



Genesee/Finger Lakes REGIONAL REVIEW

NEWSLETTER OF THE GENESSEE/FINGER LAKES REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Volume 2, Number 3, Fall 2005

Assisting Regional Businesses: The G/FLRPC Revolving Loan Fund

Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council (G/FLRPC) initially received funding from the Federal Economic Development Administration (EDA) for a Regional Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) in 1984. In 1987, the fund was recapitalized.

The goal behind receiving RLF funding was, combined with the annual completion and implementation of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), was to further advance the Region's economic development.

In both 1984 and 1987, Management and Procedures Plans were established to cre-

ate parameters for the G/FLRPC's Regional Revolving Loan Fund.

After 18 years, the RLF's Management and Procedures Plan was updated in 2005, in an effort to reflect the current needs of the Economic Development District. The updated document is entitled *Genesee-Finger Lakes Economic Development District Management and Procedures Plan for a Regional Revolving Loan Fund*.

The driving force behind the Management and Procedures Plan are G/FLRPC's efforts to assist in the creation, retention and expansion of diverse business and employment opportunities in the Re-

gion. It was also necessary to update the plan to clearly articulate what the RLF can and can not do.

The report is broken into two sections – the RLF Strategy and RLF Operational Procedures. The RLF Strategy provides an overview of:

- The Economic Adjustment Program
- The Business Development Strategy
- The Finance Strategy
- Financing Policies
- Portfolio Standards and Targets
- Regional RLF Loan Selection Criteria
- Performance Assessment Process

Continued. Please see 'RLF' on Page 2

Upcoming Events

October 26, 2005, 7-9PM - **Protecting Water Resources through Local Efforts**, a workshop for local officials, staff, and boards, presented by G/FLRPC. Ontario County Training Center, Hopewell

November 18, 2008 - **Fall Local Government Workshop**, Genesee River Restaurant and Reception Center, Mount Morris (see brochure inside for more details)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CALL 585-454-0190, EMAIL US AT GFLRPC@GFLRPC.ORG, OR VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.GFLRPC.ORG

RLF (continued)

Included are items such as interest rates, repayment terms, collateral requirements, job/cost ratios and eligible borrowers. The RLF Operational Procedures address:

- Organizational Structure
- Loan Processing Procedures
- Loan Closing and Dis-

bursement Procedures

- Loan Servicing Procedures
- Administrative Procedures

Specifically identified are the various RLF advisory committees and personnel and the functions of each.

To schedule a meeting to discuss the G/FLRPC's Regional Revolving Loan Fund and to obtain the *Genesee-Finger Lakes Economic Development District Management and Procedures Plan for a Regional Revolving Loan Fund*, call Executive Director David S. Zorn at 585-454-0190 x 14 or dzorn@frontiernet.net

A PDF version of the RLF management plan can be found at:

www.gflrpc.org/ProgramAreas/EconomicDevelopment/RLFManagementPlan.pdf

Finger Lakes Energy \$mart Communities Update: Don't Be Left Out in the Cold...

By Matt Griffiths

Winter is just around the corner and home heating costs are only going to continue to rise as fuel prices soar to record costs. State-wide, the average annual household expense for natural gas has increased by 60% over the past 10 years - 56% for propane, 134% for home heating oil and 234% for kerosene. For families on fixed budget, the increase in energy burden could mean the difference between heating and eating. Regardless of income, if you or someone you know owns a home that could be a bit drafty this win-

ter, wait no longer to take advantage of the Home Performance w/ENERGY STAR® program.

Through this New York Energy \$mart funded program, Building Performance Institute (BPI) – certified contractors perform Comprehensive Home Assessments to provide homeowners with recommendations for reducing your energy consumption by up to 40% or more. Income eligible households can receive 50:50 cost-sharing up to \$5,000 to complete the work through a Home Performance with ENERGY

STAR contractor. Energy-efficiency improvements, which also result in healthier, more comfortable homes, typically include air sealing, insulation, and furnace/boiler cleaning or replacement. There are also a number of low-interest financing options for non-income eligible households, including a 10% refund for jobs done through home-owner financing.

For more information on this program and a complete list of participating BPI-Certified contractors contact Matt Griffiths at 585-454-0190 x 22 or mgriffiths@gflrpc.org

A New Vision for an Old Waterway

By David Zorn

In many ways the Erie Canal shaped the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region, establishing a pattern of transportation and settlements that remain even today. The New York State Canal System is the most commercially enduring and historically significant canalway in the United States. Besides being a catalyst for growth in the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region, Mohawk and Hudson valleys, these canals helped open up western America for settlement and for many years transported much of the Midwest's agricultural and industrial products to domestic and international markets.

