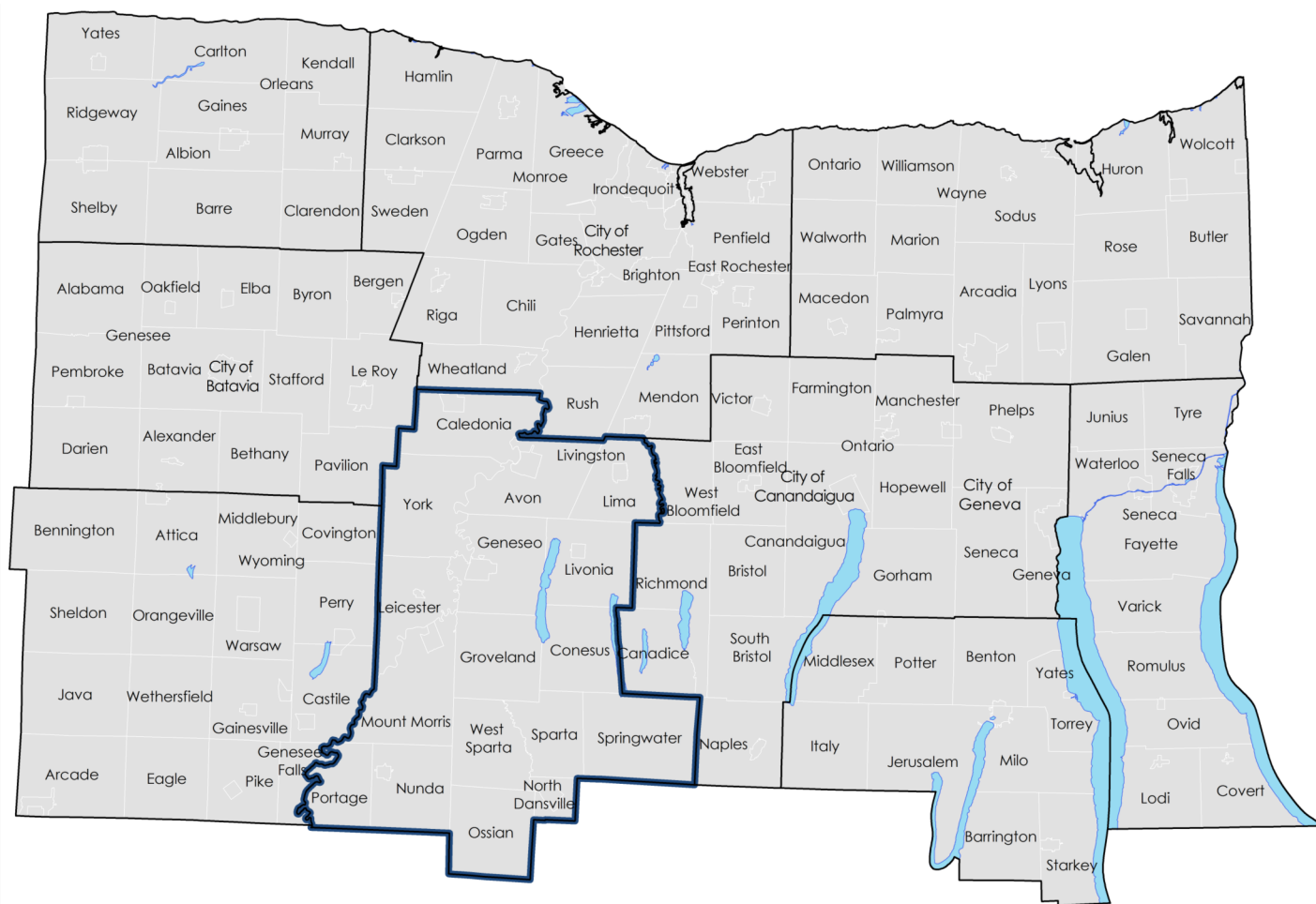


# Regional Engagement Revitalization Opportunity Report

## Livingston County



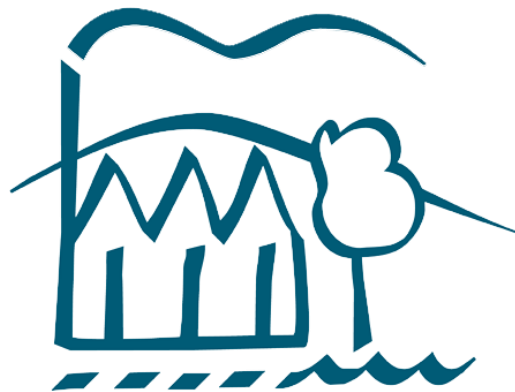
This report was prepared for the Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council and the New York State Department of State with state funds provided through the Brownfield Opportunity Area Program



# Regional Engagement Revitalization Opportunity Report

Livingston County

November 2016



**GENESEE/FINGER LAKES**  
Regional Planning Council

Prepared by the  
Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council  
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## **Mission Statement**

*The Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council (G/FLRPC) will identify, define, and inform its member counties of issues and opportunities critical to the physical, economic, and social health of the region. G/FLRPC provides forums for discussion, debate, and consensus building, and develops and implements a focused action plan with clearly defined outcomes, which include programs, personnel, and funding.*

This report was prepared for the Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council and the New York State Department of State with state funds provided through the Brownfield Opportunity Area Program



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# Livingston County

*This report was prepared for the Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council and the New York State Department of State with state funds provided through the Brownfield Opportunity Area Program*

## Executive Summary

The Livingston County Revitalization Opportunity Report includes an outline of the demographic and economic conditions within Livingston County along with a detailed overview of economic development; community development; and land use through the lens of 11 different subject areas. These subject areas include: Land Use; Brownfields; Economic Distress; Downtowns; Tourism and Recreation; Waterfronts; Environmental, Water Resources, and Natural Resources; Energy; Buildings and Housing; Infrastructure; and Preservation/Cultural.

Demographic and economic indicators include population change; employment; unemployment; race; age; vacancy; education; income; poverty; and economic distress. These indicators along with previously completed plans on the municipal, county, and regional level covering each of the above subject areas listed above, served as the starting point for stakeholder discussions at the March, 2015 Sub-Regional Forum. The stakeholder input provided at the Sub-Regional Forum, during the follow up webinar held on July 15, 2015; and the Livingston County Forum, held on March 8, 2016; along with the information gathered from existing plans, shaped development of the Livingston County Recommendations, Goals and Objectives, and priority projects.

## Livingston County Step-2 Recommendations

Key project recommendations for Livingston County include the Housing Rehabilitation Program in the Town of Mount Morris; completion of the Portageville Freight Rail Bridge; development of a multi-tenant building at the Dansville Industrial Park and Avon Crossroads Commerce Park; development of infrastructure along Poags Hole Road; establishment of a rail line to targeted economic development properties in the Town of Dansville; development of an agriculture and food HUB at Livonia Gateway Park; and revitalization of downtowns across Livingston County. The focus area for economic distress within Livingston County is the Town of Mt. Morris.

## Goals and Objectives

Economic and community development revitalization efforts will depend upon the successful implementation of the goals and objectives of each subject area

outlined below. Many of these goals and objectives cut across multiple subject areas and illustrate the collaboration and coordination that is needed across multiple communities and multiple organizations for implementation. While some of goals and objectives listed below are more critical than others they are all listed to show the role that each subject area can play in advancing Livingston County. The goals and objectives listed below were identified through the Sub-Regional Forum; follow-up webinar; County Forum; and existing local, county, and regional plans.

## Land Use

1. Develop an agribusiness and retention expansion and attraction plan
2. Expand land use education and training programs
3. Support farm friendly county based land use policies and programs
4. Support town based agricultural planning
5. Investigate regional efforts to establish rural land protection tools
6. Support the county Purchase of Development Rights program
7. Improve access to affordable and healthy foods throughout the County

## Brownfields

1. Revitalize brownfield properties for new uses in a new economy
2. Support EPA brownfield coalition assessment application to inventory and assess brownfield properties within the targeted municipalities of: Town of Ossian; Town of North Dansville; Village of Dansville; Town of West Sparta; and the Town of Sparta.

## Economic Development/Economic Distress

1. Eliminate economic distress within the Town of Mt. Morris and other distressed communities
2. Expand and improve infrastructure
3. Promote and advance entrepreneurship
4. Advance agricultural and agri-business within Livingston County
5. Improve workforce development and quality of life to support business attraction and retention efforts

## Downtowns

1. Fill vacant storefronts/recruit new businesses
2. Maintain and preserve historic downtowns
3. Continue to implement sign and façade improvement program

**Tourism and Recreation**

1. Create network of advocates for the Finger Lakes Region lifestyle
2. Invest in the development, promotion, and preservation of cultural, artistic, and historic assets of the Region
3. Promote the Region's growing wine, culinary, and agricultural enterprises
4. Strengthen and support the Region's diverse water resources and recreational tourism opportunities
5. Expand agri-tourism within Livingston County
6. Leverage existing resources and attractions including the Finger Lakes Opera, to attract additional visitors
7. Expand local hiking trails and connect trails with geocaching to expand usage

**Waterfronts**

1. Reduce nonpoint source pollution from farms and construction activities
2. Investigate and implement effective methods to control the spread of non-native organisms
3. Continue enforcement of existing boat and personal watercraft laws
4. Develop and implement programs to restore and stabilize streambanks in the watershed
5. Provide training on erosion control practices to support compliance with state and federal Phase II storm water regulations

**Environmental/Water Resources/Natural Resources**

1. Protect and restore water quality throughout Livingston County
2. Preserve natural resources and utilize the Livingston County natural resources inventory to guide development
3. Inventory and identify the status of regulatory permitting and redevelopment programs that have an impact on local communities
4. Continue efforts to remediate eroded streambanks and educate property owners on methods of resiliency
5. Address Conesus Lake invasive species

**Energy**

1. Develop/embrace renewable energy resources
2. Reducing energy costs to attract and retain manufacturers and other high energy usage businesses.
3. Remove energy roadblocks that are limiting economic development opportunities
4. Identify, connect, and promote energy assets for successful attraction of companies

**Buildings/Housing**

1. Address vacant properties
2. Continue to promote and implement senior housing/aging in place programs
3. Continue to preserve historic and culturally significant assets within Livingston County

**Infrastructure**

1. Improve sewer/water, telecommunications, and transportation infrastructure in targeted growth areas
2. Complete infrastructure inventory and analysis to determine the capacity and location of existing infrastructure
3. Continue to monitor traffic counts and conditions of bridges

**Preservation/Cultural**

1. Encourage communities to develop and enforce design guidelines and zoning regulations
2. Connect developers and municipalities with federal and state preservation and rehabilitation programs to encourage Main Street redevelopment
3. Support historic preservation efforts throughout Livingston County

**Projects**

The Livingston County Revitalization Opportunity Report includes a table of specific priority projects that will advance the identified goals and objectives. Projects were identified through the Sub-Regional Forum; follow-up webinar; County Forum; and existing local, county, and regional plans; and the regional engagement project capture form.



