

# *Vision 2025 Comprehensive Plan*

## *Moving Cattaraugus County Forward*



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# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Vision 2025

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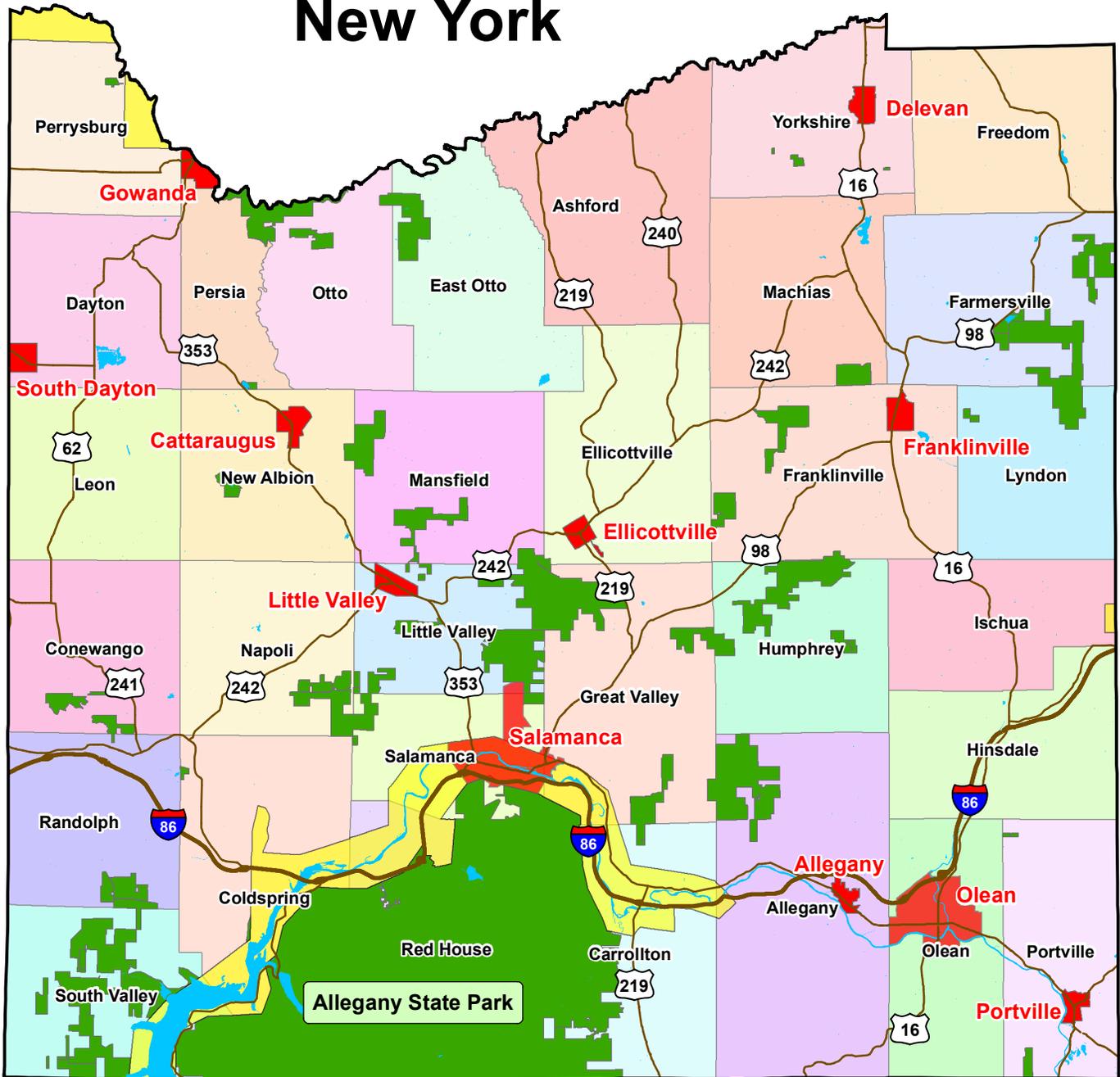
Richard Lamberson

## December, 2015



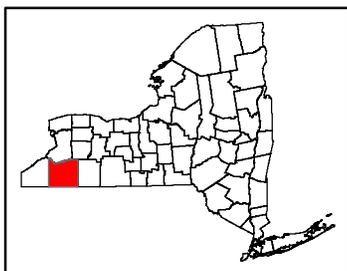


# Cattaraugus County, New York



**Population (2010 Census): 80,317**  
**Area: 1,336 square miles (847,000 acres)**

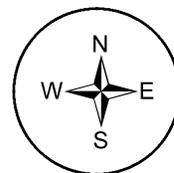
**32 Towns**  
**2 Cities**  
**9 Villages**  
**3 Territories**



**Allegany State Park**  
 100 square miles  
 (64,000 acres)

**Agricultural Districts**  
 236,000 acres

**State and County Forests**  
 37,600 acres



This map was created using  
**GIS TECHNOLOGY**  
 Prepared by  
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 March, 2012



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## Executive Summary

The Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan 2015 updates the first Comprehensive Plan adopted in 1978, which was intended to guide the development of the County through the year 2000. During the past 35 years, it has become clear that Cattaraugus County is changing. It is no longer an exclusively rural community. It has major attractions, such as Allegany State Park, the Seneca Allegany Casino, and the Ellicottville ski resorts. Improvements to U.S. Route 219 and the Interstate designation of the Southern Tier Expressway are opening up the County to the outside world as never before. The goals and policies of the 1978 Plan do not adequately address the changes that have occurred since its adoption. The Plan should be brought into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, addressing today's pressing issues and charting a direction for the County over the next decade.

The 2015 Plan builds upon prior planning efforts and provides an abundance of information about current conditions, trends, and issues facing the County. More importantly, it sets forth a shared set of goals and priorities for the County. The recommendations were developed to help achieve the shared vision of a healthy and sustainable economy, environment, and populace. The Plan was developed with substantial public input and reflects the voice of the residents, businesses, and public leaders of the County.

The focus of the Plan is to promote quality economic development and protect the positive features and resources of the County. It strives to improve coordination among the County's municipalities and also increase collaboration with regional partners and their planning efforts, including the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council and its Economic Development Strategy; and the Southern Tier West Regional Planning and Development Board and its Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

**Chapter I**, The Introduction, provides an overview of the Purpose of the Plan, Participants, and the Contents of the Plan.

**Chapter II**, The Planning Context, provides an overview of previous County and Regional planning efforts. Cattaraugus County has completed a number of prior studies, largely targeted at specific topics. These reports were used as references for this document. This Plan also explicitly tries to increase coordination between the County and regional planning efforts. As governmental activities in New York State are increasingly regionalized, it is incumbent upon Cattaraugus County to consciously address regional trends in its planning. Chapter II provides a summary of major findings from regional planning efforts that affect Cattaraugus County to highlight the overlap between the County's priorities and regional goals. The following studies and plans, therefore, are incorporated by reference as part of the Comprehensive Plan:

- Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan  
Cattaraugus County (2014 Update)
- Cattaraugus County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (2013)
- Cattaraugus County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan (2007)
- Smart Development for Quality Communities Guidebook Series (2001-2005):
  - Volume 1: Elements of a Countywide Vision (2001)

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- Volume 2: A Design Guidebook for Towns and Villages in Cattaraugus County (2001)
- Volume 3: Saving Our Villages (2004)
- Volume 4: A New Vision for Outdoor Recreation Trails in Cattaraugus County (2005)
- Volume 5: Summary and Analysis for Similar Initiatives for Park-Community Economic Development (2001)
- Volume 6: Economic & Market Analysis for Communities in the Perimeter of Allegany State Park (2001)
- Volume 7: Economic Development Strategy – Linkages Between Allegany State Park and Nearby Communities (2002)
- Volume 8: Growing the Equestrian Economy in Cattaraugus County (2005)
- Cattaraugus County Land Use Plan Year 2000
- A New Look at Gravel Mining in Cattaraugus County (2000)  
(Twenty First Century Planning for the Route 16 Corridor)
- Revitalizing the Route 16 Corridor (1998)  
“A Strategic Development Plan for the Corridor Communities”
- Local Land Use and Infrastructure Study (1996)  
Cattaraugus County Summary Report
- Goals Project – Phase One (1995)  
“A Planning Agenda from the Community’s Perspective”
- Western New York Regional Economic Development Strategic Plan (Updated Annually)
- Western New York Regional Sustainability Plan (2013)
- Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the Southern Tier West Region (2013)
- Southern Tier West Regional Transportation Strategy ( 2009)
- US 219 Planning Study, Springville to Salamanca, New York (2009)

The focus of this Comprehensive Plan is primarily on the issues where the County has control. To set the context on the types of actions under County’s jurisdiction, **Chapter III** provides an overview of the County and its powers and authorities. The recommendations target policies, programs and capital spending, rather than land use and zoning. In New York State, local zoning and planning is under the jurisdiction of local cities, towns and villages. The County has some indirect influence on land use through the Cattaraugus County Planning Board, which reviews local actions under General Municipal Law of New York State, Section 239 l. and m. Under this provision, the County Planning Board reviews local actions to assess potential regional impacts. However, a number of municipalities in Cattaraugus County have no zoning regulations, so development projects within their jurisdiction would not be subject to Section 239 l. and m. review. Furthermore, even for municipalities with adopted zoning and other land use controls, not all actions are subject to review and the County may have no oversight. The County’s role, when it does conduct Section 239 l. and m. reviews, is advisory only and the local municipality may override their recommendation with a supermajority vote. Generally, however, there has been a cooperative relationship between the County’s municipalities and the County Planning

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Board and there has not been a history of localities ignoring the County's advice. This Comprehensive Plan, by explicitly setting forth County priorities, will help guide the County's review of local actions and further facilitate that cooperative relationship.

**Chapter IV**, The People, presents a snapshot of the County's demographics, employment, and education and workforce training. Despite recent population dips, the County's population has remained relatively stable over the past fifty years. Population change, however, has been unevenly distributed, with greater losses in the County's cities and villages. The population is aging; and a growing diversity in the makeup of the 'typical' household. There was a 13 percent increase in "non-family" households between 2000 and 2010, while the number of "family" households fell by 5 percent over that time period. (Note: "non-family" households consist of one-person households, or unrelated people living together.) These trends suggest a need for developing programs and policies to meet the new demographics. Housing trends indicate a need for a greater diversity in the housing stock. The chapter also outlines the County's workforce training resources. There is a mismatch between available jobs and workforce skills resulting in a relatively high unemployment rate, while at the same time employers cannot find qualified workers for certain jobs. The County's two institutions of higher education are important both as employers and as a means for workforce training.

**Chapter V**, The Economy, outlines the County's economic development support and assesses economic trends. The County's economic base has shifted from manufacturing to a more service economy base. Tourism, which was the smallest sector in 1990, is now the fourth most important employment base for the County's workers. The sector of "education, health care and social assistance services" is the primary employer in the County. Manufacturing, despite losses in employment, remains the second ranked employment sector. Because manufacturing wages tend to be higher than other sectors, it is important for the County to continue to support manufacturing enterprises. Retention of existing businesses and support of entrepreneurial start-ups are emphasized. Another important strategy is "Placemaking", which is discussed further in Chapter X. Investing in the County's city and village centers to create appealing places for people to live, work, play, and do business in. This approach will provide an advantage in attracting and retaining both new businesses and quality employees.

While, agriculture, mining and forestry contribute to the local economy; the County's landscape contributes to the visual and cultural character of the County, and to the lifestyles and enjoyment of the residents. It is important to balance these differing roles in a sustainable manner. The County plays an important role in maintaining an appropriate balance and has the stature to promote 'best practices' in these fields.

**Chapter VI**, The Tourism, includes a more detailed discussion of the tourism sector, including outdoor recreation, gaming, cultural tourism, and sports. The Chapter looks at the County's recreational resources, recreational trails, and arts and cultural resources. Anchored by Allegany

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State Park, the County has an eclectic mix of four-season outdoor activities, which benefit both the tourism industry and local residents. The County takes the lead in coordinating tourism resources and trail development; and is best situated to coordinate with adjacent counties and Pennsylvania to build regional tourism and trails networks.

**Chapter VII**, The Natural Environment, describes the County's important natural environment features. The County has many natural features of high quality and ecological integrity. As a complement to Placemaking, protecting these natural features contributes to quality of life. The County can take a leadership role in the stewardship of its natural environment.

**Chapter VIII**, The Infrastructure, addresses the County's transportation system and its utilities. The County has a good road network that supports movement of both people and goods through the County. The County adopted an assessment of its transit system in the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan in 2009 with an update completed in 2014. There remains a need to expand transit options, as there are currently gaps in service and demand is expected to grow as the population ages. Other options, including improved bicycle infrastructure, should also be explored. In terms of County's utilities, most areas of the County depend on private wells and septic systems. Public water and sewer are available in the two cities and several villages and hamlets. The County also has several areas served by public electricity. These areas with infrastructure should be prioritized for reinvestment and economic development support. Broadband internet service and cell phone coverage, which is inconsistent, is an area where the County can promote improvements.

**Chapter IX**, The Health and Public Safety, discusses healthy connected communities, access to health providers, and emergency services. The County has recently completed a Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan with extensive data on health and wellness. Improved infrastructure and recreational trails for walking and bicycling can help improve community health. A Complete Streets policy provides that roadway improvements need to consider the safe, convenient access and mobility of all users, not just automobiles. The goal is to encourage more people to choose an alternative to driving for short trips, which reduces congestion and promotes healthy activity. This policy is particularly important within the city and village centers, where it bolsters efforts at Placemaking, providing benefits beyond healthy living. The County Planning Board has adopted a Complete Streets policy. This policy could also be utilized by County Public Works and localities for a more comprehensive approach.

The Chapter also discusses emergency services. Nearly all fire coverage and most emergency medical service in the County is volunteer-based. The County needs to continue to monitor the level of service provided. For a rural county, medical services are reasonably available, although

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some residents must journey outside the County for specialized treatment. Olean General Hospital is an important resource, as is the Sheriff's Department.

**Chapter X**, The Vision for the Future, discusses growth areas and conservation areas, and outlines the goals, objectives and strategies for the future vision of the County. The County's cities and major villages (including larger hamlets) are identified as growth areas. These locations benefit from prior investment in infrastructure and have traditionally served as the County's population centers. It makes sense to promote reinvestment in these areas. Conservation areas include ecologically sensitive lands, as well as land within the County's Agricultural Districts. Growth should be limited in these areas. The recommended goals are:

**GOAL #1: Cattaraugus County Will Retain Its Vital, Rural Character**

Supports protecting the natural beauty, farmland, forests, and strong communities that makes up the County. This goal recognizes that this character contributes to the local economy and quality of life. Encouraging growth in areas with development will keep those areas strong while preserving rural character and protecting environmentally sensitive areas.

**GOAL #2: Cattaraugus County Will Have a Strong, Sustainable Economy Where Residents Can Support Their Families and Their Quality Of Life**

Promotes economic development opportunities, supporting local businesses, attracting and retaining a skilled workforce, and nurturing entrepreneurship. This goal highlights the importance of investing in infrastructure in support of economic development, including roads and high-speed internet. It recognizes strong partnerships between the public and private sectors contributing to a healthy economy.

**GOAL #3: Cattaraugus County Will Preserve and Promote Its Agricultural Heritage and Economy**

Agriculture remains an important component of the County. This goal recognizes the need to sustain the agricultural sector into the future, and supports the policies of the County's Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan.

**GOAL #4: Cattaraugus County Will Promote Tourism and Foster Local Arts and Cultural Organizations**

Acknowledges the importance of tourism to the County's economy, and supports the role of the arts and cultural communities, local colleges, and the unique cultures in Cattaraugus County in fostering tourism. It also encourages the development of a wider network of recreational trails, including hiking, bicycling, snowmobile, equestrian and water-based "blue trails."

**GOAL #5: Cattaraugus County Will Protect Its Important Environmental Assets – For Both Their Ecological and Their Economic Value**

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Supports stewardship of the County's wetlands, forests, mineral resources, rivers and other environmental assets. This goal supports public education about how these features contribute to the health of the environment, the economy, rural character and quality of life. It encourages better coordination among municipalities for protecting assets, such as streams, that cross municipal boundaries. It also supports the policies outlined in the Cattaraugus County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

## **GOAL #6: Cattaraugus County Will Revitalize and Restore Its Cities, Villages, and Hamlets as Strong, Attractive, Vital Centers**

Supports investment in the County's existing centers (cities, villages and hamlets) to create healthy, attractive, safe places to live. These areas should be the priority growth areas and the focus of private and public sector investment.

## **GOAL #7: Cattaraugus County Will Promote a Greater Range of Options for Transportation and Housing for Its Residents**

Promotes a well-maintained road network; expansion of public transportation options, including creative approaches such as ride shares; and a wider range of housing options for all users.

## **GOAL #8: Cattaraugus County Will Promote Healthy and Safe Communities**

Recognizes the central role the County plays in promoting healthy, safe, connected communities. It supports improved pedestrian and bicycle networks. It recognizes the need to support the emergency services providers; and the need to provide excellent health care facilities and services.

**Chapter XI**, The Implementation, outlines an implementation strategy for the County. It is recommended that the County Planning Board or other entity be designated as a Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee. This Committee would take responsibility for overseeing and tracking progress toward achieving the goals of the Plan. Tools that are available to the County for implementation include GML Section 239 reviews, advocacy, education, capital planning, grants, budgeting, and specific projects and policies. It is recommended that the Implementation Committee periodically assess what has been accomplished and celebrate successes. Finally, it is recommended that the County Legislature seeks to keep the Plan up-to-date with periodic amendments and revisions to reflect changing circumstances.

The Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan is an important tool for creating a healthy, vibrant and sustainable community. It sets forth a shared vision for the County and its municipalities, as well as State and Federal agencies. It is a useful tool to guide decision making provided in a series of goals, objectives, and strategies for moving forward toward that vision. Its implementation will improve the quality of life of the County's residents.

## **I. Introduction**

### **A. Purpose of Plan**

Cattaraugus County adopted its first and only Comprehensive Plan in 1978, nearly 40 years ago. While there have been many planning studies, reports and other initiatives in the intervening years, there has been no official update to the Comprehensive Plan to reflect the goals of the County and its residents, and to establish actions to guide future activity in the County.

This Plan Update reflects current priorities and policies, and updates the County's vision for the future. It provides abundant information about current conditions, trends, and issues facing the County; and it sets forth a shared set of goals and priorities for the County. The recommendations provide specific actions and policies intended to help achieve that shared vision.

It places an emphasis on promoting quality economic development and protecting the positive features and resources of the County as articulated by the public, while including a realistic assessment of the issues the County faces and the challenges that must be addressed.

The Plan identifies future projects and potential funding sources. It promotes coordination among municipalities and an enhanced quality of life for the County's residents. The County has no direct influence over zoning, but the vision articulated here provides guidance to the County's municipalities. It will help our cities, towns and villages work toward a common goal: a healthy and sustainable economy, environment and populace.

### **B. Participants**

The development of the Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan was led by the County's Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism, with the support of the Cattaraugus County Planning Board. Wendel was hired by Cattaraugus County to facilitate the planning process.

The Plan was developed with public input and reflects the voice of the residents, businesses and public leaders of the County. The process of developing the Plan stretched over more than a year: incorporating public input from a variety of sources, including a series of public input meetings, for a total of six sessions; and a survey of the public that reached over 300 residents. Information about the progress of the Plan was posted regularly on the County's website and project team members also contacted stakeholders and interest groups for specific input during the course of the planning effort. This Plan also builds upon recently completed studies and reports, which also incorporated public input.

The result of this outreach is a strong consensus on the direction for the County.

## C. Contents of the Plan

**Chapter II**, The Planning Context, describes previous County planning efforts as well as regional planning efforts that the Comprehensive Plan is built upon.

**Chapter III**, The County, provides an overview of Cattaraugus County, including its history, powers and authorities, organizational structure (summarizing the roles and duties of various County departments), County budget allocations, and the municipal structure within the County. It notes that the County has certain powers and authorities to promote sustainable growth and development, but it does not have direct control over land use, zoning, or development. This authority is seated with individual municipalities. However, the County does serve in an advisory role when a land use issue arises. In the spirit of sustainable growth and development, the County partners with its 2 cities, 9 villages, 32 towns, and the Seneca Nation of Indians.

**Chapter IV** describes The People living and working in the County providing an overview of demographics, employment and education.

**Chapter V** describes The Economy: economic development and its economic base. Employment based on employers and major industries are discussed in detail: manufacturing, agriculture, mineral resources, and forestry/new forest economy.

**Chapter VI** provides an overview of the County's Tourism efforts: recreational resources; recreational trails; and arts, cultural resources.

**Chapter VII** provides an overview of the County's Natural Environment: topographic features, watersheds and major streams, aquifers, wetlands, floodplains/floodways/special flood hazard areas. This Chapter also provides a summary of the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**Chapter VIII** provides an overview of the County's Infrastructure, including roadways, rail, air, transit, water and sewer, electric, broadband internet access, and cellular phone service.

**Chapter IX** describes The Health and Public Safety of the County, including access to health providers and emergency services. This Chapter also discusses how to create healthy, connected communities and the positive health effects.

**Chapter X** outlines The Vision for the Future for Cattaraugus County specifying the goals, objectives, and strategies, which were identified through the planning process. This Chapter also includes a discussion on growth areas and conservation areas.

**Chapter XI** outlines general guidelines for The Implementation of the Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan: framework for prioritization, process, using the Plan, and progress reporting.

The **Appendices** includes Public Information Meetings; Survey Results; Maps; and SEQR.

## II. The Planning Context

### A. Previous County Planning Efforts

This Comprehensive Plan has been built upon a number of previous County planning initiatives more specifically the previous comprehensive plan “Cattaraugus County Land Use Plan Year 2000”. Each of these prior studies included specific major goals and/or priorities, which remain relevant. The summary below lists the goals, objectives, strategies, and/or key recommendations for each study as a reference and resource.

#### 1. **Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan (2009, 2014 Update) Community Transportation Coalition of Cattaraugus County**

The purpose of the required plan is to provide a framework for the coordination of transportation services for aging adults, persons with disabilities, and individuals with economic disadvantages within the planning area. The provisions ensure that communities coordinate transportation resources provided through multiple Federal programs. A coordinated plan for human services transportation enhances transportation access, minimizes duplication of Federal services, and encourages the most cost-effective transportation possible.

This Plan, which updates the 2009 Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan, will provide a structure for the development of projects that will address the transportation needs of the targeted populations by improving coordination between the many transportation stakeholders (agencies, clients, operators and regulatory entities). The Plan is intended to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of transportation services provided in the area by reducing service duplications, identifying and addressing service gaps, extending the range of services available throughout the area, maximizing interagency cooperation, and prioritizing future investment strategies.

#### 2. **Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (2013) Cattaraugus County Department of Public Works, Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism, Cattaraugus County Office of Real Properties/GIS, and Cattaraugus County Office of Emergency Services**

The Cattaraugus County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan was to take each natural hazard and address problems that could arise from each specific event. From these problem statements, goals were addressed for each hazard, and then objectives and action items were identified after reviewing web sites and other mitigation resources.

The purpose of the Plan is to develop new implementation Action Items to mitigate impacts from the following identified natural hazards: winter storm, flooding, severe storm, ice storm, tornado, wildfire, landslide and dam failure.

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## **A. Winter Storms**

Goal A1 – Reduce health and safety risk to Cattaraugus County citizens in the event of future winter storm events.

Goal A2 – Reduce potential of infrastructure damages from future winter storm events

## **B. Floods (including Flash Floods)**

Goal B1 – Reduce loss of life and raise public awareness about flood hazards, flood safety, and flood damage protection measures.

Goal B2 – Protect new and existing structures and infrastructure, as well as replace undersized and repeatedly damaged infrastructure.

Goal B3 – Ensure that streams, drainage ways, and drainage structures are maintained to minimize the potential for obstruction of flow.

Goal B4 – Clean Debris from creeks, waterways, and drainage structures.

Goal B5 – Identify/Acquire Repetitive Loss Properties.

## **C. Severe Storms**

Goal C1 – Reduce loss of life and risk of damage to utility infrastructure in Cattaraugus County in the event of a severe storm event.

## **D. Ice Storms**

Goal D1 – Reduce loss of life and raise public awareness about ice storm events and how to respond.

Goal D2 – Reduce loss of life and risk of damage to infrastructure in Cattaraugus County in the event of an ice storm event.

## **E. Tornado**

Goal E1 – Reduce loss of life and safety risk to the community during the occurrence of a future tornado event.

Goal E2 – Reduce losses from tornado events to present and future structures in Cattaraugus County.

## **F. Wildfire**

Goal F1 – Reduce health and safety risk to Cattaraugus County residents in the event of future wildfires.

Goal F2 – Reduce threat to existing and future structures from wildfires.

## **G. Landslides**

Goal G1 – Reduce the danger to the public and damage to private property/infrastructure in Cattaraugus County in the event of a landslide.

## **E. Dam Failure**

Goal H1 – Reduce health and safety risk to Cattaraugus County residents in the event of future dam failures.

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## **3. Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan (2007)** **Agricultural and Community Development Services (ACDS), LLC**

The Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan is intended to encourage long-term policy formation in support of agriculture, while providing a specific short-term framework to guide local programs regarding specific agricultural economic development and land use initiatives.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

#### Ten-Year Objective

Create an economic environment where traditional and non-traditional agricultural operations thrive using a full complement of economic and business development tools.

Economic Development initiatives will focus on improving the structural conditions under which agriculture operates by directing public resources to enhance industry infrastructure, recruit and retain valuable input and output industries, integrate farming and non-farming communities through education and outreach, create agriculturally related jobs, improve wages and proprietor's income, enhance tax base, support supplier/vendor networks, and enhancing the quality of life.

#### Five-Year Action Plan

##### Recommendation 1

Develop an Agribusiness Retention, Expansion, and Attraction Plan

##### Recommendation 2

Support Regional Agricultural Leadership Development

##### Recommendation 3

Expand Education and Training Programs

##### Recommendation 4

Develop a Regulatory and Policy Action Program

### **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

#### Ten-Year Objective

Cattaraugus County farmers will have access to world class operational support, training, and financing to maintain and nurture continued economic viability at the farm level including transitional support for the next farming generation.

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## Five-Year Action Plan

### Recommendation 5

Enhance Business Development Programs and More Fully Incorporate the Interests of the Agriculture and Forest Products Industry

### Recommendation 6

Support Development of a Regionally Focused Forest Products and Agribusiness Enterprise Center and Incubator-Without-Walls.

### Recommendation 7

Support Broadened Access to Capital for Agribusiness

## **4. Smart Development for Quality Communities Guidebook Series (2001 – 2005)**

The Smart Development for Quality Communities Guidebook Series prepared for Cattaraugus County was comprised of eight studies focused on specific topics. The overall intent of the Quality Communities Guidebook Series is to revitalize villages and town centers, support agriculture, and promote tourism-related economic development. The eight volumes in the series included:

- Volume 1: Elements of a Countywide Vision, 2001  
Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism and Saratoga Associates
- Volume 2: A Design Guidebook for Towns and Villages in Cattaraugus County, 2001  
Randall Arendt
- Volume 3: Saving Our Villages, 2004  
Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism featuring articles by Clint Bordeaux, Sheila Burrell, George Grasser, Randall Arendt and Richard Swist
- Volume 4: A New Vision for Outdoor Recreation Trails in Cattaraugus County, 2005  
Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism
- Volume 5: Summary & Analysis for Similar Initiatives for Park-Community Economic Development, 2001  
Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism and Saratoga Associates
- Volume 6: Economic & Market Analysis for Communities in the Perimeter of Allegany State Park, 2001  
Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism and Saratoga Associates

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- Volume 7: Economic Development Strategy – Linkages Between Allegany State Park and Nearby Communities, 2002  
Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism and Saratoga Associates
- Volume 8: Growing the Equestrian Economy in Cattaraugus County, New York, 2005  
Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism, Swist Government Consulting Associates, and Houghton College Equestrian Studies Program

Cattaraugus County’s Comprehensive Planning and Design Guidebooks (Volumes 1 and 2 of Cattaraugus County’s Smart Development for Quality Communities Guidebook Series) were adopted by the Cattaraugus County Legislature in 2004 as the initial components of the County’s new Comprehensive Plan for the 21st Century. These two guidebooks, titled Elements of a Countywide Vision (Volume 1) and A Design Guidebook for Towns and Villages in Cattaraugus County (Volume 2), formed the foundation and vision for future County comprehensive planning. The overall vision for the County was stated in the first volume; “Elements of a Countywide Vision” (page 13).

“Cattaraugus County has one overarching goal and vision. It is to achieve a balance between rural and urban development trends.” This balance is needed in order to protect Cattaraugus County for future generations:

- As a place where people want to live, work, raise their children, retire and invest their earnings and futures.
- As a community of diverse interests and attractions during the four seasons of the year, with a clean environment, creating a sense of excitement and a sense of place and identity.
- As an attractive business setting, drawing people and commerce from a multi-state area and from the global economy, thereby bringing new income into Cattaraugus County and creating jobs, business opportunities and hope for the future.
- As an attractive community of mixed land uses, rural and urban, productively deployed and working cooperatively (rather than in constant conflict) for the benefit of residents, property owners, business interests, visitors and the local tax base.”

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## **5. Cattaraugus County Land Use Plan Year 2000 (June 1977, Supplement December 1982) Cattaraugus County Planning Board**

The following text of the major goals is taken verbatim from the Land Use Plan. The Plan also included additional policy statements under each goal. These policies are not included here. Some of the policies relate directly to County activities, while others are outside the direct control of County government and would require local government participation and cooperation.

### **1) Overall County Development**

To promote and protect the health, safety, economy, convenience, appearance and general welfare of the County and the municipalities therein through the comprehensive planning process, which guides the overall development of the County. (8 policies)

### **2) Agriculture**

To plan with the objective of recognizing the need to maintain and encourage agriculture as a viable cornerstone of the economy of Cattaraugus County. (6 policies)

### **3) Parks & Recreation**

To provide park and recreation facilities and programs to meet the variety of needs of the growing population and to use as a method of expanding the County's economic base. (6 policies)

### **4) Residential Development**

To provide "a decent home and suitable living environment for every Cattaraugus County family." To provide and encourage for all residents a variety of housing units and types within a physical setting that affords opportunities for comfortable and creative living and which permits both privacy and sociability. (14 policies)

### **5) Industrial Development**

To promote and encourage industrial development, warehouse and wholesaling development adequate to provide a stable economic base by setting aside a balanced distribution of land which will be suitable for the expansion of present industries and the attraction of new industrial activities. (5 policies)

### **6) Circulation Facilities**

To develop the transportation system in Cattaraugus County as an integrated circulation network which will provide rapid, safe and economical movement of people and goods both within the County and throughout the encompassing region. (10 policies)

### **7) Environment & Conservation**

To protect and improve the environment of Cattaraugus County. (14 policies)

## **8) Public Utilities and Services**

To provide public utilities and services at a level consistent with sound community development. (4 policies)

## **9) Educational, Cultural and Health Care Facilities**

To provide educational, cultural, and health care facilities and programs of varied types to meet the needs of the County population. (7 policies)

## **10) Public Participation**

Include the general public in all phases of the continuous comprehensive planning process, including study and analysis, plan development and plan implementation. (5 policies)

## **6. A New Look at Gravel Mining in Cattaraugus County (September 2000)**

### **(Twenty First Century Planning for the Route 16 Corridor)**

#### **Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism**

The purpose of the document is to study the impacts that the mining of aggregates may have on communities in the Route 16 Corridor, which includes Routes 98 and 417, local roads, and I-86. This report clarifies key issues and recommends a long-term action plan with a vision, and five strategies, for achieving a balanced growth throughout the corridor.

This study recommends five separate strategies for the long term (i.e., the next 50 or more years), that are designed to create a problem-solving dialogue.

