

# Genesee/Finger Lakes REGIONAL REVIEW

NEWSLETTER OF THE GENESEE/FINGER LAKES REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Volume 14, Number 1, Spring 2017

## Clean Energy Communities

*Razy Kased*

Energy is a popular topic for many municipalities and residents in New York State. Finding the best methods to reduce consumption and become more energy efficient is something that the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) is offering through the Clean Energy Communities (CEC) Program, providing support for communities to take actions to reach their goals of saving on energy. In August of 2016, Governor Cuomo announced the launch of the CEC Program, a \$16-million initiative to help local governments across the state reduce energy consumption and drive clean energy use in their communities. Local governments that complete four out of ten identified High Impact Actions will earn the Clean Energy Community designation and access to grant funding to implement additional clean energy projects. One municipality in the Finger Lakes Region has already completed four High Impact Actions and has been designated as a Clean Energy Community.

As the Finger Lakes Region Clean Energy Communities Coordinator, G/FLRPC is working with local governments to implement clean energy actions, save energy costs, create jobs, and improve the environment. In addition to providing tools, resources, and technical assistance, the program recognizes and rewards leadership for the completion of clean energy projects. We have reached out to all communities in the region to educate them on the opportunities in the CEC Program and finding the High Impact Actions that fits best with their community. We are avail-

able to provide technical assistance to help every community every step along the way to complete high impact actions toward CEC designation, and eventually funding.

### List of High Impact Actions

- Benchmarking
- Clean Fleets
- Climate Smart Communities Certification
- Community Choice Aggregation
- Energize NY Finance
- Energy Code Enforcement Training
- LED Street Lights
- Solarize
- Unified Solar Permit
- Clean Energy Upgrades

*\*Once a community completes four out of the ten High Impact Actions they are then eligible to apply for funding through NYSERDA.*

There are a total of 18 grants in the region, depending on the size of the community and completion of four out of the 10 high impact actions. The funding is available to designated Clean Energy Communities on a first-come-first-served basis until the funds are exhausted. The process starts with an initial/on-board meeting, where staff from G/FLRPC meets with municipal officials to present the program and consider the options for certification.

Municipality Size by Population	Tier 1 Awards	Tier 2 Awards
Large (40,000+)	2   \$250,000	2   \$150,000
Small/Medium (0-39,999)	2   \$100,000	10   \$50,000

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## Upcoming Regional Events

G/FLRPC Spring Local Government Workshop, Friday May 19, 2017, Burgundy Basin Inn, Pittsford, NY. For more information visit <http://www.gflrpc.org>.

For further information call 585-454-0190, email [gflrpc@gflrpc.org](mailto:gflrpc@gflrpc.org)

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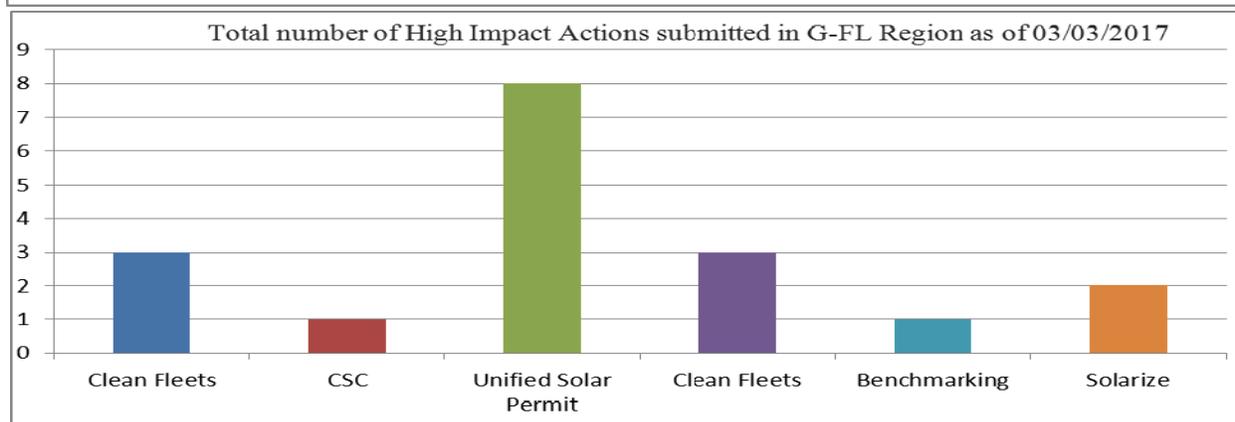
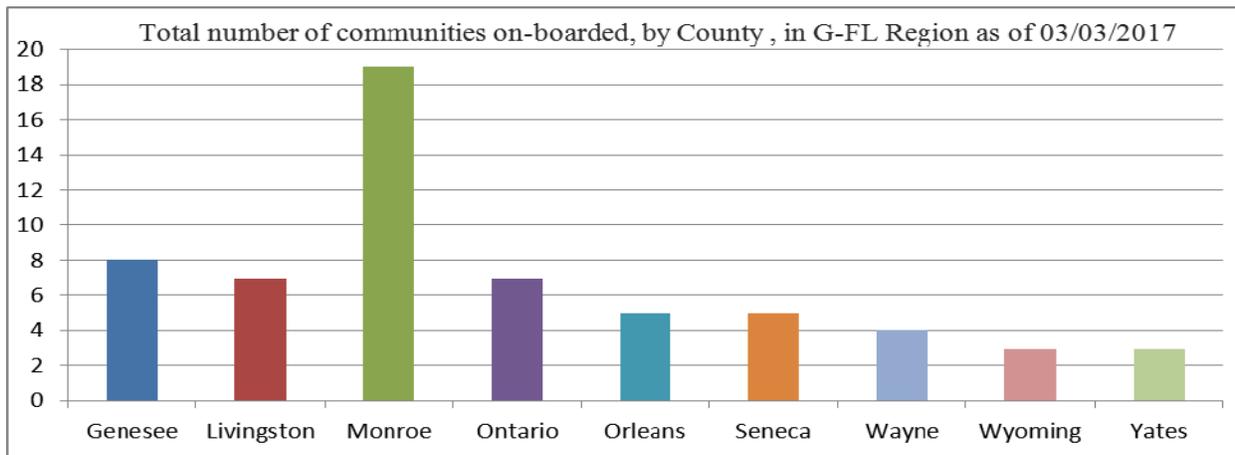
## Upcoming Events