# Livingston County

## Existing Conditions Introduction

The Background/Existing Conditions section below outlines the demographic and economic conditions within Livingston County utilizing available data from a variety of sources including, but not limited to the U.S. Census Bureau; New York State Department of Labor; and Bureau of Labor Statistics. These demographic and economic indicators include population change; employment; unemployment; race; age; vacancy; education; income; poverty; and economic distress. Through these indicators this section helps to identify the challenges faced by Livingston County and identifies the municipalities with the greatest need for economic development and community development revitalization efforts. The complete data tables are available in Appendix A.

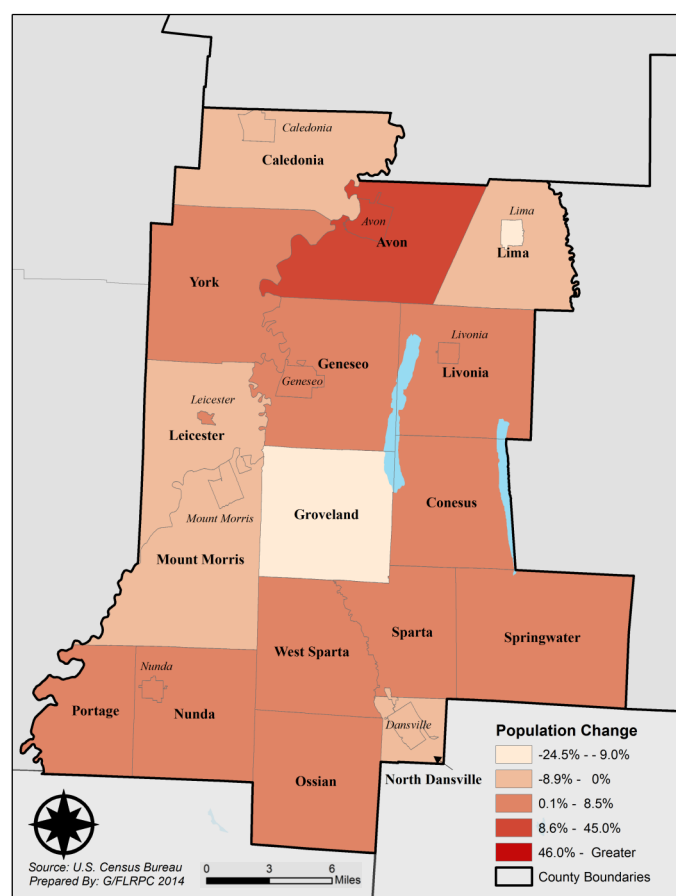
These revitalization efforts are focused on areas with high levels of poverty and economic distress building upon other Finger Lakes Region plans, including the Upstate Revitalization Initiative Plan titled *Finger Lakes Forward: United for Success* and the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council Strategic Plan titled *Accelerating our Transformation*, which identifies the reduction of poverty within the Region as a critical goal. These plans, along with many other regional and local plans, are further leveraged within the goals and objectives and project sections of this revitalization strategy.

## Profile of Existing Conditions

Livingston County consists of 632 square miles<sup>1</sup> of area located in the south central portion of the nine-county Genesee-Finger Lakes Region. The Genesee River forms part of the western boundary between Livingston County and Wyoming County, with Genesee, Monroe, Ontario, Steuben, and Allegany counties all also bordering Livingston County.

Between the years 2000 and 2010 Livingston County's population increased by 1.7% to 65,393.<sup>2</sup> During this same period New York State experienced a population increase of 2.1% and the United States saw growth of 9.7%.<sup>3</sup> Based upon quarterly census of employment and wages (QCEW) data, which notably excludes agricultural workers on small farms,<sup>4</sup> many of these individuals are employed in the industry sectors of government, including local, state, and federal government; retail trade, including food and beverage stores and general merchandise stores; accommodation and food services; manufacturing, including food manufacturing and fabricated metal product manufac-

Map 22: Population Change Livingston County 2000-2010



turing; and health care and social assistance.<sup>5</sup> The largest employers in the County include: American Rock Salt, New York State Correctional Facilities, SUNY Geneseo, Livingston County Government, and Kraft Foods North America.<sup>6</sup> The unemployment rate for Livingston County is 5.3%,<sup>7</sup> slightly higher than both the New York State unemployment rate of 4.7%<sup>8</sup> and the national unemployment rate of 5.0%.<sup>9</sup> Table 5 illustrates Livingston County Employment.

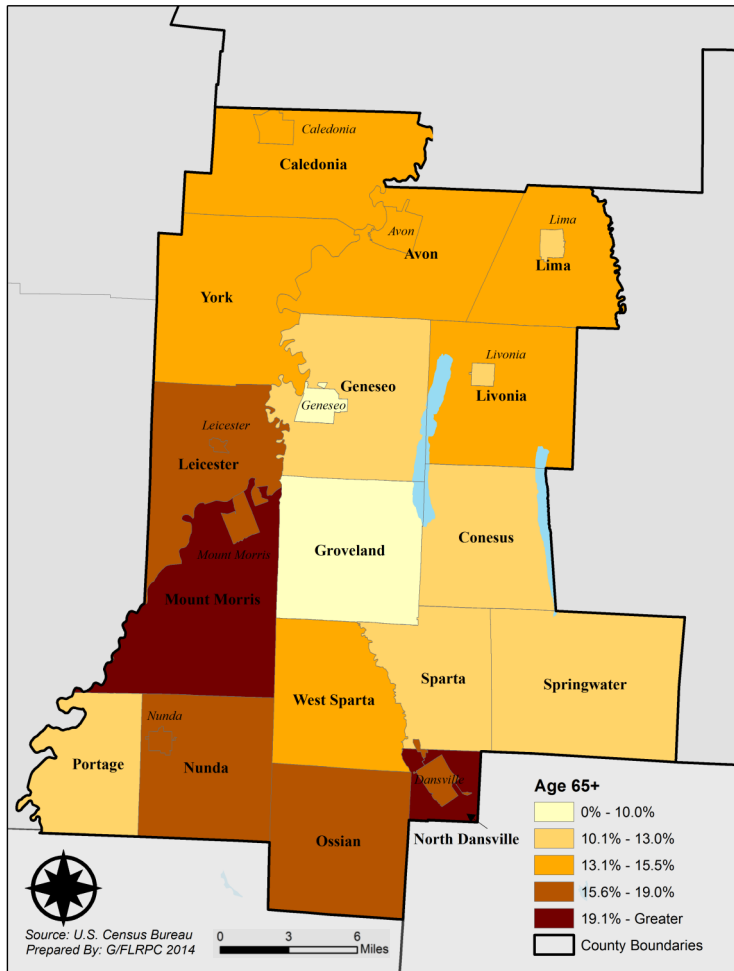
Table 5: Livingston County Employment 2012

Industry Sector	Avg. Annual Employment
Total, All Government	6,538
Retail Trade	2,597
Accommodation and Food Services	2,046
Manufacturing	1,903
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,880

Livingston County is predominately white (93.8%)<sup>10</sup> and has an aging population, with approximately 14.0% of the County population aged 65 years or older, greater than both the 13.6% of the population aged 65 or older in New York State and the 13.2% of the population aged 65 or older in the United States. Sev-

eral municipalities have an even larger percentage of their population aged 65 or older, with the highest percentages located within the Towns of Mount Morris (19.3%) and North Dansville (19.3%), and the Village of Nunda (18.0%). The Town of Sparta and Village of Livonia have the largest percentages of their population under the age of 18 with 29.7% and 29.5%.<sup>11</sup> Vacancy is not a huge concern within Livingston County as a whole with only 7.4% of the structures within the County classified as vacant, slightly higher than the 7.2% vacancy rate in New York State, but lower than the 8.7% national vacancy rate, though there are pockets of vacancy within several municipalities including: Towns of Mt. Morris (14.8%) and

