

Wyoming County Sub-Regional Forum
Wednesday, October 21, 2015
Batavia City Hall

Moderator/ Note Take: David Zorn, Executive Director, G/FLRPC

Attendees:

Art Buckely, Wyoming County Planning and Development
Bill Daly, Wyoming County Planning and Development
Jim Pierce, Wyoming County IDA

Brownfields

- A&A Metal Fabricating Inc. being reused
- Westinghouse Site in Attica has been cleaned
- Warsaw Village landfill has been capped
- Testing ongoing at Robeson Industries, inc.
- Drum removal complete at Prestolite Plant Site
- Champion Products Company has been remediated
- Former Almor Building has been remediated
- Emkay site in Arcade possible contamination from asbestos, former cheese plant
- Possible site in Perry on N. Main Street- Rozanski Motors, possible contamination from fuel tanks

Economic Development

- CEDS project updates:
 - Wyoming County Agriculture and Business Center, Warsaw – being built with target completion of 12/31/15
 - New Hotels, Warsaw, Arcade, & Perry - \$200,000 microenterprise grant
 - Wyoming County Rural Arts Initiative – Warsaw artisan village – coming through CFA process, work in progress, Warsaw, Arcade, Perry, Main St. grant for \$500,000 Archer Building restoration, \$140,000 IDA micro loan could be converted to arts initiative
 - Town of Castile Water Improvements- Silver Lake Institute – ongoing, engineering work
 - Village of Arcade Wastewater Treatment Expansion – regional wastewater treatment – Erie/Cat/Wyo
 - Wyoming County Multimodal Rail Initiative- Town of Gainesville – money set aside
 - Alternative and Renewable Energy Initiatives – part of Brighter Wyoming
 - Redevelopment of A&A Facility – going to foreclose and prospect to buy, helps Silver Lake initiative
 - Perry Commerce Center – area in Perry that could be developed
 - Spec Building, Steele Ave., Arcade – this would be a general spec build
 - Agri-business Incubator – no traction as yet

- Agri-tourism – agri-tourism venue killed after 2 CFAs, needs a whole new look; agri-palooza rotating farms in June including farm markets; associated with Wyoming County dairy initiative
- Silver Lake Outlet Dredging Project – part of the Silver Lake initiative, A&A, and ownership of A&A
- County-wide Rural Broadband Initiative – need to update Inventory and Assessment
- Genesee River Wilds-Whisky Bridge – lacking \$25,000, need parking/access for river, associated with the work of Genesee River Wilds, it is a blueway trails type thing, can use county owned property
- FLREDC Project Updates
 - Marquart Brothers Potato Chip Plant & Starch Recovery System – CFA submitted and is on priority list
 - Foodlink Food Hub – working with Foodlink, need for cold storage/storage, warehouse, packaging
 - Steel & O’Brien Manufacturing, Inc. New Facility Expansion and Renovation – done, Crog expansion/BareTech in Arcad
 - Village of Arcade Sewer Work – work in progress
 - Village of Castile Wastewater System
 - Open Space Institute, Letchworth Nature Center - \$100,000 short
 - American Heritage Homes New Manufacturing Plant – in operation
- Target Tomorrow Updates

Immediate (Two Years)

- Recommendation Area - Business Development Actions
 - Exploit regional marketing efforts of Buffalo/Niagara Enterprise. – working on
 - Enhance Villages as development & tourism centers. – working on
- Recommendation Area – Infrastructure
 - Create a water/sewer agency. – done, Wyoming County Sewer and Water Agency
 - Initiate a capital improvements program. – didn’t do
- Recommendation Area – Agriculture
- ~~Expand support for CAFO compliance.~~ – should be taken out

Mid-Term (Three to Five Years)

- Recommendation Area – Infrastructure
 - Develop a “spec” industrial building. – priority
- Recommendation Area – Agriculture
 - Establish a revolving loan fund. – GAIN!
- Recommendation Area – Tourism Product Development
 - Develop a marketing cooperative for arts/crafts. – Rural Arts Initiative
 - Support expansion of overnight accommodations. – working on

Long-Term (Six to Ten Years)

- Recommendation Area – Business Development
 - Develop a corporate/industrial park. – need to do more, id potential sites for business attraction – in IDA strategic plan

- Minimize costs of electric energy. – Brighter Wyoming alternative energy, municipal solar, going to do solar in Perry
 - Recommendation Area – Rural Resource Development
 - Strengthen farmland protection measures. – town farmland protection, Town of Perry done, looking to do more of them
- G/FLRPC should review Wyoming County IDA Strategic Plan
- Look at town energy policies
- In process of revision of new comp plan for the county; all departments are meeting now: social service, emergency service, ED, sheriff, Office of the Aging, Youth Bureau, County Clerk

Downtown

- New York Main Street Program
- IDA will be adopting Uniform Tax Exemption Policy (UTEP)
 1. Adaptive reuse
 2. Tourism destination
 3. Alternative and small energy
 4. Standard PILOT
 5. Commercial wind (unchanged)
- Village of Perry – emphasis on housing
- Village of Arcade shift from 4 to 3 lanes, more walkable, hardly a storefront available

Tourism and Recreation

- Snowmobile trail maintenance, leasing, access agreement, could use more funding
- Letchworth Park
- Hidden Valley animal adventure – private
- Arcade Attica RR – in CFA process, use from Currier to Risedorf through Audobon Center, could use funding
- Farm markets
- Rural arts initiative
- Charcoal Corral – private
- Fish – trout
 - Wiscoy
 - Promotional material
 - Access
 - Signage
 - Event planning

Waterfronts

- Watershed Management Plan Update for Silver Lake – done
- Priorities – dredging north end, getting outlet done, Walker Road Bridge – needs to be raised so navigable to Federal Street dam

Environmental/Water Resources

- Tonawanda Creek – streambank stabilization, sediment loading, flooding/safety/relocation
- Cattaugus – flooding
- Need to have FEMA maps updated
- Black Creek Watershed Management Plan – done
- Oatka Creek Watershed Management Plan – done, nutrient management

Land Use

- Wyoming County Agricultural Development And Farmland Protection Plan
- Have a PDR in place
- Roadside development – disrupting farm operations
- Shoulders of roads – take a major beating with ag equipment
- Road use agreements – commercial
- Municipalities – only ½ have right to farm law

Other Plans

- Wyoming County Multi-Jurisdictional All-Hazard Mitigation Plan Update – flooding Cat and Tonawanda
- Strategic Plan For Public Transportation In Wyoming County –
 - Wyoming County Transit – pretty good
 - Bus Storage – with county highway, could use their own facility
- Perry Comp Plan – no mention of housing assessment, housing need, affordable senior housing, assisted living is a problem/need
- NY Main Street - Village of Warsaw Main Street program – Main Street grants (Becky supervisor), Attica, Arcade (Community Action), Perry
- Lack of volunteer fire and ambulance
- GIS for the county – need
- Microbeads – Oatka, Silver Lake – biodigesters and spread as sludge (need to monitor)
- Sludge and spreading
- Taxes
- Farm equipment and roads
- County hospital
- Mandate relief
- Texas mine into Covington
- Trails – Beaver Meadow – talk to Art, Whiskey Bridge