Now the Erie Canal is going through an exciting rebirth. It can once again be seen as a cultural and economic resource for the region. G/FLRPC continues to make Erie Canal planning and implementation an important part of its Economic Development and Regional, Local & Water Resources Planning programs. There are water-side and land-side implications to canal development.

Two major happenings associated with canal rebirth and development in recent months is the release of the Erie Canal Heritage Corridor Management Plan and the Canal Corporation's vision

for the Canal Greenway.

The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor was established December, 2000. The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor covers 524 miles of waterway in Upstate New York, including four navigable waterways: the Erie, Champlain, Oswego and Cayuga-Seneca Canals; sections of the original Erie Canal; and over 200 municipalities adjacent to the canals.

In June of 2002, the National Park Service, in partnership with the State of New York, formalized the 27-member Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Commission. The purpose of this commission is to work with federal, state, and local authorities in creating and implementing a Canalway Plan for the corridor that fosters the integration of canal-related historical, cultural, recreational, scenic, economic and community development initiatives.

In August of 2005 the Draft Preservation and Management Plan was made available for public comment. It can be viewed at the Canalway Commission's website,



The Erie Canal in the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region:
Lock 27 in the Village of Lyons, Wayne County

Continued. Please see 'Canal' on Page 4

Canal (continued)

which is listed at the end of this article.

On May 27, 2005, Governor George Pataki unveiled his vision for establishing the Erie Canal Greenway and, ultimately, the Empire State Greenway, connecting the Niagara River, Erie Canal and Hudson River Greenways. The Canal Corporation and an interagency task force is seeking input from Canal communities to develop a comprehensive set of recommendations for the Greenways and also to examine certain responsibilities now assigned to the Canal Corporation.

In an effort to gather input and ideas from local officials, community and business leaders, and other groups interested in the Canal's future, Carmella R. Mantello, Director of the New York State Canal Corporation, is visiting Canal communities this summer and fall. Ms. Mantello is talking with community and business leaders as well as grassroots groups through

regional meetings to generate local collaboration in mapping the future of the Erie Canal Greenway. The goal of the Canal Connections Tour is not only to generate local input, but also to address each Canal region's concerns, while integrating their visions for the waterfront.

"simple as a work of art, prodigious as an economic artery"

French economist Michael Chevalier, describing the Erie Canal in 1835

The Erie Canal Greenway seeks to incorporate a regional approach to land-use planning, tourism, recreational trail development and other collaborative initiatives. The purpose of the Erie Canal Greenway is to strengthen local ties across the Canal Corridor, while protecting and enhancing its natural and cultural resources for future generations. The fundamental concept behind

a Greenway is to partner with local communities and assist them in grassroots planning that balances their economic and environmental resources. Communities voluntarily participate in the Greenway initiative and there is no impact on municipal home rule or local authority.

The long-term goal is to eventually link the Erie Canal Greenway with the Niagara River Greenway and Hudson River Greenway, forming one Empire State Greenway. The Empire State Greenway will stretch from Niagara Falls and Buffalo to Albany and on down to New York City and comprise one of the largest Greenways in the nation.

The New York State Canal Corporation Interagency Task Force is charged with establishing the Erie Canal Greenway and evaluating certain duties of the Canal Corporation. Canal Corporation and the Task Force are seeking your input in shaping the Erie Canal Greenway.

Comments, concerns and suggestions regarding the Erie Canal Greenway can be emailed to eriegreenwayfeedback@canals.state.ny.us

The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Commission's Draft Preservation and Management Plan can be found at:

www.eriecanalway.org/EC_commission_documents.asp?area=com



Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council

Fall 2005 Regional Local Government Workshop

Friday, November 18, 2005

Genesee River Restaurant and Reception Center, Mount Morris

Fall Local Government Workshop Co-sponsored By:

New York State Department of State (NYSDOS) - New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)

Genesee County Planning Board • Livingston County Planning Department • Monroe County Planning and Development Board
Ontario County Planning Department and Board • Orleans County Planning Board • Seneca County Planning Board
Wayne County Planning Board • Wyoming County Planning Board • Yates County Planning Department

Workshop Registration

Individual: \$40.00 Vendor/Exhibitor: \$300.00

All registrations include continental breakfast & buffet lunch

PLEASE REGISTER BY NOVEMBER 10, 2005

NO REFUNDS AFTER NOV. 10 - There is a separate fee for attorney credit

Who should attend?