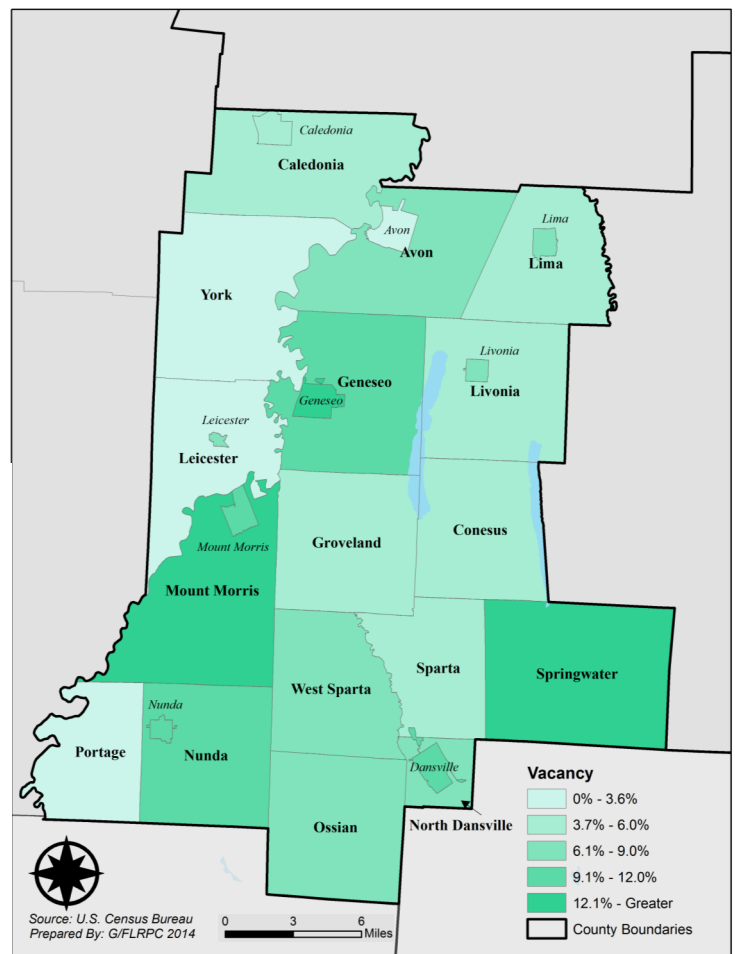
**Map 23: Population Aged 65 and Older Livingston County 2012**



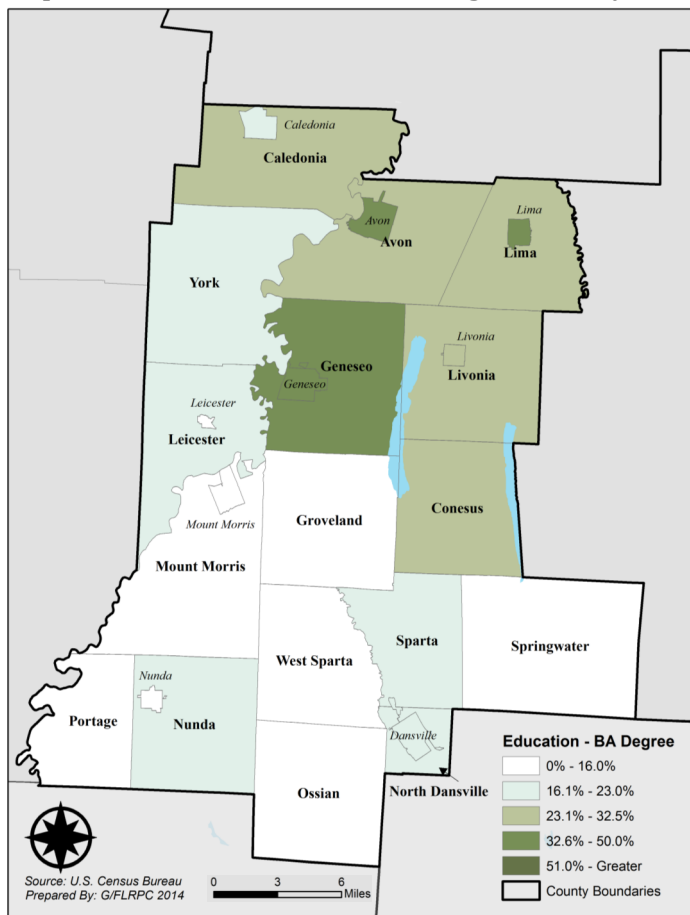
Springwater (13.4%) and the Village of Geneseo (13.3%).<sup>12</sup>

Approximately 89.0% of Livingston County has at least a high school diploma or equivalency with 24.7% of the County having a bachelor's degree, graduate degree, or professional degree and approximately 37.6% having an educational attainment of an associate's degree or higher. Within New York State approximately 84.9% of the population aged 25 or older

**Map 24: Vacancy Livingston County 2012**

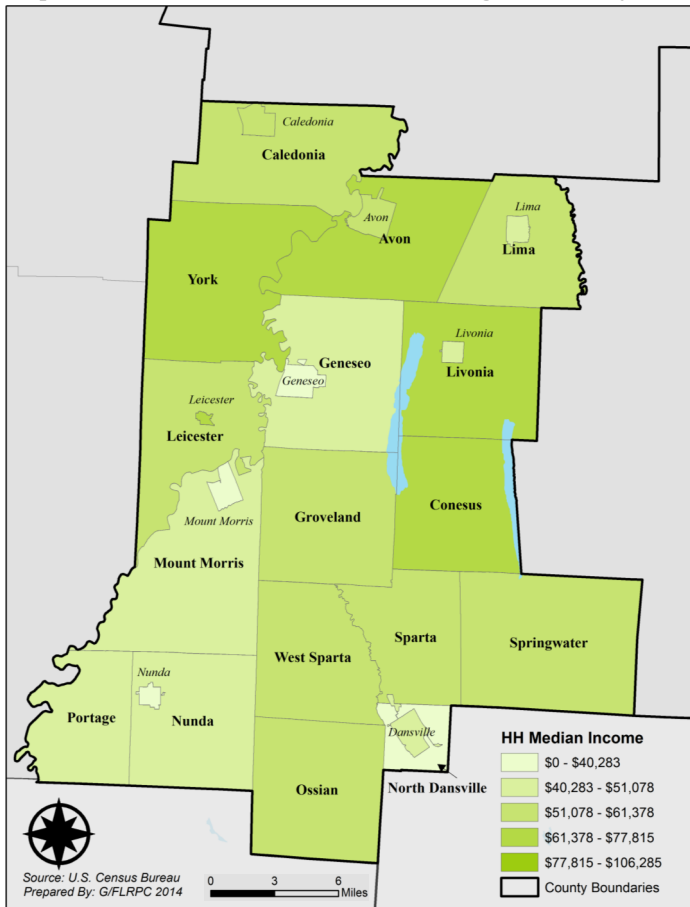


has at least a high school diploma with 32.8% having a bachelor's degree or greater in education and 41.1% having an associate's degree or greater. In Livingston County, the Town of Geneseo has the highest percentage of residents with an educational attainment of at least a bachelor's degree, with 41.3% along with an additional 11.2% of its population with an associate's degree. The Towns of Avon and Livonia also have a large percentage of their population with a bachelor's degree, graduate degree, or professional degree, 32.5% and 30.8% of their residents respectively.<sup>13</sup>

**Map 25: Educational Attainment Livingston County 2012**

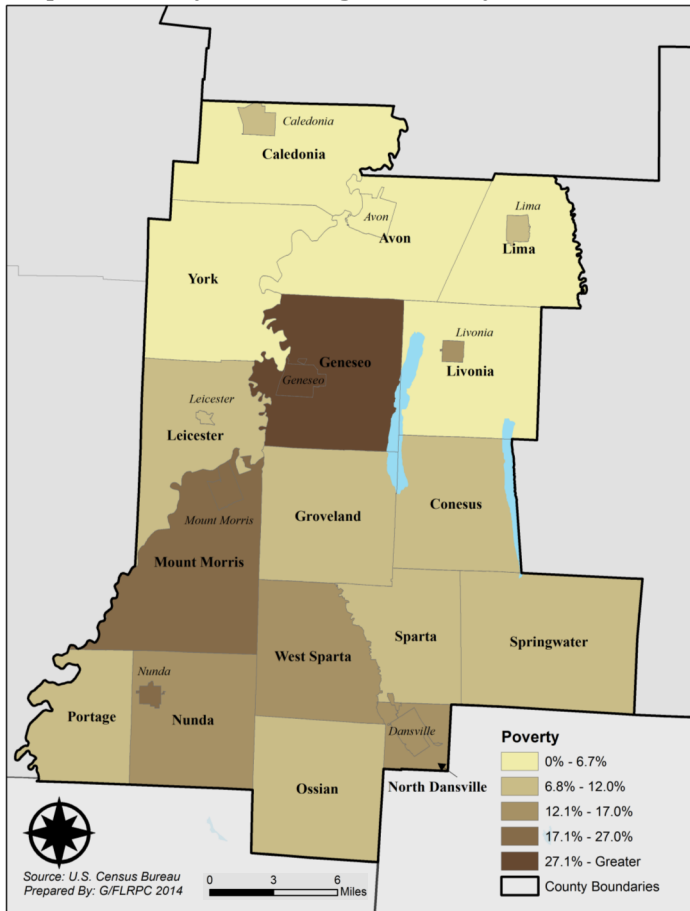
Median household income for Livingston County as a whole in 2012 was \$54,244, with the highest median household income within the Towns of Conesus (\$70,667), York (\$66,949) and Livonia (\$66,449). The lowest median household income was within the Towns of North Dansville (\$40,283), Portage (\$41,012) and Nunda (\$41,370) and the Villages of Mount Morris (\$34,719), Geneseo (\$39,361) and Nunda (\$39,500).<sup>14</sup> Median household income for New York State in 2012 was \$57,683 with the United States median household income for 2012 being \$53,046.