Strategy No. 1: Require Full Disclosure and Mediation

Strategy No. 2: Use an Ecosystem Approach

Strategy No. 3: Improve Comprehensive Planning

Strategy No. 4: Use Zoning to Protect Reclaimed Mining Sites

Strategy No. 5: Turn Conflicts into Opportunities

## **7. Revitalizing the Route 16 Corridor (January 1998)**

### **A Strategic Development Plan for the Corridor Communities**

#### **Cattaraugus County Final Report**

#### **EastWest Planning & Development, Inc.**

### **Vision Statement**

By the year 2010 we will distinguish the Cattaraugus County Route 16 corridor as a cluster of communities which have developed an economy that provides well-paying jobs for our citizens, maintained our natural environment and rural heritage and built communities on a human scale.

### **Corridor-Wide Goals**

- Promote and protect the health, safety, economy, convenience, appearance, and general welfare of the residents and municipalities on the Route 16 corridor.

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- Create and maintain economic opportunity for corridor residents by building a diverse, sustainable high-wage economy.
- Develop programs and strategies to sustain agriculture as a viable way of life
- Maintain the Route 16 corridor communities as a quality place to live by protecting the assets and amenities present in the corridor communities including nicely lined streets, rural character, strong schools, and existing economic opportunities including tourism, recreation and agriculture.
- Enhance the development potential of the corridor by sustaining the vitality of community centers through business district revitalization, the creation of thematic businesses, and enforcement of ordinances designed to enhance land use planning and development.
- Expand commercial activity along the corridor by seeking expanded development of small specialty shops and professional services.
- Correct deficiencies in basic community infrastructure as a prerequisite to economic growth. Priority actions include the call for investment in the physical infrastructure including improvements to water, sewer, road, and housing infrastructure.
- Strengthen the corridor's civic and planning infrastructure by demonstrating an ongoing commitment to community planning, land use education and zoning development and review.
- Focus on tourism and gravel mining activities as areas needing special attention, planning and investment.
- Employ formal management of the development process through an increased emphasis on communication and coordination within and across communities.
- Develop and cultivate effective community leadership from the public and private sectors who display a commitment to balance community and business interests.
- Create a highly competent workforce by coordinating workforce development initiatives and preparing the corridor's young people for success in twenty-first century jobs.

## **8. Local Land Use and Infrastructure Study (March 1996) Cattaraugus County Summary Report The Saratoga Associates**

The objectives of this study are to: 1) identify existing and potential growth areas in Cattaraugus County; 2) recommend implementation initiatives which will ensure coordinated development Countywide; 3) identify the need to improve existing sewer, water, gas and road networks to

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facilitate desired economic development objectives; and 4) influence the location of the proposed US Route 219 freeway alignment and interchanges.

Key recommendations for County action to realize maximum benefit from long term growth opportunities include:

- Strengthen the capacity of local and County land use planning. Implement and utilize planning tools including comprehensive development planning, zoning, and sub-division and site plan regulations, particularly within the US Route 219 Corridor and other emerging growth areas where development pressure will be the highest in coming years.
- Maintain the visual integrity of the County’s highway corridors. Indiscriminate development along highway corridors erodes rural quality in visible locations. The challenge is to achieve a balance between real and urban development and retain the distinctive rural character of the County.
- Direct development to strategic areas. Create a critical mass of development in specific areas that can be readily served by existing or expanded sewer, water and gas systems, transportation networks, and other public services. The majority of residential, commercial and industrial development should occur within these growth areas. Areas outside designated growth areas are appropriate for agricultural, recreation, very low density residential, and open space uses.
- Identify and take advantage of available funding sources for economic development.
- Locate proposed US Route 219 freeway and interchanges to:
  - Preserve developable areas in the Town of Ashford
  - Relieve Ellicottville Village of truck traffic
  - Minimize negative impacts on Great Valley hamlet and development areas
  - Provide access to Seneca Nation land south of Allegheny River
  - Retain existing US 219 as a local development corridor, and avoid truncating local roads.

## **9. A Planning Agenda from the Community’s Perspective (September 1995)**

### **Cattaraugus County Goals Project Technical Report**

**Dr. David Szczerbacki and Dr. Frances Viggiani from Alfred University, in consultation with Cattaraugus County Dept. of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism**

The overall “goals project” is designed to be an important first step in the development of a comprehensive development plan for Cattaraugus County. This report is the initial cornerstone of the County “Goals” project. It identifies community values, issues and ideas for use in future planning and in formulating action steps.

The top rated goals (goals with an “Above Average importance” rating or better) are:

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1. Protect Cattaraugus County from the threat of uncontrolled waste dumps
2. Link Route 219 improvements with similar transportation improvements in Pennsylvania
3. Require accountability from and on-going discussion with Farmersville concerning waste dumping
4. Preserve and promote the agricultural sector in Cattaraugus County
5. County planning staff should continue to provide technical assistance, hold workshops, and organize joint meetings to promote regional development
6. Collect and disseminate accurate information about waste dumping
7. Promote increased communication and effective joint planning for local government bodies

## **B. Regional Planning Efforts**

Counties are major players in regional planning efforts across New York State. All Counties participate in one of ten Regional Economic Development Councils created by Governor Cuomo in 2011. The Western New York Regional Economic Development Council (WNYREDC) covers a five county region of Erie, Niagara, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, and Allegany. The Chair of the Cattaraugus County Legislature serves as an Ex-Officio member on the WNYREDC.

The Director of the Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism is a member of the Southern Tier West Regional Planning and Development Board (STWRPDB), which conducts planning for the three-county region of Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, and Allegany.

This Comprehensive Plan has been developed with recognition of the priorities and strategies of regional plans prepared for either the five or three county region. These regional plans have identified goals for a region that includes Cattaraugus County. Therefore, it is important for the County to identify how these plans align with locally-driven priorities, and how these priorities fit into the overall plan for the region. There are three benefits to aligning the County's planning efforts with regional efforts: 1) Supports regional progress; 2) Strengthens County's initiatives; and 3) Strengthens any grant applications for State or Federal funding that the County puts forward.

The following provides a brief synopsis of three regional plans; two for the five county region and one for the three county region.

- 1. Western New York Regional Economic Development Strategic Plan “A Strategy for Prosperity” (updated annually)  
Western New York Regional Economic Development Council**

The Western New York Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) prepared its first strategic economic development plan, “*A Strategy for Prosperity in Western New York*”, in 2011. The REDC plan covers the five counties of Western New York. Its primary focus is economic development, concentrating on creating “a more dynamic and sustainable economy for

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our region and all its citizens.” The document strongly promotes “smart growth” on the logic that reinvestment in areas already served with infrastructure helps revitalize existing corridors and centers, clean-up brownfield sites and protect environmentally sensitive areas. These priorities are very much in line with what public input indicated are priorities for Cattaraugus County.

The study identifies eight target industry sectors, listed below. In terms of prioritizing implementation actions, the Strategy states that projects should be inclusive, promote “smart growth” principles, be oriented toward young adults, build upon the region’s strengths, have a regional impact and improve the region’s image. Criteria for projects should assess whether they help create or retain jobs for the region; that they maximize the ‘return on investment’ (i.e. the money invested helps leverage other investment); and that they are ready for implementation.

The document is updated annually to assess progress toward achieving its goals. It also forms the basis for allocation of many State grant funds, and the annual update identifies priority projects and strategies to help guide funding decisions.

<b>Regional Target Industry</b>	<b>Cattaraugus County</b>
Advanced Manufacturing	Strength
Agriculture	Strength
Bi-National Logistics	--
Energy	Strength
Health and Life Sciences	Moderate (Upper Allegheny Health System)
Higher Education	Moderate (St. Bonaventure; JCC)
Professional Services	Moderate
Tourism	Strength

The Western New York Regional Economic Development Strategic Plan is intended to align economic development activities across the region, which encompasses Erie, Niagara, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties. It also serves as the basis for allocating State grant funds. It is updated each year, but the goals remain constant:

**1) Strengthen the Fundamentals of the Region**

- a. Job Readiness – Preparing Our Workforce
- b. Implementing Smart Growth
- c. Fostering a Culture of Entrepreneurship

**2) Building Target Industry Sectors**

- a. Advanced Manufacturing
- b. Agriculture
- c. Bi-national Logistics
- d. Energy
- e. Health and Life Services
- f. Higher Education

- g. Professional Services
- h. Tourism

## **2. Western New York Regional Sustainability Plan (2013) Regional Planning Consortium**

The Western New York Regional Sustainability Plan was prepared by a five county consortium of regional stakeholders and the public. It was funded by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) under the Cleaner, Greener Communities program. The Plan is intended as a guide for assisting both public and private sector entities to make more sustainable decisions. The Plan focuses on balancing social and economic growth with being good stewards of natural resources. Its strategies address reducing greenhouse gases; enhancing the regional economy; improving governance; promoting sustainable land uses; conserving natural resources; revitalizing Main Streets; improving the economic viability of agriculture; encouraging sustainable energy use and production; and improving and enhancing air quality. The document also has a strong focus on educating the public about sustainability issues.

Recommendations were developed in six categories, which are all relevant to Cattaraugus County:

- Energy
- Land Use and Livable Communities
- Transportation
- Agriculture and Forestry
- Water Management
- Waste Management

The goals for each category are provided below:

### **(1) Energy Goals**

1. Promote energy efficiency and conservation efforts throughout WNY in the most environmentally sound and cost-effective way, which provide access to such efforts for all incomes and business sizes and results in a real reduction of GHG emissions.
2. Increase renewable energy generation in the region, including technologies listed in the NYS Renewable Portfolio Standard. Applications would include solar water heating, photovoltaic, landfill gas, wind, biomass, hydroelectric, fuel cells, anaerobic digestions, tidal energy, wave energy, ocean thermal, ethanol, methanol, biodiesel, and fuel cells using renewable fuel, and geothermal.
3. Upgrade the existing conventional energy infrastructure in the region in an economically and environmentally sustainable way.

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4. Support innovative energy projects that are consistent with the sustainability goals of the region and that encourage economic development.

## **(2) Land Use and Livable Communities Goals**

1. Increase the number of local municipalities that are developing, adopting, and implementing “smart growth” policies.
2. Develop a mechanism for regional land use planning assistance and collaboration.
3. Encourage and focus development in areas served by existing infrastructure.
4. Encourage the expansion of location-efficient housing that increases access to employment centers and transportation options.
5. Preserve, protect, and enhance the viability of agriculture, including agricultural lands and urban agriculture.
6. Encourage, enhance, and coordinate regional park, greenway, and waterfront planning to connect the public with the region’s natural resources and promote economic development and recreational opportunities.

## **(3) Transportation Goals**

1. Increase and improve alternatives to driving alone (public transit, car/vanpool, park and ride, bicycle, walking) through interagency partnerships and cooperative efforts, especially in serving transportation disadvantaged populations.
2. Improve regional fuel efficiency, especially in public and commercial fleets and through public and private investment in infrastructure and planning to increase the use of alternative fuels.
3. Prioritize transportation infrastructure projects in line with regional smart growth efforts in existing communities and corridors, especially through projects that exemplify “Complete Streets” principles.

## **(4) Agricultural and Forestry Goals**

1. Strengthen the economic viability of agriculture and forestry enterprises.
2. Achieve more efficient uses of energy inputs and maximize use of agriculture and forestry by-products for energy production.
3. Increase support from government officials and the public for the protection of farmland, continued use of farmland for agricultural purposes, and for strengthening the business climate for agriculture and forestry in the region.
4. Promote environmentally sustainable management systems for the agriculture and forestry sector.

## **(5) Water Management Goals**

1. Improve regional water quality through a focus on the identification and management of pollution sources and protection of healthy watersheds.
2. Improve regional water management systems and increase efficiency of infrastructure.
3. Address regional water quantity concerns through a focus on flooding, storm water/runoff, infiltration, and regional water use.
4. Ensure better coordination of water management with land use and conservation planning and decisions regarding where future development occurs, including public access to water resources.

## **(6) Waste Management Goals**

1. Reduce the amount of municipal solid waste (MSW) that is disposed of (via landfills or incineration) by reducing waste generation and/or increasing recycling.
2. Maximize the diversion of organic waste from disposal facilities (landfills and incinerators) and the beneficial reuse of the organic material.
3. Reduce the amount of construction and demolition (C&D) waste that is disposed of by reducing waste generation and/or increasing recycling.
4. Increase the number of waste transport vehicles that use alternative fuels.

### **3. Southern Tier West Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Southern Tier West Regional Planning and Development Board**

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Southern Tier West Region is prepared annually by the Southern Tier West Regional Planning and Development Board. This document is required in order to obtain financial and technical assistance from the United States Economic Development Administration (EDA). The CEDS outlines locally-developed strategies to improve economic conditions in the area. It provides a detailed look at existing economic conditions, an analysis of opportunities and constraints, and sets forth economic development goals for the region. The document also outlines priority projects, programs and activities for funding through EDA. The CEDS has set forth the following five goals:

- (1) **Brainpower** – to develop a skilled labor force capable of creating a knowledge-based and innovation-based economy, and that encourages businesses to start, locate and expand in the area.

- (2) **Innovation and entrepreneurial networks** – to provide the process and the temperament and skills to translate ideas into wealth through new products, new services, and new markets, and to enhance the development of value-added businesses and other businesses that will augment and/or diversify the region’s economic base.
- (3) **Quality, connected places** – to create quality, connected, safe, convenient and healthy places to live and work, that make the region attractive for residential, commercial, and industrial development.
- (4) **Branding and story-telling** – to create value for the region’s products and services for international buyers, and to create the sense of identity necessary to spur collaboration throughout the region.
- (5) **Collaborative leadership** – to create places in the region in which focused conversations about complex issues can take place and solutions can be agreed upon and implemented, and the improvement of regional coordination and cooperative partnering efforts.

#### **4. Southern Tier West Regional Transportation Strategy (2009) Southern Tier West Regional Planning and Development Board**

##### **Vision**

Southern Tier West’s vision for a regional transportation system is one which provides adequate passenger and freight service as measured in quality of service, timeliness of service, and cost of service both within the region and with respect to origins and destinations outside the region. The region’s transportation system should be scaled to a size proportionate to demographic needs, as well as be designed to allow modification as needs, technologies, economics, and the environment change. The region’s transportation system should be capable of being maintained effectively at a cost reasonable for the return. Improvements to the system should be justifiable in terms of cost-benefit analysis. The region’s transportation system should promote both economic development and quality of life, insure safety of users and the general public, secure against natural and man-made threats, and be developed in accordance with sound environmental and conservation principles.

Goal 1: Support the region’s economic vitality.

Goal 2: Increase transportation system safety.

Goal 3: Increase transportation system security.

Goal 4: Increase accessibility and mobility options.

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Goal 5: Protect and enhance the environment; promote energy conservation, improve quality of life; promote consistency between transportation improvements and the state/local planned growth and economic development patterns.

Goal 6: Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes, for people and freight.

Goal 7: Promote efficient transportation system management and operation.

Goal 8: Emphasize the preservation of the region's existing transportation system.

## **5. US 219 Planning Study, Springville to Salamanca, New York (2009) Hatch Mott MacDonald; Peter J. Smith & Company, Inc.; Urban Engineers**

The original construction of US 219 consolidated development to locations adjacent to freeway interchanges and spurred economic growth to Springville, at the south terminus of the freeway. The positive contributions of this construction has not been realized along the remaining two-lane section of road, however, and the result has been sprawled intermittent development and less than desirable economic growth. The need for completion of the freeway has been well documented both by Cattaraugus County and its communities, and confirmed by the NYSDOT in their US 219 FEIS:

- Maximization of the potential for economic growth both locally and regionally.
- A significant reduction in the corridor accident rate.
- Continuity of the state and regional transportation system.
- A reduction in travel time between Springville and Salamanca by 11 minutes.
- Every local government in the project area has endorsed the freeway, as it will drive their economic development plans.

Studies conclude with the same point: that a US 219 four lane freeway will result in a large degree of economic development in an area that has been depressed from loss of agricultural and industrial employment. These studies anticipate increases in:

- Tourism, both summer and winter
- Intermodal distribution: rail and freight access and transfer
- Industry Development: access to Buffalo area population base and resources
- Commercial and Residential Development: corridor induced and controlled
- Improved Access to the Seneca Nation Casino

## III. The County

Cattaraugus County is located in rural southwestern New York State. It is bordered by Pennsylvania to the south, Chautauqua County to the west and Allegany County to the east. The northern boundary of the County is formed by the Cattaraugus Creek, which separates Cattaraugus from Erie and Wyoming Counties. Allegheny River flows through the southern portion of the County.

Cattaraugus County is a very scenic area. It is characterized by wooded hillsides that form the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, interspersed with farm fields and attractive settlements. Cattaraugus Creek runs through the picturesque Zoar Valley, a protected conservation area that is home to old growth forest and unique ecological features. Allegany State Park, the largest State Park in New York, occupies 65,000 acres along the southern central boundary. The County is also home to 2 cities, Olean and Salamanca, 9 villages and 32 towns. In addition, there are a number of unincorporated historic hamlets that contribute to the rural character of the County. The Allegany, Cattaraugus and Oil Springs Territories are independent areas in the County, under the governance of the Seneca Nation of Indians.

### A. History of Cattaraugus County

Cattaraugus County was formed in 1808 from Genesee County. The County was originally named "Town of Olean". Under the act of its formation, Cattaraugus County was provisionally annexed to Niagara County until there were 500 taxable residents qualified to vote for members of the New York Assembly. A town meeting held on May 16, 1812 resulted in the decision to divide the Town of Olean on the line between the third and fourth tiers of the township. The town lying north of said line would be called Ischua (later known as Franklinville). The area south of said line was designated as Olean. The Legislature passed an act on June 16, 1812

resulting in the division of the town as stated. In 1814, the Town of Perry was established in the western part of the County. In 1817, after acquiring the required number of taxable inhabitants qualified to vote, Cattaraugus County was chartered as it is today. More towns were incorporated as the County gained in population.



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The first court house and jail were built in Ellicottville in 1817-18. The courts and County business were conducted there until 1868, when the County seat was moved to Little Valley. The original court house, designated by state and federal agencies as a historical site, has been restored following a 1969 fire and is now used for Town and Village of Ellicottville offices.

The first settlers travelled to western New York both overland and by way of streams and rivers. Many arrived in the area by following

Cattaraugus Creek to Zoar Valley. Due to its heavy use, the Allegheny River was made a public highway, by law, in 1807. The earliest roads were paths used by the Indians. Actual roads were very limited and none of them were more than barely passable with an oxcart. On an 1802 map from the Holland Land Company, the earliest evidence of a traveled road is shown beginning in the northwest corner of the County at Cattaraugus Creek through Perrysburg and Dayton to Conewango Creek. It is believed that this "bridle path" had been cut by the surveyors of the Holland Land Company in 1798 and is located in the area of the present State Route 62. In 1810 the first road connecting this area with the outside world was opened from Canandaigua to Olean. Also, the forerunner of State Route 16 opened from Buffalo to Springville to Franklinville and then to Hamilton/Olean Point. In 1813, the precursor of Route 17 was authorized from Cerestown, Pennsylvania to Hamilton/Olean Point and on to Chautauqua Lake.

The Holland Land Company built a road east to west across the County to connect their holdings. It became an emigrant road for those travelling to northern Ohio and provided a route into the County that became known as the Old Chautauqua Road. As the years passed, drovers used this road to travel with cattle and other animals for market in New York. Another route of travel was the Genesee Valley Canal, which was completed from Rochester to connect to Olean in 1856. With on-going construction of railroad lines, the usefulness of the canal decreased over the years and it was ultimately closed in 1878. Travel was greatly improved with the opening of the railroads. The first rail line was completed to Dayton in 1851.

The inhabitants of the area prior to the settlers were the Seneca Nation of Indians. They are the largest of six Native American nations comprising the Haudenosaunee or Iroquois Confederacy or Six Nations. The Seneca are known as the "Keeper of the Western Door," for the Seneca are the westernmost of the Six Nations. In the Seneca language they are also known as O-non-dowa-gah, (pronounced: Oh-n'own-dough-wahgah) or "Great Hill People". They currently have three Territories in Cattaraugus County with over 8,000 enrolled members.

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The pioneers who came to this frontier were not wealthy people. The wild, unsettled area, with lack of conveniences, did not offer an incentive to those who were living comfortably in nice homes in the eastern portion of New York State to trek to the western part. Those who did travel here by ox-cart were hard working people looking to better their lives. As they arrived in the heavily forested territory, the first tree felled became a part of their home, a rough one room log cabin. As trees were plentiful and money was scarce, the land was cleared for grazing the few animals that accompanied the families as well as for food and crops.

Many of those who settled in Cattaraugus County originally came from New England where hardwood ashes were converted to lye. The lye could then be transformed into black salts, which became a very profitable means for a farmer to earn ready cash and to clear his land for planting crops. In years of poor crop growth, the black salts could be sold to provide a means of paying the mortgage and buying essential goods. The black salts were further refined into a product called pearlash which was used in the production of glass and ceramics.

A source of revenue far greater than could ever be realized from the black salts, however, was the lumber to be found in the dense forests of pine and hemlock in the area. Huge quantities of lumber were floated down the Allegheny, Ohio, and Mississippi Rivers in the early days from Cattaraugus County. This process began in 1807 when the first raft of lumber left Olean Point and headed to Pittsburgh. When the forest resource was finally depleted, a shift was made to farming. Free of the forest, the land could be planted for corn and other crops. Cattle were purchased as there was plentiful grazing available on the rich fertile soil. Several cheese factories were founded in the County to handle the milk not used on the farm. Cheese was shipped to New York City and to England. Industries during this period from early 1800 through the later 1800s included lumber mills; chemical plants; mills producing shingles, kindling wood and building materials; cheese box factories; and basket and barrel factories. Dairying and making of cheese and butter kept many of the residents busy. Tanning factories were located near the other mills to process hides, including hides from wild animals. The bounties on the wolves (\$60 per head), bear and other predatory animals were another source of income for residents. Several of the predatory animals were hunted to almost extinction in the County.



During the early 1900's roads were improving and horses were widely used, although other transportation options were increasing. Motor vehicles were beginning to appear in the County.

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And let's not forget the brief run of the street car and trolleys in the early 1900's. Canned milk was being taken to processing plants outside the County, thus many of the cheese factories were closing or had closed. During the 1920's and 1930's many inventions were appearing including farm machinery, cars, and telephones. Also, electricity was being supplied to the rural areas, changing residents' quality of life.



The Amish first settled in Cattaraugus County in 1949, moving from Ohio and Pennsylvania. They continue to this day to maintain a large presence in the County, especially the western third. During the 1950's there was a population shift. The rural areas lost population as many farm family members sought outside work and moved off the farm. The onset of

railroads opened the County to commerce and industries and contributed to this population shift. Olean became an oil refinery center, Salamanca was a railroad hub and Allegany was known for outstanding fresh vegetables. Gowanda became the site of America's largest glue factory and Franklinville and Little Valley each specialized in cutlery. Salamanca also boasted woolen mills and furniture manufacturing.

Evidence of early school construction can be found in practically every town. This may be attributed, in part, to the Holland Land Company providing free grants of land parcels for school sites. Rural common schools were shown on two vintage Cattaraugus County maps, one dated 1905 and the other 1915. Common schools were shown in every one of the 33 towns at that time. The combined number of schools, both rural one room and village multi-room schools in 1915 was 308. The education of the children in Cattaraugus County was under town supervision for over 100 years. Many factors led to the closing of the rural one room schoolhouses, including changes in transportation and the movement to centralize school districts. By the 1950's, no one room schoolhouses remained. In addition to the common schools, several special schools were established in various communities. Founded in 1877, the Western Society for the Protection of Homeless and Dependent Children was known as the Randolph Children's Home. Randolph was the home of the Chamberlain Military Institute founded in 1904 and operated as a military academy until 1915. Higher education services are offered by the Board of Cooperative



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Education Vocational/Technical Centers, Jamestown Community College, and St. Bonaventure University (chartered in 1875).

Cattaraugus County is fortunate to have a number of world class recreation areas and facilities. Allegany State Park, created in 1921, is the largest park in the State's system and covers over 65,000 acres of forests and lakes. The County-operated Onoville Marina on the Allegheny Reservoir is the largest inland marina in New York State. Created as a result of the construction of the Kinzua Dam across the Allegheny River in the mid 1960's, Onoville offers campsites and dock space. Holiday Valley and HoliMont are two major ski resorts located in the County. Cattaraugus County is also home to the Seneca Allegany Casino and Hotel. Opened on a small scale in 2004 by the Seneca Nation of Indians, the completed larger facility opened in 2007 and a hotel tower expansion was made in 2012. The Casino and Hotel provides world class gaming; entertainment; special events and meeting spaces; spa and salon services; a pool and fitness center; and award-winning dining.

## **B. Historic Places**

Cattaraugus County's rich and diverse history is still evident in some existing structures and districts. Thirty-five of these historic buildings and districts deemed worthy of preservation are currently listed in the New York State and National Registers of Historic Places. These include homes, government and commercial buildings, schools, churches, cemeteries, and several historic districts. Listing properties in the State and National Registers often changes the way communities perceive their historic places and strengthens the credibility of efforts by private citizens and public officials to preserve these resources as living parts of our communities. The listing honors a property by recognizing its importance to Cattaraugus County and encourages heritage tourism and further community revitalization.



**Cattaraugus County Locations Listed on the  
National Register of Historic Places**

<b>Name on the Register</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Date Listed</b>
1 Bank of Gowanda	Gowanda	2001
2 Beardsley-Oliver House	Olean	2008
3 Bedford Corners Historic District	Portville	2003
4 Bryant Hill Cemetery	Ellicottville	2003
5 Cattaraugus Commercial Historic District	Cattaraugus	2014
6 Conklin Mountain House	Olean	1998
7 East Otto Union School	East Otto	2004
8 Ellicottville Historic District	Ellicottville	1991
9 Ellicottville Town Hall	Ellicottville	1973
10 First Congregational Church of Otto	Otto	1999
11 Gladden Windmill	Napoli	1973
12 Gowanda Village Historic District	Gowanda	1986
13 House at 520 Ho-Sta-Geh Rd.	Olean	2009
14 Jefferson Street Cemetery	Ellicottville	2012
15 John J. Aiken House	Ellicottville	2013
16 Leon Historical Society Museum, Grange #795	Leon	2014
17 Leon United Methodist Church	Leon	2000
18 North Lyndon Schoolhouse	Lyndon	2000
19 Oak Hill Park Historic District	Olean	1997
20 Olean Armory	Olean	1995
21 Olean Public Library	Olean	1985
22 Olean School Number 10	Olean	2010
23 Park Square Historic District	Franklinville	1986
24 Pfeiffer-Wheeler American Chestnut Cabin	Portville	2002
25 Portville Free Library	Portville	1991
26 Randolph Historic District	Randolph	2012
27 Simeon B. Robbins House	Franklinville	2003
28 Salem Welsh Church	Freedom	2001
29 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Complex	Olean	2001
30 Temple B'Nai Israel	Olean	2012
31 Union and State Streets Historic District	Olean	2015
32 US Post Office	Little Valley	1989
33 US Post Office	Olean	1989
34 William E. Wheeler House	Portville	2002
35 Zawatski Site	Great Valley	1982

## **C. Powers and Authorities: What the County Does**

Counties in New York State were originally established by the State as a means of providing basic governmental functions at a local level. In the Colonial era, Counties functioned as an administrative arm of the State and had a limited role, which was first and foremost, maintaining the public peace. They also were responsible for keeping records, such as deeds, enforcing State laws, and managing the election process.

The role of Counties expanded as New York State became more populated. Counties began providing a wider range of functions to meet local demands for more services, and to address the more complex needs of a modernizing society. Counties continue to administer basic State mandated services, such as the County courts, the jail, and social services, and also are responsible for an increasingly complex array of State programs. In addition, Counties have taken on jurisdiction over a wide range of local functions, such as roadways, infrastructure, economic development, public health and many other roles. Counties also play an important role in coordinating regional efforts and in assisting and advising the local municipalities within their jurisdiction. These expanded roles for Counties are locally-driven, and there is a wide range of models across the State for how Counties function and how their administrative structures are organized.

The State's Statute of Local Governments grants certain powers to local governments. In the case of Counties, these powers include the right to adopt ordinances, establish rules and regulations, acquire real and personal property, purchase and operate recreational facilities, and set and collect taxes and fees. The County, as a unit of government, can directly provide infrastructure, such as roadways, water, and sewage; and/or they can establish districts to facilitate the development of infrastructure. They provide parks, trails and recreational facilities, and can purchase lands for recreational or open space purposes. They are involved with providing transportation services, particularly for special populations, such as seniors and persons with disabilities. Counties have a powerful role in conservation of important resources through their ability to establish soil and water conservation districts, agricultural districts and environmental management councils. Counties are influential in economic development, helping to coordinate business assistance programs, workforce training, tourism and other incentive programs. The County has significant influence through its policies and programs, and by how the County allocates its spending, particularly for capital projects.

In New York State, Counties' role in land use issues is indirect. By New York State law, authority over zoning, subdivision and site plan review is seated (Home Rule) in individual cities, villages, and towns. The County cannot directly decide what can be done on a specific parcel of land, unless it has direct ownership of that property. However, the County has an advisory role, through the County Planning Board, over certain land use actions that may have a regional impact. This "239-l and "239-m" review power, vested under State General Municipal

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Law, gives the County Planning Board authority to review projects located near a State or County facility, such as a park, a roadway, stream, or institution, or near a municipal boundary. Municipal comprehensive plans are also referred to the County Planning Board for review and comment. This power is advisory; the County Planning Board may recommend changes or revisions to an action, or recommend against the action, but the local city, town or village can override the County's recommendation with a super-majority vote. However, municipalities generally appreciate the advice and technical assistance provided by the County Planning Board, which can help improve the quality of proposed development projects.

This County Comprehensive Plan also is intended to provide guidance and advice to local municipalities on sustainable practices that will improve the quality of land use and development in Cattaraugus County. It sets forth general recommendations on where growth is preferred, based both on good planning policies as well as significant public input. It also identifies sensitive areas that are recommended for conservation or protection. Particularly for the 14 municipalities without their own comprehensive plan, this County Comprehensive Plan can provide the basis for taking a more regional, sustainable approach to municipal activities.

## **D. Organization of Cattaraugus County**

As noted above, in New York State, Counties have differing models of governance. Cattaraugus County has an elected County Legislature. There are 21 representatives sitting on Cattaraugus County's Legislature, representing 10 different legislative districts. Each legislator serves for a four-year term. In addition, the Legislature has established a number of committees to oversee various areas of responsibility. The nine standing committees include: County Operations; Development and Agriculture; Finance; Human Services; Labor Relations; Public Safety; Public Works; Senior Services; and Strategic Planning.

Cattaraugus County government performs a range of services: general government administration, public safety, health, public works, public assistance, and miscellaneous other services. As required by the New York State law governing Counties, Cattaraugus County has several elected offices, which include District Attorney, Sheriff, Coroner, and County Clerk. Other offices required by the State include the Courts, Probation and the Public Defender. The Board of Elections oversees voter registration and administration of elections within the County. In addition, there are many other County departments responsible for implementing County governmental functions. The following discussion addresses some of these departments and their functions.

### **Administrator's Office**

Since 1986, Cattaraugus County has had an appointed County Administrator who oversees administrative management of the County. The County Administrator coordinates daily operations on behalf of the Legislature, which retains final administrative authority. The intent of

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the position is to support the efficient governance of the County. The County Administrator's Office is responsible for the following, as authorized by the act establishing the office:

- Purchasing;
- Auditing;
- Advising the Legislature and developing policy and procedural recommendations for consideration by the Legislature;
- Submitting reports and recommendations regarding governmental operations to the Legislature;
- Representing the Legislature in contacts with local municipal, State and Federal officials and agencies;
- Making recommendations for appointments by the Legislature for all heads of units of County Government;
- Approving or disapproving purchase orders or other documents by which the County incurs financial obligations, consistent with the adopted County budget as appropriated by the Legislature;
- Organizing financial reports, receipts, vouchers, bill or claims;
- Serving as the budget officer for the County, including development of a recommended budget program for both long-range capital budgeting and annual operating budgets, under the direction of the Legislature;
- Coordinating governmental operations and advising Department Heads and Officers;
- Adopting rules and regulations for the conduct of the affairs and business of the office;
- Serving in the roles as Clerk of the County Legislature, County Auditor, and County Purchasing Agent, with all conferred powers and duties for these positions;
- Authorizing transfer of funds between departmental budgets, under certain conditions, and with Legislative oversight; and
- Conducting collective bargaining negotiations with organized employee representatives.