Fall 2016 Regional Local Government Workshop, November 16, 2016 Quality Inn & Suites, Batavia, NY. For more information visit <http://www.gflrpc.org>.

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Here is a snapshot of progress in the CEC program across the region:

\*CSC – Climate Smart Certification



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## G/FLRPC's Revolving Loan Fund

G/FLRPC manages a revolving loan fund which serves gap financing needs of small and medium sized manufacturing and service businesses located in Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates Counties.

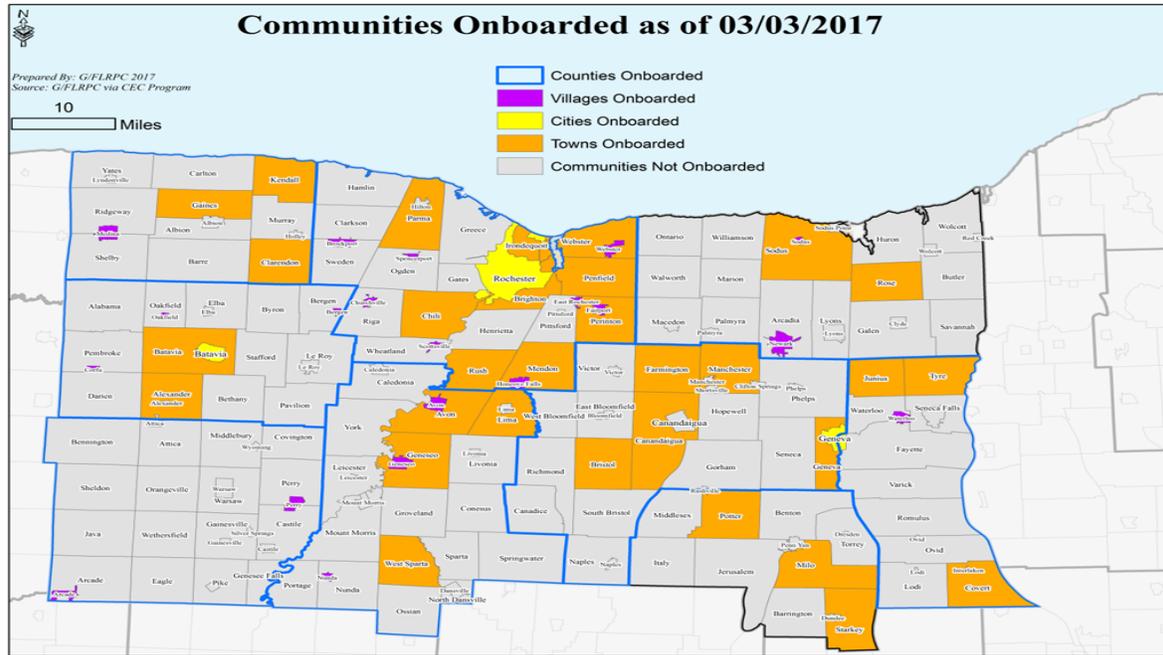
One issue that is frequently associated with small and medium sized businesses is the level of capital available to them through traditional lending channels. The revolving loan fund works to mitigate that issue and strengthen what we consider

our regional economy's backbone — small and medium-sized businesses.