Approximately 11.6% of the county population and 13.1% of residents under the age of 18 are living below the poverty level, lower than the national poverty rate of 14.9% and the national rate of poverty of 20.8% for those under the age of 18. The highest municipal poverty rates in Livingston County are within the Village of Geneseo with 39.7% of the total population living below the poverty line and the Town of Geneseo with 28.5% of the total population living below the poverty line, though the large number of college students residing in the Village/Town of Geneseo skews these figures. The Village of Mount Morris and Town of West Sparta have the largest percentage of residents under the age of 18 living below the poverty line, 33.4% and 32.1% respectively.<sup>15</sup>

**Map 26: Median Household Income Livingston County 2012**

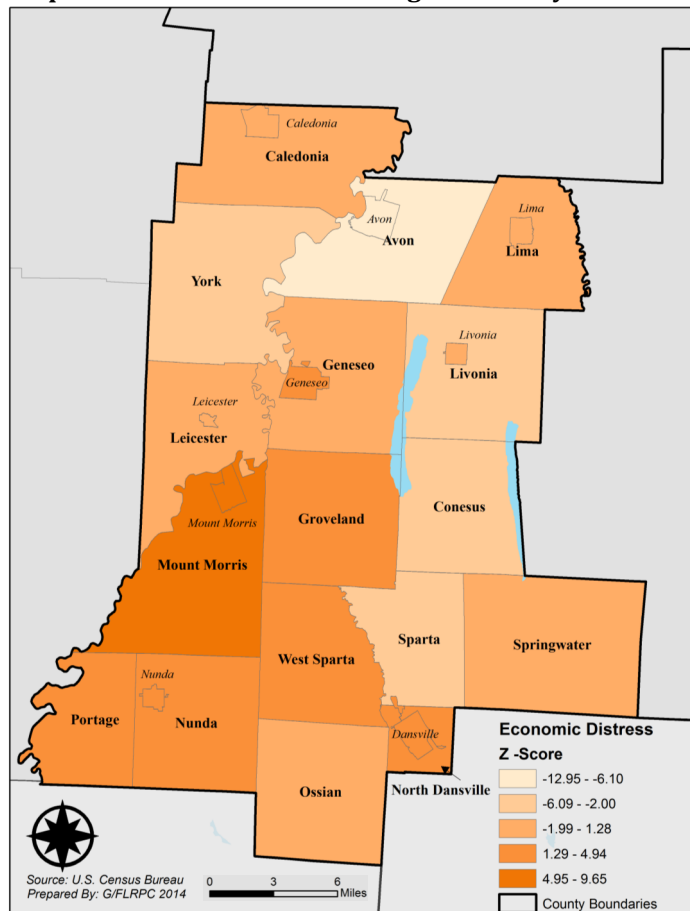
### Economic Distress

Economic distress can be measured using a variety of data, such as unemployment rates, income levels, vacancy rates, or poverty status. These indicators alone however fail to capture positive trends that may help to reduce economic distress such as a growing population or a highly educated workforce. In order to account for all of these variables, Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council developed an economic distress index which includes the following data: median family income; employment rate; non-poverty rate; educational attainment; occupancy rate; and population change. Each of these data components were standardized into a z-score, which accounts for standard deviation amongst each category and sets 0 as the average. The z-scores for each data category were then summed to determine the economic distress index value for each municipality. Positive numbers indicate a higher than average level of economic distress. It is important to note that the economic distress index is a snapshot based upon the currently available data and the index will continually evolve as economic conditions fluctuate and new data is released. It is also important to note that since the economic distress index relies upon estimated Census American Community Survey data there is a margin of error within the reported numbers.

**Map 27: Poverty Rate Livingston County 2012**

For the nine-county Finger Lakes Region as a whole the Economic Distress z-scores ranged from -12.9 (least distressed) to 9.6 (most distressed). Within Livingston County the Economic Distress z-scores ranged from -7.6, Village of Avon, to 6.0, Town of Mt. Morris.<sup>16</sup> The Town of Mt. Morris had the highest z-score in Livingston County largely due to its 22.1% poverty rate and its 14.8% vacancy rate, both substantially higher than the regional averages of 11.9% and 6.2% respectively.

There are also a number of Livingston County Census Tracts that are classified as “Highly Distressed”, meaning that they have a poverty rate of a least twenty percent or at least twenty percent of households receiving public assistance; or an unemployment rate of at least 125% of the statewide unemployment rate. These “Highly Distressed” Census Tracts including the following Livingston County municipalities: Town of Caledonia; Village of Caledonia; Town of Avon; Village of Avon; Town of York; Town of Geneseo; Village of Geneseo; Town of Leicester; Village of Leicester; Town of Mount Morris; Town of Groveland; Town of West Sparta; Town of Sparta; Town of Ossian; Town of North Dansville; and the Village of Dansville.<sup>17</sup>

**Map 28: Economic Distress Livingston County 2012**

### Strategies

The background/existing conditions section provides a glimpse into the current demographic trends of Livingston County. It does not, however, provide a detailed glimpse of the economic development; community development; and land use challenges that the County is facing. In order to explore these areas in more detail G/FLRPC identified 11 subject areas to explore in greater length. These subject areas are: Land Use; Brownfields; Economic Distress; Downtowns; Tourism and Recreation; Waterfronts; Environmental, Water Resources, and Natural Resources; Energy; Buildings and Housing; Infrastructure; and Preservation/Cultural.

Previously completed plans on the municipal, county, and regional level covering each of the above subject areas listed above, were reviewed by G/FLRPC in order to capture the identified goals/objectives/strategies that remain relevant today. These existing plans and the identified subject areas served as the starting point for stakeholder discussions at the March, 2015 Sub-Regional Forum. The stakeholder input provided at the Sub-Regional Forum; during the follow up webinar, held on July 15, 2015; and County Forum, held on March 8, 2016; along with the information gathered from existing plans formed much of the subject information below.



## Land Use

Based upon an analysis of building permit data for Livingston County since 1998, the municipalities with the most residential building permits issued are the Towns of Livonia, 270 permits; Town of Avon, 247 permits; and the Village of Geneseo, 221 permits,<sup>18</sup> all of which are in the northern portion of Livingston County. This data merely identifies the number of permits granted and does not mean the proposed development was actually completed, but it does help to show the areas within Livingston County which are likely experiencing the most residential growth.

Table 6 illustrates the Livingston County municipalities with the most residential building permits during the years 1998-2014.

Agriculture is of critical importance to Livingston County and the County developed the *Livingston County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan* in 2006 to “foster farmland stewardship and encourage economic growth and enterprise development within Livingston County’s agricultural industry while supporting and enhancing county and local efforts to preserve and protect farmland.”<sup>19</sup> Through the *Agricul-*

**Table 6: Residential Building Permits Livingston County**

Municipality	Residential Building Permits 1998-2014
Town of Livonia	270
Town of Avon	247
Village of Geneseo	221
Town of Geneseo	174
Town of Caledonia	142
Village of Caledonia	121

*ture and Farmland Protection Plan* thirteen recommendations were developed including: 1) develop an agribusiness retention expansion and attraction plan; 2) enhance business development programs and more fully incorporate agricultural needs; 3) expand education and training programs; 4) create and outreach and public relations program; 5) develop a regulatory and policy action program; 6) support entrepreneurship and on-farm skills development; 7) support broadened access to capital; 8) support agricultural leadership development; 9) support farm friendly county based land use policies and programs; 10) support town based agricultural planning; 11) investigate regional efforts to establish rural land protection tools; 12) support a county purchase of development rights program; and 13) promote understanding and appreciation of Livingston County agriculture to the non-farm public.<sup>20</sup>

The Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) program allows farmers to be reimbursed up to 87.5% of the value of the development rights on their land in exchange for an agricultural conservation easement being placed on the property. The agricultural conservation easement is a permanent restriction on the future development of the land. The voluntary program allows the seller to retain title and continue farming the property, but the land cannot be used for commercial, residential, or industrial uses and must remain agricultural. Livingston County has been successful in the past with several PDR projects that have provided money for farmers and also ensured the long-term conservation of the agricultural land.<sup>21</sup>

Livingston County is also looking to improve access to affordable and healthy food throughout the County and specifically within the areas of Mt. Morris, Dansville, and Geneseo, which are classified as food deserts, defined as a geographic area where affordable and nutritious food is hard to obtain. There are also several planning efforts underway throughout the County focused on land use including new comprehensive plans in the Town of Springwater and the Village of Caledonia.

## Brownfields

There are a number of properties within Livingston County classified as brownfield sites, which based upon the Environmental Protection Agency definition means that the “expansion, redevelopment, or reuse (of the property) may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.”<sup>22</sup> There are a total of 28 brownfield sites currently being addressed, or that have previously been addressed, under of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Environmental Remediation programs. These programs include the New York State Superfund Program; Resource Conservation and Recovery program; Brownfield Cleanup program; Environmental Restoration program; and the Voluntary Cleanup program. Each of these programs works to identify and address environmental contamination within New York State with the goal of returning each site back to active and productive use.

The 28 brownfield sites within Livingston County being addressed, or that have been addressed, under the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Environmental Remediation programs include sites within 12 different municipalities and covering a range of uses including landfills, former dry cleaners, former sites of chemical companies, and other former industrial sites. There are also likely other brownfield sites within Livingston County

where remediation efforts have not yet begun and therefore are not included on the New York State Department of Conservation remediation site list. To help identify these sites Livingston County was a coalition member of the Genesee/Finger Lakes Region Brownfield Assessment grant, which previously applied for funding from the Environmental Protection Agency with the goal of inventorying and assessing brownfield properties in targeted municipalities throughout the nine-county Finger Lakes Region. Within Livingston County these targeted municipalities included Town of Ossian; Town of North Dansville; Village of Dansville; Town of West Sparta; and the Town of Sparta.