Other administrative roles are run through Human Resources and the Treasurer's Office.

## **Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism**

The Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism provides a range of planning and economic development services for the County and its municipalities. The Department has taken a leadership role in developing the County Comprehensive Plan.

**Planning** provides support for long-range planning and planning processes for the County. The Department has coordinated most of the planning documents referenced in this Plan. The Department also was actively involved in the development of both the Western New York Regional Economic Development Plan and the Western New York Regional Sustainability Plan, which are referenced in Chapter II. The following County plans are also referenced in Chapter II and have been incorporated into later chapters of this Plan:

- Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan  
Cattaraugus County (2014 Update)
- Cattaraugus County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (2013)
- Cattaraugus County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan (2007)

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- Smart Development for Quality Communities Guidebook Series (2001-2005)
- Cattaraugus County Land Use Plan Year 2000
- A New Look at Gravel Mining in Cattaraugus County (2000)  
(Twenty First Century Planning for the Route 16 Corridor)
- Revitalizing the Route 16 Corridor (1998)  
“A Strategic Development Plan for the Corridor Communities”
- Local Land Use and Infrastructure Study (1996)  
Cattaraugus County Summary Report
- Goals Project - Phase One (1995)  
“A Planning Agenda from the Communities Perspective”

The County has 2 cities, 9 villages, 32 towns, and 3 Seneca Nation of Indians Territories. Most of these communities are small municipalities, without professional planning expertise. The County provides support to the County’s municipalities to address a range of planning-related issues, such as zoning, land use, transportation, agriculture, and community revitalization. The County’s professional planning staff provides technical assistance and advice, and is available to provide guidance to local municipal boards, planning boards, and zoning boards on day-to-day operations and procedures. This support ranges from assistance with comprehensive plans to technical advice on zoning ordinances. The Department also provides valuable research and data support to local municipalities. This support includes GIS mapping, demographics, and other data. Substantive issues that the Planning Department helps communities with include:

- Municipal comprehensive planning
- Inter-municipal/regional plans
- Model zoning ordinances
- Floodplain and watershed management
- Agricultural planning and support
- Downtown revitalization

Cattaraugus County Planning serves as staff support for the County Planning Board. In this role, the staff is responsible for reviewing development proposals and other items sent to the County under Sections 239 l. and m. of the New York State General Municipal Law. This role is advisory, but influential on land development patterns in the County. The staff also plays an important role in reviewing and implementing State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) decisions.

The Department also serves as staff support to the County’s Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board. This Board is responsible for administering the Agricultural District program in the County. The Department also provided support in the preparation of the County’s Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan and is assisting the Board in implementing the recommendations in that Plan.

The **Economic Development** arm of the Department is dedicated to improving the economic conditions of the County. Economic Development services include supporting efforts to expand employment opportunities and fostering entrepreneurship. The Department works with the Cattaraugus County Industrial Development Agency (CCIDA) to support local businesses.

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Technical assistance available to businesses includes:

- Marketing
- Grant writing
- Community development
- Infrastructure location
- Business research
- Counseling on available financing programs
- Packaging of available incentives.

The Department also serves as a liaison, connecting businesses with available resources, such as State programs, CCIDA incentives, governmental purchasing programs and small business startup counseling.

The government marketing and technical assistance program is administered by the Department to help businesses of the County and region. The Cattaraugus County Procurement and Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), which serves as a Procurement Technical Assistance Center, is funded by a cooperative agreement from the U.S. Department of Defense through a program that is administered by the Defense Logistics Agency.

The Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism is a partner in a coalition of agencies known as the Cattaraugus County Economic Development Team that strives to improve economic conditions in the County. This group includes the CCIDA; Cattaraugus County PTAC; Community Development and Planning for the City of Olean; the Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce; Southern Tier West Regional Planning and Development Board; Cattaraugus-Allegany Workforce Investment Board, and New York State Department of Labor.

Promoting good planning among the municipalities of the County helps improve conditions for business development and encourages private sector investment. The County Economic Development Team encourages supporting a high quality of life in the County, not only to attract businesses and visitors, but to make the County a great place to live and invest. The Team works to provide an appropriate package of incentives and assistance to encourage new business development.

Given the importance of tourism to Cattaraugus County's economic base, the Department has a strong focus on **Tourism**. The Department promotes the County as a tourism destination and assists municipalities with tourism marketing and development. A focus of action is increasing opportunities for events, festivals and other activities; as well as development of themed tourism trails, such as the Amish Trail and an Amish Geo Trail. More recently a Farm Trail and a County History Geo Trail have been created.

The Department undertakes a wide variety of other initiatives, including a county-wide trails system, equestrian and snowmobile trails, agri-business development, an Annual Farmer-Neighbor Dinner, and support for extending broadband Internet across the County.

## **Department of Aging**

An important role of the County is ensuring the health and well-being of older residents. The Department of Aging oversees the provision of services to residents who are age 60 or older. Some services, such as the County Nursing Homes, are provided directly, while other services are provided through partnerships with community service agencies. The County partners with New York Connects to provide information and counseling on Long Term Care options and connect families with the appropriate level of care for older family members. Counseling on how to pay for care through programs such as Medicare and Medicaid, as well as other available options, is also provided. Senior services also provides programs to enhance the quality of life of older residents, through programs such as housing and weatherization and recreational programs. The Department oversees services such as case management, coordinating services to assure that individuals are receiving appropriate care and benefits, as well as advocacy for seniors' rights.

The Department operates 11 nutrition sites throughout the County where seniors can gather for meals. In addition, these sites offer meal delivery for home-bound seniors and several of these sites also offer wellness programs designed to promote improved physical and mental health. These programs include exercise classes, classes in stress reduction, and some limited health services, such as flu shots and screening tests. On a limited basis, transportation is available for medical appointments, shopping, congregate dining and adult day care services. The Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly (EISEP) program helps provide support services to allow seniors to remain in their homes longer. A case manager oversees services such as personal care aides, housekeeping, home delivered meals and personal emergency response systems. The County maintains an Adult Day Care program at the Linwood Center in Allegany. This facility offers a variety of programs and services to enrich the lives of seniors and prevent social isolation. Services include assistance with personal care, meals, transportation, and case management services.

This array of services is intended to assist seniors with maintaining a better quality of life. It addresses not only health care issues, but also issues such as socialization, nutrition, wellness, housing and budgeting for seniors, as well as support for their family members.

## **Department of Community Services**

The Cattaraugus County Department of Community Services oversees services to persons with mental health, drug and alcohol dependencies and/or developmental disabilities. Mental health services are provided directly by the County, while non-profit agencies provide aid to residents with drug and alcohol dependencies or developmental disabilities. The County maintains four counseling centers, as well as satellite locations where counseling is available. The Department provides the following services and programs:

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- Case Management
- Care Coordination
- Counseling
- Personalized Recovery Oriented Services
- Psychiatric Services And Medication Management

In addition, the Department offers the Single Point of Accountability (SPOA) approach for adults and youth. This program is a more holistic approach to case management that takes into consideration living arrangements, education or vocation needs, physical health, substance abuse issues and family setting to promote an appropriate level of care that allows for improved quality of life for residents with mental health issues.

## **Health Department**

The mission of the Cattaraugus County Health Department (CCHD) is “to engage and empower the public of all ages to live healthier lifestyles through efforts of education, prevention, promotion, monitoring, accessibility, affordability, technology, testing, diagnosing, and treating.” The Cattaraugus County Health Department and Board of Health, which was founded in 1923, was the first such department established in New York State.

The Cattaraugus County Health Department's (CCHD) **Nursing Services Division** provides preventive, restorative and palliative care to improve the quality of life of the individual, the family and the community. Preventative care services include immunizations for children and adults, lead poisoning prevention, and oversight of communicable diseases. Special focuses include care for the elderly and disabled, including in-home health care to help keep residents out of institutions. Elder care encompasses nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, personal care assistance, nutritional counseling and medication management. Maternal health programs target pregnancy through newborn care, particularly for high-risk patients. CCHD runs community health clinics at sites in Machias, Salamanca and Olean.

The **Environmental Health Division** of the CCHD works to prevent unsafe environmental conditions, which includes monitoring public and private water systems for compliance with regulatory standards for water quality. The Environmental Health Division inspects private sewage systems at the time of property sales to ensure their proper functioning and issues permits for new septic systems. They also review engineering plans for compliance with regulatory standards. This Division assists municipalities with obtaining funding to improve water and wastewater infrastructure. For example, this Division is assisting Machias with obtaining funding and design to address septic system failures in the Lime Lake area.

The Environmental Health Division is responsible for conducting inspections of facilities such as restaurants, hotels, motels, campgrounds and public beaches to monitor and address potential

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health risks. The Division also is involved with overseeing regulatory programs addressing potential contaminants, such as lead paint and indoor smoking, and conducts programs to control pests, vermin and other potential vectors of diseases.

The **Health Education Division** promotes health education both in schools and for adults in the community. A focus is on wellness, including healthy eating.

The **Early Care Division** seeks to identify children with potential disabilities and implement early interventions. The Women Infants Children (WIC) Division focuses on child nutritional support. The CCHD also operates a laboratory to conduct necessary testing for diseases and water quality.

The **Public Health Emergency Preparedness Division** conducts training, planning and outreach to help the County be prepared in the event of emergencies and disasters.

## Office of Emergency Services

The Cattaraugus County Office of Emergency Services works closely with the State Emergency Management Office (SEMO), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other Cattaraugus County agencies to plan for potential emergency situations. In particular, the Office works closely with local fire departments and the health department on mitigation (prevention), preparedness, response and recovery.

## Department of Public Works

The Cattaraugus County Department of Public Works (DPW) oversees the operations of the Highway, Refuse, and Buildings & Grounds divisions, along with the Onoville Marina. The Divisions of the Department also include the operations of Engineering, Weights & Measures, Health & Safety, and Fleet Maintenance. The Commissioner of Public Works has administrative responsibility for these functions.

The DPW devotes the largest share of their resources toward highway maintenance. The **Highway Division** maintains 398 miles of roads, 267 bridges, 274 culverts and 1,530 drainage structures under County jurisdiction. The County maintains six highway facilities and the Little Valley maintenance facility. Road maintenance responsibilities include road repairs (e.g. potholes), snowplowing, paving, and maintaining roadside ditches. The Department also administers a large capital projects program for major road improvements.

The **Buildings & Grounds Division** maintains all County-owned public buildings, including the County Centers in Little Valley and Olean; the Pines Healthcare and Rehabilitation Centers in Machias and Olean (County Nursing Homes); and the Department of Public Works facility in

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Little Valley, as well as a number of smaller buildings and facilities. The DPW also operates the Onoville Marina in the Town of South Valley.

The DPW also oversees solid waste collection for the County. The **Refuse Division** collects municipal solid waste and recyclables at seven transfer stations across the County (Salamanca, Dayton, Allegany, Portville, Five Points, Conewango, and Machias). The Refuse Division also operates composting stations for yard waste at Farwell and Five Points.

The Department operates the **Onoville Marina** in the Town of South Valley. It is staffed by two full-time employees and nine seasonal workers. The Marina is a self-sufficient enterprise with operating expenses being paid out of the revenues generated from dock and campground fees, and fuel sales.

## E. County Budget Allocation

By far, the largest appropriation in the County budget is for social services, which include programs such as Medicaid and Aid to Dependent Children. For the County's 2015 proposed budget, Medicaid represented over 36% of the County's tax levy. Other core services include the Sheriff's Office and operation of the County jail.

The County is generally fiscally conservative, and has successfully met the requirements of the State-mandated Property Tax Cap and Tax Freeze legislation, which limits how much can be appropriated through property tax revenues. The adopted budget for 2015 projects an increase of 1.19% in the tax levy.

<b>Cattaraugus County – 2015 Budgeted Expenses</b>		
	Budgeted Expenses*	Percent of Tax Levy
Medicaid	\$19,358,006	36.5%
Pensions/ State Retirement System	\$9,300,812	17.6%
Community College Charge backs	\$2,795,720	5.3%
Public Assistance/ Safety Net	\$2,352,500	4.4%
Indigent Defense (Public Defenders)	\$2,000,497	3.8%
Special Education/ Pre-K	\$1,469,667	2.8%
Probation	\$1,415,138	2.7%
Child Welfare/ Prevention	\$647,946	1.2%
Early intervention/ Early Care	\$308,257	0.6%
Youth Detention	\$150,000	0.3%
Subtotal	\$39,798,543	75.1%
TOTAL Tax Levy	\$52,978,992	100.0%

\* Figures from the proposed budget; adopted budget differs slightly.

*Source: transmittal letter, 2015 Tentative Budget for Cattaraugus County*

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Cattaraugus County obtains revenues from the tax levy (real estate tax), sales tax, use taxes, casino revenues, and intergovernmental transfers (i.e. reimbursements from the State). The County also can bond to pay for capital expenses, and the submitted 2015 budget includes anticipated income from bonding to pay for a range of projects, including maintenance of roads and bridges.

## **F. Municipal Structure**

Cattaraugus County is made of up 2 cities, 9 villages, 32 towns, and 3 Seneca Nation of Indians Territories.

### **Cities**

- Olean
- Salamanca

### **Villages**

- Allegany (Town of Allegany)
- Cattaraugus (Town of New Albion)
- Delevan (Town of Yorkshire)
- Ellicottville (Town of Ellicottville)
- Franklinville (Town of Franklinville)
- Gowanda (Town of Persia and also partially in Town of Collins, Erie County)
- Little Valley (Town of Little Valley)
- Portville (Town of Portville)
- South Dayton (Town of Dayton)

### **Towns**

- Allegany
- Ashford
- Carrollton
- Coldspring
- Conewango
- Dayton
- East Otto
- Ellicottville
- Farmersville
- Franklinville
- Freedom
- Great Valley
- Hinsdale
- Humphrey
- Ischua

- Leon
- Little Valley
- Lyndon
- Machias
- Mansfield
- Napoli
- New Albion
- Olean
- Otto
- Perrysburg
- Persia
- Portville
- Randolph
- Red House
- Salamanca
- South Valley
- Yorkshire

### **Territories of the Seneca Nation of Indians**

- Allegany (south central portion of the County)
- Cattaraugus (northwest portion of the County, extending into Erie County)
- Oil Springs (southeast portion of the County, extending into Allegany County)

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## IV. The People

### A. Demographics

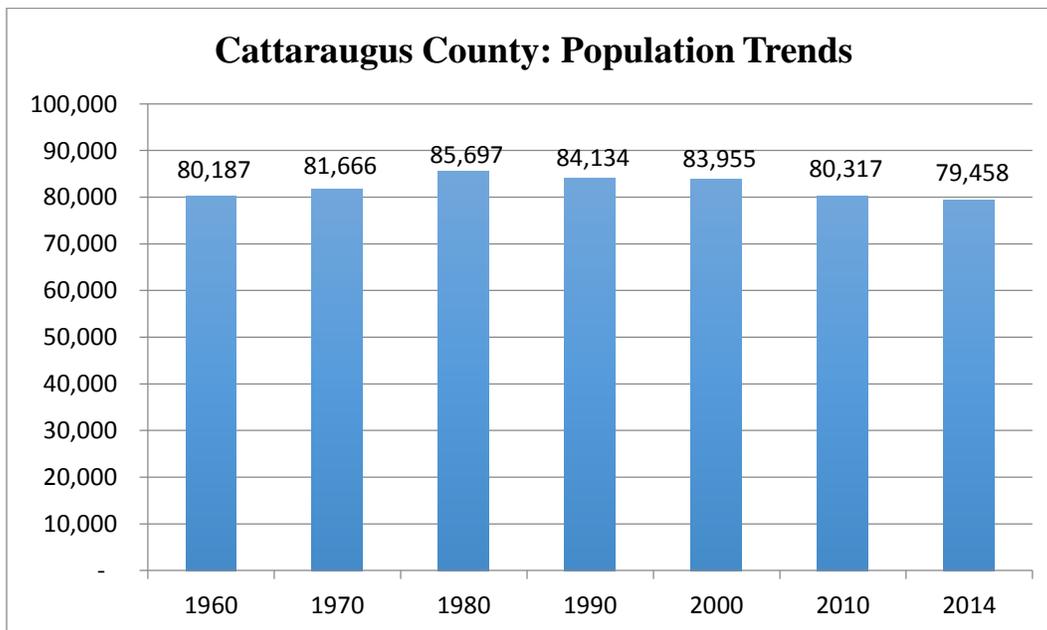
#### Population Trends

Cattaraugus County is a rural county with a relatively stable population over the past few decades. The population of the County in 2010 was 80,317, which is very similar to the population in 1960, which was 80,187. Population in the County is estimated to have dropped slightly to 79,458 in 2012, the most recent data available from the American Community Survey. The County’s population peaked in 1980 at 85,697.

**Cattaraugus County – Population Trends**

	2000	2010	2012*	Percent Change		
				2000-2010	2010-2012	2000-2012
Total Population	83,955	80,317	79,458	-4.3%	-1.1%	-5.4%
Median Age	37.4	40.7	41.4	8.8%	1.7%	10.7%
Households	32,023	32,263	32,347	0.7%	0.3%	1.0%
Avg. Household size	2.52	2.41	2.37	-4.4%	-1.7%	-6.0%
Avg. Family Size	3.05	2.96	2.99	-3.0%	1.0%	-2.0%

\* NOTE: 2012 data is from American Community Survey 1 - year estimates (not actual Census count)



Source: US Bureau of the Census, American Community Survey

Population losses occurred across the County, with all but five Towns experiencing population losses between 2000 and 2010. The Towns of Napoli, Conewango, Farmersville, and Lyndon

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saw population increases of approximately 6 to 7 percent between 2000 and 2010. The Town of Mansfield saw a slight increase (1 percent). Generally, most communities in Cattaraugus County experienced relatively stable conditions, with a loss or gain of fewer than 300 people. The largest absolute population decline was in the City of Olean, which lost nearly 900 residents between 2000 and 2010, or about 6 percent of the population. Because many Towns in Cattaraugus County have relatively small population bases, in some cases minor changes in the number of residents represented a significant proportion of the municipality's population.

### Cattaraugus County – Population Trends by Municipality

	2000	2010	Change: 2000 – 2010	
			Number	Percent
Olean City	15,347	14,452	-895	-5.8%
Salamanca City	6,097	5,815	-282	-4.6%
<b>Towns *</b>				
Allegany	8,230	8,004	-226	-2.7%
Ashford	2,223	2,132	-91	-4.1%
Carrollton	1,410	1,297	-113	-8.0%
Coldspring	751	663	-88	-11.7%
Conewango	1,732	1,857	125	7.2%
Dayton	1,945	1,886	-59	-3.0%
East Otto	1,105	1,062	-43	-3.9%
Ellicottville	1,738	1,598	-140	-8.1%
Farmersville	1,028	1,090	62	6.0%
Franklinville	3,128	2,990	-138	-4.4%
Freedom	2,493	2,405	-88	-3.5%
Great Valley	2,145	1,974	-171	-8.0%
Hinsdale	2,270	2,168	-102	-4.5%
Humphrey	721	687	-34	-4.7%
Ischua	895	859	-36	-4.0%
Leon	1,380	1,365	-15	-1.1%
Little Valley	1,788	1,740	-48	-2.7%
Lyndon	661	707	46	7.0%
Machias	2,482	2,375	-107	-4.3%
Mansfield	800	808	8	1.0%
Napoli	1,159	1,248	89	7.7%
New Albion	2,068	1,972	-96	-4.6%
Olean	2,029	1,963	-66	-3.3%
Otto	831	808	-23	-2.8%
Perrysburg	1,771	1,626	-145	-8.2%
Persia	2,512	2,404	-108	-4.3%
Portville	3,952	3,730	-222	-5.6%
Randolph	2,681	2,602	-79	-2.9%
Red House	38	38	0	0.0%
Salamanca	544	481	-63	-11.6%
South Valley	302	264	-38	-12.6%
Yorkshire	4,210	3,913	-297	-7.1%

\* Census data for Towns include residents of Villages within the surrounding Town. For example, the figure for the Town of Ellicottville includes the population for the Village of Ellicottville.

Source: US Bureau of the Census data from, "Cattaraugus County Profile"

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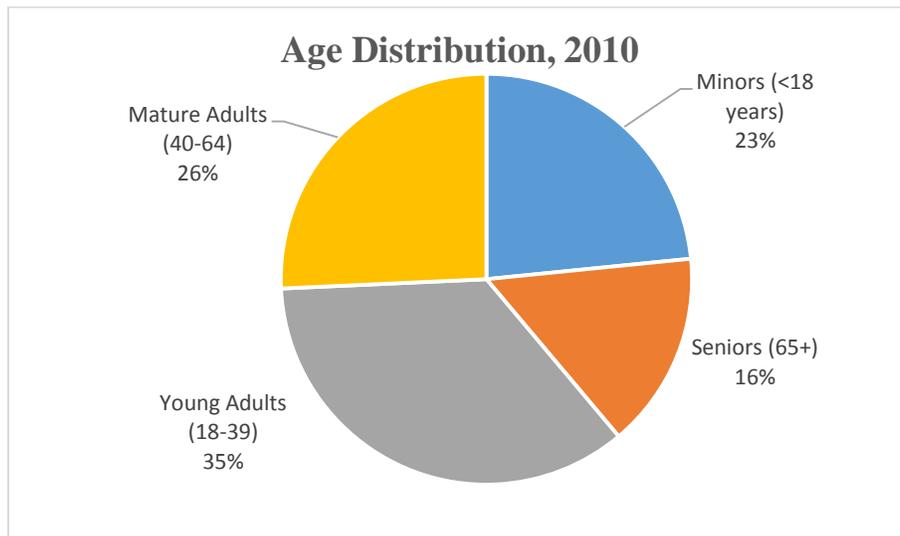
## Age Distribution

The population of the County has also been aging. Median age increased from 37.4 years in 2000 to 40.7 years in 2010. The most current estimate indicates the median age was 41.4 years in 2012. The proportion of the population that is 65 or older has increased from 14.6 percent of all persons in 2000, to 15.5 percent in 2010, to an estimated 16.2 percent of the population in 2012. There has been a corresponding decrease in the proportion of minors in the County. In 2000, persons under 18 years of age made up 26.2 percent of the County’s population. That proportion was 23.4 percent in 2010, and is estimated to be 22.9 percent in 2012. There have also been losses in the number of persons aged 18 to 64, and there are 1,310 fewer residents in that age group now than in 2000. However, the proportion of this middle age group has remained relatively stable, consistently representing approximately 60 percent of the population.

Cattaraugus County – Age Distribution								
	2000		2010		2012 (est.)		Change: 2000-2012	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Minors (<18 years)	21,963	26.2%	18,801	23.4%	18,203	22.9%	-3,760	-17.1%
Age 18 – 64	49,718	59.2%	49,097	61.1%	48,405	60.9%	-1,310	-2.6%
Seniors (65+)	12,277	14.6%	12,419	15.5%	12,850	16.2%	573	10.3%

Source: US Bureau of the Census: 2000, 2010: decennial census; 2012: American Community Survey

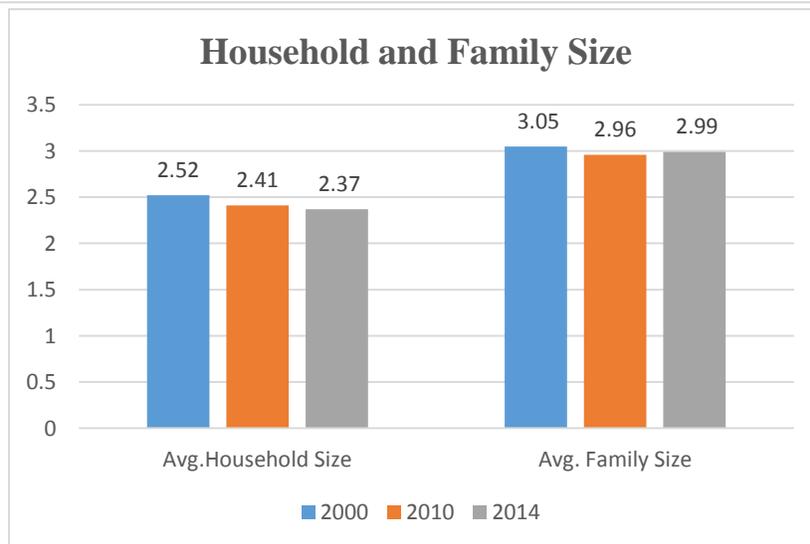
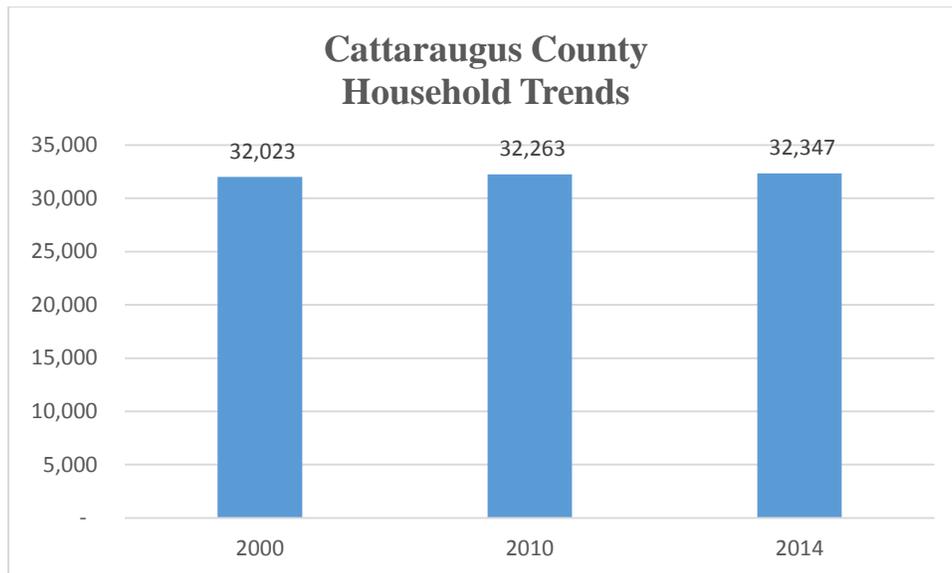
Despite the aging of the County’s population, the largest proportion of the population can be categorized as young adults (aged 18 to 39), which make up 35 percent of the County’s population. Mature adults (age 40 to 64) is the second largest group, and minors (under 18) make up 23 percent. Seniors, while a growing proportion, remains the smallest share of the County’s population.



Source: US Bureau of the Census

## Household Trends

In contrast to population trends, the number of households in the County has been modestly increasing. The number of households in Cattaraugus County grew from 32,023 to 32,347 between 2000 and 2012, which is an increase of 1.0 percent. The slight increase in the number of households despite population declines is due to a trend toward smaller households, consistent with national trends. The average household size in the County fell from 2.52 persons in 2000 to 2.37 persons in 2012. The average family size declined very slightly, staying at just about 3 persons per family over the 12 year time period.<sup>1</sup>



Source: US Bureau of the Census

<sup>1</sup> The Census defines “family” as a group of two or more people who are related by birth, marriage, or adoption and residing together. One-person households are not included in the count of families.

## Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Vision 2025

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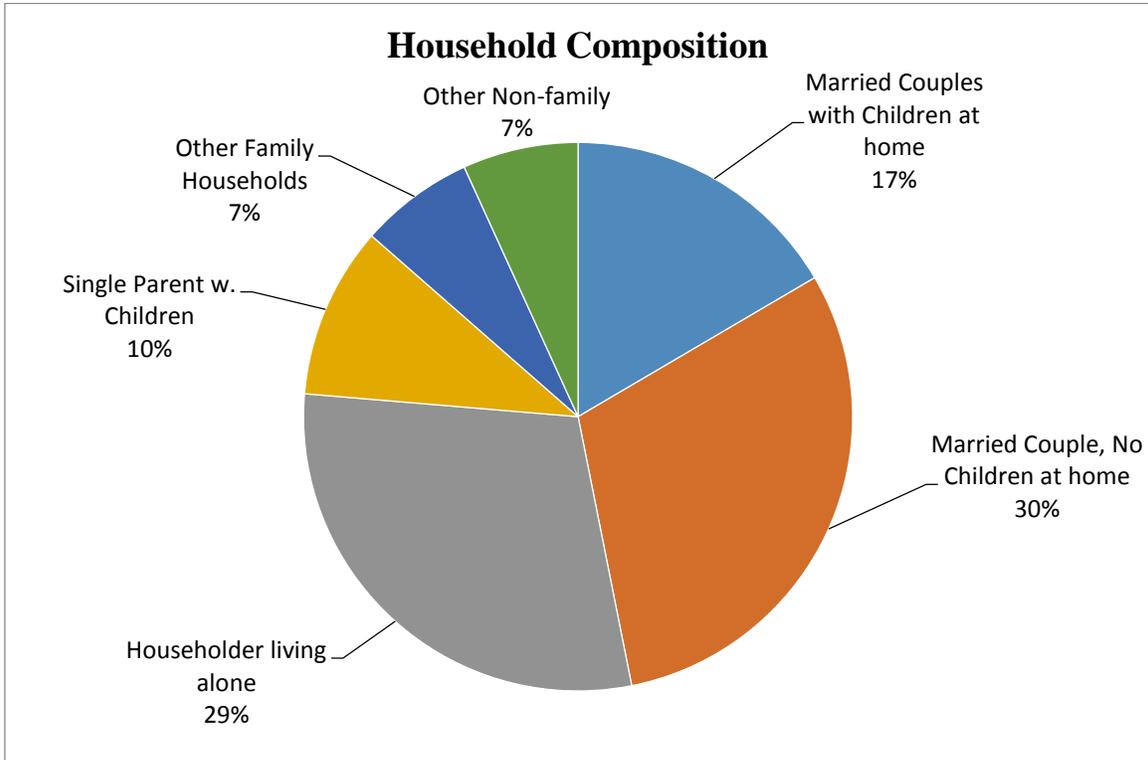
As is the case across the country, the makeup of the typical family in Cattaraugus County has been changing. The number of households that fall under the Census definition of a family (two or more related persons living together) has been decreasing, while the number of non-family households has been increasing. Between 2000 and 2010, the number of families fell by about 5 percent, while the number of non-family households increased by 13 percent over the same time period. The growth in the number of one-person households has been a significant factor in the increase in non-family households. There was an increase of 11 percent (916) of single-person households between 2000 and 2010. The family type with the greatest decline is married couples with children living at home, which fell by 26 percent. This decline is related to the aging of the population and represents an increasing number of “empty nest” families, where the children have grown up and moved out of the family home.

<b>Cattaraugus County – Household Trends</b>				
			<b>Change: 2000 – 2010</b>	
	<b>2000</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Family Households	21,662	20,560	-1,102	-5.1%
Married Couple Families	16,739	15,121	-1,618	-9.7%
Married Couples with children at home	7,209	5,337	-1,872	-26.0%
All Families with children at home	10,282	8,603	-1,679	-16.3%
Families Headed by a Female	3,463	3,659	196	5.7%
Female headed family with children at home	2,172	2,197	25	1.2%
Nonfamily Households	10,361	11,703	1,342	13.0%
One-Person Households	8,591	9,507	916	10.7%
Age 65+ living alone	3,700	3,802	102	2.8%
Other Nonfamily (not one-person households)	1,770	2,199	429	24.2%

*Source: US Bureau of the Census*

The most common type of household in the County is married couples without children living at home (30 percent), followed closely by one-person households (29 percent). Married couples with children at home make up 17 percent of households, while one-parent households with children comprise approximately 10 percent of households. The remainder of households is classified as “Other”, which is split evenly between family and non-family households, with 7 percent each. Family households categorized as “other” include family arrangements outside the traditional nuclear family, such as adult siblings living together. Non-family households categorized as “other” entail unrelated persons living together, such as roommates or unmarried couples.