The revolving loan fund provides \$20,000 to \$200,000 loans at a low fixed-interest rate for up to 8 years for those that qualify.

If you would like to learn more about the Revolving Loan Fund please visit: [www.gflrpc.org/ProgramAreas/EconomicDevelopment/RLF.htm](http://www.gflrpc.org/ProgramAreas/EconomicDevelopment/RLF.htm) or contact David Zorn at (585) 454-0190 x14 or [dave.zorn@gflrpc.org](mailto:dave.zorn@gflrpc.org)

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## Local Update of Census Addresses

Achieving an accurate population count in the United States during the Decennial Census is vital for the U.S. Census Bureau when conducting its survey every 10 years. The next Decennial Census is fast approaching and will be in the year 2020. However, before that Census date comes around, there are several programs to support the Census Bureau's efforts. One of these includes the Local Update of Census Addresses Program (LUCA), which is a partnership program of the Census Bureau. The purpose of LUCA is to ensure the accuracy of census and surveys by revising the a national address list, known as the Master Address File (MAF), that is the delivery mechanism for the Decennial Census Short Form. Also, it provides officials who are designated as LUCA liaisons with access to census address information for the purpose of verifying the accuracy of the address information through confidential system.

In this upcoming LUCA process, starting in the spring of 2017, G/FLRPC will take on the role as the designated LUCA liaison for the nine county Region. We will begin our efforts to develop a local master address list for each county to ensure that every residential address is accounted for in the MAF that the Census bureau will ultimately use to distribute its Decennial Census mailers in 2020. In doing so, we hope that this will increase survey participation rates in each of the Finger Lakes Region counties. Conducting the LUCA process is important because decennial population counts affect state and federal congressional represen-

tation, redistricting, federal funding of more than \$400 billion nationally, and population based programs.

G/FLRPC worked on LUCA 2010 and received funding through the Genesee Transportation Council's Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) funding. We were able to revise and identify many addresses that were accepted by the Census Bureau into the MAF. It is also important to note that all of the addresses accepted were not new addresses to be added to the MAF; many were already present in the original MAFs but were accepted as corrections. We hope to play a similar role in the 2020 LUCA program for our region.

### Tentative LUCA 2020 Schedule

January 2017: Advance notification of LUCA mailed to highest elected official (HEO)

March 2017: LUCA promotional workshops begin.

July 2017: Invitation letter and registration forms mailed to the HEO

February 2018: Participation materials mailed to registered participants. Participants have 120 calendar days from the receipt of materials to complete their review.

August 2019: Feedback materials offered to participants with the results of Address Canvassing.

April 1, 2020: Census Day.

If you would like more information or have any questions contact Razy Kased, Senior Planner at G/FLRPC, rkased@gflrpc.org or 585-454-0190 x 20.



### *A Sense of Place*

#### New Eagle at Montezuma Refuge, NY

In honor of the 40th anniversary of New York State's bald eagle reintroduction program – which largely happened at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, NY – there is a grand new eagle sculpture along the refuge's Wildlife Drive.

Refuge manager Tom Jasikoff commissioned Trumansburg artist James Seaman to create the sculpture which has a 21-foot wingspan. The body, armature and branch are made of steel. The head and tail are stainless steel. Each feather was individually cut, hand-forged, welded into place and bent into position. Seaman was a carpenter who became a self-taught artist in wood and metal.

During the 1800s and early 1900s, there were more than 70 nesting pairs of bald eagles in New York State. By 1960, only one bald eagle nest remained. Chemicals like DDT polluted the eagle's prey and poisoned the eagles, resulting in such thin eggshells that the eggs could not survive to hatching. Beginning in 1976, young eagles were brought to Montezuma from other states and fed by staff and volunteers until they were old enough to fly. By 1980, 23 bald eagles had been released on the refuge. Now there can be as many as 60 bald eagles on the refuge at one time.

The bald eagle is protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, but they are no longer listed as threatened or endangered.

Source: <https://www.fws.gov/refuges/news/NewEagleAtMontezumaRefuge.html>

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Volume 14, Number 1  
Spring 2017

*Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Review*  
is published by the  
Genesee/Finger Lakes  
Regional Planning Council

Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council is a public entity that serves its nine member counties\* with planning, economic development, data resources, and other program areas.

*\*Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans,  
Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates*

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