### **Economic Development**

The identified economic development needs of Livingston County are infrastructure improvements; strengthening entrepreneurship; and advancing the agricultural industry. Additionally Livingston County is focused on improving workforce development and the quality of life to support economic development.

Infrastructure improvements are needed within Livingston County to support a variety of economic development projects. These infrastructure needs include: water; sewer; transportation, including roads and rail; and telecommunications. Targeted projects include: rail infrastructure for targeted properties in the Village of Dansville; infrastructure to support development along Poags Hole Road in the Village of Dansville; development of a multi-tenant building to support the Dansville Industrial Park; development of a multi-tenant building to support Crossroads Commerce Park in Avon; expansion of infrastructure to support development in the Town of York; and road infrastructure in the Town of Livonia to support Gateway Park. An additional targeted area for economic investment in Livingston County includes the Livingston Industrial Complex in Avon.<sup>23</sup>

The strengthening of entrepreneurship is a key economic development strategy of Livingston County with identified projects including: establishment of an entrepreneurship venture capital program; development of an entrepreneurship training program; and development of an incubator facility to support start-up companies. The State University of New York (SUNY) at Geneseo also continues efforts to advance their entrepreneurship program. SUNY Geneseo has successfully established a student incubator program for students to participate in during the summer after graduation with the hope of advancing their entrepreneurial ideas into startup companies.<sup>24</sup>

Livingston County collaborated with SUNY Geneseo to conduct a consumer spending outflow study, which

was completed in 2010, to identify the amount of money that was being spent outside of Livingston County. The study determined that approximately \$600 million annually was being spent on consumer purchases outside of Livingston County on items ranging from appliances and electronics to clothing and entertainment. One strategy to address this issue is the Livingston County Buy-Local Campaign, which aims to educate consumers and encourage them to make their purchases within Livingston County.<sup>25</sup>

The agriculture industry also remains a key economic driver for Livingston County and advancing projects and programs to strengthen agriculture and agribusiness continue to be important to the County. One potential agriculture project for Livingston County is the development of an agriculture and food HUB at the Livonia Gateway Park. The recently approved Growing the Agriculture Industry Now! (GAIN!) RLF fund will help to advance agribusiness and food processing within Livingston County. The fund will provide Livingston County, along with the Finger Lakes Region, access to low interest loan funds to provide assistance to agricultural related businesses such as farmers and food processors. These businesses can utilize these funds to advance projects that will help to create and retain jobs within Livingston County. Workforce development and quality of life are also key components of the Livingston County economic development strategy. The County recently completed the Livingston County Community Initiatives Council Community Needs Assessment, which identified the top priorities and problems of Livingston County residents including the general public; public service users/lower middle income population; and clients of Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) programs/lowest income population. Identified community needs including: finding and keeping a job; improving health care and access to health care; improving quality of housing and making housing more affordable; and getting help in emergencies.

In addition to the efforts of Livingston County Development, the Genesee Livingston Orleans Wyoming Workforce Investment Board (GLOW WIB) is actively working to assist businesses and job seekers through a variety of programs including: assistance with designing and funding training programs; custom training packages; job fairs; job search assistance; job readiness assessment; and career planning. The Livingston County Community Initiatives Council is also working to address the other identified community needs through their program offerings in order to improve the quality of life.

## Downtowns

Livingston County downtown redevelopment and rehabilitation efforts are focused on the many villages within the County, with revitalization efforts ongoing in many communities, including: a downtown feasibility study in the Villages of Leicester and Avon, the downtown revitalization program in the Villages of Caledonia and Livonia, and the Livingston County sign & façade program.

Downtown Revitalization Program Grants awarded through the New York Main Street Program will help to renovate 11 downtown buildings within the Villages of Livonia and Caledonia, including interior and exterior renovations to 17 commercial and 15 residential units. The New York Main Street Program has previously assisted other Livingston County communities, including: Avon, Dansville, Geneseo, Lima, Mount Morris, and Nunda, helping to renovate over 100 buildings, including more than 125 commercial units and 75 residential units.

The Livingston County Downtown Partnership is also assisting with downtown revitalization throughout the County, with its mission to “promote and enhance the unique, authentic, and vibrant communities of Livingston County.”<sup>27</sup> The partnership helps to preserve and enhance downtown buildings; integrate marketing efforts of existing businesses and communities; and develop entrepreneurship and recruit new businesses.

Other ongoing efforts within these downtown areas include façade improvements and pedestrian improvements to attract visitors and residents to the downtown. The central location of downtowns also plays a role in events/activities within each community and contributes to a community’s sense of place helping to convey an identity and image to visitors.

## Tourism and Recreation

Livingston County has many important tourism and recreation attractions including: Letchworth State Park; the Genesee River; Mount Morris Dam and Recreational Area; Conesus & Hemlock Lakes; the National Warplane Museum; the Finger Lakes Opera; and the many historic villages and districts within the County. The importance of these tourism and recreational opportunities extends beyond the financial benefit of bringing visitors into the County, estimated at 1.5 billion in 2013 for the Finger Lakes Region.<sup>28</sup> These attractions and activities also help to improve the quality of life for existing Livingston County residents, which contributes towards attracting and maintaining the workforce needed for business attraction and retention efforts.

Tourism and the Arts is a key part of the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council strategic plan which emphasizes the sectors of *sports recreation, waterways and entertainment; arts, culture and history; and culinary and beverage*; as key assets to help produce jobs, improve economic development, and increase the quality of life for the Finger Lakes Region. Identified regional strategies towards achieving these goals include: creation of a network of advocates for the Finger Lakes Region lifestyle; investment in the development, promotion and preservation of the cultural, artistic and historic assets of the Region; promotion of the Region’s growing wine, culinary, and agricultural enterprises; and strengthening and supporting the Region’s diverse water resources and recreational tourism opportunities.<sup>29</sup> Agri-tourism is also specifically identified within the Upstate Revitalization Initiative as a key component of the Agriculture & Food Production pillar. With many farms and agri-tourism activities already underway Livingston County is well positioned to grow in this area in the future.

Additional Livingston County tourism goals include the promotion of the Finger Lakes Opera at SUNY Geneseo and establishing and expanding local hiking trails throughout the County and connecting these trails with geocaching to encourage increased usage. The Genesee River Wilds project is also a key Tourism and Recreation project for Livingston County. The project is a watershed management plan for the upper Genesee River, which focused on “transforming the Genesee River corridor into an economically productive eco-tourism resource that will simultaneously improve the water quality of the river while addressing the economic needs of surrounding communities.”<sup>30</sup>

## Waterfronts

Through the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) the Town of Livonia received funding to build upon the *State of Conesus Lake: Watershed Characterization Report* and develop a Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan that would identify strategic action items to improve the water quality of Conesus Lake, ensure its continued use as a water supply, and improve water recreation opportunities. Recommendations developed through the Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan include: implement practices that will reduce nonpoint source pollution from farms; investigate and implement effective methods to control the spread of non-native organisms; continue enforcement of existing boat and personal watercraft laws; develop and implement programs to restore and stabilize streambanks in the Watershed; and provide training on erosion control practices to support compliance with state and federal Phase II



## Storm Water Regulations.<sup>31</sup>

Livingston County has also been successful in the implementation of many of the strategies identified within the Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan. In 2014 alone implementation efforts included reinforcement of the Long Point Creek stream channel and embankments to reduce erosion; replacement of a retaining wall adjacent to the East Lake Road Bridge; installation of invasive species disposal stations at three boat launches; completion of an information kiosk at Long Point Park; and publication of an updated bathymetric survey with invasive species information.<sup>32</sup>

## Environmental/Water Resources/Natural Resources

Sustainable development is a key area of focus for the Finger Lakes Region as well as Livingston County with several strategies and projects underway to enhance the environment and preserve the quality of life with the County. Within Livingston County the Livingston County Environmental Management Council, a formal citizen's advisory group which was formed by the Livingston County Board of Supervisors, has identified several efforts to address environmental resources/water resources/natural resources within the County. These efforts include: sustainability and land use education; promotion of regional environmental resources; and inventorying and identifying the status of regulatory permitting and redevelopment programs that may have an impact on local communities.<sup>33</sup>

The Livingston County Environmental Management Council also developed the Livingston County Natural Resources Inventory in 2007, to help “guide development in sensitive or unique areas, as well as to identify areas where conditions will impose severe limitations to the proposed development.”<sup>34</sup> The inventory included hydrological resources, such as water bodies, watersheds, wetlands, federal wetland reserves, and flood hazard areas; land resources, such as slope and topography, soils, bedrock geology, and surficial geology; and ecological resources such as New York State Parks, Forests and Wildlife Management Areas, important bird areas, national natural landmarks and scenic rivers, significant historical places, land trust preserves and conservation easements, recreational areas; and public hunting areas. Some of the natural and environmental resources identified included: Letchworth State Park; Sonyea State Forest; Rattlesnake Hill Wildlife Management Area; Ossian State Forest; Canaseraga State Forest; Conesus Inlet Wildlife Management Area; Conesus Lake; and the Genesee River, the preservation of each of which is critical for a sustainable Livingston County.<sup>35</sup>

In addition, development of the Finger Lakes Regional Sustainability Plan, helped to outline a variety of strategies in order for Livingston County and the Region to ensure a sustainable future. Specifically, the Finger Lakes Regional Sustainability Plan's subject area goal for Water Management which was to *improve and protect the water environment with respect to quality, quantity, and availability; promote and understand the value of our water reservoirs, watercourses, and built infrastructure; maximize the social, economic, and ecological potential of our water resources toward equitable sharing of their benefits for both the short and long terms.*<sup>36</sup>

Specific Livingston County environmental/water resource goals include the protection and restoration of water quality throughout the County; continuation of efforts to remediate eroded streambanks and educate property owners on methods of resiliency; and addressing Conesus Lake and Hemlock Lake invasive species.