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## Housing Trends

There were an estimated 41,047 housing units in Cattaraugus County in 2012. The number of housing units in the County has been increasing at a rate faster than the number of households. Whereas the number of occupied housing units (households) grew by 0.7 percent between 2000 and 2010, the total number of housing units grew by 3.2 percent. Between 2000 and 2012, the growth in number of housing units was 3 times the growth in households.

Cattaraugus County – Housing Trends						
	2000	2010	2012	Percent Change		
				2000-2010	2010-2012	2000-2012
Total Housing Units	39,839	41,111	41,047	3.2%	-0.2%	3.0%
Occupied Housing Units	32,023	32,263	32,347	0.7%	0.3%	1.0%
(percentage of total)	80.4%	78.5%	78.8%			
Total Vacant units	7,816	8,848	8,700	13.2%	-1.7%	11.3%
(percentage of total)	19.6%	21.5%	21.2%			
Vacant Seasonal	4,867	6,035	5,268	24.0%	-12.7%	8.2%
(percentage of total)	12.2%	14.7%	12.8%			
Vacant – not seasonal	2,949	2,813	3,432	-4.6%	22.0%	16.4%
(percentage of total)	7.4%	6.8%	8.4%			

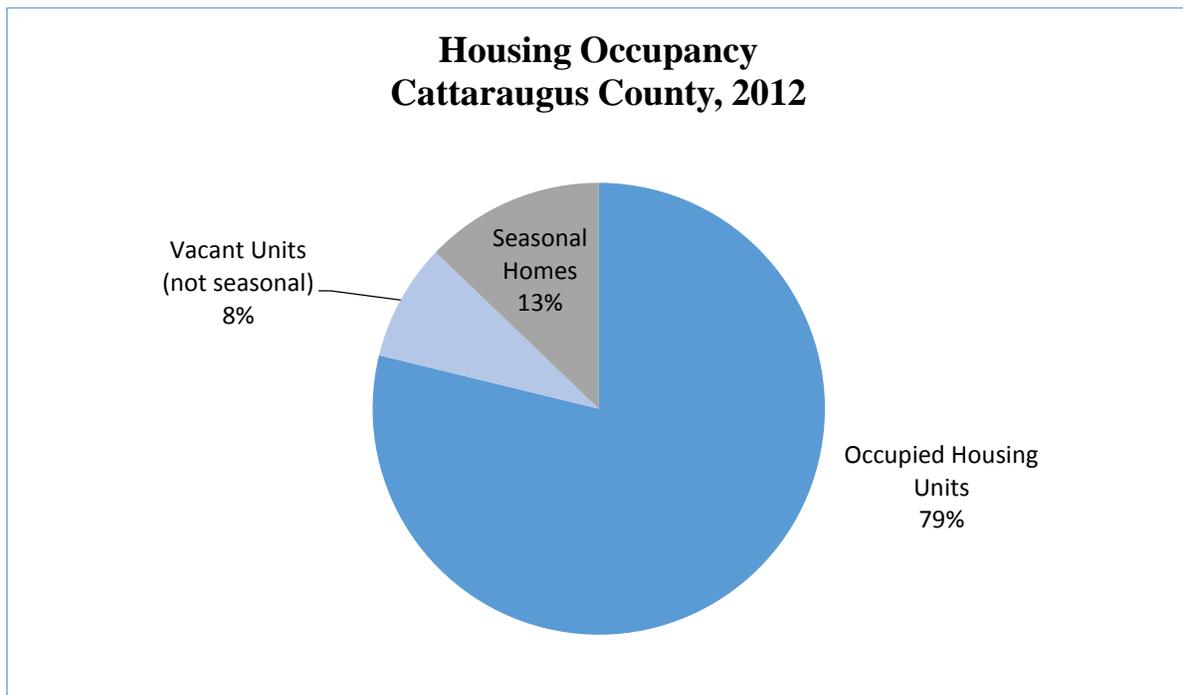
Source: US Census

## Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Vision 2025

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There is a relatively large proportion of housing units that are vacant, representing 21 percent of all units. However, in Cattaraugus County, a significant proportion of what are classified as “vacant” units are second homes and seasonal rental properties. In the County, approximately 13 percent of all units are categorized as “seasonal housing.” This category means that the house is not considered the primary residence of the owner, and generally is occupied only for a portion of the year. While these homes are technically “vacant” by Census definitions, they are intentionally kept for occasional use, either as a second home or a seasonal rental property. The number of seasonal housing units grew from 12.2 percent of units in 2000 to 14.7 percent in 2010. The most current estimates for 2012 suggest that the peak in seasonal units has moderated, and the number of seasonal units has dropped to an estimated 12.8 percent of all units.<sup>2</sup> However, seasonal units remain a significant part of the Cattaraugus County housing market.

The remaining 8 percent of vacant units include properties that are unoccupied due to other reasons, such as normal transition in the market (vacant while they are for sale or for rent); properties being renovated; properties as part of estates; properties in foreclosure; and homes the owner is keeping intentionally vacant for storage or other reasons.



*Source: US Census*

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<sup>2</sup> The 2012 estimates are based on sampling, not actual Census counts. The margin of error for the number of seasonal units is +/- 721 (13.7%), which is higher than most of the other estimated figures. For example, the margin of error for total number of housing units is 0.9%. Therefore, the 2012 figure may be conservative.

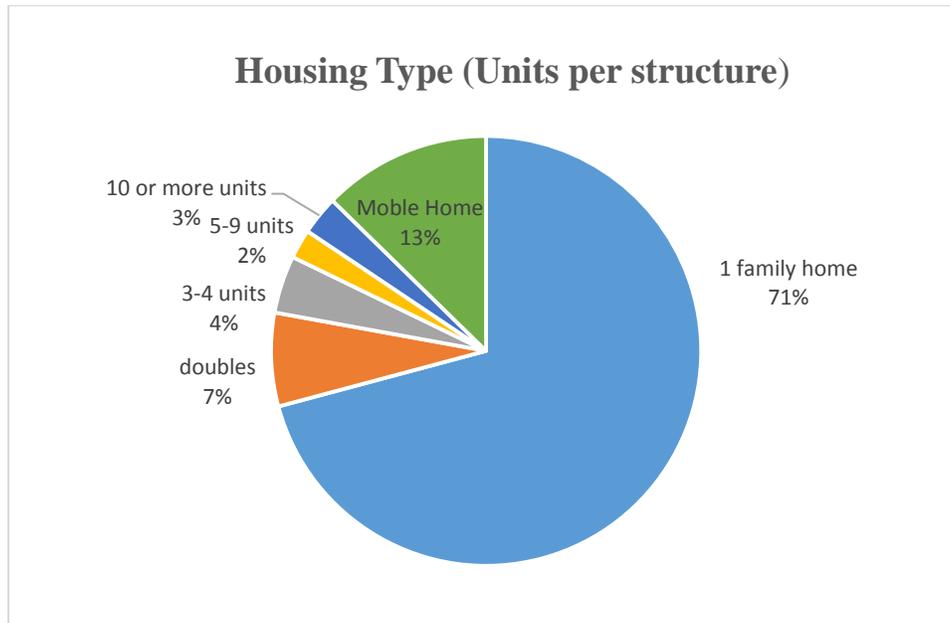
## Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Vision 2025

Housing tenure has remained fairly stable in the County. In 2012, approximately 73 percent of units are occupied by the home owner, while about 27 percent were occupied by renters. This proportion of owner to renter has not varied significantly since 2000. The growth in the number of housing units has largely been in rental properties. The number of occupied rentals in Cattaraugus County increased from 8,198 in 2000 to an estimated 8,895 in 2012.

<b>Cattaraugus County – Housing Tenure Trends</b>						
	2000	2010	2012	Percent Change		
				2000-2010	2010-2012	2000-2012
Total Occupied Units	39,839	41,111	41,047	3.2%	-0.2%	3.0%
Owner Occupied (percentage of total)	23,825 74.4%	23,306 72.2%	23,452 72.5%	-2.2%	0.6%	-1.6%
Renter occupied (percentage of total)	8,198 25.6%	8,957 27.8%	8,895 27.5%	9.3%	-0.7%	8.5%

*Source: US Census*

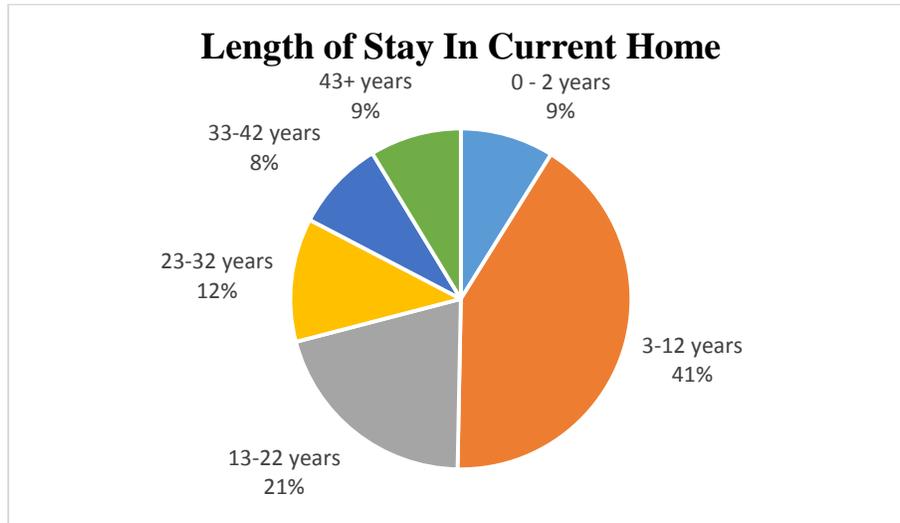
The housing stock in the County is largely one-family dwellings. According to Census estimates, 71 percent of residential units are one-family homes and another 13 percent are mobile homes, representing 84 percent of the housing stock. About 7 percent of units are in two-family homes or doubles. The remainder of units (approximately 9 percent) is in multiple-unit homes (three-or more units in the building).



*Source: US Bureau of the Census*

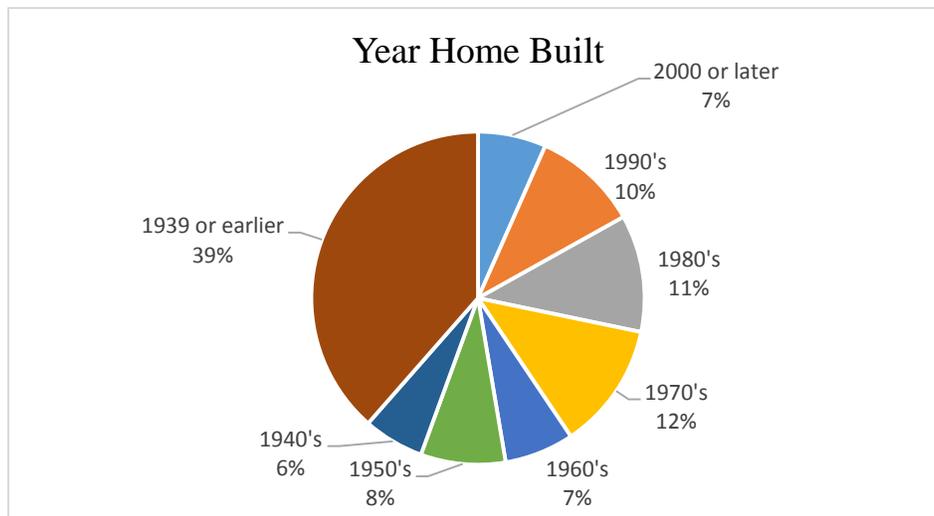
# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Vision 2025

The population in the County is relatively mobile. Based on data from 2012, approximately half of households had lived in their current home for 12 years or less. The next largest proportion (21 percent) had moved into their current home between 1990 and 1999.



Source: US Bureau of the Census

Data on the age of the housing stock in the County indicates that slightly under 40 percent of units were built in 1939 or earlier. Approximately 7 percent has been built since 2000. The remaining housing stock is relatively evenly distributed by decade, with each decade comprising between 6 to 12 percent of the housing stock.



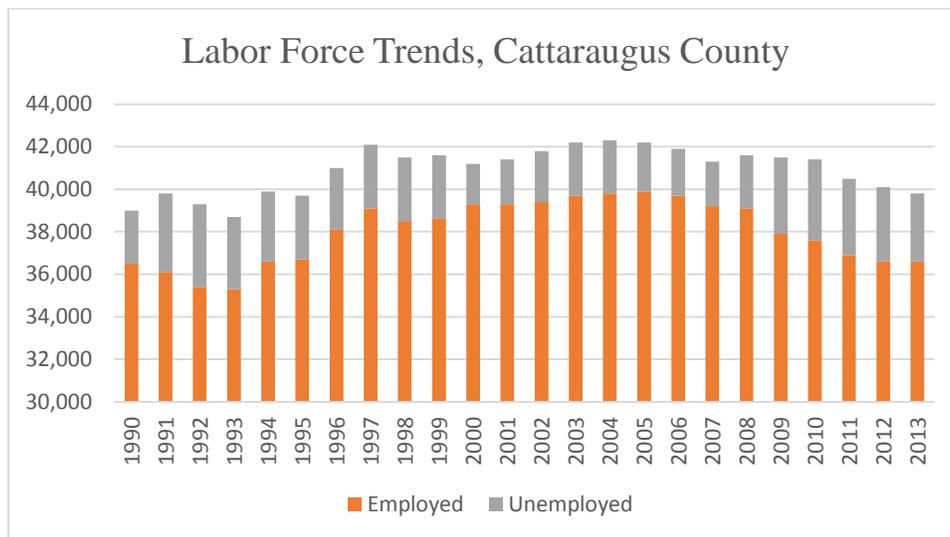
Source: US Bureau of the Census

## B. Employment

### Labor Force Trends

Cattaraugus County is part of the Western New York region, which encompasses Erie, Niagara, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties. It is also part of the Southern Tier West region, comprised of the three southern counties of Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, and Allegany. Economically, these three counties are allied, with a great deal of interaction, facilitated by the Southern Tier West Regional Planning and Development Board (STW), who prepares the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for these three counties, as part of the federal Economic Development Administration's efforts to support the local economy.

Historically, the Southern Tier West region of New York State has been economically distressed. However, as the 2013 CEDS document notes; the region has been relatively stable compared to other areas of the country. Employment in Cattaraugus County had fluctuated, ranging from approximately 36,500 employed persons in 1990, to a high of 39,900 in 2005. Currently, approximately 36,600 persons in the County are employed. The impact of the recent recession is evident, although employment numbers are now beginning to increase again.



*Source: New York State Department of Labor*

There are currently approximately 39,900 County residents in the civilian labor force, which includes 36,600 persons who were employed in 2013, and 3,200 persons who were seeking work. The civilian labor force encompasses all residents over the age of 16 who are employed or actively seeking employment, including self-employed persons. It excludes people who are not interested in a job outside the home, such as retirees, students, or homemakers, and excludes persons in the military.

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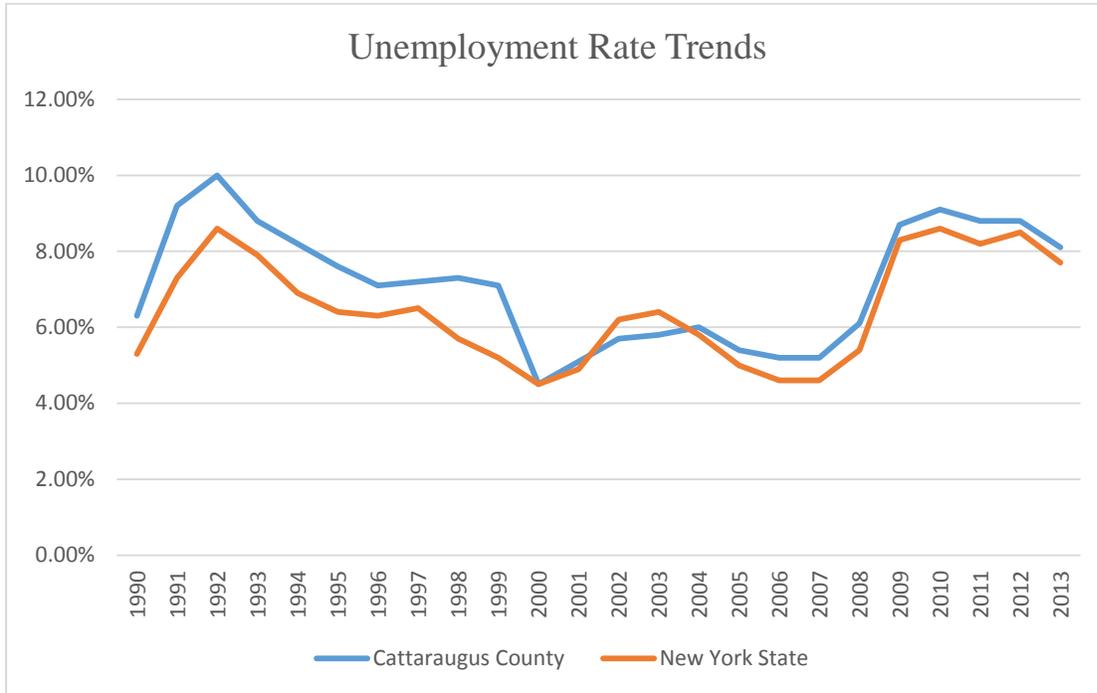
<b>Employment Trends Cattaraugus County</b>				
	<b>Civilian Labor Force</b>	<b>Employed</b>	<b>Unemployed</b>	<b>Unemployment Rate</b>
1990	39,000	36,500	2,500	6.3%
1991	39,800	36,100	3,700	9.2%
1992	39,400	35,400	3,900	10.0%
1993	38,700	35,300	3,400	8.8%
1994	39,900	36,600	3,300	8.2%
1995	39,700	36,700	3,000	7.6%
1996	41,100	38,100	2,900	7.1%
1997	42,200	39,100	3,000	7.2%
1998	41,600	38,500	3,000	7.3%
1999	41,600	38,600	3,000	7.1%
2000	41,100	39,300	1,900	4.5%
2001	41,400	39,300	2,100	5.1%
2002	41,700	39,400	2,400	5.7%
2003	42,100	39,700	2,500	5.8%
2004	42,400	39,800	2,500	6.0%
2005	42,200	39,900	2,300	5.4%
2006	41,800	39,700	2,200	5.2%
2007	41,300	39,200	2,100	5.2%
2008	41,600	39,100	2,500	6.1%
2009	41,500	37,900	3,600	8.7%
2010	41,400	37,600	3,800	9.1%
2011	40,500	36,900	3,600	8.8%
2012	40,100	36,600	3,500	8.8%
2013	39,900	36,600	3,200	8.1%

*Source: New York Department of Labor*

The unemployment rate in Cattaraugus County has varied, rising and falling over the past years. The unemployment rate is affected not only by the number of persons who are unemployed, but also by the total number of persons in the labor force. Therefore, the unemployment rate can actually rise during strong economies as the labor pool increases. Conversely, the labor pool often shrinks during economic downturns. After remaining relatively stable in the 5 percent to 6 percent range between 2000 and 2008, unemployment increased significantly during the recession, jumping as high as 9.1 percent in 2010. The 2010 unemployment rate was double the rate in 2000 (4.5%). With the improvement in the economy since 2010, the unemployment rate has been dropping, although it remains high. The most recent available rate (2013) is 8.1 percent.

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Generally, the unemployment rate in Cattaraugus County has paralleled the New York State trends. Except for a period during the early 2000s, Cattaraugus County has typically seen higher unemployment rates than New York State overall.



Source: New York State Department of Labor

## Employment by Industry

The following table presents employment by industry for Cattaraugus County. The sector which employs the largest share of County residents is educational services, health care and social assistance, which employed over one-quarter of the work force (25.7 percent). Manufacturing ranks second in the County for employment, representing 13.6 percent of the work force. Retail trade comes in a close third, with approximately 13 percent of residents employed in retail trade. Current patterns represent a fundamental shift in the economy. In 1990, nearly one-quarter of residents were employed in manufacturing; employment in that sector has decreased by 41.5 percent since 1990. Retail trade also saw a significant decrease in employment, shrinking by 30 percent between 1990 and 2012. Employment gains were made in the educational, health care and social services sector, which increased by 21.6 percent between 1990 and 2012; and in arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food services, which gained 3,387 employees over that time period. There was small growth in "agriculture, forestry, mining" from 2009 to 2012, even though its rank has stayed the same.

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<b>Industry in which Residents of Cattaraugus County are Employed<sup>3</sup></b>								
Industry	1990		2000		2009		2012	
	Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, mining	1,682	4.8%	1,105	2.9%	1,136	3.1 %	1,170
Construction	2,137	6.1%	2,163	5.7%	2,825	7.6 %	2,615	7.3%
Manufacturing	8,295	23.9%	7,228	19.1%	5,752	15.5 %	4,851	13.6%
Wholesale Trade	1,036	3.0%	1,147	3.0%	879	2.4 %	744	2.1%
Retail trade	6,528	18.8%	4,659	12.3%	4,432	11.9 %	4,600	12.9%
Transportation, warehousing, utilities	761	2.2%	1,830	4.8%	1,398	3.8 %	1,362	3.8%
Information	N.A.	N.A.	616	1.6%	525	1.4 %	343	1.0%
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing	1,212	3.5%	1,196	3.2%	1,289	3.5 %	1,221	3.4%
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	1,843	5.3%	1,647	4.4%	1,898	5.1 %	1,937	5.4%
Educational services, health care and social assistance	7,598	21.9%	9,201	24.3%	9,575	25.7 %	9,240	25.9%
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food services	450	1.3%	3,520	9.3%	3,893	10.5 %	3,837	10.8%
Other services, except public administration	1,721	5.0%	1,723	4.6%	1,468	3.9 %	1,526	4.3%
Public administration	1,498	4.3%	1,795	4.7%	2,150	5.8 %	2,238	6.3%
Total Employees	34,761	100%	37,830	100%	37,220	100%	35,684	100%

Sources: Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning & Tourism, *Self-Portrait of Cattaraugus County*, October, 2002; U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; 2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.

<sup>3</sup> Note: Data is for "Civilian employed population 16 years and over." The official title of this table in the American Community Survey is "Industry by sex and median earnings in the past 12 months (in 2012 inflation-adjusted dollars) for the civilian employed population 16 years and older."

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The following table ranks the industries by employment in 2012, and also shows the ranks for earlier years. While there has been variation over the past decades, the top three industries have remained relatively consistent. Tourism-related industries, (arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services) have grown in their importance to the local economy; in 1990, they represented the smallest sector, but have risen to the fourth most important employer.

<b>Industry Rankings</b>				
<b>Industry</b>	<b>Rank in 1990</b>	<b>Rank in 2000</b>	<b>Rank in 2009</b>	<b>Rank in 2012</b>
Educational services, health care and social assistance	2	1	1	1
Manufacturing	1	2	2	2
Retail trade	3	3	3	3
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food services	12	4	4	4
Construction	4	5	5	5
Public administration	8	7	6	6
Professional, scientific, management, administrative and waste management services	5	9	7	7
Other services, except public administration	6	8	8	8
Transportation, warehousing, utilities	11	6	9	9
Finance, insurance, real estate, rental and leasing	9	10	10	10
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, mining	7	12	11	11
Wholesale Trade	10	11	12	12
Information	N.A.	13	13	13

Sources: Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning & Tourism, *Self-Portrait of Cattaraugus County*, October, 2002; U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; 2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates.

The previous discussion has been based on County residents, whether they work in or outside the County. According to Census estimates, approximately 26 percent of the County's workforce is employed outside of Cattaraugus County. Just over 3 percent work outside New York State; the remainder are commuting elsewhere in Western New York. Average travel time to work is 21.8 minutes, but most workers live relatively close to their jobs; approximately 45 percent have a commute of fewer than 20 minutes. Average commute lengths are increased by the 13 percent of residents who travel 45 minutes or more to work. Driving alone is the most prevalent means of getting to work: 78.4 percent of workers in Cattaraugus County drive themselves to work. Another 10 percent carpool. Six percent walk to work and three percent work at home.

## C. Education and Workforce Training

Generally, the workforce in Cattaraugus County is productive, with a good work ethic. However, as the CEDS notes, workforce training is important to the future health of the economy. Cattaraugus County’s workforce is generally well educated, and only 12.7 percent had failed to either graduate from high school or obtain a General Equivalency Degree (GED) between 2007 and 2011. However, compared to New York State and the United States, there are lower levels of completing bachelor’s degrees or higher levels of education.

<b>Educational Attainment, 2007-2011*</b>			
	Cattaraugus County	New York State	United States
No High School diploma	12.7%	15.4%	14.6%
High School diploma or GED	41.9%	27.8%	28.6%
Some college, no degree	17.4%	16.1%	21.0%
Associate’s degree	10.6%	8.2%	7.6%
Bachelor’s degree	9.3%	18.5%	17.7%
Graduate or professional degree	8.1%	14.0%	10.5%
All Bachelor’s degree or Higher	17.5%	32.5%	28.2%

*Source: US Census American Community Survey, STW CEDS*

\* Calculated based on persons aged 25 or older

There are a number of options for County residents to obtain a good education and workforce training, which includes the County’s sixteen school districts, Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES, Jamestown Community College, Saint Bonaventure University, Cattaraugus-Allegany Workforce Investment Board, and other training related organizations. Training focuses both on basic employment skills and specialized education designed to meet the specific needs of the industrial base. The following discussion outlines some available resources.

### **Workforce Investment Board**

The Cattaraugus-Allegany Workforce Investment Board (WIB) guides investment in workforce training. The Board of Directors of this not-for-profit corporation is a mix of representatives from business, government, education, and community-based organizations. The WIB is funded primarily through federal Workforce Investment Act funds, as allocated by New York State. The WIB is tasked with identifying workforce development needs and working with the business community to provide necessary training. The Cattaraugus-Allegany WIB provides funding for a One Stop Career Center in Olean. This Center links job seekers with employment information and training opportunities, and helps employers find qualified employees. It offers a series of

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workshops on basic work skills, computer skills, resume writing, and interviewing techniques. It also provides information on available financial aid, scholarships and training programs.

## School Districts

There are sixteen school districts serving portions of Cattaraugus County. School district boundaries do not all fall within Cattaraugus County. Some of the school districts are located primarily in adjacent counties, serving a small geographic area of Cattaraugus County, and some located primarily in Cattaraugus County also serve areas in adjacent Counties. There are also some school districts contained entirely within Cattaraugus County. According to data from New York State Department of Education, the range of enrollment in the school districts (pre-K through 12) is from 2,539 students in the Yorkshire Pioneer Central School District to 310 students in the West Valley Central School District.

<b>School Districts and Enrollment, 2013-2014 Cattaraugus County</b>	
Allegany-Limestone Central	1,195
Cattaraugus-Little Valley Central	933
Cuba-Rushford Central	880
Ellicottville Central	600
Forestville Central	534
Franklinville Central	726
Gowanda Central	1,232
Hinsdale Central	447
Olean City	2,272
Pine Valley	644
Portville Central	985
Salamanca City	1,344
Randolph Central	956
Springville-Griffith Institute Central*	1,890
West Valley Central	310
Yorkshire Pioneer Central	2,539

Source: New York State Department of Education

\* excludes students at Randolph Academy Union Free School, which offers specialized educational services.

## BOCES

The Cattaraugus-Allegany Board of Cooperative Educational Services (CABOCES) provides services to 22 school districts in Cattaraugus and Allegany counties, and portions of Wyoming and Erie Counties. The purpose of BOCES is to promote shared services among their partnering school districts.

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CABOCES offers services from Pre-K through adult education. Programs include special education, technical education, career training, and continuing education for adults. CABOCES also provides administrative support to the school districts and instructional support, including professional development programs for area teachers. By working cooperatively, BOCES helps small school districts provide a wider range of services.

CABOCES's Special Education Division meets the needs of children with disabilities within the cooperating school districts. The Career and Technical Education Division provides specialized training in 25 career areas. Two of the three technical education centers are located within Cattaraugus County, in the Town of Ellicottville and the City of Olean. The third center is located in Belmont, in Allegany County. The Adult and Continuing Education Division offers a variety of educational programs ranging from basic literacy to specialized skills training. CABOCES serves thousands of students and adults each year helping them meet their educational goals.

### **Jamestown Community College**

The Cattaraugus County Campus of Jamestown Community College (JCC) is located in Olean. Established in 1950, JCC is part of the State University of New York (SUNY). The main campus is located in Jamestown in Chautauqua County. In addition to the two campuses in Jamestown and Olean, the institution has two extension centers in Dunkirk, NY and Warren, PA, and also offers online classes. Institution-



wide, enrollment in 2014 was approximately 3,500 full-time and part-time students, including both traditional and adult learners. In 2012, JCC was named the “Top-Performing Public Two-Year College in New York” in a report published by *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

JCC programming includes liberal arts transfer degree programs, career programs, community service, developmental education, and business and industry training. The college offers Associates degrees in 35 fields such as global studies, accounting, business, computer science, and criminal justice, in addition to a well-regarded registered nursing program. The college has transfer agreements with 43 four-year colleges and universities, and approximately 40 percent of graduates transfer to a four-year institution. The college also offers 20 certificate programs that are designed to provide specific skills in fields such as web design and computer-aided design.

The college has a community outreach program which focuses on personal enrichment. During 2013, approximately 10,000 individuals registered in non-credit courses, seminars, and workshops. The Olean Cattaraugus County campus is also home to amenities that are open to

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the public. JCC collaborates with the Cattaraugus County Arts Council to curate exhibits in the Center Gallery. The Cutco Theater features a 190-seat theatre and an adjacent reception room, which are available for both student and community productions.

JCC also serves an important role in job training. The Olean Training and Conference Center, located in an historic railroad depot, houses the Center for Continuing Education. This facility includes a variety of conference and seminar rooms as well as a state-of-the-art computer lab designed specifically to meet the needs of area businesses and industries.

The college is establishing a Manufacturing Technical Institute on the Cattaraugus County campus. The college has acquired a building adjacent to its campus to house the Institute. Both credit and non-credit academic programming will be offered. These programs include Associate's degrees in applied science and pre-Engineering; programs in machining, welding, industrial management, CAD, and 3-D Printing; Certificates of Completion in specialized technical training; and workforce technical training for local companies. The facility is scheduled to open in the spring of 2016.

Jamestown Community College is participating in **START-UP NY** targeting manufacturing, biotechnology and research technologies, information technology, and computer science firms. START-UP NY is open to all two- and four-year, not-for-profit, public and private colleges and universities chartered in the State of New York. St. Bonaventure University has decided not to participate in START-UP NY at this time.

START-UP NY is an initiative that provides incentives for eligible businesses to start, relocate, or significantly expand in New York State to a tax-free zone, through an affiliation with participating institutions of higher education. Businesses that participate in the program can obtain tax abatements for up to 10 years, including no income tax for employees and no sales, property or business taxes.

In order to qualify for the program, a business must align with a participating educational institution. The business must occupy property that is both affiliated with the institution and is on or near its campus. The business must demonstrate that there will be economic development benefits to the community and that the project will support the institution's academic mission. Support for the academic mission can be demonstrated by a variety of partnership strategies, including allowing faculty to perform applied research, establishing internship and experiential learning opportunities for students, and/or hiring directly from the campus population.

Eligible businesses may be a new company, a company from out-of-state that is relocating to New York State, or an expansion of a company that already has employees in New York State. An expanding business will have to demonstrate that it is creating new jobs and not moving

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existing jobs from elsewhere in the State. Eligible businesses may not locate in an area where they would compete with existing local businesses. The State bars certain types of businesses from eligibility for the program; including retail and wholesale businesses; restaurants; hospitality/tourism companies; real estate brokers; management companies; professional offices (law firms, medical practices, and/or accounting firms); finance and financial services firms; administrative or support/personal services; or businesses providing, generating, or distributing any utilities (electricity, natural gas, steam, etc.).