Municipal Board Members • Elected Officials
Planning Board Members

Zoning Board of Appeals Members

County and Municipal Employees • Enforcement Officers
Planners • Land Use Professionals • Attorneys • Consultants
Concerned Citizens

Genesee River Restaurant and Reception Center

134 Main St, Mount Morris, NY 14510, 585-658-2949

Directions

From Points West:

Various ways to Rt 36 south into Mt. Morris. Reception Center is on the left just past the Genesee River.

From Points North, South, and East:

Various ways to I-390. Take Exit 7, turn left onto Rt 408 west into Mt. Morris. Turn right onto Main St (Rt 36). Reception Center is on the right just before the Genesee River.



Time	Session A	Session B	Session C
8 - 9	Registration, Continental Breakfast, Exhibits		
9 - 10	A1 - ZBA Overview (NYSDOS) This course will address the powers and duties of zoning board of appeals and its interrelationships with enforcement officials, the municipal planning board, and county planning agencies. Instructors will provide information on the statutory requirements relating to the issuance of use and area variances and the handling of zoning interpretations. Board procedures will also be discussed, as will the importance of making good findings. (CEO, Attorney, and AICP credit)	B1 - Municipal Comprehensive Plan (NYSDOS) This session will include a discussion of the practical and legal reasons for adopting a comprehensive plan. Included will be the importance of involving the public in the development of the plan, steps leading to the adoption of a comprehensive plan, plan contents and sources of information. There will be a review of the comprehensive plan statutes as well. Code Enforcement Officers will receive 1 hour of In-Service Credit from the Office of Fire Prevention & Control. Members of the AICP who belong to the Upstate NY Chapter of the APA will receive 1 hour of CPDP credit.	C1 - Local Regulation of Wind Energy Systems , Lori Heithoff, NYSDOS, Vicki Colello, NYSERDA This session will address the adoption of local laws to regulate both large and small wind energy systems. We'll also discuss the environmental, aesthetic, and economic issues of interest to local governments. Finally, we'll discuss applicable state and federal regulations and programs relating to wind energy systems.
10 - 11			
11 - 12	A2 - Meetings and Hearings (NYSDOS) This course will address the powers and duties of ZBAs and their interrelationships with enforcement officials, the planning board, and county planning agencies. Instructors will provide information on the statutory requirements relating to variances and zoning interpretations. Board procedures will also be discussed. (CEO, Attorney, and AICP credit)	B2 - Protecting Water Resources Through Effective Local Efforts , Jason Haremza & Brian Slack, G/FLRPC There are many actions that local municipalities can take to protect water resources. Much of the non-point source pollution that is affecting our waterways comes from buildings, streets, and development sites, all things that local municipalities in New York State have a great deal of control over.	
12 - 1	Lunch, Exhibits		
1 - 2	A3 - Records and Decisions (NYSDOS) At this session participants will receive tips for organizing paperwork for current and long term use and creating a good record. They will also learn of the importance of findings and how to write them, as well as the importance of making and filing timely decisions. (Attorney credit)	B2 - Protecting Water Resources Through Effective Local Efforts (continued) For the past two years, G/FLRPC has been assessing local laws and assisting with revision of local laws in several Finger Lakes municipalities. The result of that project is a guidebook which will assist local governments in recognizing the role that municipalities can play in the protection of water resources.	C2 - SEQRA: Overview and a Practical Case Study in Using the EAF , Betty Ann Hughes, NYSDEC This session will be conducted in two parts: a general overview of the NY State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR), and a case study illustrating effective use of the environmental assessment form (EAF). The overview will cover basic history, legal requirements and recommended practices under SEQR. The case study is based on an actual western NY DEC project. Using selected application materials, maps, and photos, participants will "walk through" the process of reviewing Part 1 of the EAF, using Part 2 to identify potential impacts, and reaching and documenting the determination of significance using Part 3.
2 - 3	A4 - Planning Board Overview (NYSDOS) This session will address the powers and duties of town, village and city planning boards and commissions. Both the administrative and regulatory roles of the planning board will be discussed, including comprehensive planning, site plan review, special use permits, subdivision review. The role of the board in making recommendations to the zoning board of appeals will be discussed. The importance of board procedures, referral to the county planning agency, and making findings will be discussed. (CEO, Attorney, and AICP credit)	B3 - Enforcement of Zoning and other Local Laws , NYSDOS Municipalities make all sorts of rules, including junk car laws, subdivision regulations, and zoning. This session will discuss the role of the enforcement officer, from receiving complaints to sentencing or fining of violators. The session will address the relationship of the enforcement official to the zoning board of appeals. Enforcement actions will also be addressed, including responding to complaints, inspections of private property, and interaction with violators. We'll also discuss the effect of a zoning appeal on the enforcement action, as well as judicial enforcement of violations. Attorneys will receive 1.5 hour of CLE in the area of Professional Practice. Members of the AICP who belong to the Upstate NY Chapter of the APA will receive 1 hour of CPDP credit.	
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Registration Form - Fall 2005 Local Government Workshop