## Energy

The Finger Lakes Regional Sustainability Plan outlines a variety of energy strategies in order to help Livingston County and the Region ensure a sustainable future. The Finger Lakes Regional Sustainability Plan's subject area goal for Energy is to “increase the generation and distribution of regional renewable energies, while using energy efficient and alternative energy resources, along with conservation methods, to decrease the reliance on fossil fuels and nonrenewable outside energy sources and to become a self-sustainable region.”<sup>37</sup>

The Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council's strategic plan built upon the Regional Sustainability Plan and identified additional energy strategies for the Region including: removing energy roadblocks that are limiting opportunities for companies that want to move to the area and limiting expansion opportunities for companies located in the Finger Lakes; and identifying, connecting, and promoting the assets and sites for successful attraction of companies.<sup>38</sup> Energy innovation and energy storage technologies were also identified within the FLREDC Strategic Plan as areas of focus for funding.

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) helps to promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources throughout New York State, including Livingston County. To achieve these goals NYSERDA works to: “attract the private sector capital investment needed to expand New York's clean energy economy; overcome barriers to using clean energy at a large scale in New



York; and enable New York's communities and residents to benefit from energy efficiency and renewable energy."<sup>39</sup> To help connect communities with NYSERDA programs the New York State Community Partnership program (NYSCP) was developed as a "unified approach to driving clean energy action and energy literacy in local governments and communities across the state." Resources will be provided through the NYSCP to help identify the "impact certain actions have on economic development; greenhouse gas emissions reductions; and energy cost savings".<sup>40</sup>

In line with the above identified regional energy strategies, Livingston County is working towards reducing energy costs to help attract and retain manufacturers and other high energy usage businesses. One challenge facing Livingston County is the inability of current utility infrastructure to handle renewable energy being returned to the grid from rural farms. Several energy projects are underway within Livingston County including the Avon Central School District Solar Project; Village of Geneseo/SUNY Geneseo Microgrid Feasibility Study; and the development of the Town of Springwater and Town of Mt. Morris Comprehensive Plans, which each emphasize energy efficiency/sustainability throughout their respective plans.

### **Buildings/Housing**

Two important building/housing goals for Livingston County are improvements to the housing stock and reducing residential and commercial vacancy. Livingston County also is facing an aging housing stock, with 34.8% of structures building before 1939,<sup>41</sup> and aging population, 14.0% of the County population aged 65 years or older.<sup>42</sup>

There are many agencies within Livingston County actively involved in housing that are administering programs or working on efforts to address these issues, including Livingston County Office for the Aging; Livingston County Planning; PathStone; the Livingston County Community Initiatives Council; and many others. The Livingston County Office for the Aging coordinates and delivers programs and services to Livingston County residents aged 60 or older to enable them to remain independent and living at home as long as possible.<sup>43</sup> Programs include home delivered meals; dementia care; nutrition counseling and education; legal services; and home energy assistance amongst many others.

Livingston County Planning works to provide technical assistance on housing topics such as zoning; subdivision; flood insurance mapping; and land use determinations. PathStone administers several housing programs for Livingston County including a rental assis-

tance program; first time home buyers program; housing rehabilitation program; a handyman repair program; and a foreclosure prevention program (counseling). In line with these programs are those offered through the Livingston County Community Initiatives Council which administers programs under the Community Services Block Grant program for Livingston County. These programs include: emergency assistance through Catholic Charities; domestic violence and homeless shelter through Chances and Changes; employment assistance through the Livingston County Office of Workforce Development; and lifeline for elderly or disabled through the Noyes Memorial Hospital.<sup>44</sup>

### **Infrastructure**

Infrastructure is a top priority for Livingston County and has also been identified by the Upstate Revitalization Initiative, Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Council Strategic Plan, and Genesee-Finger Lakes Economic Development District Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) as a top priority of the Finger Lakes Region as well.

Within Livingston County infrastructure needs include water, sewer, transportation, and telecommunications throughout the County. Within the Village of Dansville these infrastructure needs, which include rail infrastructure along targeted properties; sewer infrastructure along Poags Hole Road, and a runway extension at the Dansville Airport, are necessary to support several critical economic development priorities. Other infrastructure projects include the Livonia Gateway Road feasibility study; Avon Crossroads Commerce Park, which will include the completion of a new access road to the park and open up over 50 acres for development; infrastructure to support development in the Town of York; and the development of a Next Generation 911 Emergency Communications System for the County.

The recently announced New NY Broadband Grant Program aims to improve telecommunications, within unserved or underserved areas of New York State, by providing funding to establish and expand broadband. The program may be able to assist Livingston County in providing last mile connections and improving access to high speed internet.

Livingston County also identified an infrastructure inventory and capacity analysis as a need for the county to determine the location of existing infrastructure and its current capability to supporting new businesses or expanding businesses. Water and sewer infrastructure is also limiting development in certain areas of the County where existing infrastructure is unable to

support any additional growth. This issue is exacerbated by the fact that many municipalities are unaware of their true infrastructure capacity. As businesses look to expand or locate to the County the ability for the existing infrastructure to handle their needs is not known.

Analysis of traffic counts and bridge conditions in Livingston County did not identify any significant concerns. State routes within Livingston County are currently adequately handling existing traffic levels, which are highest in parts of the Town of Avon, Village of Avon and Town of Geneseo. The latest New York State Department of Transportation traffic counts show that the highest traffic within Livingston County, excluding Interstate-390, is along US20 in the Town of Avon, which averaged 11,289 cars per day on the eastern portion of the Town and 10,541 in the western portion of Town leading to the Village of Avon along with US20A in the Town of Geneseo, which averaged 10,261 cars per day. Interstate-390 averaged 26,474 cars per day along the corridor in the Town of Avon between the Monroe County/Livingston County border and exit 10, Routes 5&20.<sup>45</sup>

Bridge inspections are regularly conducted by the New York State Department of Transportation for all publically owned highway bridges in New York State, 162 of which are located within Livingston County.

These inspections include a New York State Condition Rating (ranging from 1-7) and an associated classification rating of “structurally deficient”, “functionally obsolete”, or “neither”. A classification of “structurally deficient” is used for bridges with “significant load carrying elements are found to be in poor or worse condition due to deterioration and/or damage, the bridge has inadequate load capacity, or repeated bridge flooding causes traffic delays”.<sup>46</sup> A bridge classified as “structurally deficient” does not imply that it is unsafe or likely to collapse. A classification as “functionally obsolete” is used for bridges with an “inability to meet current standards for managing the volume of traffic it carries, not its structural integrity.” This includes bridges with narrow lanes, no shoulders, or low clearances.<sup>47</sup>

For Livingston County, the analysis of the 162 highway bridges, rated 139 as being neither functionally obsolete nor structurally deficient; 11 as being structurally deficient; and 12 as being functionally obsolete. All of these bridges will continue to be monitored at least every two years, with any unsafe bridges being closed.

## Preservation/Cultural

There are 89 sites within Livingston County listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including 7 historic districts: Lima Village Historic District; Main Street Historic District, Geneseo; Linwood Historic District, York; Murray Street Historic District, Mt. Morris; South Main Street Historic District, Mt. Morris; State and Eagle Streets Historic District, Mt. Morris; and Dansville Downtown Historic District. The remaining sites include historic homes; farmhouses; bridges, cemeteries; and churches throughout all of Livingston County.

Preservation efforts are also focused on the many other historic places throughout Livingston County that are not listed on the National Register, but still contribute to the history and sense of place of each community. Some of these efforts include the rehabilitation of downtowns within the historic villages and hamlets throughout the County along with a long-term goal of preserving and revitalizing the Dansville Spa, also known as the “Castle on the Hill.” Additionally Livingston County has an aging housing stock with 34.8% of its structures built before 1939,<sup>48</sup> many of which have significant historic characteristics that further the sense of place of the County.

Historic preservation is also a key goal of the Finger Lakes Regional Economic Development Strategic Plan, which identified the strategy to “reinforce the identity, sense of place, and character of the area through downtown redevelopment, adaptive reuse of existing buildings and infrastructure, and historic preservation.”<sup>49</sup> Main Street Redevelopment and Historic Preservation are also key components of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy with a specific Goal outlined to “Encourage Main Street Revitalization and Historic Preservation” along with several strategies for the Region including: encouraging communities to develop and enforce design guidelines and zoning regulations; working to link developers and municipalities with federal and state preservation and rehabilitation programs to help encourage Main Street redevelopment; and supporting historic preservation efforts throughout the Region.<sup>50</sup>

The Genesee-Finger Lakes Regional Inventory of Culturally Significant Areas also identified five cultural landscapes from Livingston County. These included: New York Route 5 & U.S. 20, between Avon and Lima; the Five-Arch Bridge in the Town of Avon; the Union Cemetery in the Town of Conesus; the Caledonia Fairgrounds in the Village of Caledonia; and the Boulder of the Unknown Solider in the Town of Caledonia.<sup>51</sup>

### Department of State Programs

New York State Department of State offers, or previously offered, a number of programs to assist municipalities, counties, and regions within New York State. These programs include the Local Government Efficiency Program; Local Waterfront Revitalization Program; and the Brownfield Opportunity Area program. Additionally, Department of State also administers the Community Services Block Grant program throughout New York State.