### **Saint Bonaventure University**

Founded in 1858, Saint Bonaventure University (SBU) is a private, residential, institution of higher education, located in the Town of Allegany. Enrollment in 2014 totaled approximately 2,300 undergraduate and graduate students.



SBU offers Bachelor's and Master's degree programs in a variety of disciplines, including the liberal arts and sciences, business, education, and journalism and mass communication. There are more than fifty undergraduate majors and programs, including history, mathematics and creative writing.

The University also offers several combined degree programs in the health care professions. Under these programs, incoming freshman at SBU are also accepted into graduate schools in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy or physical therapy. Upon graduation from SBU, these students are admitted into the health field's graduate program. Dual admissions / dual-degree programs are established with George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences, SUNY Upstate College of Medicine, Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM), LECOM School of Pharmacy, University of Buffalo School of Dental Medicine, and Daemen College Department of Physical Therapy.

Graduate programs include Master of Business Administration (MBA), Master of Arts in English, Master of Arts in Integrated Marketing Communications from the School of Journalism & Mass Communication, and several specializations that lead to Master of Science in Education (MSED) degrees from the School of Education.

The University has a significant cultural presence in the community. SBU's Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts, which is open to the public, contains art galleries that exhibit both the University's art collection and also travelling and special exhibits. In addition to the galleries,

the Quick Center has a 300-seat theater. SBU also has the only NCAA Division I athletic program in the region.

## **D. Proposed Initiatives**

The proposed Olean Business Incubation Center (OBI) initiative is a public/private partnership between the Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce, the Cattaraugus Empire Zone Corporation, and Olean Enterprise Development. OBI is envisioned as a full service business development center for start-up and emerging companies, non-profit businesses, and companies that service these entities. The goal is to be a one-stop hub that provides business planning, incubation, marketing, financial services, legal services, technical support, coaching and mentoring, and opportunities for collaboration. The Center, which received a substantial grant from the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council in 2014, will be located in an historic building in downtown Olean. It is anticipated that the Center will open by the fall of 2015.

## **E. Findings**

### **Demographics**

Population trends in the County have been relatively stable, with minimal to modest changes in population and households over the past years. However, a population loss has occurred within the cities, villages and hamlets that were the traditional centers for the County, and where there has been the greatest investment in infrastructure. These are areas that the County would like to see revitalized to maintain a more fiscally and ecologically responsible development pattern.

The largest proportion of households consists of married couples with no children living at home (30 percent), followed closely by one-person households (29 percent). “Traditional” families of a married couple with children living at home represent only 17 percent of all households in the County. The proportion of “non-traditional” households is likely to grow, which may have an impact on type of housing needed.

The median age of the population has been increasing. There is a growing percentage of seniors (age 65 and older) and a corresponding decrease in the proportion of youth. The largest proportion of the population remains young adults (age 18 to 39). The presence of St. Bonaventure University accounts for some of this concentration: nearly 30 percent of the population of the Town of Allegany falls between the ages of 15 and 24. In other municipalities in the County, the proportion in that age group is generally around 13 percent. The proportion of seniors is growing, but remains the smallest share of the County’s population. However, the over

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65 population in Cattaraugus County is growing at a faster rate than both the rest of New York State and the Nation as a whole. The County's local governments need to address the issues of this group by making communities "age friendly". Initiatives should focus on areas such as housing, transportation, health services, social and civic participation, community engagement, and community support.

In contrast to the decrease in population, the County has seen growth in the number of housing units. The seasonal housing market has a significant influence in the County and much of the increase in the number of units is due to a growing number of seasonal homes. Homeownership rates are comparable to other rural counties, and the County has seen an increase in the availability of rental units. While vacancy rates appear high (21 percent), when seasonal and recreational housing is removed the vacancy rate drops to 8 percent. A healthy housing market will typically have a vacancy rate of 5 to 6 percent to account for units in transition (being sold, made ready for a new tenant, etc.) Some of the excess vacancy is due to dilapidated units.

The mix of housing types in the County is relatively limited, with nearly 84 percent of all units built to accommodate a single household (single-family homes or mobile home units). As the make-up of a typical household in the County changes, there is likely to be a need for a broader variety of housing types. The housing stock also tends to be older. More than 53 percent of all units in the County are over 50 years old. While many of these properties have been well maintained, they are more likely to need repairs or energy retrofits to meet modern needs.

## **Workforce**

Cattaraugus County has a productive workforce with a good work ethic, and a number of programs and institutions available to provide specialized training. However, a good match between labor force capabilities and the skills needed by area employers is not always feasible. Despite a relatively high unemployment rate (8.1 percent), there are employers who cannot find qualified workers for specific jobs. The County does have a good network of groups that provide workforce training and skills development, including the WIB, BOCES, and JCC.

The region has traditionally had a strong manufacturing base, and manufacturing remains the second ranked source of employment for County residents. Wages in manufacturing tend to be higher than many other fields. There is great potential to build on this manufacturing heritage, encouraging new manufacturing enterprises to grow in Cattaraugus County.

Cattaraugus County's two institutions of higher education are important resources. Both St. Bonaventure University and Jamestown Community College are major employers in the area. In

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addition, the two institutions attract thousands of students to the region. Both institutions also serve as cultural resources for the wider community, enhancing the local quality of life.

Retention of existing businesses and support for start-up businesses is essential, since these businesses provide work for County residents. Job training for available jobs is critical to support existing and emerging businesses. Engaging secondary and college-aged students with local business opportunities will help to reduce out-migration by young adults and to retain young adults who graduate from the local institutions of higher education.

## V. The Economy

### A. Economic Development

The **Cattaraugus County Economic Development Team**, established in 2011, works to: strengthen the local economy, provide opportunities for local firms to obtain governmental contracts, train the workforce with needed skills, and link companies to appropriate resources. Team members include: Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism; Cattaraugus County Procurement Technical Assistance Center; Cattaraugus County Industrial Development Agency; Cattaraugus County Business Development Corporation, Inc.; Cattaraugus County Empire Zone; Southern Tier West Regional Planning and Development Board; Cattaraugus-Allegany Workforce Investment Board; City of Salamanca Industrial Development Agency; City of Olean Community Development; Jamestown Community College; and NYS Empire State Development.

The **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy** (CEDS) document for the three-county region of Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegany is prepared annually by the Southern Tier West Regional Planning and Development Board. The CEDS provides a detailed look at existing economic conditions, an analysis of opportunities and constraints, outlines locally-developed strategies, and sets forth goals to help improve economic conditions in the region. The document also outlines priority projects, programs and activities for funding through Economic Development Administration (EDA). Priority projects for Cattaraugus County listed in the most recent CEDS are the following:

- Bonaventure Square Project, Town of Allegany (recommended as investment priority)
- Walkable Olean North Union Street, City of Olean
- Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade, City of Olean
- Bradner Stadium Renovation, City of Olean
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Crossing Project, City of Olean
- Forness Park Pedestrian and Bicycle Path, City of Olean
- Allegany I-86 Interchange Infrastructure Development, Town of Allegany
- Hollywood Theater Restoration, Village of Gowanda
- Community Composting Enterprise Demonstration Project
- Gowanda Zoar Valley Gateway Park (Phase 2)
- Olean Property Improvement Program
- Rehab Center Development (three phases), City of Olean
- Olean Workforce Housing
- Town of Ellicottville Regional Water Project
- McNallie Building Phase 1 Renovation Project, Town of Randolph
- Onoville Marina Expansion

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The City of Olean has a designated **Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA)** in the northwest quadrant of the City. The BOA program was created by New York State to provide technical and financial assistance in redeveloping areas that are designated as “brownfields”. These areas face challenges to redevelopment due to past industrial uses that may have resulted in potential contamination or other obstacles. The BOA program allows the local community to plan comprehensively for the affected area, investigate existing conditions, identify possible sources of distress, and develop a rational redevelopment plan that capitalizes on the assets and opportunities of the area. The Olean BOA or Northwest Quadrant BOA covers approximately 904 acres in the northwest quadrant of the City. This area had a long-history of industrial uses and includes the Socony-Mobile oil refinery, Agway-Felmont fertilizer manufacturing facility and the Van DerHorst plating facility, among others. Benefits of the area include access to I-86 and strong surrounding neighborhoods. Being in the State’s BOA program also provides access to a range of financial support to implement the revitalization program. The first phase of the three-phase study was completed in 2007. The City is working on Phase 2, which will set forth a framework for revitalizing underutilized properties within the BOA boundaries.

## **B. Economic Base**

In Chapter IV, the discussion regarding employment was based on County residents. The discussion in this Chapter is based on employers.

The following table depicts employment within Cattaraugus County by establishment, not by resident. It represents jobs located within Cattaraugus County. It is based on data provided by companies that pay into the unemployment insurance program, as reported quarterly, and averaged to an annual employment figure. The table also shows number of firms in each industry by NAICS classification code and average annual wages, along with average employment.

<b>Employment by Industry, Cattaraugus County, 2013</b>					
<b>Industry</b>	<b>Establishments</b>		<b>Average Employment</b>		<b>Average Wages</b>
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Total, All Industries	1,812	100.0%	29,795	100.0%	\$36,690
Total, All Private	1,658	91.5%	19,939	66.9%	\$35,448
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	36	2.0%	225	0.8%	\$27,817
Mining, Quarrying, Oil and Gas Extraction	18	1.0%	123	0.4%	\$46,562
Construction	144	7.9%	605	2.0%	\$41,126
Manufacturing	77	4.2%	3,856	12.9%	\$56,111

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Wholesale Trade	78	4.3%	672	2.3%	\$43,234
Retail Trade	329	18.2%	3,924	13.2%	\$23,117
Transportation and Warehousing	44	2.4%	372	1.2%	\$34,982
Information	17	0.9%	213	0.7%	\$39,016
Finance and Insurance	72	4.0%	647	2.2%	\$44,570
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	58	3.2%	220	0.7%	\$25,573
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	103	5.7%	449	1.5%	\$58,319
Management of Companies and Enterprises	8	0.4%	196	0.7%	\$30,576
Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	66	3.6%	524	1.8%	\$55,711
Health Care and Social Assistance	178	9.8%	3,374	11.3%	\$37,543
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	25	1.4%	203	0.7%	\$17,705
Accommodation and Food Services	185	10.2%	2,421	8.1%	\$14,370
Other Services (except Public Administration)	183	10.1%	1,141	3.8%	\$19,755
Total, All Government	154	8.5%	9,856	33.1%	\$39,203
Unclassified	26	1.4%	15	0.1%	\$25,383

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, NYS DOL and USBLS. Data are based on survey of employers under unemployment insurance.

Several sectors are important to the local economy. The largest employer in the County is government, which represents approximately one-third of the jobs within the County. Retail trade is the second largest employer in the County, with 13 percent of local jobs. Manufacturing remains an important source of employment, representing another 13 percent of the County's economic base. Manufacturing jobs also contribute to a stronger economy, with average wages among the highest of all sectors. Jobs in the Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services sector offer the highest wages, with an average wage of over \$58,000,

suggesting that the shift to a more service economy does not necessarily result in lower paid jobs. Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services also pay higher than average wages in the County. Both of these sectors, however, employ relatively few persons, together representing approximately 10 percent of the employment base of the County.



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More detailed information on major employers has been compiled by the County's Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism. Based on their research, the largest employer in the County is the County of Cattaraugus, with an estimated 1,366 employees. Seneca Nation of Indians employs 1,300 persons directly, and another 1,247 employees are employed at the Seneca Allegany Casino and Hotel. Other major employers in the County include Olean General Hospital, Dresser-Rand's Turbo Products Division, Cutco Corporation, Pioneer Central School District, Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES, and St. Bonaventure University.

## **Agriculture**

Agriculture is important to the County as a land use, as a source of income, and as a major employer. Agricultural uses are distributed throughout the County, with a greater concentration in the northern portion of the county where soils and slopes are more favorable to agricultural pursuits.

Significant areas of the County fall within State-designated Agricultural Districts. Only two towns, Red House and Carrollton, have no lands within an Agricultural District, but large areas of these two Towns fall within the boundaries of Allegany State Park.

Agricultural Districts are established under New York State Agriculture and Markets Law. They provide benefits and protections to farms located within a district. These benefits include the following:

- Governmental agencies who propose projects within an Agricultural District that involve land acquisition or the use of public funds for construction must design the project to avoid or minimize impacts to active farming operations.
- Agricultural land within an Agricultural District is assessed based on its use as farmland, not on its development potential, which tends to lower the tax burden on the landowner.
- Local laws must not unreasonably restrict farm operations. Municipalities proposing new laws must submit them to the State for review and comment prior to adoption.
- Applicants for rezoning, special use permits, site plan approvals, use variances or subdivision of lands within an Agricultural District must submit an agricultural data statement that outlines what impacts the proposed action would have on agricultural uses.

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- Active farms are protected from ‘nuisance’ law suits. As long as their activities fall within sound agricultural practices, neighbors cannot sue on the basis of odor, dust or other impacts.
- Farmers have greater flexibility regarding allowed land uses on their properties, if the activity is considered agricultural in nature.

Cattaraugus County currently has six separate Agricultural Districts. There are nearly 237,000 acres within these Agricultural Districts. Cattaraugus County is investigating the feasibility of consolidating the six separate districts into a single Agricultural District. This change would consolidate the review and renewal process.

There have been structural changes to farming in New York State and in Cattaraugus County. The number of farms has steadily declined in the County, dropping from 1,188 in 1997 to 1,038 in 2012. Acreage of land devoted to farming had been declining between 1997 and 2007, but that trend has reversed, and the County saw a 7.5 percent increase in the number of acres of land in agricultural use between 2007 and 2012. Similarly, the average size of farms, which had been declining in Cattaraugus County, also increased between 2007 and 2012. This trend toward fewer but larger farm operations parallels statewide trends. To meet economies of scale, there has been a trend toward consolidation of operations. The average size of a farm in Cattaraugus County is 190 acres, which is 17 percent larger than in 2007 (163 acres).

<b>Cattaraugus County – Agricultural Profile</b>						
	1997	2002	2007	2012	% change 1997-12	% change 2007-12
Number of Farms	1,188	1,157	1,122	1,038	-12.6%	-7.5%
Land in Farms (acres)	215,692	201,913	183,439	197,257	-8.5%	7.5%
Average Size of Farm (acres)	182	175	163	190	4.4%	16.6%
Total Value Ag. Products Sold	\$55.92m	\$58.35m	\$75.15m	\$99.13m	77.3%	31.9%
Average Value Per Farm	\$47,072	\$50,434	\$66,980	\$95,503	102.9%	42.6%
Farm Production expenses	\$42.53m	\$58.92m	\$61.06m	\$86.73m	103.9%	42.0%
Average Expenses Per Farm	\$44,976	\$50,928	\$54,422	\$83,262	85.1%	53.0%
Net Cash Income Per Farm	\$8,419	\$2,749	\$18,383	\$18,275	117.1%	-0.6%

*Source: Census of Agriculture*

Cattaraugus County still has a vibrant agricultural economy. The County’s Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan, prepared in February 2007, notes that nearly 3 percent of all private

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income and 5 percent of private employment in the County derived from agriculture and agricultural related businesses, making agriculture the sixth largest employer in the County. In 2012, the Census of Agriculture indicated that the County's farms sold \$99.13 million in agricultural products, placing it 24<sup>th</sup> among all counties in New York State. Despite decreases in the number and size of farms, the value of agricultural products sold by farm operators in Cattaraugus County has steadily increased. Even when the figures are adjusted to account for inflation, the average value of sales per farm increased by nearly 52 percent over the past decade and a half. These sales figures represent gross income before expenses, and farm production expenses have also been increasing. Farm production expenses are an estimated figure that includes labor, seed, fertilizer, equipment, repairs, maintenance, etc. These expenses grew an estimated 103.9 percent between 1997 and 2012, and 42.6 percent between 2007 and 2012, slightly outpacing the increase in market value. Due to decreasing numbers of farms, however, the net cash income per farm, on average, has generally grown from approximately \$8,400 in 1997 to approximately \$18,000 in 2012.

<b>Farm Comparisons, Western New York Counties, 2012</b>					
	Cattaraugus County	Allegany County	Chautauqua County	Wyoming County	New York State
Number of Farms	1,038	784	1,515	713	35,537
Land in Farms	197,257	150,383	236,546	336,864	7,183,576
Average Size of Farm	190	192	156	317	202

*Source: Census of Agriculture*

The table above compares Cattaraugus County to the adjoining Counties and New York State. The average size of a farm in Cattaraugus County is comparable to the State average; farms in Chautauqua tend to be somewhat smaller, and farms in Wyoming County, which is strongly agricultural, are significantly larger.

Slightly more than half (52 percent) of farmers in Cattaraugus County consider farming to be their primary occupation. At the same time, 61 percent of principal operators report that they also have jobs off the farm, and 40 percent have full-time jobs off the farm, working 200 days or more a year at non-farm jobs. Increased expenses of farming, particularly for labor, have resulted in steady declines in net revenues to farm operators, requiring more operators to seek supplemental incomes off the farm.

Dairy farming has been experiencing structural changes, with a trend toward consolidation into fewer, larger operations, and an overall loss in the amount of acreage devoted to dairy farming. The number of dairy farms declined from 346 in 1997 to 198 in 2012, a 43 percent decrease. Total value of dairy products, however, has increased from \$37.83 million in 1997 to \$58.58 million in 2012.

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Dairy farming in Cattaraugus County benefits from being located adjacent to Wyoming County, a regional leader in dairy farming. Wyoming County, through its dominance in dairy farming, provides a base of support for dairy infrastructure (e.g. services, milk handling, etc.), helping to keep the costs of these services competitive.

There are limited areas of Prime and Productive soils. According to the Cattaraugus County Agriculture and

Farmland Protection Plan, only 15 percent of local soils are rated as Prime, and these tend to be in areas with stronger development pressures, such as the northern portion of the County. This suggests there may be the need to protect prime soils from inappropriate development.

The nature of agricultural operations in the County has been changing. Crop sales have been increasing, including nurseries, greenhouses and fruits and vegetables, while revenues from livestock farming have been decreasing. Overall, the loss of revenues from livestock farming has been offset with growth in sales from crop production.

Cattaraugus County has certain niche farming strengths. The County ranks first in the State in the number of bee colonies, and first in the value of non-traditional livestock (e.g. bison). It is second in the State for Christmas trees and other “short rotation woody crops”, both for value of sales and the number of acres, and ranks 9<sup>th</sup> across the United States for the number of acres devoted to this crop. Other types of crops are also finding success in niche markets (e.g. hops, shitake mushrooms). Specialty crops could support the development of local wineries and breweries. Other strengths include aquaculture (8<sup>th</sup> in NYS) and horses (8<sup>th</sup> in NYS for the number of horses and ponies).

Cattaraugus County is ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in New York State for the number of horse farms. Generally, indications are that many of these horses are ‘non-commercial’ and kept for pleasure use or on farm use. The presence of Amish communities increases the number of horses in use, as work horses are used on their farms. The equine industry is not a strong agricultural sector on its own, but it does provide value for tourism, recreation, and for its importance as a contributor to the agricultural infrastructure (e.g. feed dealers, large animal veterinaries, etc.)

The Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan notes that the greatest threat to farming in Cattaraugus County is low density residential development. Although it is not large in scale, it

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has the effect of permanently removing land from agricultural production, and also increases the risk of conflicts between farm operations and the neighboring properties. Development pressures on farm lands are strongest in the area surrounding the Village of Ellicottville. There is also some pressure in the northern portion of the County where there has been growth in the number of large lot second homes, primarily used for recreational activities, such as hunting, snowmobiling and similar outdoor recreation uses. There are minimal pressures on agricultural lands in other areas of the County.

Farming remains an important component of the County's economic base. A strong agricultural tradition among Amish, Mennonite and other Plain Sect families supports agriculture land values. One of the major threats to farming is escalating cost pressures, as the costs of operations continue to grow, making farming economically unsustainable without outside sources of income. The Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan also identifies local tax structure as an issue; with property taxes, utility taxes, the forest inventory tax and workmen's compensation being the most at issue. Another threat is the need to develop the next generation of farmers, and the difficulty of finding farm labor.

There is potential to develop additional niche markets, such as organic foods, ethnic specialty markets and unusual products. Many farms have high quality hardwoods and forestry is an important source of additional revenue to farmers in Cattaraugus County. Keeping land in agriculture use is fiscally beneficial to the local community, because farmland tends to require very little in public services compared to the amount of property tax revenues it generates. A study by the American Farmland Trust estimates that on average, farmland requires \$0.35 in services for each \$1.00 in tax revenues, compared to \$1.16 for each \$1.00 for residential development.

## Mineral Resources

Cattaraugus County has a number of valuable mineral resources. Historically, the extraction of oil, natural gas, gravel and other minerals has been a component of the County's economic base. Cattaraugus County, along with Allegany County, led New York State in oil production in the 1880's. The County is one of the top gas producing counties in the State, ranking 6<sup>th</sup> in 2012, the most recent year available.

<b>Gas and Oil Production, Cattaraugus County</b>				
	<b>2000</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2012</b>
Gas – production (mcf)	1,256,491	976,977	1,762,182	1,409,833
Gas –Active wells	549	505	569	608
Oil – production (bbl)	110,805	109,492	263,441	228,193
Oil – Active wells	1,622	997	1,894	1,698

Source: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Mineral Resources

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The County also has an important gravel mining industry. There were 70 active gravel mines located in Cattaraugus County in 2012, affecting 2,590 acres. In addition, there were 52 former gravel mines that had been reclaimed, representing 1,302 acres of reclaimed land. Other types of mining are not prominent in the County, with only 2 other mining operations (peat and shale).

<b>Mining, Cattaraugus County, 2012</b>		
	<b>Active Mines</b>	<b>Affected Acres</b>
Sand and Gravel mines	70	2,590
Peat	1	6
Shale	1	24
County Total*	72	2,658

\* Only active mines included in above table; other mining has occurred in the past (e.g. clay)

Source: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Mineral Resources

Cattaraugus County's mining for gravel has State prominence. The State's third largest gravel mine, the 236-acre Country Side Sand and Gravel, is located in Dayton. Lafarge North America in Freedom (161 acres) and New Enterprise Stone and Lime Company in Machias (148 acres) are also among the State's largest gravel mining operations, ranking 8<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> respectively. Hanson Aggregates and Gernatt Asphalt Products are other large operators in the County. There are significant deposits of soils yielding gravel products and the County's mines are distributed throughout the county. Ten areas have been identified by the County as gravel regions.

Mining is an important source of economic activity in the County; however, there is a need to balance economic benefits with ecological considerations. In 2000, Cattaraugus County prepared a study on gravel mining: *A New Look at Gravel Mining in Cattaraugus County*. This study examines mining along the Route 16 Corridor in the eastern portion of the County, which includes Routes 16, 98 and 417, nearby local roads, and I-86. Although there is gravel mining activity outside of this corridor, the County focused on this corridor because it was where potential conflicts between land use goals, community development and mining were identified. This corridor has a wide range of recreational facilities, including several residential cabin communities, such as Lime Lake, which depend upon a high quality of natural resources for their vitality.

The stated purpose of the report was to educate stakeholders and to provide strategic measures that enable mining companies, local communities and other stakeholders to develop mutually agreeable solutions. One purpose of the study was to facilitate reclamation plans for former mine sites, particularly those near or adjacent to Route 16. The goal was to have reclamation plans better coordinated with community plans, in order to encourage redevelopment of these sites.

The report identified several issues related to mining, including traffic, safety, and off-site impacts. It was noted that extraction has a permanent impact on the land. At the same time, aggregates production is a valuable industry, producing jobs, income, tax revenues and other benefits to the County and its residents. There is often a disconnect between reclamation plans

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and local land use planning, with reclamation plans not taking into account a community's vision, and local planning and zoning not understanding the needs of the industry.

The study acknowledges that the regulation of mining operations falls under the authority of New York State, while noting that there should be better means of coordinating State authority with a municipality's ability to regulate land uses under zoning. Municipalities have the right to prohibit mining as an allowed activity within a zoning district, but cannot interfere with the operations or activities of existing mines. It calls for education on sustainable practices and ecosystem approaches; and recommends more emphasis on local comprehensive planning to take a holistic approach to development of all types. This approach provides a rational basis for allowing or not allowing mining in specific locations. The report emphasizes the need for reclamation planning, so closed mines benefit the community. Finally, the report promotes a cooperative approach, because disputes are counterproductive.

The study identifies a number of strategies to improve coordination between the mining industry, New York State as the regulating agency, and local communities. The focus of the recommendations is on better communications and cooperation; data-based decision making; and improved local Comprehensive Planning to make rational, informed decisions on where mining is appropriate, based on local conditions (e.g. where gravel deposits are located). Comprehensive Plans and zoning can also help guide site-specific reclamation planning. The end goal is supporting a vibrant local economy that includes mining in a manner that preserves an attractive quality of life.

## **Forestry/New Forest Economy**

Forestry is another important component of Cattaraugus County's economic base. Across New York State, forests cover over 19 million acres, representing 63 percent of the State's land area. The County's forests are valuable resources for the production of wood products. These products are a diverse category, including resources such as timber, furniture, paper, fire wood, maple syrup, and Christmas trees. In addition, the forests are important to the tourism industry, as they provide the setting for a significant portion of the



County's recreational tourism. Statewide, the forest products industry is estimated to support over 93,000 jobs, according to the North East State Foresters Association. In addition, many private forest owners rely on direct sale of forestry products to supplement their personal income. Cattaraugus County has three traditional sawmills, not including Amish mills, which also provide economic activity for the County.

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Cattaraugus's forests provide valuable ecosystem benefits. They support wildlife habitat and ecosystems. They provide ecological benefits in terms of cleaning the County's air and water resources. And as noted above, they are important scenic resources that foster the County's tourism sector.

With support from Cattaraugus County and others, Seneca Trail RC&D is working with Alfred State College (ASC) and SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) to fund and build the Alfred State College Start-Up NY New Forest Economy Complex. This complex will house the Alfred State College Advanced Manufacturing Center (AMC) and the SUNY Biorefinery Development and Commercialization Center (BDCC), as well as a Start-Up NY "Incubator" building at the ASC Wellsville Technology Campus in Wellsville NY. Construction proposals for the Advanced Manufacturing Center (AMC) are currently being solicited, with Alfred students to be involved with building the structures and installing equipment. Alfred State College is targeting occupancy in the AMC for the year 2016. Funding for the BDCC is pending from the State of NY. When both buildings are constructed, Alfred State College will be applying to the Federal Economic Development Administration (EDA) for the construction of the Incubator using the BDCC funding as match.

This project is a priority for the SUNY System and NYS government, demonstrating a multiple campus approach applying SUNY based technology and education to regional economic development needs through the State University of NY Research Foundation.

The Start-Up NY Bio-refinery Business Incubator will house the first strategic business (Applied Bio-refinery Sciences Inc. - ABS) in the complex. ABS will play the leadership role in launching and operating the New Forest Economy Complex and the BDCC. ABS will also provide the foundation for the growth of hemi-cellulosic biorefinery technology in NYS, with two bio-refineries expected in New York's Western Southern Tier. ABS is a startup that currently does not have a physical presence in a building in NYS.

The New Forest Economy Complex will demonstrate advanced technology synergy between Alfred State College and SUNY ESF to advance the processes, products, technology and workforce development in bioprocessing as it grows resource based - technology based industries and jobs. It will create 50 jobs in each bio-refinery built, and a minimum of another 100 in clustered support businesses of the NFE model. Beyond supporting the ASC and ESF technology commercialization efforts at the New Forest Economy Complex, ABS Inc will provide technology support to other new business startups related to biorefining on the campus and in the region

The Start-Up New York Campus at Wellsville will have space for new businesses and expansions of existing businesses; the size and nature of the space and the number of businesses will be determined by future planning efforts.

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When the NFE complex is completed, the next step in the process will be the siting and construction of two full commercial sites in the Southern Tier. These sites are expected to precede four more commercial facilities in New York State and at least 18 more across the United States. Each facility will cost \$120 million.

The AMC, BDCC, the Campus and ABS are envisioned as the heart of a national research and development initiative that would establish New York's Southern Tier and Wellsville as a national hub for this innovative industrial ecological model. Currently, partners in the model include Youngstown State University (Ohio), The University of Minnesota Duluth, The University of Minnesota Twin Cities, Washington State Pullman, Battelle Memorial Institute, Siemens - Dresser Rand, Miller Mechanical, Highlander Engineering, the National Association of Counties, and Confluent Technologies (Massachusetts).

Beyond the bio-refineries themselves, the technology that they require will create expanded opportunities for manufacturing bio-refinery equipment by existing and new manufacturers in the region. In effect the "New Forest Economy" will become a principle economic development initiative for the Southern Tier that will unify businesses and industries as it creates jobs and generates investment and tax revenues.

### **C. Findings**

The WNY Regional Economic Development Council has prioritized several areas where Cattaraugus County has strengths. These are advanced manufacturing, tourism, agriculture, and to some extent, bi-national logistics. The County should align with these priorities.

The County benefits from its farms, mines and forests; they provide jobs and income for area residents, and they contribute to the character of the County. These resources need to be utilized in a sustainable manner, so they continue to provide a source of livelihood for County residents.

The County has completed an Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan that provides strong guidance for how to support the agricultural sector. The best agricultural soils tend to be in the northern portion of the County, which is also where there are stronger development pressures. It is important to keep important agriculture lands available for farming. Another threat to farming is the need to develop the next generation of farmers, as many of the County's farmers are aging.

The County's mining resources are significant, and the County hosts some of New York State's largest gravel mines. Mining is an important economic activity in the County. The problem of land reclamation and land use conflicts between mines and adjacent properties are issues that need to be addressed. There needs to be better coordination between reclamation planning and local priorities and land use plans.

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“Placemaking,” or investing in the County’s cities, villages and hamlets, should be a priority. The benefits to the tourism industry are obvious, but creating appealing downtowns also helps attract other types of economic activity. Local quality of life is increasingly recognized as an important factor in business location decisions. Places that are recognized as a great place to live have an edge in attracting and retaining businesses and encouraging private sector investment. Placemaking is most effective when it is tied to an authentic sense of identity and history. The goal is to emphasize local history, characteristics, & strengths. Cattaraugus County has strong assets to draw on: its attractive natural setting, strong sense of history, unique character and traditional downtowns.



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## VI. Tourism

Tourism is an important component of the economy of Cattaraugus County. Southern Tier West (Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, 2013) reported that 6.6 percent of jobs and 4.2 percent of the wages in Cattaraugus County are attributable to the Travel and Tourism sectors. The Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce estimates that in 2012 traveler spending in Cattaraugus County totaled \$200 million. US Census data indicate that employment in the "Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation, and food services" sector has ranked fourth among industry groups in the County for the last decade and a half.

The bountiful natural features of Cattaraugus County provide diverse opportunities for year-round recreation. The County has many acres of parks and state forest land, which are available for camping, hiking, snowshoeing, mountain biking and other outdoor recreation. Lakes, rivers, and streams provide opportunities for fishing, canoeing and kayaking. Hunting is another popular activity. Cattaraugus County is home to two downhill ski resorts, Holiday Valley and HoliMont. The County also has vibrant arts and cultural communities that add to the diversity of the area. These resources not only contribute to the quality of life for residents, but they also serve as a magnet for visitors to the region. Space constraints of this Plan do not allow for a complete inventory of all the recreational and cultural resources in the County, but this chapter will briefly touch on some important resources.

### Welcome to Cattaraugus County

The Allegany River Welcome Center is located within the Seneca Nation of Indians Allegany Territory on the westbound side of Interstate 86 in the Town of Allegany. The building's design reflects a contemporary interpretation of a traditional Native American Indian Longhouse and presents an attractive, welcoming building providing the traveling public and commercial trucking industry with a modern, multifunction rest area.



Collaborating with Native American Indian artist Carson Waterman, many exterior design features were developed to celebrate the history of the Seneca Nation of Indians. The landscaping scheme includes abundant indigenous plantings that are individually identified with interpretive markers. Stainless steel sculptures that decorate the landscape relate a traditional Native American story. The soaring lobby recreates the traditional high, narrow central gathering area, complete with a mosaic tile "fire pit", seating "stones" and a domed skylight "smoke hole". The grand chandelier simulates a traditional Seneca "dreamcatcher". The smaller adjacent side spaces represent the individual family living spaces. Creative floor tile patterns depicting a footpath lead the traveler through the expansive restroom areas. Other interior Native American

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Indian features, designed in collaboration with Mr. Waterman, include mosaic floor tile medallions and a multi-paneled art glass window wall that emits multiple hues of natural light across the lobby floor.

