering, and infrastructure engineering design services for industrial sites owned by TCIDA in Lounsberry in the Town of Nichols