The Local Government Efficiency (LGE) Program provides assistance and grants to local governments for projects that will achieve savings and improve efficiency. Potential projects include shared services, cooperative agreements, mergers, consolidations, and dissolutions.<sup>52</sup> Livingston County and several Livingston County communities have received Local Government Efficiency grants in the past several years including: assistance to the Village of Leicester to offset expenses related to dissolution voter referendum; assistance to Livingston County to study the cost saving potential of alternative methods of providing health insurance for county and municipal employees; assistance to the Village of Dansville to conduct a dissolution/coterminous feasibility study; assistance to the Town of York to undertake a feasibility study to identify cost savings for consolidating the water and sewer systems into the County Water and Sewer Authority; and separate grants to the Town of Leicester, the Village of Mount Morris, and Livingston County to purchase equipment to be shared amongst multiple municipalities.

The Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) provides assistance to communities to prepare a planning document “addressing all issues that are impacting a community’s entire waterfront or addressing the most critical issues that are facing a significant portion of its waterfront.”<sup>53</sup> Livingston County and the Town of Livonia received LWRP assistance to build upon the *State of Conesus Lake: Watershed Characterization Report* and outline a series of action items to improve water quality conditions in Conesus Lake, ensure its continued use as a water supply, and improve water recreation opportunities.<sup>54</sup>

New York State Department of State is also responsible for administration of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Program which supports a variety of programs aimed at reducing and eliminating poverty. For Livingston County, funding under the CSBG program is provided to the Livingston County Board of Supervisors/Community Initiatives Council to provide assistance programs for Livingston County residents. These programs include: emergency assistance;

domestic violence and homeless shelter; medical assistance for the uninsured; and workforce development assistance, amongst others.<sup>55</sup>

### Livingston County Step-2 Recommendations

Livingston County has a number of key project recommendations, many of which can leverage the funding programs outlined in the section above, including New York State Department of State and other state and federal programs.

Key project recommendations for Livingston County include the Housing Rehabilitation Program in the Town of Mount Morris; completion of the Portageville Freight Rail Bridge; development of a multi-tenant building at the Dansville Industrial Park and Avon Crossroads Commerce Park; development of infrastructure along Poags Hole Road; establishment of a rail line to targeted economic development properties in the Town of Dansville; development of an agriculture and food HUB at Livonia Gateway Park; and revitalization of downtowns across Livingston County. The focus area for economic distress within Livingston County is the Town of Mt. Morris.

The projects identified above are in variety of stages of completion with several projects previously receiving funding through the New York State Consolidating Funding Application process, from Upstate Revitalization Initiative awards, or from other local or federal funding sources and other projects that have yet to pursue funding (or have not been awarded funding). Even projects which have received awards may still need additional funding as the funding may only cover one phase of a multi-phase project.

The full list of Livingston County priority projects is outlined in the table below and includes the priority projects identified above along with other key projects that were identified through the Sub-Regional Forum; follow-up webinar; County Forum; and existing local, county, and regional plans; and the regional engagement project capture form.

### Livingston County Next Steps/Status

The Livingston County IDA and the Genesee & Wyoming Railroad are leading the implementation efforts for rebuilding and repairing the rail line to targeted economic development properties in the Town of Dansville. The condition of the line is limiting economic development in the area due to speed and weight restrictions on the line between Mount Morris and Dansville. The project is the top Livingston County priority within the Genesee-Finger Lakes Economic Development District Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

The Livingston County IDA is also leading development of a multi-tenant building at the Dansville Industrial Park and development of the Crossroads Commerce Park in Avon. The Crossroads Commerce Park project received \$412,500 from EDA for construction of road infrastructure to the park which will open up development opportunities.

Replacement of the Portageville freight rail bridge is also a priority for the Finger Lakes Region, with the bridge connecting Livingston and Wyoming Counties. The bridge is being replaced by Norfolk Southern Railway with assistance from New York State to address its current weight and speed restrictions that have made the bridge one of the biggest rail bottlenecks in the State. The project received \$2,000,000 in assistance from New York State Finger Lakes Economic Development Council. The project is expected to be completed by 2018.

Revitalization of downtowns across Livingston County is also a key priority. The downtown-partnership program is actively working to advance downtowns through community development; preservation; marketing; and business development efforts. The New York Main Street program has also been successfully leveraged in the past to provide funding assistance to advance Livingston County downtowns.

Infrastructure is needed to advance economic development along Poags Hole Road in the Town of Dansville and at Gateway Park in the Town of Livonia. The Poags Hole Road infrastructure is needed to support potential development along Interstate 390 at exit 4. Infrastructure at the Livonia Gateway Park is needed in support of a potential agriculture and food grain HUB at the Park. The Livingston County IDA recently submitted a grant application to USDA for a Rural Business Development Grant for a feasibility study to develop a market analysis and business analysis for a potential regional grain processing facility at the Park. Livingston County also recently submitted an application for a TIGER grant to help fund construction of a road and bridge from Rochester Road (New York State Route 15) to Bronson Hill Road. The proposed road would help alleviate traffic and safety concerns in the area while also providing improved access to NYS Route 15.

### **Goals and Objectives**

Successful revitalization of Livingston County cannot occur within the silo of any single subject area described above. Economic and community development revitalization efforts will depend upon the successful implementation of the goals and objectives of each subject area outlined below. Many of these goals

and objectives cut across multiple subject areas and illustrate the collaboration and coordination that is needed across multiple communities and multiple organizations for implementation. While some of goals and objectives listed below are more critical than others they are all listed to show the role that each subject area can play in advancing Livingston County. The goals and objectives listed below were identified through the Sub-Regional Forum; follow-up webinar; County Forum; and existing local, county, and regional plans.

### **Land Use**

1. Develop an agribusiness and retention expansion and attraction plan
2. Expand land use education and training programs
3. Support farm friendly county based land use policies and programs
4. Support town based agricultural planning
5. Investigate regional efforts to establish rural land protection tools
6. Support the county Purchase of Development Rights program
7. Improve access to affordable and healthy foods throughout the County

### **Brownfields**

1. Revitalize brownfield properties for new uses in a new economy
2. Support EPA brownfield coalition assessment application to inventory and assess brownfield properties within the targeted municipalities of: Town of Ossian; Town of North Dansville; Village of Dansville; Town of West Sparta; and the Town of Sparta.

### **Economic Development/Economic Distress**

1. Eliminate economic distress within the Town of Mt. Morris and other distressed communities
2. Expand and improve infrastructure
3. Promote and advance entrepreneurship
4. Advance agricultural and agri-business within Livingston County
5. Improve workforce development and quality of life to support business attraction and retention efforts

### **Downtowns**

1. Fill vacant storefronts/recruit new businesses
2. Maintain and preserve historic downtowns
3. Continue to implement sign and façade improvement program



**Tourism and Recreation**

1. Create network of advocates for the Finger Lakes Region lifestyle
2. Invest in the development, promotion, and preservation of cultural, artistic, and historic assets of the Region
3. Promote the Region's growing wine, culinary, and agricultural enterprises
4. Strengthen and support the Region's diverse water resources and recreational tourism opportunities
5. Expand agri-tourism within Livingston County
6. Leverage existing resources and attractions including the Finger Lakes Opera, to attract additional visitors
7. Expand local hiking trails and connect trails with geocaching to expand usage

**Waterfronts**

1. Reduce nonpoint source pollution from farms and construction activities
2. Investigate and implement effective methods to control the spread of non-native organisms
3. Continue enforcement of existing boat and personal watercraft laws
4. Develop and implement programs to restore and stabilize streambanks in the watershed
5. Provide training on erosion control practices to support compliance with state and federal Phase II storm water regulations

**Environmental/Water Resources/Natural Resources**

1. Protect and restore water quality throughout Livingston County
2. Preserve natural resources and utilize the Livingston County natural resources inventory to guide development
3. Inventory and identify the status of regulatory permitting and redevelopment programs that have an impact on local communities
4. Continue efforts to remediate eroded streambanks and educate property owners on methods of resiliency
5. Address Conesus Lake invasive species

**Energy**

1. Develop/embrace renewable energy resources
2. Reducing energy costs to attract and retain manufacturers and other high energy usage businesses.
3. Remove energy roadblocks that are limiting economic development opportunities
4. Identify, connect, and promote energy assets for successful attraction of companies

**Buildings/Housing**

1. Address vacant properties
2. Continue to promote and implement senior housing/aging in place programs
3. Continue to preserve historic and culturally significant assets within Livingston County

**Infrastructure**

1. Improve sewer/water, telecommunications, and transportation infrastructure in targeted growth areas
2. Complete infrastructure inventory and analysis to determine the capacity and location of existing infrastructure
3. Continue to monitor traffic counts and conditions of bridges

**Preservation/Cultural**

1. Encourage communities to develop and enforce design guidelines and zoning regulations
2. Connect developers and municipalities with federal and state preservation and rehabilitation programs to encourage Main Street redevelopment
3. Support historic preservation efforts throughout Livingston County

**Projects**

Projects listed below were identified through the Sub-Regional Forum; follow-up webinar; County Forum; and existing local, county, and regional plans; and the regional engagement project capture form. Projects are listed with a brief description, along with their corresponding subject area or areas, and potential funding sources. Additional information about potential funding sources is available in Appendix B.