The lobby includes a staffed tourist information center, vending machines, public telephones and drinking fountains, as well as handicapped accessible dual facility public restrooms. Other spaces provided include a NYSDOT truck inspection and maintenance office and a New York State Police Interstate Highway Patrol and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement office, which provides a police presence for the safety of the public and the control of commercial truck traffic.

The Allegany Welcome Center was the recipient of the 2006 “Excellence in Highway Design” Excellence Award for a Highway-Related Project from the US DOT Federal Highway Administration.

## **A. Recreational Resources**

### **Allegany State Park**

Containing approximately 64,800 acres (100 square miles), Allegany State Park is the largest state park in New York. The topography of the park, which was not glaciated during the last ice age, is characterized by rolling hillsides and several stream valleys, which is typical of the topography of southern Cattaraugus County. Many areas of the park have been virtually undisturbed since it was established in 1921. As a result, the park’s resources offer mature



forests and significant wildlife habitat, which support many species of birds, fish, mammals, reptiles and amphibians.

Allegany State Park contains two major developed areas, Red House Area and Quaker Area, where recreational facilities are concentrated. The park supports a wide variety of year-round recreational activities including camping, picnicking, swimming, canoeing, hunting and fishing. There are

three man-made lakes (Red House, Quaker, and Science Lake) within the Park, along with over 100 miles of trails. In the summer, designated trails are available for use by hikers, non-motorized bikers and/or equestrians. In the winter, a total of nearly 150 miles of various trails are available for cross country skiing, snowshoeing, and snowmobiling. Ice fishing and ice skating are other popular winter activities. The park is also used for passive recreational activities, such as bird watching. The entire park is designated as a Bird Conservation Area. Much of the park, outside of the developed areas, is designated as a Park Preservation Area.

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Allegheny State Park is located south of the City of Salamanca in the Towns of Salamanca, Great Valley, South Valley, Coldspring, Red House, and Carrollton. The southern boundary of the park abuts the Pennsylvania/New York State line and Pennsylvania's Allegheny National Forest. Vehicular access to the park is provided by three exits from Interstate 86 (Southern Tier Expressway) and from a seasonal access road off Route 219 in the Town of Carrollton. There are also two entrances in Pennsylvania.

Allegheny State Park hosts approximately 1.5 million visitors annually, of which only 13% come from the immediate three-county area (Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, and Allegheny). 72% of park visitors come from other areas of Western New York, and 15% come from other areas of New York State and from outside of the state. According to the 2010 Allegheny State Park Master Plan, Allegheny State Park, together with the abutting Allegheny National Forest in Pennsylvania, the Allegheny Reservoir, the Territory of the Seneca Nation of Indians, and nearby publicly owned land, form a large contiguous outdoor recreational area that "is one of the major extended stay destination areas in the eastern United States."

The large number of visitors to the Park, especially those from outside the immediate area, presents an opportunity for communities on the perimeter of the park to entice Park visitors to existing facilities or to support new venues. Salamanca is especially well located to take advantage of these visitors. There is the potential for the Town of Carrollton to provide support services to park visitors, if the now-seasonal park entrance off Route 219 were to be developed into a year-round, staffed entrance.

### **Allegheny Reservoir/Onoville Marina/Friends Boat Launch**

The Allegheny Reservoir, located on the Allegheny River in southern Cattaraugus County and northern Pennsylvania, was created in the mid-1960s by the construction of the Kinzua Dam west of Warren, Pennsylvania, as a flood control project by the US Army Corps of Engineers.



The reservoir is 25 miles long with forested shoreline. In New York, the reservoir is surrounded by the Allegheny Territory of the Seneca Nation of Indians, Allegheny State Park, and New York State Forest land.

Access to the Allegheny Reservoir is provided by the Onoville Marina and the Friends Boat Launch. The Onoville Marina, located along the western shoreline of the Reservoir on State Route 950A, is owned and operated by Cattaraugus County. This facility has dock and mooring spaces, a campground,

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and picnic facilities. Friends Boat Launch located in the Quaker Area of Allegany State Park on State Route 280 provides the only area of public access onto the Allegheny Reservoir along the eastern shoreline in New York State.

## Highbanks Campground

Overlooking the scenic Allegheny Reservoir, the Seneca Nation of Indians owns and operates the Highbanks Campground which boasts over 100 campsites, 40 cabins and 7 shower facilities. It reopened in 2015 with activities that include a boat launch, an in-ground swimming pool, horseshoe pits, fishing, a laundromat, a gazebo, and a trading post with firewood, ice, and live bait.

## Ski Resorts

The ski resort industry is an important component of the tourist economy. The Ellicottville Chamber of Commerce estimates that Ellicottville hosts 1.5 million visitors per year, and that half of the \$200 million in tourism dollars spent in Cattaraugus County are attributable to Ellicottville.

Two ski resorts, Holiday Valley and HoliMont, are located in central Cattaraugus County, in the Towns of Ellicottville, Great Valley and Mansfield and the Village of Ellicottville. The Village serves as the "downtown" area for the ski resorts and contains numerous shops and restaurants in a walkable, compact, historic center. While the area initially became popular as a winter ski resort, it now is a four season destination that draws visitors not only from Western New York, but from nearby states and Canada. In addition, Ellicottville is the center of a thriving second home market, which extends into adjacent municipalities, including the Towns of Ellicottville, Mansfield, Little Valley, and Great Valley.

Holiday Valley is located on approximately 1200 acres. It offers 58 slopes spread out over four different faces, with a 750 foot vertical drop. The slopes are accessed by 13 lifts. The resort also offers five terrain parks, a mountain coaster and an off-site snow tubing park. Holiday Valley is the most visited ski resort in New York State, based on skier volume, and is the fifth most visited ski site east of the Rocky Mountains. During the summer, the resort offers an 18-hole



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golf course, swimming pools, and the Sky High Adventure Park that contains an aerial course and mountain coaster through the trees. The resort is a year-round venue for conferences and events.

HoliMont is the largest private ski area in North America, in terms of membership. It provides 52 slopes spread over 135 skiable acres and also provides terrain parks. Cross country skiing trails are also available. HoliMont is open to the public for skiing during the week and is restricted to members-only skiing on weekends and the week of Christmas. HoliMont also hosts conferences and events.

## **Seneca Allegany Resort and Casino**

The Seneca Allegany Resort and Casino, which is owned by the Seneca Nation of Indians, is a major tourism resource. Located in Salamanca, the casino offers slot machines and table games. The site also contains an attached hotel with over 400 rooms, several restaurants, and an events center that hosts nationally known entertainers. The resort provides meeting and conference space.

The Casino hosts the AMSOIL Championship Snowcross two-day event annually. The event features more than 200 of the top snowmobile racers in the world competing at high speeds and high altitudes across a snow-covered race course complete with wicked twists and turns and ramps that send the sleds flying dozens of feet in the air.

## **State Forests**

There are eighteen tracts of State Forest scattered throughout Cattaraugus County, with the highest concentration of State Forests in the central and southern sections. (See Parkland and Trails map). State Forests are managed by NYSDEC for a number of purposes in addition to forest management and production, including recreational opportunities, watershed protection, and wildlife habitat protection. State Forests are open to the public for a variety of recreational activities that include hiking, snowmobiling, camping, hunting and fishing. However, not all activities are allowed in every forest area.



The McCarty Hill and Rock City State Forests together contain approximately 6,300 acres in the towns of Little Valley, Great Valley, Mansfield and Ellicottville. These forests abut and also border the ski areas in Ellicottville, which creates a large, interconnected area for hiking, mountain biking, snowmobiling, and snowshoeing. Hunting and camping are also permitted in these State Forests. The North Country Trail (see below) runs through this area.

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Pine Hill and South Valley State Forests, located in the towns of South Valley and Randolph, contains over 4,000 acres. Parts of the forest abut the Allegheny River. The southern boundary of the South Valley State Forest is the Pennsylvania State Line. This area contains a network of 24 miles of equestrian trails.

Among other State Forests in the County are Bush Hill State Forest, which contains about 3,000 acres in the Towns of Farmersville and Lyndon; Bucktooth State Forest in the Towns of Napoli, Little Valley, and Salamanca; East Otto State Forest in the Towns of Otto and East Otto; and Nine Mile State Forest with over 3,000 acres in the Towns of Allegany and Great Valley.

## **Zoar Valley**

The Zoar Valley Multiple Use Area (MUA), part of the New York State Forest system, is located along Cattaraugus Creek in both Cattaraugus and Erie Counties. Approximately 1,900 acres of the MUA are located in Cattaraugus County, in the Towns of Persia and Otto, including a detached 387 acre parcel in Otto that does not have access to the Creek.



Zoar Valley is noteworthy for its scenery, waterfalls, and dense forests. The Cattaraugus Creek has cut a gorge that reaches depths ranging from 100 feet to over 500 feet in the area east of the Village of Gowanda. NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has identified ten trees within Zoar Valley that are the tallest in New York State. These include: tulip poplar, sugar maple, slippery elm, American

sycamore, black walnut, cottonwood, red oak, bitternut hickory, yellow birch and white ash. A 128-foot tall basswood has been reported to be the tallest basswood in the world.

The Zoar Valley MUA contains trails that support hiking, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Hunting and fishing are permitted. Canoeing, kayaking and rafting are also popular activities; there is one public access point at the Cattaraugus Creek Waterway Access. Several companies also offer rafting trips within the gorge area and whitewater rafting trips are available during the spring.

## **Fishing**

The County's lakes, rivers, and streams are home to several types of sport fish, including steelhead and other trout, large mouth and swallower bass, walleye and muskellunge. Natural

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reproduction is supplemented by an extensive stocking program by NYSDEC, which raises and releases steelhead and brook, brown and rainbow trout. A New York State Fish Hatchery is located in Randolph and is open to the public. Trout fishing sites are accessible on the Ischua, Great Valley and Mansfield Creeks, among other locations. Fishing is also available in many of the state forests and on streams in Allegany State Park. To enhance opportunities for fishing, NYSDEC has acquired Public Fishing Rights (PFRs) on various streams throughout the County. PFRs are permanent easements purchased from private property owners, and provide public access for fishing only. Most of these easements are on trout streams.

Notably, Cattaraugus Creek has been listed in the top 10 fishing sites for steelhead in New York State by two outdoor magazines. Steelhead, a type of migratory rainbow trout, make their annual spawning run from Lake Erie into Cattaraugus Creek and other tributary streams from October through April. Among other locations, fishing spots on Cattaraugus Creek are available in the Zoar Valley MUA and on the Seneca Nation's Cattaraugus Territory.

Other fisheries include muskellunge and walleye in Lime Lake and bass, Northern Pike and trout in Red House and Quaker Lakes in Allegany State Park. Ice-fishing is also permitted in the Park, which stocks both the lakes and streams.

### **Other Water Recreation**

In addition to the activities provided by Allegany State Park, Allegheny Reservoir, and Zoar Valley, the County's lakes, rivers, and streams provide an abundant of recreational avenues including fishing, canoeing, and kayaking. There are several Regattas held every year on the Creeks in the County. For example the annual Regatta on Ischua Creek sees 300 boats every year. Participants start in the Town of Hinsdale and travel through the City of Olean to the Allegheny River. Another annual Regatta takes place on the Great Valley Creek. Over 1500 participants travel through the Town of Great Valley, along the outskirts of the City of Salamanca, into the Allegheny River, with a terminus west of the City. These are just a few events that are planned for enjoyment on the County's waterways.

### **Rock Cities**

The southern area of the County contains an unusual natural feature, "rock cities," which are areas containing a natural outcrop of conglomerate rock. These formations consist of large rocks with narrow passages between them, which give the appearance of city streets enclosed by buildings. There are three publicly-accessible rock cities in Cattaraugus County: Little Rock City in Rock City State Forest, Thunder Rocks in Allegany State Park, and the privately-owned Rock City Park in the Town of Allegany.



## **Pfeiffer Nature Center**

The non-profit Pfeiffer Nature Center contains 648 acres on two properties in Town of Portville. Hiking trails traverse some areas of old-growth forest, in addition to areas of wetlands and secondary growth forests.

## **Alpaca Farms**

Every fall, alpaca farms in Cattaraugus County participate in National Alpaca Farm Days, a weekend event where alpaca farms are open to the general public.

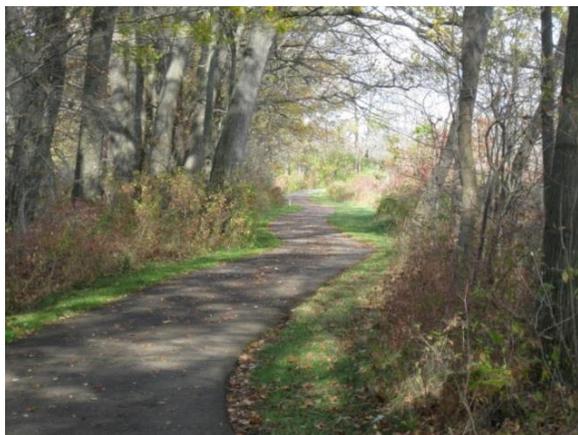
## **Sports**

St Bonaventure University has the only NCAA Division 1 sports program in the region, competing in the Atlantic 10 (A10) Athletic Conference. It offers a range of women's and men's sports teams, including soccer, softball and baseball, swimming and diving, and tennis. The most well-known teams are the men's and women's basketball teams, who compete in the 6000-seat Reilly Center. In particular, the men's basketball games are well attended, attracting loyal fans both from within and outside of the immediate area.

The Olean Oilers Baseball Team, a member of the New York Collegiate Baseball League, plays a 46 game regular season, beginning in June and ending in the last week in July. The team's home games are played at Bradner Stadium in Olean. The New York Collegiate Baseball League is a summer development league for college players.



## **B. Recreational Trails**



Cattaraugus County contains numerous recreational trails for hiking, mountain bicycling, snowmobiling, and horseback riding. Some of the trails are special use, but others support multiple activities. In addition, there is a well-developed snowmobile trail network, which is part of the state-supported system of snowmobile trails. A national trail, a state trail, and several local trails traverse Cattaraugus County. Two regional hiking trails, the North County Trail and the Finger Lakes Trail, coterminously traverse the

County. The local trails are disconnected, and are, for the most part, maintained by non-profit, volunteer organizations.

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In 2014, Cattaraugus County embarked on a new initiative to develop a **County-Wide Trails System** that will integrate the preservation and promotion of the County's natural assets, maximize the opportunities for trail/outdoor/adventure/recreation seekers, and capitalize the economic benefits of an outdoor-oriented tourism activity. The focus of the initiative is to examine the feasibility of developing new trails and connecting existing trails to create a complete system of trails within the County; as well as connecting to trails to the North, South, East and West. The initiative provides a means to: work with local and regional stakeholders; share ideas and facilitate cooperation; and focus on opportunities for local stakeholders to work together to expand the trail system within the County. In addition, because many trails are constructed and maintained by volunteer and non-profit organizations, the County's trail initiative is also intended to enhance capacity within the local groups. In October 2014, the County convened a meeting of a group of trail organizations representing a variety of trails: equestrian, snowmobile, hiking, bicycling and water. This first meeting established the Cattaraugus County Trails System Advisory Committee. Members represent local trails, other county trails, and regional trails.

Recreational trails are a growing natural asset of the tourism economy. Various trails serve local communities, which can bring tourism dollars to those communities. Trail users often patronize local businesses while traversing the area and most often rely on support services. For example, the Outdoor Industry Association estimates that recreational bicyclists nationwide spend \$46.9 billion annually on meals, transportation, lodging, gifts, and entertainment.

### **The North County National Scenic Trail**

The North Country Trail (NCT) was established by the U.S. Congress in 1980. This trail system stretches across seven states, starting at Crown Point, New York, near Lake Champlain and ending at Lake Sakakawea in North Dakota. Although under development in some locations, the trail will be 4600 miles long when completed. The North Country Trail enters Cattaraugus County at Farmersville, running generally west and south through the County to Allegany State Park, where it traverses the Park and enters Pennsylvania. The route of the trail extends through several of the State Forests in the County. For its entire length through Cattaraugus County the NCT is coterminous with the main section of the Finger Lakes Trail.

### **The Finger Lakes Trail and Conservation Trail**

The main route of the Finger Lakes Trail (FLT) traverses approximately 560 miles in New York, extending from the Pennsylvania border in Allegany State Park to the Long Path in the Catskill Mountains. It is the longest continuous hiking trail in New York State. The trail traverses both public and private land, through agreements with private property owners. The Finger Lakes Trail also has several spurs, one of which, the Conservation Trail, is partially located in Cattaraugus County, stretching from Ellicottville to Niagara Falls, New York.

## Pat McGee Trail

Named for a former State Senator, The Pat McGee Trail traverses the center of the County, running from Salamanca north to the Village of Cattaraugus, connecting seven municipalities. It is a non-motorized multi-use trail where people can hike, bicycle, snowmobile or ride horses. The trail was developed as a rails-to-trails project on the eastern branch of the New York and Lake Erie line, which was abandoned. If other portions of the rail line are abandoned in the future, this trail could be expanded along additional abandoned portions of the line.



## Allegheny River Valley Trail

The Allegheny River Valley Trail traverses the Town of Allegany, Town of Olean, and City of Olean, along the Allegheny River and through other parts of these communities. The trail is a 10 foot wide paved, handicapped accessible path, which is used for hiking, bicycling, in-line skating, and similar non-motorized activities.

## Mountain Bicycling

Allegheny State Park and some state forests provide mountain bicycling trails. There is a large network of mountain trails centered in Ellicottville, where there are interconnected trails at Holiday Valley Ski Resort, HoliMont Ski Resort and the McCarty Hill, and Rock City State Forests. Golden Hill State Forest, in the town of Humphrey, is another popular spot for mountain bicyclists.

## Equestrian Trails

Allegheny State Park currently provides 55 miles of dedicated and informal equestrian trails. The Park's recently completed Master Plan calls for the equestrian trail network to be expanded to 67 miles of trails. The Pine Hill State Forest and interconnected South Valley State Forest have 24 miles of equestrian trails. Horseback riding is also permitted on the Pat McGee Trail, which connects to horse trails in the Elkdale State Forest.



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## Snowmobile Trails

Cattaraugus County boasts 350 miles of state-funded interconnected snowmobile trails, which traverse large portions of the County. The trails in Cattaraugus County connect to trails in the surrounding counties, which are part of over 10,000 miles in the state snowmobile trail network. Maintenance of the trails is supported by funding from NYS Snowmobile Trail Development and Maintenance Fund, which is funded by registration fees. Trails are maintained by volunteer snowmobile associations.



There is an additional 90 miles of snowmobile trails in Allegany State Park, which connects into the County snowmobile trail network in the Town of Carrollton to the east. While there are no official snowmobile trail connections from Allegany State Park to trails to the north and west, there is an informal connection via ASP Route 1 to Salamanca. Snowmobile trails within the Park also connect to the 300 mile snowmobile trail network in Allegheny National Forest in Pennsylvania.

## New Trail Initiatives

There are several groups that are actively working on developing new trails in the County, and on extending trails outside the County.

**Ellicottville-Great Valley Trail.** The Ellicottville-Great Valley (EVG) Trail Committee has completed a Master Plan, which outlines plans for a new, 14 mile network of paved, multi-use trails that would connect the Village of Ellicottville and the Towns of Ellicottville and Great Valley. When completed, the trail system is envisioned to have several points of linkage. The trail network is proposed to be constructed in up to nine phases, depending upon the availability of funding. One section of the trail network would connect the Village of Ellicottville with the Ellicottville Central School in the Town of Great Valley. Other sections would run along Great Valley Creek and Elk Creek, and another section would connect the Town Center with parts of the Village and Route 242/219. The plan has the support of local municipal officials, the public, and the business community. The Committee is pursuing an implementation strategy that combines fundraising, donated services, and grants to provide the funds to make the EVG trail system a reality.

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**Allegheny River Valley "Blue" Trail.** A group of representatives from the involved communities have been meeting to plan for a water-based "blue" trail along the Allegheny River, from Portville to the Allegheny Reservoir. The goal is to develop a series of boat ramps for small boats, canoes, kayaks and similar craft along the river, together with parking facilities, waterfront parks and other facilities to support additional water based use of the river. The group is working to develop a master plan for the trails.

Among the goals of the trail organizers is the promotion of the Blue Trail using web-based maps showing GPS coordinates of the boat launches and parking facilities and also providing information regarding locations of local retail establishments of interest to boaters, such as restaurants and other amenities.



**Tuna Creek Trail.** A group from the Town of Carrollton is working to develop a trail along Tuna (Tunungwant) Creek, which flows northward from McKean County, Pennsylvania, through the Town of Carrollton to the Allegheny River. This future trail could connect to the Crook Farm Trail along Tuna Creek in Bradford, Pennsylvania. The Crook Farm Trail is part of the Tuna Valley Trail Association's network of trails along parts of Tuna Creek in Pennsylvania.

**Genesee Valley Greenway State Park.** Genesee Valley Greenway State Park is a 90 mile long linear corridor that follows the route of the Genesee Valley Canal and Rochester branch of the Pennsylvania railroad, extending from Rochester to the Village of Cuba in Allegany County. The Genesee Valley Canal was a branch of the Erie Canal. In the 19th century it flowed from the Erie Canal at Rochester to the City of Olean, where it connected to the Allegheny River at what is now Bradner Stadium. The Greenway Plan calls for the extension of the Genesee Valley Greenway State Park from Cuba into Hinsdale, where there are remnants of a lock from the Genesee Valley Canal. Potentially the trail could be extended in the future into Olean.

**Chautauqua County Greenway.** Chautauqua County has recently developed a Greenway Plan, which shows several points of possible connections of future trails into Cattaraugus County. One point of possible connection is the Conewango Water Trail, which could extend along the Conewango Creek from Cattaraugus County, through Chautauqua County into Pennsylvania. A second point of possible connection is a proposed rail trail that would connect in the northern part of the County.

**Chautauqua County Equestrian Trail System.** In the past several years, Chautauqua County has begun development of a thirty-to-forty mile equestrian trail loop in the eastern part of the County: extending from the parking lot in the northern portion of Boutwell State Forest; south through Boutwell Hill State Forest and some private lands to Cockaigne Ski Area; east to the

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Village of Cherry Creek through private lands; and then return to the northern portion of Boutwell State forest. There is a possible future connection to equestrian trails in Cattaraugus County from Cherry Creek.

**Southtowns Scenic Byway.** The Scenic Byways Program was created by the New York legislature in 1992 and is administered by NYS Department of Transportation (NYSDOT). The program designates as Scenic Byways transportation corridors that are of particular statewide interest for their scenic, recreational, cultural, natural, historic and/ or archaeological significance.

The Western New York Southtowns Scenic Byway (WNYSSB) was approved in 2008 along Route 219 and other roadways in the Southtowns of Erie County. The scenic byway extends through the towns of Orchard Park, Aurora, Boston, Colden and Concord and the villages of Orchard Park, Springville and East Aurora.

In 2014 the Cattaraugus County legislature and the municipalities to be included approved resolutions supporting the extension of the Western New York Southtowns Scenic Byway into Cattaraugus County. This extension follows US Route 219 through the Towns of Ashford and Ellicottville and the Village of Ellicottville. The Scenic Byway designation in Cattaraugus County also includes portions of NYS Route 242 and NY 240, to form a loop with US Route 219.

Benefits of the program include being listing on NYSDOT's Scenic Byways webpage, which provides recognition for areas included in the program. NYSDOT installs and maintains "route designation signs," which depict the byway name and logo. There is also the opportunity for coordinated marketing efforts for historical and cultural activities and businesses that are located on or near the byway.

WNYSSB has recently installed 14 interpretive signs at various locations along the Byway in Erie County, highlighting notable archaeological, historic, and natural features. WNYSSB has stated that the interpretive sign program will be expanded into Cattaraugus County based on its ability to procure funding.

## **C. Arts and Cultural Resources**

Cultural Tourism is a term describing travel and visits that are directed at an area's arts, history, and cultural heritage. Nationwide, cultural tourism is one of the fastest growing segments of the tourism industry. According to a 2012 report by the National Governors Association, the market "for travel linked to the cultural uniqueness of particular places has grown substantially over the last several decades and will continue to grow for the foreseeable future." In addition to

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attracting visitors to a region, cultural tourism helps to sustain local arts and cultural communities. Cattaraugus County, with its diverse and active arts and cultural communities, is well positioned to take greater advantage of this trend. Many artists and artisans live in the County, working in a wide range of media that includes paintings, pottery, quilting, basketry and beadwork. The County contains many museums that contribute to the area's diverse cultural offerings.

## **Old Order Amish**

Members of an Old Order Amish community, generally located in the western part of the county, create handcrafted items such as quilts and woodworked products. Cattaraugus County promotes these businesses through the Amish Trail. The County's Amish Trail paper and web-based brochure not only promotes Amish-made handicrafts, it also includes information on restaurants and accommodations in the area.

## **Seneca Nation of Indians**

The Seneca Nation of Indians, the largest of the six Native American nations that formed the Iroquois Confederacy of Nations, has three territories in Cattaraugus County: the Allegany Territory, which includes the City of Salamanca and the Allegheny Reservoir; the Cattaraugus Territory, in the northwest part of the County; and Oil Springs, which is located in the southeastern part of the County, straddling the Allegany County line. Events and festivals throughout the year celebrate the rich Seneca heritage. Among these events is the Seneca Allegany Veteran's Pow Wow in July, which includes dancers from across the country who perform in traditional costumes. The Native Roots Artist Guild, based in Salamanca, provides support and marketing opportunities for artists who are members of the Seneca Nation of Indians and other Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) Nations.

## **Seneca-Iroquois National Museum**

The Seneca-Iroquois National Museum, located in Salamanca, showcases the history and culture of the Seneca Nation and Iroquois Confederacy. Permanent exhibits include a reconstructed longhouse, a log cabin, and artwork, including beadwork, sculpture and pottery. The museum has over one million objects in its collections, including ethnographic and archaeological materials, documents, and photographs. The museum also includes a gift shop.



## **Seneca Nation Cultural Center**

On September 3, 2015, the Seneca Nation of Indians hosted a groundbreaking ceremony at the future site of the Seneca Nation Cultural Center and Museum in Salamanca. The facility will be

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the new home of the Seneca-Iroquois National Museum, Seneca archives department, space for outdoor cultural and arts areas, along with research and library programs.

### **Cattaraugus County Arts Council**

The arts in Cattaraugus County are supported by the Cattaraugus County Arts Council (CCAC), whose mission is "to promote the creation, presentation, and appreciation of the arts." CCAC provides services to the general public, individual artists, and arts organizations. It has a small paid staff and a volunteer Board of Directors.



The Arts Council promotes local artists through shows in local galleries, including their facility, Art on Main, in the Village of Allegany; the Center Gallery on the Olean campus of Jamestown Community College; and in the gallery in the Olean Public Library. Art on Main also has a gift shop featuring works by local artists for sale. It also supports artists by offering classes in topics related to the business aspects of creating and selling arts and crafts, recognizing that the artists are also small business owners.

Among other activities, the Arts Council organizes an annual "Routes to Art" festival when artists throughout the County open their studios to the public. This project provides an outlet for the artists to sell their products, contributes to quality of life for residents of the County, and brings in tourists both from within and outside the County.

CCAC offers a wide variety of art classes for both adults and children. Through the Community Art and Pottery Studio, it also offers an Independent Open Studio Program, which provides space for community members to work independently on projects; participants are required to be members of the Arts Council.

CCAC also administers New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) decentralization grants for the three southern tier Counties of Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegany.

The Arts Council has identified the need for an Arts and Cultural Facility that would have office space for arts organizations, a performance venue with a seating capacity of 800-1000 seats and separate rehearsal space; an art gallery; gift shop and parking. Providing a space for multiple arts organizations in one location would allow for shared services and networking opportunities. No location or funding mechanism has been identified for this project.

## **Regina A. Quick Center for the Arts**

The Quick Center for the Arts is an educational and entertainment complex at St. Bonaventure University. The Quick Center contains four art galleries that exhibit items from both the permanent collection and from special and travelling exhibits. The University owns an encyclopedic collection of over 3,000 works, including Asian art; Maya artifacts; paintings ranging from the Italian Renaissance to American works from the 21st century; and a large print collection, which includes a recent substantial donation of Andy Warhol prints. The Quick Center also includes a gift shop.

## **Cattaraugus County Museum (Stone House)**

Cattaraugus County owns and operates the Cattaraugus County Historical Museum, which offers exhibits and programs featuring the history of Cattaraugus County. The Museum also has a Research Library. The County Historical Museum is located in Machias on the grounds of The Pines Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center, in a building known as the Stone House. Built in 1868, it is the oldest continually operated County Building and is the sole surviving structure of the 19th Century Cattaraugus County Alms-House and Insane Asylum.

In addition to the County Museum, many towns and villages have museums dedicated to local history, which are open to the public.

## **Salamanca Rail Museum**

The Salamanca Rail Museum is housed in a restored 1912 passenger depot, which was constructed by the Buffalo, Rochester, and Pittsburgh Railway. The museum's exhibits focus on the three railroads that served the region-- the Erie, the Baltimore and Ohio, and the Pennsylvania Railroad-- and features four rail cars that visitors can enter.

## **Griffis Sculpture Park**

Griffis Sculpture Park, located in East Otto, is a unique outdoor museum. It contains over 250 large-scale sculptures, which are strategically placed along hiking trails, meadows, and ponds throughout the 450 acre site. The park also hosts events, such as an annual music festival.



## **Local Arts Organizations**

There are many thriving community-based theater companies, dance studios, and local and regional musical organizations that perform locally. Friends of Good Music of Olean, in

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collaboration with St. Bonaventure University's Quick Center, sponsors a variety of professional classical and jazz concerts, which bring in regional, national, and international musicians for local performances. The Southern Tier Symphony, based in Olean, is a regional orchestra that performs several classical and pop concerts a year. These performance based arts organizations contribute to the cultural vitality of the area.

Cattaraugus County can build upon those efforts by collaborating with other organizations and individuals to develop a coordinated marketing strategy that will promote attractions united around a common theme. One possibility is the development of a "museum trail" that highlights the county's diverse museums, such as the St. Bonaventure University Quick Center for the Arts, Seneca-Iroquois National Museum, and Salamanca Rail Museum. Another possibility is an "agricultural trail" for agricultural businesses open to the public such as alpaca farms, U-pick farms, maple syrup producers (sugar shacks), and farmers markets. A third possibility is a "natural wonders" trail that could feature unique natural features in Cattaraugus County, such as the old growth forests in Zoar Valley and Pfeiffer Nature Center, the three rock cities, and the Gooseneck Hill Waterfowl Sanctuary.



### **D. Findings**

Tourism is an increasingly important component of the local economy. The number of jobs attributed to tourism-related services has grown significantly in recent years, and now represents over 3,800 jobs. Since much of the tourism in the County is based on natural resources, retaining the rural character of the area, the integrity of natural resources and important viewsheds should be a priority. There is also an opportunity to increase the promotion of arts and cultural institutions in order to tap into the growing interest in cultural tourism. This would not only boost the tourism sector, but would also help to sustain those institutions, would boost community pride in local heritage and assets, and promote quality of life for residents.



Cattaraugus County has an eclectic mix of four season outdoor activities, which include hiking, camping, downhill skiing, golfing, fishing and hunting; and an abundance of locations on which these activities can and do take place. The many natural and cultural resources in Cattaraugus County contribute to the quality of life for its residents. These resources also attract tourists and other visitors to the area, playing an important role in the regional economy. Enhancing the County's recreational resources, and

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awareness of those resources, will both maintain the quality of life that residents value and contribute to the growing tourism economy in the County.