Name: _____

Municipality/Company/Organization _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone Number (w/Area Code): _____ Email: _____

Please Circle the sessions you will be attending:

A1 A2 A3 A4

B1 B2 B3

C1 C2

Registration Fee:

\$40 per individual, \$300 per vendor/exhibitor

Please make checks payable to:

G/FLRPC

NO REFUNDS AFTER NOVEMBER 10

Mail, Fax, or Email Registration To:

Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
 50 West Main St, Suite 8107
 Rochester, NY 14614

Email: gflrpc@gflrpc.org Fax: 585-454-0191

Questions and Information: David Zorn, 585-454-0190 x14, dzorn@frontiernet.net

Tracking Our Changing Region: The Regional Land Use Monitoring Report

The Regional Land Use Monitoring Report is an annual project that G/FLRPC completes for the Genesee Transportation Council as part of the Unified Planning Work Program.

The project consists of surveying the 192 municipalities in the Region to develop an inventory of the number, square footage and monetary value of building permits issued during the previous calendar year. Both residential and non-residential permits are inventoried in order to identify growth areas and anticipate future planning and infrastructure needs associated with development. The report is an essential tool

for identifying and tracking the development trends in the Region.

The final data for 2004 is complete, and calculations indicate that building trends are consistent with recent years. The majority of permitted development is occurring in the Transportation Management Area (TMA), which is comprised of Monroe County and the adjacent areas of Livingston, Ontario and Wayne Counties. Within the TMA, most development is occurring in the eastern portion of Monroe County.

For more detailed information about this project, please visit:

www.gflrpc.org/Publications/LandUseMonitoring.htm

Livingston Begins its All-Hazard Mitigation Planning Process

In June, Livingston County kicked off a multi-jurisdictional all-hazard mitigation planning process that will assess all twenty-six municipalities, and the county as a whole. All-hazard mitigation planning is a process of determining how to reduce or eliminate the loss of life and property damage resulting from natural, technologi-

cal and human-caused hazards. G/FLRPC is assisting the Livingston County Emergency Management Office in coordinating and developing this plan in association with county agencies and municipal representatives.

For more information on this process, please visit:

www.gflrpc.org/LivingstonAllHazard.htm

Staff Training

G/FLRPC staff have been active in the past few months with various conference and training activities. These include:

Data Technology and Resource Center

GIS and Census Data: Housing, Neighborhoods, and Data Quality, July 2005, Buffalo, NY. (*Chris Tortora*)

Economic Census Training, August 2005, Rochester, NY. (*Chris Tortora*)

Regional, Local, and Water Resources Planning

Second Floors Conference, July 2005, Albion, NY. (*Jason Harenza & Brian Slack*)

Finger Lakes Energy Smart Communities

BPI Building Analyst 1 Training, August 2005, Syracuse, NY. (*Matt Griffiths*)

Low Income Forum on Energy, August 2005, Ithaca, NY. (*Matt Griffiths*)

The Atlases are Here!

The much-anticipated Regional Atlas have been printed and are in the process of being distributed. Every municipality in the region will receive a CD-ROM version of the atlas, and printed copies will be delivered to all nine counties and major public and academic libraries throughout the region.

"A Sense of Place"

Stories about the things that make our Region unique.

I often find myself marveling at the richness of the place names that identify our communities, waterways, and roads. One place in the Village of Dansville in Livingston County has a particularly colorful past.

Dansville was a thriving village in 1842 when a branch of the Genesee Valley Canal was constructed up the Canaseraga Valley. However, the new canal did not *quite* reach the center of Dansville. Local interests built, at their expense, docking facilities closer to the center of the village, and a short connecting channel to the State-constructed canal.

The State Canal Board, however, denied permission to connect, fearing the new channel would reduce already low water levels. Greatly angered, the people of Dansville proceeded to dig through the berm of the Genesee Valley Canal creating the connection to the village docks. Protesting State employees were removed from the village by force. The ring-leaders of this mob were duly punished, but the event is commemorated to this day in Dansville by the name of "Battle Street."

Sources: <http://dansville.lib.ny.us/historyo.html>
History of the Canal System of the State of New York, Vol. 1, by Noble Whitford

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Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
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Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca,
Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates, through its plan-
ning, economic development, data resources,
and other program areas.

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