## Livingston County Priority Projects

Project Name	Project Description	Subject Area	Agency/Organization Responsible for Implementation	Potential Funding Organization/Program
Village of Mount Morris Housing Rehabilitation Program	Rehabilitation of 16 owner-occupied substandard housing units in the Village of Mount Morris.	Buildings/Housing	Village of Mt. Morris	New York State Division of Homes and Community Renewal
Town of Conesus Senior Housing Rehabilitation Program	Rehabilitation of 15 owner-occupied severely substandard housing units located in the Town of Conesus.	Buildings/Housing	Town of Conesus	New York State Division of Homes and Community Renewal
Downtown Revitalization	Revitalization of Downtown areas within Livingston County.	Downtowns	Livingston County Development Corporation	New York State Division of Homes and Community Renewal
Village of Avon Downtown Feasibility Study	Project will complete feasibility study for buildings in downtown Avon.	Downtowns	Livingston County	New York State Division of Homes and Community Renewal
Village of Leicester Downtown Feasibility Study	Project will complete feasibility study for buildings in downtown Leicester.	Downtowns	Livingston County	New York State Division of Homes and Community Renewal
Village of Caledonia Revitalization Program	Renovation and streetscape enhancements in downtown Caledonia.	Downtowns	Livingston County	New York State Main Street Program
Village of Livonia Revitalization Program	Renovation and streetscape enhancements in downtown Livonia.	Downtowns	Livingston County	New York State Main Street Program
Strategic Plan for Economic Development	Development of an Economic Development Strategic Plan for Livingston County.	Economic Development	Livingston County	Empire State Development
Provo Small Business Project	The Village of Mount Morris will assist in the start-up of Thomas' Restaurant. NYS Community Development Block Grant funds will be used toward the purchase of inventory, furniture, fixtures, and equipment.	Economic Development	Village of Mt. Morris	New York State Division of Homes and Community Renewal
Dansville Microenterprise Assistance Program	Establishment of the Dansville Microenterprise Assistance Program.	Economic Development	Village of Dansville	New York State Division of Homes and Community Renewal
Entrepreneurship Venture Capital	Project will provide entrepreneurs with Necessary capital to establish and expand businesses.	Economic Development	Livingston County IDA	US Small Business Administration; Excell Partners; The Entrepreneurs Network

Livingston County Regional Engagement Revitalization Opportunity Report Projects

Project Name	Project Description	Subject Area	Agency/Organization Responsible for Implementation	Potential Funding Organization/Program
Buy Local	Outreach Campaign to encourage residents to purchase goods and services from Livingston County businesses.	Economic Development	Livingston County Development Corporation	US Department of Housing and Urban Development; New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets
Entrepreneurship Training	Training program for entrepreneurs to provide skills and support to start-up businesses.	Economic Development	Livingston County IDA	US Small Business Administration; The Entrepreneurs Network
Incubator Feasibility Study	Study to determine the feasibility of establishing an Incubator in Livingston County.	Economic Development	Livingston County	US Department of Agriculture Rural Business Development Grants
Livonia Gateway Park Food Hub	Development of Agriculture & Food HUB at the Livonia Gateway Park.	Economic Development	Livingston County; Town of Livonia	Empire State Development Grant Funds; Economic Development Administration Public Works Program; US Department of Transportation TIGER Funds
Municipal Energy Park - Livonia, NY- Implementation Phase	The Town of Livonia has a desire to create a municipally-owned and operated energy park.	Energy	Town of Livonia	New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
Livonia Library Green Elements	Improved energy efficiency and of the Town of Livonia Public Library.	Energy	Town of Livonia	New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
Municipal Energy Park - Livonia, NY - Study Phase	The Town of Livonia has a desire to study the feasibility of creating a municipally-owned and operated energy park.	Energy	Town of Livonia	New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
Town of Geneseo Municipal Salt Storage Facility	Construction of salt storage facility to eliminate salt runoff from entering Fall Brook.	Environmental/Water Resources	Livingston County Soil and Water Conservation District	New York State DEC
Village of Avon Wastewater Engineering Study	Project will complete an engineering report to evaluate upgrades to the existing wastewater treatment plant.	Infrastructure	Village of Avon	New York State DEC Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant
Wastewater Engineering Study for Lakeville Wastewater Facility	The Livingston County Water and Sewer Authority will complete an engineering report for the Lakeville wastewater treatment plant evaluating options for upgrading the existing facility or conveying wastewater effluent to the Village of Avon.	Infrastructure	Livingston County Water and Sewer Authority	New York State DEC Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant



Livingston County Regional Engagement Revitalization Opportunity Report Projects

Project Name	Project Description	Subject Area	Agency/Organization Responsible for Implementation	Potential Funding Organization/Program
Wilkins Creek Subwatershed Stormwater Study	Development of engineering study to address stormwater management in the Wilkins Creek Subwatershed.	Infrastructure	Town of Livonia	DOS Local Waterfront Revitalization Program
Village of Geneseo Wastewater Engineering Study	Completion of engineering report to evaluate the existing wastewater treatment plant for expected future upgrades.	Infrastructure	Village of Geneseo	New York State DEC Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant; New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation
Leicester Wastewater Treatment System Study	Completion of engineering report to evaluate a public sewer collection system in the densely populated areas of the Town and Village of Leicester.	Infrastructure	Town of Leicester, Village of Leicester	New York State DEC Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant; New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation
Springwater Engineering Study of System Deficiencies	Completion of an engineering report to address the deficiencies of the existing sanitary sewer system.	Infrastructure	Springwater Sewer District	New York State DEC Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant; New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation
Wastewater Treatment Plant Evaluation	The Village of Lima will complete an engineering planning grant to evaluate the Village's wastewater treatment plant and the collection system.	Infrastructure	Village of Lima	New York State DEC Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant
Disinfection and Upgrades to the Springwater Wastewater Treatment Facility	The project includes removal of all septic tanks and replacement with a communal septic tank at the wastewater treatment plant, replacement of a portion of the existing created wetland wastewater treatment plant with a recirculating sand filter and installation of UV disinfection.	Infrastructure	Town of Springwater	New York State DEC
Dansville Wastewater Disinfection Project	Install a new disinfection system at the Village's wastewater treatment plant.	Infrastructure	Village of Dansville	New York State DEC
Completion of Infrastructure at Poags Hole Rd. Dansville	Infrastructure in support of targeted development area in Dansville.	Infrastructure	Livingston County	Empire State Development Grant Funds; Economic Development Administration Public Works Program
Portageville Freight Rail Bridge Project	Norfolk Southern Railway will replace the Portageville Viaduct, which carries the Southern Tier Corridor over the Genesee River in Letchworth State Park.	Infrastructure, Economic Development	Norfolk Southern Railway	New York State Department of Transportation; New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Livingston County Regional Engagement Revitalization Opportunity Report Projects

Project Name	Project Description	Subject Area	Agency/Organization Responsible for Implementation	Potential Funding Organization/Program
Multi-Tenant building at Dansville Industrial Park	Development of building and infrastructure in support of Dansville Industrial park.	Infrastructure, Economic Development	Livingston County IDA	Empire State Development Grant Funds; Economic Development Administration Public Works Program
Rebuild and Repair of Rail line to Dansville Properties	Rail infrastructure in support of targeted development properties in Dansville.	Infrastructure, Economic Development	Livingston County IDA/ G&W RR	Empire State Development Grant Funds; Economic Development Administration Public Works Program
Multi-Tenant building at Avon Crossroads Commerce Park	Development of building and infrastructure in support of Crossroads Commerce Park.	Infrastructure, Economic Development	Livingston County IDA	Empire State Development Grant Funds; Economic Development Administration Public Works Program
Expansion of Infrastructure in the Town of York	Infrastructure expansion in the Town of York to support economic development.	Infrastructure, Economic Development	Town of York	Empire State Development Grant Funds; Economic Development Administration Public Works Program
Gateway Park Infrastructure in the Town of Livonia	Infrastructure in support of Gateway Park in the Town of Livonia.	Infrastructure, Economic Development	Town of Livonia	Empire State Development Grant Funds; Economic Development Administration Public Works Program; New York State Division of Homes and Community Renewal
Springwater Comprehensive Plan Creation	Creation of a Comprehensive Plan for the Town of Springwater.	Land Use	Town of Springwater	New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
Annual Decision-Maker's Tour of Agriculture in Livingston County	Education of decision-makers and leaders in Livingston County on benefits and challenges of agriculture sector through annual tour of agriculture within Livingston County.	Land Use	Livingston County Planning Department	Local, County, US Department of Agriculture

Livingston County Regional Engagement Revitalization Opportunity Report Projects

Project Name	Project Description	Subject Area	Agency/Organization Responsible for Implementation	Potential Funding Organization/Program
Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Updates	Town of Mount Morris Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Updates will address environmental sustainability, smart growth, energy efficiency, greenhouse gas emissions reduction, natural gas extraction, and alternative energy benefits and impacts.	Land Use, Energy	Town of Mt. Morris	New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
Ambuscade Park Development	Construction of multi-purpose building in Ambuscade Park, which is listed on the National Historic Register, for use by community groups for a wide-range of activities.	Tourism and Recreation, Preservation/Cultural	Town of Groveland	Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
Conesus Lake Watershed Management Update	Update of the Conesus Lake Watershed Management Plan.	Waterfront/Environmental Resources/Natural Resources	Livingston County	New York State Department of State; New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Lake Watercraft Steward Program	Continuing Conesus Lake Watercraft Steward Program to help address aquatic invasive species.	Waterfront/Environmental Resources/Water Resources	Livingston County; Cornell Cooperative Extension	US Department of Agriculture; Environmental Protection Agency; US Fish and Wildlife Service

## End Notes

1. 2010 U.S. Census [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)
2. 2000 and 2010 U.S. Census [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)
3. 2000 and 2010 U.S. Census [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov)
4. QCEW also excludes self-employed workers, members of the Armed Forces, elected officials in most states, most employees of railroads, some domestic workers, most student workers at schools, and employees of certain small nonprofit organizations.
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