Allegheny State Park is a significant resource. The main entrances to the Park are in Salamanca and at the Red House and Quaker Area exists off of I-86. There is also a seasonal, unstaffed, informal entrance from Route 219 in the Town of Carrollton. Development of this entrance into a year round access would provide an entrance into the park for travelers from the south and would also enhance the economic development potential in that part of the County.

Cattaraugus County has many local trails, some on state forests and some maintained by local non-profit groups. However, these trails are not currently connected. There is the potential to connect existing trails into a County-wide and regional trail system.

## VII. The Natural Environment

Cattaraugus County's landscape is prized by both residents and visitors. The terrain is generally characterized by moderately steep, tree-covered hillsides that are punctuated by valleys that were formed by streams. Scenic vistas of hillsides and river valleys abound throughout the County.

### A. Topographic Features

The County's topography is varied (See Steep Slopes Map). In general, there is a larger proportion of flat land in the northeast and northwest portions of the County (Perrysburg south to Randolph and Freedom south to Lyndon). The central and southern communities are characterized by steeper slopes. The southern communities are also higher in elevation than the northernmost communities, with elevations in Ellicottville, Allegany, Carrollton, and neighboring towns reaching 2300 feet above sea level, contrasted with the river valleys which are generally at 1400 feet.

The southern part of Cattaraugus County is the only part of Western New York that was not covered by glaciation during the last ice age. The lack of glaciation accounts for the difference in topography. Although the area appears to be a series of hills and valleys, geologically this area is classified as a plateau, which is an extension of the Allegheny Plateau in Pennsylvania.

The Tree Canopy Coverage Map vividly illustrates the forested character of the County. Virtually every town has a substantial amount of tree coverage, although the percentage of tree coverage tends to be higher in the southern part of the County. Not only does the amount of tree coverage contribute to the natural beauty of the area and the overall environmental quality of the region, but forestry is a component of the County's economy.

The combination of tree-covered hillsides and open river valleys creates scenic viewsheds throughout the County. These viewsheds include vistas from hills looking down into river valleys and also views from lower elevations looking up to the hillsides.



## B. Watersheds and Major Streams



A watershed is an area of land that drains to a common waterway, such as a lake or stream. Watersheds are separated from each other by high points of land, such as the ridgelines on top of hills. Watersheds can be hierarchical, with the area drained by a small stream (a sub-watershed) combining with the sub-watersheds of other small streams to form a larger watershed that drains into a larger stream or other body of water. Watersheds that flow into the same larger body of water

collectively form a drainage basin. The quality of the water in a waterbody is affected by the conditions of the land area in its watershed, since water traveling over the ground surface can pick up sediment and pollutants from the land.

Cattaraugus County is located on a watershed divide. Parts of five watersheds are located in Cattaraugus County (see Environmental Features Map). These watersheds drain into two different major water basins, the Great Lakes Basin and the Allegheny River Basin.

The Allegheny River Watershed, encompassing land in the southern, central and eastern sections, is the largest watershed in the County. This area drains into the Allegheny River, the major river flowing through the County's southernmost communities. Leaving Cattaraugus County at South Valley, the Allegheny flows south to Pittsburgh, where it joins with the Monongahela River to form the Ohio River, which flows into the Mississippi River and ultimately into the Gulf of Mexico.

Two watersheds in the County contribute to the Allegheny River Basin. The Upper Allegheny Watershed encompasses much of the County. This area either drains directly into the Allegheny River as it flows through the area or it drains into streams that are tributaries to the Allegheny. Major tributary streams include Great Valley Creek and Little Valley Creek, which drain the central area of the County; both creeks flow into the Allegheny River at separate locations in Salamanca. To the east, Ischua Creek flows south, joining Oil Creek to become the Olean Creek, which flows into the Allegheny River in Olean. To the south, Tunungwant (Tuna) Creek, flows northward through the Town of Carrollton to the Allegheny River. Many other smaller streams are tributaries to these larger streams.

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The Conewango Watershed, located in the western part of Cattaraugus County, is the other watershed that contributes to the Allegheny River Basin. Little Conewango Creek flows through the Town of Randolph and joins Conewango Creek in western Cattaraugus County. Conewango Creek flows southwest into Chautauqua County and then south into Pennsylvania, where it flows into the Allegheny River at Warren, Pennsylvania.

Three of Cattaraugus County's watersheds drain into the Great Lakes Basin. Two watersheds drain into Lake Erie and one drains into Lake Ontario. The Great Lakes Basin flows northeast through the St. Lawrence River into the Atlantic Ocean.

The Cattaraugus Creek Watershed consists of land drained by Cattaraugus Creek and its tributaries. All the northernmost towns in the County are in the Cattaraugus Creek Watershed, as well as parts of New Albion, Mansfield, Ellicottville, Machias and Farmersville. Cattaraugus Creek, which flows west into Lake Erie, comprises the entire boundary between Cattaraugus County and Erie County, which is almost the entire northern boundary of the County. Major streams that are tributary to Cattaraugus Creek include Mansfield Creek, which originates in the Town of Ellicottville and flows westerly through the Town of Mansfield, eventually joining the South Branch of Cattaraugus Creek.

A very small portion of the Town of Perrysburg is located in the Chautauqua-Conneaut Watershed. This watershed also drains into Lake Erie.

Portions of the Towns of Lyndon and Farmersville, in the northeastern section of the County, are located in The Upper Genesee Watershed. This area is drained by Caneadea Creek, which flows eastward into the Genesee River. The Genesee flows north into Lake Ontario at Rochester, New York.

### **C. Aquifers**

Aquifers are important reservoirs of groundwater. As defined by New York State's Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), "an aquifer is an underground geological formation that is able to store and yield water." Aquifers are distributed throughout Cattaraugus County, as shown on the Environmental Features Map. The aquifer along the Allegheny River has been designated by NYS Department of Health as a Primary Aquifer, one of 18 aquifers so designated in New York State. This designation recognizes that Primary Aquifers are very productive aquifers used as sources of water supply by municipal water systems. Other aquifers in the County are classified as Principal Aquifers, which means they are very productive, but which are not in current use as a major source of water supply for municipal water systems.

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Many parts of the County are not served by a municipal water supply system, so homes and businesses in those areas rely on private water wells. In addition, some municipal water systems, such as the City of Olean and Villages of Allegany and Ellicottville, obtain at least a part of their municipal water supply from wells. It is important, therefore, to protect the quality and quantity of groundwater and aquifers as an essential resource in Cattaraugus County.

### **D. Wetlands**

Wetlands are areas, such as marshes or bogs, which tend to be saturated with water on a regular basis. Wetlands are valuable natural features that provide flood control protection, wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities. Some wetlands are important for recharging groundwater. Wetlands also improve surface and groundwater quality by absorbing some pollutants and soil particles. Wetlands can be under State or Federal jurisdiction, depending on their nature. In either case, development within a wetland area is carefully regulated.



Cattaraugus County has both State and Federal wetlands. State wetlands, which are under the jurisdiction of the NYSDEC, are identified primarily on the basis of vegetation. Characteristic plants include willows, cattails, sedges, water lilies and other species that thrive in wet conditions. Large wetlands of at least 12.4 acres in size are considered State wetlands and are protected under the State’s Freshwater Wetlands Act, passed in 1975. Smaller State-designated wetlands may be protected if they have “unusual local importance”. Any regulated activity within wetlands and within the regulated adjacent area (usually 100 feet) around the wetland, requires a permit from NYSDEC. Disturbances of a State designated wetland are highly regulated and permits are difficult to acquire. Any permit that would be issued would set forth conditions designed to minimize, avoid and/or mitigate negative impacts. In cases where impacts are unavoidable, the State may require the project’s sponsor to create new wetlands, either on or off-site, to compensate for impacts to wetlands.

Federal wetlands are under the jurisdiction of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, consistent with Section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972 (Clean Water Act). Federal wetlands are identified primarily on the basis of soils, not vegetation, but there is a

great deal of overlap between Federal and State wetlands (all State wetlands are also Federal wetlands). The other difference between Federal and State wetlands is that there is not a minimum size requirement of 12.4 acres for Federal wetlands; any identified area meeting Federal wetland criteria are classified as Federal wetlands, regardless of size. Smaller wetlands that do not meet the State's minimum size requirements may be under federal jurisdiction. Project sponsors must obtain permits for any structure or work that takes place in, under or over a navigable waterway or any identified wetlands. The Army Corps also regulate discharge of dredged material or fill material into these areas, or activities that would significantly disturb soils (land clearing, ditches or excavation). Similar to State regulation, permit requirements are designed to encourage avoidance of impacts, or if impacts are unavoidable, sponsors must minimize or mitigate negative impacts.

### **E. Floodplains, Floodways and Special Flood Hazard Areas**

Floodplains are the generally flat land areas adjacent to a stream or river channel, which is prone to flooding. Undeveloped floodplains serve a valuable function by providing a temporary storage area for flood waters. Because these areas are at risk for flooding, development that would alter the floodplain should be carefully evaluated. Uncontrolled development in floodplains can place people and property at risk and can increase the risk of flooding downstream.

In order to assess flooding risks, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has mapped Special Flood Hazard Areas (see the Environmental Features Map). Special Flood Hazard Areas are also known as the 100-year floodplain. Statistically, land in the 100-year floodplain has a one percent chance of being inundated in any given year.

Typically, a Special Flood Hazard Area contains both a floodway and a flood fringe. The floodway is the channel of the stream and any adjacent areas that must be kept free from encroachment so that the 100-year flood can be carried without substantial increases in the flood heights. The flood fringe is the remainder of the floodplain lying outside of the floodway. These areas are at or below the elevation (Base Flood Elevation or BFE) that has been identified as the 100-year floodplain. Land in the flood fringe is typically expected to be inundated by shallow, slow moving flood waters; this area does not actively convey floodwaters.

FEMA regulations prohibit the placing of any obstruction, including buildings and fill, which will obstruct flood water flow in the floodway. These areas, if utilized, are typically used for farmland, golf courses, parking and recreation. In the flood fringe area FEMA regulations do allow buildings, provided that the development meets certain standards that serve both to protect the development and to minimize the risk of an increase in flooding downstream of the development. FEMA regulations are enforced by local governments that participate in the

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National Flood Insurance Program, which offers flood insurance to property owners in municipalities that are compliant with the standards of the program.

## F. Hazard Mitigation

Cattaraugus County has taken a proactive approach to hazard mitigation. In 2013, the County conducted a comprehensive assessment of hazards in the County, summarized in the County's Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Plan was a collaborative effort between the County Departments of Public Works; Economic Development, Planning and Tourism; Real Property/GIS; and Emergency Services.

The County has assessed potential natural hazards that could affect the County, estimated potential impacts, and developed a strategy for mitigating potential impacts in advance of a disaster. All municipalities within the County participated in the effort, under the guidance of the County. The Seneca Nation of Indians conducted its own evaluation for lands under their jurisdiction.

While the full range of potential hazards was evaluated, the focus of the effort has been concentrated on the types of events that are likely to occur, and likely to result in significant risk to life and/or property. Eight natural hazards were highlighted:

- Winter storms
- Flooding
- Severe storms/wind storms/hurricane remnants
- Ice storms
- Tornadoes
- Wildfires
- Landslides
- Dam failures



Strategies for each of these types of events were developed and evaluated using what is known as “STAPLEE” action evaluation. STAPLEE looks at Social, Technical, Administrative, Political, Legal, Economic, and Environmental aspects of a proposed activity. These criteria enabled prioritization of activities, and enabled municipalities to focus on recommendations that are cost effective, feasible and likely to have positive benefits. Some of the recommendations are specific to certain municipalities, while others are county-wide. The County is working with the various municipalities to help review existing local ordinances and policies in support of the Hazard Mitigation Plan, including updating capital improvement plans and local comprehensive plans.

## **G. Findings**

Cattaraugus County's many natural resources have high quality and ecological integrity. These resources are important assets. Streams, groundwater and aquifers are important water sources that should be protected. The important functional role of wetlands in the ecological systems should be recognized. The scenic beauty of Cattaraugus County's natural features--streams, hillsides, and valleys--is valued by residents for their important contribution to the local quality of life. This intangible resource is also economically valuable because of its importance to the tourism component of the County's economy.

The County can play an important role in protecting natural resources, which by their nature can cross municipal boundaries. Activities in one area of a watershed, for example, can affect water quality in a different municipality. The County can help address this issue by fostering cooperation among local jurisdictions that share the same assets.

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## VIII. The Infrastructure

One of the roles of County government is ensuring that there is appropriate infrastructure for the County’s residents, businesses and visitors. The infrastructure supports economic activity, personal travel, and tourism, and plays an important role in the health and development of the County. The County has direct control over some of the infrastructure, while other elements are under municipal or State control. In either case, the County can play a role in setting priorities and direction for the development, maintenance, and operation of the County’s roadways and utilities.

### A. Roadways

The communities in Cattaraugus County are served by a network of federal, state, county and local roads. These roads connect local communities, provide access to markets for local businesses, and accommodate traffic and trade traveling through the County. As a predominately rural area, the majority of these roads are circuitous in nature, responding to the natural topography of the area.

Interstate 86 is the major east-west corridor through the County connecting Allegany County to the east and Chautauqua County to the west. In Cattaraugus County, it also is designated as New York State Route 17. I-86 is a limited access roadway designed to facilitate long-distance, interstate travel. There are 12 exits located within Cattaraugus County.

<b>Route I-86 Exits Cattaraugus County</b>	
<b>Exit</b>	<b>Name/ Access</b>
Exit 15	School House Road - western portion of Town of Randolph
Exit 16	Randolph - former villages of Randolph and East Randolph
Exit 17	Steamburg/Onoville
Exit 18	Allegany State Park – Quaker Run Area
Exit 19	Allegany State Park – Red House Area
Exit 20	Salamanca - western portion of City; Seneca Allegany Casino
Exit 21	Salamanca/219 – eastern portion of City; connections to Route 219
Exit 22	Not developed – proposed connection to improved Route 219
Exit 23	219 South – Limestone area; connections to Route 219 southbound
Exit 24	Allegany/St. Bonaventure – Village of Allegany
Exit 25	Buffalo Street – City of Olean; access to City’s industrial parks
Exit 26	Olean – City of Olean; access to downtown and hospital
Exit 27	Hinsdale – access to Route 16

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In addition to I-86, there are two main federal routes, 219 and 62, providing north-south access through the County. Route 62 serves the western portion of the County. Route 219 is a limited access highway runs approximately through the center of the County from Erie County to the north and Pennsylvania to the south. There have been studies to upgrade the Cattaraugus County portion of Route 219 to

a limited access “Southern Expressway” which would tie into I-86. This would complete the 28-mile gap in the interstate system, and provide better access between Buffalo and Canada to points south. At a local level, Route 219 is an important route for tourism trade, providing access to Ellicottville, Salamanca and Allegany State Park. Traffic count estimates prepared in 2009 in a study on the benefits of the “Southern Expressway” suggest that the average annual daily traffic (AADT) is between 5,300 to 7,150 cars along Route 219.

In addition to Route 17, other major New York State routes through Cattaraugus County include Routes 16, 98, 240, 241, 242, 353 and 417. These roadways, along with Routes 219 and 62, connect major population centers in the County.

In addition, Cattaraugus County owns and maintains 398 miles of County roads. The remaining roadways within the County are local roads, owned and operated by the local municipality. Map 9 depicts the County’s roadway and rail system.

## **B. Rail**

Cattaraugus County is served by several rail lines, which are shown on the Transportation Map. These lines are the Southern Tier Extension and the Buffalo line, both of which are owned by the Southern Tier Extension Railroad Authority (STERA); the Buffalo and Pittsburgh line; and the New York and Lake Erie line. Operators of these lines provide freight service. There is no passenger (Amtrak) service in Cattaraugus County.

### **Southern Tier Extension Railroad Authority (STERA)**

The Southern Tier Extension Railroad Authority (STERA), a Local Public Authority, created by the NYS Legislature in 2000 at the request of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, and Steuben

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Counties. It owns the right-of-way of two rail lines, the Southern Tier Extension and the Buffalo lines. The Western New York and Pennsylvania Railroad (WNYP) is the operator of the lines; Norfolk Southern Corporation, a Class 1 railroad, has trackage rights on the lines.

The Southern Tier Extension is a 145 mile long rail line that runs from Corry, Pennsylvania to Hornell, New York, with interconnections to other rail lines at each terminus. In Cattaraugus County this line runs east-west through Randolph, Coldspring, Salamanca, Carrollton, Allegany, Olean and Portville.

The Buffalo line runs north-south from Buffalo into Pennsylvania. STERA owns the right-of-way from Machias (Machias Junction) to the Pennsylvania line. Norfolk Southern owns the portion of the line from Machias northward to Buffalo. In Cattaraugus County the line runs from Machias, through Franklinville, Ischua, Hinsdale and Olean to Portville, where it enters Pennsylvania. The line has interconnections to other rail lines at each end. The Buffalo line also interconnects with the Southern Tier Extension in Olean.

A large rail yard, known as the Olean Yard, is located on the Southern Tier Extension in the Town of Allegany, Town of Olean, and City of Olean. WNYP has located an operations center in the Olean Yard and recently constructed an engine house for repair and maintenance of locomotives.

STERA has plans to construct an inter-modal truck and rail facility at the Olean Yard. This facility would allow businesses that do not have direct access to a rail line to ship products by rail. STERA conducted a feasibility study for this project (2007) and prepared a Preliminary Engineering Report of the Olean site (June 2009). The Authority continues to seek funding for construction of the facility, which would be designed to handle the transfer of both bulk and liquid products from truck to railcar and from railcar to truck. The facility would also include warehousing and storage facilities. A long-term component of the project is to develop a manufacturing park, or near-by manufacturing sites, to house industries that would benefit from proximity to rail services.

After STERA acquired the Southern Tier Extension, it developed a multi-year program for upgrades to the track and signaling system, which had seen deferred maintenance by Conrail, the prior owner. This work, which is ongoing, is intended to maintain the system, and to upgrade it where needed to industry standards for freight handling capacity, to the maximum extent practical. Since STERA has acquired the right-of-way, both service and usage have improved.



## **Buffalo and Pittsburgh Railroad**

The Buffalo and Pittsburgh Railroad (BPRR), which is owned by Genesee & Wyoming, Inc., runs north-south from Buffalo to Pennsylvania. The BPRR operates on a line that runs, in part, from Buffalo to Bradford, Pennsylvania. In Cattaraugus County, the line traverses Yorkshire, Machias Junction, Ellicottville, Great Valley, Salamanca, and Carrollton. At Ashford Junction in Ellicottville a branch line extends north to Ashford, serving the West Valley Demonstration Project site. The BPRR line interconnects with other lines, including WNYP.

## **New York and Lake Erie Railroad**

The New York and Lake Erie Railroad (NYLE) runs from Buffalo to Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties via Gowanda. In Dayton the line splits into two branches. The eastern branch terminates in the Village of Cattaraugus. The western branch traverses Dayton and the Village of South Dayton, before entering Chautauqua County. The right-of-way is owned by the Cattaraugus County Industrial Development Agency, and the line is operated by NYLE.

Historically, the eastern branch of this line ran to Salamanca. However, the line between Cattaraugus and Salamanca was abandoned, and the right-of-way has been converted into the multi-use Pat McGee trail.

## **C. Air**

### **Cattaraugus County-Olean Airport**

The Cattaraugus County-Olean Airport (KOLE) covers 426 acres in the Town of Ischua, NY, located approximately 12 miles north of Olean. This airport is a city-owned public use airport with one asphalt and one grass runway. The airport can accommodate small private planes and gliders to small turboprop and jet aircraft. There are ten T-hangar spots that are leased by local plane owners. The Olean Airport Support Group is diligently working to bring attention to the needs of the airport and raise funds for improvements.



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For commercial air service, residents rely mostly on airports located in Buffalo and Erie, and to a smaller extent the Jamestown Airport.

## D. Transit

In 2008 Cattaraugus County formed the Community Transportation Coalition to undertake a Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan in order to “provide a structure for the development of projects that will address the transportation needs of the targeted populations by improving coordination between the many transportation stakeholders”. This plan was completed in 2009 and updated in 2014 to address improvements that had been made to the system since 2009. The Plan analyzes demographics, existing services, stakeholder involvement, and funding sources. The study included a needs-gap analysis, culminating in a list of solutions and strategies to meet unmet needs.

According to the Plan, there is a definite need for efficient and reliable public transportation in Cattaraugus County, as 21.7 percent of the population is over 60, 17.2 percent of the population lives below the poverty level, and an estimated 9.2 percent of total households in 2010 had no vehicle.

There are currently two regional transit operators and two transit systems operating within the County. In addition, there are a number of common carriers that service local medical facilities and nursing homes.

The two regional transportation operators are Coach USA and Fullington Trailways. Coach USA offers three major routes through Cattaraugus County and Chautauqua County, offering stops along the way. The “North South” route runs along State Route 16 between Olean and Buffalo. The “Short Line” runs from Olean to New York City, and the “East West” connects Olean to Jamestown. Fullington Trailways offers inter-city service between Pittsburgh and Buffalo, travelling along US Route 219 in Cattaraugus County. These intercity coach services are primarily geared toward travelers. They play a limited role in local transportation needs, such as access to jobs, appointments and other daily needs.



The two transit systems within Cattaraugus County service Olean and the Seneca Nation. Olean’s transit system is provided by Olean Area Transportation System (OATS), operated by

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the City of Olean, and serves the City of Olean, Village of Allegany, City of Salamanca, Town of Cuba, St. Bonaventure University, and the Allegany Territory of the Seneca Nation of Indians. The Seneca Transit System (STS) is operated by the Seneca Nation of Indians and connects Steamburg, Salamanca, Little Valley, Cattaraugus, Gowanda, and Irving.

The 2014 Update of the Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan identified gaps in transit service for the disadvantaged population, as well as the general public. In particular, service is very limited in the northern portion of the County, where residents depend largely on volunteer services. The Villages of Delevan and Gowanda fall within this category. The Plan also identified central Cattaraugus County as an area with essentially no public transportation service. This lack of service represents a significant hardship for persons who cannot or do not drive, whether due to age, disability or income.

In general, coordination needs to occur between all of the stakeholders to limit duplication of services and to expand services to the areas in need. Demands for transportation services will increase as the elderly and disadvantaged populations continue to rise. The County must continue to invest in a coordinated transportation plan to improve coordination, and to identify priority projects and funding sources.

## **E. Water and Sewer**

The majority of the County does not have public water and sewer system. Residents and businesses operate on private systems, such as well water and septic systems. The two cities and many villages, however, do have public systems. The Cities of Olean and Salamanca have both public water and sewer. The City of Olean has also extended a sewer district into the Town of Olean east of the City. Public sewer and water is also available in the Villages of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Ellicottville, Franklinville, Gowanda, Little Valley, Portville, and South Dayton; as well as the former villages of Limestone, Perrysburg, and Randolph. Public water, but not sewer, is available in the Village of Delevan and parts of the Town of Yorkshire near the village; the Lime Lake area of Machias; the hamlet of West Valley; and in the area of New Albion south of the Village of Cattaraugus. Map 10: Infrastructure shows generally where public utilities are available.

## **F. Broadband Internet Access**

The major broadband and internet providers offer limited coverage throughout Cattaraugus County. According to an article in the Olean Times Herald, the County has been undergoing an initiative to bring high-speed internet access to Cattaraugus County homes and businesses. Plans are in place to add additional equipment to a tower that serves the Town and City of Olean, Allegany, Portville, and parts of Hinsdale and Carrollton. In addition, towers in Little Valley

and Gowanda are expected to be upgraded to provide improved service around Little Valley, Dayton, Perrysburg and Persia. These improvements to existing cell towers are planned to be implemented in 2015.

## **G. Cellular Phone Service**

The major cellular providers (Verizon, Sprint, AT&T, T-Mobile) offer coverage either directly or through off-network providers throughout the County. The strength of this coverage varies as a result of the wide-ranging topography and the rural nature of the area. In general, cellular service appears to be strongest along US Route 219 and I-86. As you move further away from the major highways, the level of service declines.

## **H. Electricity**

Cattaraugus County benefits from having areas served by public electricity. Public power is provided by a utility that is either municipally-owned or operated by a not-for-profit. Public ownership tends to lower the costs of electricity for both business and residential users. A portion of the Town of Freedom along with a small area within the Town of Yorkshire, are served by the Village of Arcade Municipal Electric system. The City of Salamanca operates a municipal electric system through a Board of Public Utilities. Its service area covers most of the City and portions of the Towns of Salamanca, Great Valley and Red House. Little Valley's Municipal Electric Department provides electricity to the Village; portions of the Towns of Little Valley and Napoli; and small areas of the Town of Salamanca, New Albion and Mansfield.

In addition, the Steuben Rural Electric Cooperative, the largest rural electric cooperative in New York State, provides electricity to over 6,000 homes and businesses in Steuben, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua Counties. Within Cattaraugus County, its service area is located in the Towns of Leon, New Albion, Conewango and Napoli.

## **I. Findings**

The County's road network connects its communities. There is support for the completion of Route 219 for economic development and access. With this exception, maintaining the quality of existing roadways is a priority over the development of new roads.

The ability to ship goods by rail is a necessary component of the regional transportation network. The demand for rail service is expected to grow in the future, as fuel becomes more expensive, making rail service more economical compared to highway-based transport. Rail lines in the County provide freight service, and have the potential to spur economic activity. Proposed plans for an intermodal facility will support access to materials and markets.

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Transit service is limited, and there is a need to address gaps in service. Given the rural nature of the County, creative solutions will be necessary to address this issue. The County has made strides in promoting better coordination among service providers and continued cooperation is needed.

There is a need to encourage alternative modes of transportation to allow residents the ability to have multiple options. Establishing Complete Streets Policies by municipalities provide a good foundation for these transportation alternatives. Complete Streets are defined as facilities that “are designed and operated to enable safe access for all users. Pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and bus riders of all ages and abilities are able to safely move along and across a complete street.”

Expansion of broadband internet access is a priority for the County. Publicly owned utilities provide lower cost electricity; however more could be done to capitalize on this asset.

## IX. Health and Public Safety

An important role of County government is public health and safety. As noted in Chapter III, this function was the primary responsibility of Counties when they were first established. These duties are extensive and far-reaching, and include the operations of the courts, County Sheriff, County Jail, County Health Department, and protection of vulnerable populations, such as the elderly, among other responsibilities. For the purposes of this Comprehensive Plan, this section on Health and Public Safety will focus primarily on creating healthy, connected communities and emergency services.

### A. Healthy, Connected Communities

The health impacts of the physical design of a community are becoming more recognized. Cities, villages, and towns that have sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and recreational trails encourage people to add physical activity to their everyday routines, such as walking or bicycling to school or to stores. This physical activity can have positive health effects. The NYS Health Commissioner has stated, "About 150 minutes of moderate physical activity or 75 minutes of vigorous physical activity over the course of a week can reduce risk of heart disease, type 2 diabetes, obesity, osteoporosis, depression, and some cancers."

#### Complete Streets Policy



One way that communities can integrate infrastructure such as sidewalks into the street system is through the adoption and implementation of a complete streets policy. The term "complete streets" refers to a program that takes into consideration the needs of all users of a street, not just automobiles.

As defined by NYS Department of Transportation, "A Complete Street is a roadway planned and designed to consider the safe, convenient access and mobility of all roadway users of all ages and abilities. This includes pedestrians, bicyclists, public transportation riders, and motorists; it includes children, elderly, and persons with disabilities." The goal of a complete streets program is to make streets safer and more welcoming for all users with the intent to encourage more people to choose an alternative to driving for short trips. Measures to implement a

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complete streets policy vary from community to community, but can include physical changes to the road right-of-way such as installing sidewalks, adding dedicated or shared bicycle lanes, and marking pedestrian crosswalks on streets.

In addition to health benefits, there are many other benefits to the adoption and implementation of a complete streets program. Expanding infrastructure to address the needs of pedestrians and bicyclists helps to create more attractive, livable, connected communities. It recognizes that the youth and the elderly of a community may need or prefer transportation options other than motor vehicles. Implementation of a complete streets program may result in a reduction in vehicular traffic congestion, which in turn, will reduce air pollution in the area, increasing beneficial health effects. In addition, by taking pedestrians and bicyclists into consideration, daily travel is safer for those who use these alternate means of transportation. These benefits improve quality of life for residents of all ages.

A complete streets policy can also recognize the importance of bicycles as a method of transportation in connecting two or more communities. Cattaraugus County has one state-designated bicycle route and many local and county roads without formal designation or dedicated bicycle lanes that are used by bicyclists.

New York State Bicycle Route 17 is a 442 mile long, shared-roadway route that crosses the State, beginning at Lake Erie near Westfield in Chautauqua County and ending on the Hudson River where it intersects with NYS Bike Route 9. The route roughly parallels I-86 through Cattaraugus County. It enters the County in Randolph on Route 394, follows Route 242 to Little Valley, Route 353 to Salamanca, and Route 417 through Salamanca, Carrollton, Allegany, Olean and Portville, where it enters Allegany County.

Although they are not officially marked as bicycle routes, many of the County's roads are used by bicyclists, both for recreation and for transportation. Some shoulders on County and local roads are wide enough to safely accommodate bicyclists, but some are too narrow or in disrepair, forcing the bicyclists to share the travel lane with motor vehicles, which can be unsafe especially when the road is narrow with short sight distances.

The Cattaraugus County Planning Board adopted a Complete Streets policy in 2009. That policy "endorses the policy of Complete Streets as a guiding principle for transportation planning for our County and its municipalities..." Among local communities, the Village of Allegany and the Town of Allegany have adopted complete streets policies. The City of Olean has embarked on a complete streets project for North Union Street, the main commercial street in the City. The project, scheduled for completion in 2016, will revitalize North Union Street as a walkable, complete street.

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Complete streets policies are flexible, so a community can design a policy that will address its specific needs and concerns. Given the rural character of much of Cattaraugus County, a policy that promotes sidewalks is not appropriate for many areas. However, safe bicycle routes on public roads can be developed throughout the County.

Cities, villages and hamlets within towns typically have a more compact, walkable development pattern, which traditionally had a high level of pedestrian activity. In these areas measures to maintain and improve pedestrian access and safety are appropriate. Policies can also ensure safe connections between residential areas and local schools and traditional commercial centers.

## **B. Access to Health Providers**

### **Healthy Livable Communities Consortium of Cattaraugus County**

In 2011, Cattaraugus County established the Healthy Livable Communities Consortium of Cattaraugus County (HLCCCC). This group is comprised of a coalition of municipalities, agencies, departments, not-for-profits, churches and other organizations dedicated to improving the health of the County's residents. The goal is to improve quality of life through improved access to healthier lifestyles. The Community Health Improvement Plan was developed through this process. The focus of the Consortium is "making the healthy choice the easy choice," in alignment with New York State's Prevention Agenda. Priority areas under the Prevention Agenda are:

- Prevent chronic diseases
- Promote healthy and safe environments
- Promote healthy women, infants and children
- Promote mental health and prevent substance abuse
- Prevent HIV, sexually transmitted diseases, vaccine-preventable diseases and health-care associated infections.

Cattaraugus County's priorities are identified as preventing chronic disease, focusing on reducing obesity rates; and promoting a healthy and safe environment, focusing on injuries, violence and occupational health. In the category of reducing obesity rates, a number of strategies are identified, including increasing existing Complete Streets and Safe Routes to Schools efforts. Increasing access to local healthy foods is also an objective.

### **Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan**

The Cattaraugus County Health Department completed a Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan, 2014 – 2017. This document has extensive data on health and disease factors, and addresses a wide variety of elements that influence the health and wellness of the County's residents.

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According to the Health Assessment, there were 37 primary care physicians in Cattaraugus County in 2011. This represents 46.1 providers per 100,000 residents, a figure that lags both Federal and New York rates. On a national basis, there were 84.7 primary care physicians per 100,000 residents. New York State, which has urban areas with a large concentration of physicians, has 105.7 primary care physicians per 100,000 residents. While this suggests a lack of primary care physicians in the County, the percent of adults who reported they did not have a primary care provider was only 9.8 percent, compared to 14.6 percent in the State, and 19.3 percent nationally. This suggests that some residents are obtaining primary care from physicians in an adjacent County.

### **Olean General Hospital**

Olean General Hospital is only hospital located within Cattaraugus County. It has 186 inpatient beds, and anchors a comprehensive complex of medical facilities, offices and services. The campus houses the hospital, an outpatient surgery center, primary care, and support services. Facilities in the Olean vicinity include the Olean Medical Group, Holiday Park Health Center, Omega Family Health Care, MASH Urgent Care, the VA Clinic, Medical Arts, University Primary Care, and Southern Tier Cancer Center. Olean General also operates a health center in Salamanca.



Residents of Cattaraugus County also have access to hospitals located in adjacent counties. Hospitals within 15 miles from the County border include the following:

- Cuba Memorial Hospital, Cuba, NY (Allegany County)
- WCA Hospital, Jamestown, NY (Chautauqua County)
- Brooks Memorial Hospital, Dunkirk, NY (Chautauqua County)
- Lakeshore Health Care Center, Irving, NY (Chautauqua County)
- Bertrand Chaffee Hospital, Springville, NY (Erie County)
- Bradford Regional Medical Center, Bradford, PA

Hospitals that are farther away include: Jones Memorial Hospital in Wellsville, Allegany County; Wyoming County Hospital in Warsaw; and concentrations of several hospitals in and near the City of Buffalo.

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Other health facilities in Cattaraugus County are located in Gowanda, Conewango, Ellicottville, Franklinville and Delavan. The Lionel R. John Health, operated by the Seneca Nation of Indians, is in Salamanca. The County maintains two nursing homes for long-term care: The Pines - Olean Campus and The Pines - Machias Campus. A mental health facility, Jones Memorial Health Center, is located in Jamestown (Chautauqua County).

## C. Emergency Services (fire/ambulance/police)

### Fire Service Division

Cattaraugus County Office of Emergency Services (CCOES) – Fire Service Division provides training and support for 32 fire departments/stations in the County. Nearly all of the fire coverage in Cattaraugus County is volunteer-based. Only the Cities of Olean and Salamanca have paid fire departments. The Olean Fire Department is a municipal department, providing fire protection services within the City of Olean. The Olean Fire Department has two stations and 35 fire personnel (firefighters and command). The Fire Department also is involved with building inspections for the City. The City of Salamanca Fire Department has one station, with 10 paid firefighters and 8 volunteer firefighters.

### Emergency Medical Service Division

Cattaraugus County Office of Emergency Services (CCOES) – Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Division has oversight and coordination responsibilities for all EMS organizations within the County. There are 27 State-certified ambulance services and 6 State-certified first response services in Cattaraugus County. Three of those 33 EMS services are paid agencies with full-time staffed stations. The remaining 30 are staffed with volunteer EMS providers, who respond to the majority of calls in the county.



Three organizations in Cattaraugus County offer paid careers in EMS. Two are associated with paid fire departments in the Cities of Olean and Salamanca. Those personnel are cross-trained to be both EMS and Firefighters. The third is what is known as a commercial ambulance service and provides only EMS and medical-related transportation, Trans Am Ambulance Services. City of Salamanca Fire Department and Trans Am Ambulance Services also provide "fly car" service to the County. A "fly car" is an EMS vehicle equipped with an advanced life support provider and associated equipment and medications to go out and meet with other ambulances and assist them with a higher level of care while transporting to the hospital.

## Law Enforcement Division



The mission of the law enforcement division of the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Office is to provide for the peace and security of all residents of Cattaraugus County with particular emphasis on those areas where they are the primary law enforcement agency. The Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Department provides public safety and law enforcement services across the County,

assisted by the New York State Police and several local municipal police departments. The Cities of Olean and Salamanca, along with the Villages of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Ellicottville, Franklinville and Gowanda have local police departments.

## D. Findings

For a rural County, medical services are reasonably accessible, although some residents journey to adjacent Counties for services. Olean General Hospital is an important asset in the County, and is reasonably accessible for most residents who can drive. Access to health care services for those without access to a car becomes more difficult.

Most residents rely on volunteer fire and emergency medical services. With changing demographics and employment patterns, there is concern that there may be a shortage of volunteers, particularly in certain areas of the County. Increased State-mandated requirements for training, while ensuring a high quality of service, add costs and barriers to volunteerism.

The Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Department is a valuable resource, particularly since most communities in the County depend on their services for law enforcement and public safety.

Cattaraugus County has a broad coalition of groups addressing public health issues. The basis of their planning has highlighted the need for "Complete Streets" policies not only to improve the built environment, but also to help the community's wellness. Communities would benefit from policies that take into consideration all users of roadways, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and users of public transit. Since the responsibility for roadways is divided among the State, County, cities, villages, and towns, this provides the opportunity for individual municipalities and the County to adopt and implement complete streets policies that address local conditions and needs.

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Complete streets policies in the cities and villages could include measures to improve pedestrian access and safety through improvements such as extending sidewalks to create an interconnected pedestrian network; marking crosswalks on streets; making crosswalks more visible by elevating them; and by adding landscaping, pedestrian level-lighting, and benches to the streetscape. Complete streets programs in local municipalities can also address issues such as bike lanes and transit stops.

While the Cattaraugus County Planning Board has adopted a Complete Streets policy, that policy applies only to their statutory authority to review site plans. The adoption of a Complete Streets policy by the County Legislature could direct the County's Department of Public Works to implement physical changes to the County's road network, as funding permits. Considering that the County's roads are primarily located in the more rural, less dense sections of the County, extending sidewalks into these areas would not be appropriate. However, the County should adopt policies that recognize the use of County roads by bicyclists, as well as pedestrians. Adding dedicated bicycle lanes to County roads may not be feasible, due to lack of right-of-way and funding to widen the road to accommodate a bike lane. However, the County can recognize the shared use of the roads by incorporating a requirement to provide paved shoulders that are wide enough to accommodate bicycles. Those physical improvements could be incorporated into the County's maintenance schedule for routine maintenance and/or reconstruction.

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## **X. The Vision for the Future**

Cattaraugus County has a clear vision for its future based on prior planning efforts, supplemented with new research, and public outreach. Consistently, the message has been that residents of the County want to see the existing cities, villages and downtowns of the County thrive and prosper. These communities anchor the surrounding countryside, and create centers for jobs, services and community interaction. At the same time, residents value the scenic beauty of the County and its rural features, such as active farms, parklands and forests. These areas are important not only for their aesthetic and environmental value, but also for their role in supporting the County's economic base. Economic activities as diverse as tourism, agriculture, recreation, and seasonal housing depend upon the conservation of the natural landscape.

This vision for the future allows for continued redevelopment and growth in the County while prioritizing areas that are important to conserve. This does not mean that no new development can occur within areas not designated for growth, but that any new development in those areas should respect the natural environment and minimize potential impacts. Targeting areas for growth and areas for conservation helps establish a sustainable balance. This approach also has fiscal benefits for the County and its municipalities; targeting growth in areas where there are already facilities to accommodate development minimizes public costs for maintenance and operation of services, infrastructure and facilities. Accordingly, the Vision for the County encourages redevelopment in areas where there already is a density of population.

The Future Growth Areas Map outlines areas prioritized as primary growth centers and areas prioritized for conservation. The authority to zone and direct development to specific locations is vested in local municipalities, but the County can provide technical support and advice through the GML Section 239 referral process. The vision set forth here is offered as general guidance with the recognition that it is up to each municipality to refine this vision to meet the local context. Local municipalities may designate additional growth areas within their own Comprehensive Plan. Generally, however, in the absence of local plans, investment should be directed first toward established centers, and intensive development should be avoided in priority conservation areas.

### **A. Growth Areas**

Nearly half of the County's population, as well as a significant proportion of jobs and services, is located in the two cities and the surrounding Towns. It should be a priority to maintain the quality of life in the Cities of Olean and Salamanca and continue to reinvest in their revitalization. The City of Olean is the largest municipality in the County, with 18 percent of the County's population. When the Town of Olean and the adjacent Town and Village of Allegany

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are included, this area represents approximately 30 percent of the County's population, and with the inclusion of the Town and Village of Portville, the greater Olean area represents over 35 percent of the County's population. The Olean/Allegany/Portville area is a center for employment, health care, shopping, higher education, and other services. There has been significant investment in both physical and social infrastructure, and it is identified as a regional center in regional planning documents.

The City of Salamanca is the second largest population center in the County. With the adjacent Town of Salamanca and Allegany Territory of the Seneca Nation of Indians, it represents 16 percent of the County's population. The City and the Allegany Territory also have a significant concentration of jobs, including the Seneca Allegany Casino and Hotel.

In addition to Olean/Allegany/Portville and Salamanca areas, the Primary Growth Areas in the County include:

- Village of Cattaraugus
- Village of Delevan
- Village of Ellicottville
- Village of Franklinville
- Village of Gowanda
- Hamlet of Limestone
- Village of Little Valley
- Machias/ Lime Lake Area
- Hamlet of Perrysburg
- Hamlets of Randolph/ East Randolph
- Village of South Dayton

These Primary Growth Areas are encircled in red on the Future Growth Areas Map.

## **B. Conservation Areas**

Conservation areas are those that fall within New York State Agricultural Districts, parklands, and densely forested areas. Areas that are ecologically sensitive, such as wetlands and floodplains, are also included in this category. These areas are depicted in shades of green on the Future Growth Areas Map.

## **C. Goals, Objectives and Strategies**

Goals and objectives specifically developed for the Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan reflect, support and build upon the goals developed in the County's prior planning studies, regional plans, and public input. The strategies focus on actions under the County's control or

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where the County can fulfill a leadership role for other municipalities in the County. The goals, objectives, and strategies established provide the foundation of a future vision for Cattaraugus County and guidelines for County decision-making. A number of recommendations have been listed in prior chapters. There are also many other studies, many incorporated by reference, with recommendations on specific topic areas. This section highlights priority action goals for the County to undertake in the near term.

Public input included two rounds of public meetings held at various locations throughout the County, as well as a public input survey which received over 300 responses. Targeted outreach to youth and seniors was undertaken to obtain a wide perspective on future priorities for the County. The goals developed from the first round of public input sessions were reviewed, verified and revised based on responses obtained at the second round of public input meetings.

## **GOAL #1: Cattaraugus County Will Retain Its Vital, Rural Character**

Cattaraugus County should encourage municipalities to target growth primarily within existing cities, villages and town centers, where there is already development and infrastructure to support it. This approach creates pockets of density where the County and its municipalities can more easily offer services, and directs growth away from sensitive areas.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- Protect the natural beauty that makes Cattaraugus County the “Land of the Enchanted Mountains”
- Recognize the importance of communities, farmland, forested land, scenic vistas and other elements of “Country Life” that contribute to the County’s rural character
- Recognize how the rural character can contribute to a strong local economy and support tourism related businesses
- Encourage new growth in appropriate locations, where there is already development and infrastructure to support it, and promote sustainable development within those communities

### **STRATEGIES**

- Carefully evaluate proposed projects that are referred for GML Section 239 referral for their impact on rural character and recommend against projects that do not conform to this vision
- Provide assistance to municipalities on developing local Comprehensive Plans
- Provide model legislation (i.e. conservation subdivision regulations) on how to preserve rural character
- Provide Smart Growth trainings which will provide local leaders with knowledge and tools to advance policies, planning efforts, and design practices that create vibrant, healthy, economically resilient, and environmentally sustainable communities

## **GOAL #2: Cattaraugus County Will Have a Strong, Sustainable Economy Where Residents Can Support Their Families and Their Quality Of Life**

The County should promote *Placemaking*, which is the process of creating public spaces, parks, streets, and waterfronts that will attract people because they are pleasurable or interesting and promote health, happiness, and well-being. By educating municipalities about the value of investing in aesthetic improvements to priority centers the County can help to create appealing places for people to live, work, plan, and do business in.

Municipalities also need to address the issues of the increasing over 65 population by making communities “age friendly”. Initiatives should focus on areas such as housing, transportation, social and civic participation, community engagement, and community support and health services.

Modern economic development focuses on Placemaking and recognizes that businesses are less tied to specific locations. As a result, company leaders can choose a headquarters location for personal reasons. In order to be competitive as a location, however, the County must have fast, reliable broadband infrastructure. To create places appealing to companies, Placemaking improvements should be tied to an authentic sense of identity based on the historic character of the community and local strengths.

New job creation should be encouraged either in or near targeted development areas. This promotes jobs near potential employees, helps shorten commutes, and makes it easier to provide coordinated transportation services. The concentration of daytime worker population can also be an important boost to the local retail environment. Job training must be coordinated with the business needs of the next generation of jobs.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- Support economic development and job training
- Encourage a greater range of employment opportunities to sustain a strong local economy and improve local quality of life
- Support existing local business owners and attract new, diverse employers
- Promote development of new businesses through entrepreneurship and encourage locally-grown businesses
- Facilitate cooperation between employers and the education and training system to ensure a better match between the types of jobs available and the skills being acquired
- Consider developing programs and policies to retain young families, and encourage new residents to locate in the County
- Promote the development of the infrastructure needed in support of economic development, such as high-speed internet and adequate roads
- Develop partnerships between government and business leaders to work together toward a healthy local economy

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## STRATEGIES

- Continue to facilitate the Cattaraugus County Economic Development Team to strengthen the County’s ability to provide: opportunities for local businesses, appropriate job training (both basic job readiness and advanced skills), and entrepreneurial support
- Target industry clusters, as identified in the Southern Tier West CEDS, where there is strength both from industry and occupational perspective:
  - Agribusiness/ food processing
  - Computer/ electronic product manufacturing
  - Forest/ wood products
  - Machinery manufacturing
- Provide technical assistance to local residents to “home-grow” business enterprises
- Continue to work on extending broadband throughout the County
- The areas served by public utilities should be targeted for reinvestment and economic development support.
- Work with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation on appropriate policies toward mining that balance economic development with resource protection
- Develop model codes for municipalities to manage forestry and mining responsibly
- Engage secondary and college-aged students with local business opportunities to reduce out-migration by young adults and to retain young adults who graduate from the local institutions of higher education
- Work with training providers to provide workforce training programs targeted at in-demand skills
- Encourage entrepreneurship through support of incubators, training and brokering connections between entrepreneurs, potential investors and available technical assistance and resources
- Support appropriate job training (both basic job readiness and advanced skills) and entrepreneurial assistance by working with local educational institutions at various levels (secondary, higher education, and vocational)
- Continue dialogue with JCC to react to market forces and expand the opportunities presented with Start-Up NY

## **GOAL #3: Cattaraugus County Will Preserve and Promote Its Agricultural Heritage and Economy**

Agriculture in Cattaraugus County is in transition, but remains a key element of the local economy. Consolidation, weak commodity markets, changing consumer purchasing patterns, and a burdensome tax structure are major contributing factors. Cattaraugus County farmers must study the opportunities inherent in these changes and plan to capitalize on the offering. Such changes will not come without growing pains. However once engaged, the industry will be in better position to succeed in the long-term. Cattaraugus County must be vigilant in monitoring this change and foster an environment for success. (Source: Agricultural and Farmland

# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Vision 2025

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Protection Plan adopted in 2007) The Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan Recommendations have been incorporated within the strategies listed below.

## **OBJECTIVES**

- Support the policies of the County’s Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan
- Recognize the importance of agriculture to the County as an economic driver, an element of community character, and a way of life
- Encourage the sustainability of agriculture, both economically and environmentally
- Support niche farming
- Encourage the development of the next generation of farmers
- Support regional agricultural leadership development
- Expand education and training programs

## **STRATEGIES**

- Implement the recommendations of the County’s Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan
- Continue to collaborate with New York State, State Associations, and local organizations in support of agricultural businesses and agricultural programs
- Develop an agribusiness retention, expansion and attraction plan
- Develop a regulatory and policy action program
- Support agriculture against nuisance suits
- Enhance business development programs and incorporate agricultural needs
- Support development of a regional enterprise center and incubator
- Support broadened access to capital for agribusinesses
- Consider supporting research into niche markets, such as organic or ethnic specialty foods, to determine if this is an area that local farmers can support
- Investigate best practices for protecting agriculture and forest land, and disseminate that information to local municipalities. This may include model legislation
- Continue to support the “New Forest Economy” as a principle economic development initiative
- Investigate methods to promote value-added agriculture, such as food hubs or cooperative ownership of expensive processing equipment or “Community Supported Agriculture” programs
- Continue to explore benefits and drawbacks to consolidation of agricultural districts, to simplify the recertification process
- Work with local school districts and BOCES in support of leadership and educational programs, such as Future Farmers of America, that can educate the next generation of farmers

## **GOAL #4: Cattaraugus County Will Promote Tourism and Foster Local Arts and Cultural Organizations**

Tourism is an important component of Cattaraugus County's economy. The County should continue to take a leadership role in coordinating tourism activities in support of a high quality, diverse and engaging arts and educational community. The bountiful natural features of Cattaraugus County provide diverse opportunities for year-round recreation. The County also has arts and cultural organizations that contribute to the local economy and quality of life. The County is in the position of being able to enhance communication and coordination between activities in various jurisdictions. The County can play a role of packaging several small community-based activities into a "whole" that is greater than the sum of its individual parts.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- Acknowledge the prominent role of tourism in the local economy and promote the continued growth of this sector
- Recognize the importance of community character, environmental features and outdoor recreation to the tourism economy
- Encourage distinctive and coordinated wayfinding and interpretive signage for recreational, cultural and arts facilities in Cattaraugus County
- Build on Cattaraugus County's diverse and active arts, cultural heritage, and history to market and promote "Cultural Tourism" which is one of the fastest growing segments of the tourism industry.
- Recognize the importance of the arts and cultural organizations as a component of the economy, for their contributions to quality of life, and in attracting visitors to the area
- Promote coordination among various arts and cultural organizations and assist those organizations in marketing their activities both within and outside of Cattaraugus County

### **STRATEGIES**

- Continue to assist with the coordination of tourism-related activities in the County and the region (via hosting meetings, seminars or conferences; and offering education and resources)
- Coordinate, support, and encourage the development of a County-wide Tourism Strategy
- Coordinate activities with the adjacent Counties to take full advantage of the assets of the region and the work being done in these other Counties
- Build coalitions and partnerships among groups (arts, cultural, historical, museums, etc.) to cross-promote activities and events
- Continue to use the many natural and cultural assets of Cattaraugus County to promote tourism (i.e. highlighting the unique wildlife that is native to the County and other facts about the land, Parks, and wetlands)
- Provide technical support to local communities for the development of self-guided walking tours in historic areas

## Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Vision 2025

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- Partner with the Seneca Nation and the Amish community to promote the unique cultural products of those communities, as appropriate
- Work with Allegany State Park to develop a year round gateway entrance to the Park in the Town of Carrollton, off Route 219, which could become a major access for people entering the County from Pennsylvania and points south
- Support the development of an Arts, Cultural, and Heritage Plan
- Work with the Cattaraugus County Arts Council to further define the need for an Arts and Cultural Facility, identify an appropriate location for this facility, and investigate creative methodologies to finance this facility
- Work with local Chambers of Commerce and others to develop a strategy to encourage longer stays and visits to multiple sites/attractions while in the County
- Coordinate with area Chamber of Commerce and local municipalities to promote downtowns as tourist destinations
- Work with local Chambers of Commerce and others to develop additional "trails" for features that share a common theme, such as museums and agricultural products and activities
- Support investment to improve wayfinding and signage directing visitors to attractions
- Work with local communities to ensure that local land use regulations allow tourist-oriented activities, such as artists' studios that offer merchandise for sale to the public, gift shops and farm stands on agricultural parcels, and similar low-intensity commercial activities
- Work with Allegany State Park to develop linkages between snowmobile trails in the Park and Salamanca, and other adjacent communities in order to improve access to gas stations, restaurants, and other retail facilities in the Salamanca area.
- Develop a Greenway and Blueway Master Plan, in cooperation with involved local communities and non-profit organizations, that will:
  - Provide linkages among local communities and trails within state parks and forests
  - Provide linkages to regional trails outside the County, including the Genesee Valley Greenway State Park in Allegany County
  - Provide additional trails and trail connections for equestrians.
  - Foster communication with Chautauqua and Allegany Counties to plan for future interconnections of trails between all three counties.
  - Use the water resources of Allegheny River, Tuna Creek, and Cattaraugus Creek to promote "Blue" water trails along these resources, by providing boat launches, signage for restaurants, retail facilities and other amenities of interest to boaters.
  - Support the development of trail heads on bicycle routes, hiking trails, snowmobile trails, equestrian trails, and similar trail systems. The trail heads should be located near commercial districts and would alert trail users to the location of local businesses such as restaurants, gas stations and other amenities.

# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Vision 2025

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- Promote the use of trailheads at certain locations on greenways that direct trail users to local amenities that may be of interest to them.
- Develop and implement a program for capacity building for snowmobile clubs, local trail organizations, and other non-profits to provide a mechanism to ensure future, long-term maintenance of the trail network

## **GOAL #5: Cattaraugus County Will Protect Its Important Environmental Assets – For Both Their Ecological and Economic Value**

Areas to prioritize for their conservation value include wetlands, forested lands, and lands along major stream corridors. These areas perform an important ecological function. Development within these conservation areas should be minimal and any impacts should be minimized.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- Recognize the important ecological role provided by the County’s wetlands, floodplains, forests, mineral resources, streams, rivers and other environmental assets, and their importance to the health of the environment
- Educate residents as to how these assets contribute to rural character and quality of life
- Develop a better understanding of how environmental assets are important to the economic base of the County, contributing to the agricultural, mining, forestry and tourism sectors
- Facilitate coordination among municipalities for the protection and stewardship of environmental assets that cross municipal boundaries
- Reduce health and safety risks associated with natural hazards as outlined in the Cattaraugus County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

### **STRATEGIES**

- Utilize the GML Section 239 referral process and the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) to discourage projects that may have negative impacts on important environmental features
- Continue to implement the recommendations in the Cattaraugus County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Encourage the use of Best Forestry Management Practices by local landowners in order to protect scenic views while not impacting the productive, economic use of the forestry resource
- Partner with neighboring counties and agencies in watershed management to establish best practices to protect and improve the quality of our waters
- Provide guidance to local municipalities about zoning provisions and other tools that can help protect the environmental assets, viewsheds and stream corridors
  - Provide technical assistance to local governments to identify important aquifer recharge areas and to assist in the development of measures to protect those resources

# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Vision 2025

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- Provide support and training to local municipalities on how to monitor and enforce federal and state environmental regulations
- Partner with other agencies and local governments to ensure that local Code Enforcement Officers receive periodic training in floodplain development regulations to aid in their effective enforcement of those regulations
- Partner with local groups to help educate the public about the importance of wetlands, watersheds, and local streams
- Seek grants and assist local communities with seeking grants to implement these initiatives and the recommendations of this plan

## **GOAL #6: Cattaraugus County Will Revitalize and Restore Its Cities, Villages, and Hamlets as Strong, Attractive, and Vital Centers**

Cattaraugus County has a clear vision for its future, which is to see the existing cities, villages and downtowns of the County thrive and prosper. These communities anchor the surrounding countryside, and create centers for jobs, services and community interaction. The County should invest in projects and programs that make these areas attractive to private investment. There should be a preference for locating County facilities and programs within centers.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- Recognize the importance of the County's cities, villages and hamlets to the County's character, economy and quality of life
- Designate these areas as priority growth areas for investment by both the public sector and the private sector to create healthy, attractive, safe places to live
- Encourage new businesses to locate in traditional downtown areas
- Promote high quality, improved infrastructure within these developed areas

### **STRATEGIES**

- Support programs that help redevelop cities, villages and downtowns to support economic development efforts, making areas attractive to private investment through targeted public investment, such as streetscaping, removal of blight, etc.
- Consider developing a Land Bank. This tool would enable the County to take direct control of housing blight and abandoned properties, and resell them to owners who would bring them back to good condition.
- Support investment in the traditional downtowns as destinations that attract visitors
- Provide technical assistance and support to local communities for making physical improvements to town or village centers
- Targeted policies and programs that support increasing activity in these areas
- County and local capital planning should emphasize a "fix it first" approach that prioritizes keeping existing infrastructure and facilities in good repair over constructing new expansions.

# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Vision 2025

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- Investing in quality of life factors is one way to make the County a more appealing location for businesses and residents.

## **GOAL #7: Cattaraugus County Will Promote a Greater Range of Options for Transportation and Housing for Its Residents**

The County should explore ways to make walking and bicycling easier choices in locations where distances make it a feasible option. Creative ways to provide more transit options and ride shares should also be explored. The County should also encourage development of new housing types to meet the needs of a wider range of users, such as seniors and persons with disabilities.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- Support a well-maintained, interconnected road network that both connects local communities and links Cattaraugus County to the region and beyond
- Support the continuation of rail freight system in Cattaraugus County
- Support the continuation of air service in Cattaraugus County
- Support the continuation of public transportation and encourage expansion of the system in underserved areas of the County
- Encourage creative transportation alternatives
- Encourage municipalities to pass Complete Streets Policies as the guiding principle for their infrastructure.
- Encourage new housing types within traditional neighborhoods, including housing suitable for an aging population and housing that appeals to young adults and families

### **STRATEGIES**

- Support maintenance of existing roadways in good condition.
- Support the completion of US Route 219 as a four lane expressway through the County.
- Encourage and support options for enhancing the ability to safely walk and bicycle within cities and established town centers, including Complete Streets policies
- Coordinate County-level transportation planning with local municipalities, and support local initiatives to implement Complete Streets, Safe Routes to Schools, etc.
- Support the development of a complete system of pedestrian facilities, bikeways, shared use paths, bicycle parking and safe crossings connecting residences, businesses and public places.
- Consider evaluating the quality of bicycle routes between destinations in the County (bicycle master plan)
- Support efforts by STERA and the regional and national railroad companies to continue maintenance and improvements to the existing systems in order to attain industry standards for freight handling, in terms of travel speed, weigh limits, and minimizing obstructions for large loads, to the maximum extent practical

# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Vision 2025

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- Support efforts by STERA to construct an intermodal, rail/truck transload facility at the Olean Yard
- Partner with both STERA and the Southern Tier West Regional Planning and Development Board to identify and develop shovel ready railroad-served sites
- Support the implementation of the Cattaraugus County Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan
- Support the efforts of the transit providers and coordination among them
- Support creative means of providing transportation alternatives for residents without access to a car, such as paratransit, ride share, van service, and other means of transportation
- The County should explore means of expanding the range of housing types, such as independent living for seniors and expanded rental options.
- The County should consider assessing the availability, quality and status of affordable housing to determine if there is an adequate supply of these types of units.

## **GOAL #8: Cattaraugus County Will Promote Healthy and Safe Communities**

An important role of County government is public health and safety. These duties are extensive and far reaching, and include the operations of the courts, County Sheriff, County Jail, County Health Department, and protection of vulnerable populations, such as the elderly.

The health impacts of the physical design of a community are becoming more recognized. Cities, villages, and towns that have sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and recreational trails encourage people to add physical activity to their everyday routines, such as walking or bicycling to school or to stores. Improved access to healthier lifestyles, improves the quality of life for our citizens. The adoption of a “Complete Streets Policy” can serve as a guiding principle for transportation planning, which takes into consideration the needs of all users of a street.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- Work with communities to encourage and support opportunities to create healthy, connected communities that support active living for all people through walkable streets; livable cities, villages, and hamlets; and better built environments
- Encourage the cities and villages to have a connected pedestrian network
- Support development of bicycle infrastructure (widened shoulders, pathways, etc.)
- Support trails development for hiking, bicycling, snowmobiling, and equestrian users
- Encourage the development of an intra-community plan for a water-based "blue trail" that will link the communities connected by the Allegheny River and support the construction of facilities to further the use of this resource
- Support the creation of complete communities to address issues such as care for the elderly, transportation choices, and healthy economies for the County’s community centers

## Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Vision 2025

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- Support a range of health care facilities and services, including hospitals and clinics, to provide adequate and timely health care to County residents
- Work with local communities to develop and retain an appropriate level of emergency services, such as firefighters and ambulance service

### **STRATEGIES**

- Support active living to improve health and safety by encouraging and investing in pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure improvements within the County
- Promote the safe use of bicycles for both recreation and transportation by adopting and implementing a policy to provide paved shoulders that are wide enough to safely accommodate bicycles as part of routine maintenance and/or reconstruction of State and County roads
- Encourage local municipalities to adopt Complete Streets programs that are tailored to the specific circumstances of those communities by addressing the needs of pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit riders
- Continue to develop the County's network of recreational trails (hiking, bicycling, snowmobiling, equestrian, etc.)
- Consider the development of a county-wide recreational trails system plan that investigates the opportunities to improve existing trails, create new trails, and connect trails within Cattaraugus County to trails in adjacent counties (in NYS and PA)
- Continue to implement the Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan, and develop stronger relationships between planning and public health initiatives
- Partner with healthcare organizations and employers to attract and retain health care professionals
- Coordinate with local communities to recruit, train, and support local first responders and in support of emergency preparedness

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## **XI. The Implementation**

This section of the plan outlines general guidelines for implementing the recommendations of the Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan. It also provides a methodology for keeping the plan up-to-date, including reassessing priorities moving forward. To remain effective, the County's Comprehensive Plan needs to reflect changing circumstances, not only at the County level, but also at municipal, regional and State levels. The County should regularly assess the Plan and its recommendations; and provide updates, revisions and new priorities as circumstances dictate.

The County will implement the recommendations in the Plan through several methods. With a municipal Comprehensive Plan, the primary means of implementation is through revisions to local zoning. A County Comprehensive Plan differs from a municipal plan because the County does not have direct control over land use and zoning. However, the County can provide technical assistance and advice regarding model zoning and land use regulations, which can help educate local municipalities about best practices. The County can also advise local municipalities, and help them make decisions consistent with the vision established for the County and for the region. The County also has the power to pass legislation that can indirectly affect land use and help the County achieve its goals.

Implementation of the Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan will involve projects, programs and policies, as implemented through legislation, budgets, and resolutions. The County's most powerful implementation tool is financial resources. Decisions on where to spend money will be greatly influential in determining which projects move forward and which do not. The capital budget is one source of funds for priority projects. The operating budget is also important: allocating budget lines for particular programs and departments can be an effective means of moving forward on specific projects and programs. Seeking grant funding, either directly or through municipalities, and leveraging private sector investment can also be used to accomplish priority projects.

Legislation is also a powerful implementation tool. The County can pass laws that affect local actions. Examples include a County Complete Streets policy, which influences local municipalities in developing their roadway improvements.

Policies are also useful implementation tools. Taking a proactive stand can rally support for an initiative. It can raise awareness of an issue, influence other levels of government, and communicate to the broader public what the County's stance and priorities are. Simply stating support for a particular policy, such as the completion of US Route 219, helps make progress toward accomplishing that goal.

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The County also has influence through education and advocacy. County support for an activity, such as a County trail system, can influence both local municipalities and State decision making. The County plays an important role as facilitator, mediating between efforts of local municipalities, region, and the State. Particularly with complex projects, such as a trail system, cooperation among all levels of government will be necessary. The County can take a leadership role in coordinating this intergovernmental cooperation.

## **A. Framework for Prioritization**

There are many recommendations within this document and in the other County planning documents. The County must determine which actions have priority and should be addressed first. Several high priority projects, programs, and policies were outlined in the Vision for the Future (Chapter XI), which represent the immediate priorities for the County.

Moving forward, as circumstances change, the County should continuously re-evaluate its priorities and make adjustments when appropriate. The following questions will help policy makers determine whether an action is a high or low priority:

- Will it make a significant impact on achieving one of the stated goals?
- Is there a champion willing and able to take a leadership role?
- Can the task be accomplished easily?
- Does accomplishing this action add momentum toward other actions?
- Is it a necessary ‘first step’ toward achieving a longer-term goal?
- Is there support available for it in terms of grants, donations, political backing, etc.?
- Is it a priority of others (State, region, and/or municipality/ coalition of municipalities)?
- Will it generate other benefits (e.g. goodwill, progress toward cooperative working relationships, good publicity for the County, etc.)?

These questions are just a beginning point. No action is likely to fit all these categories. Rather, the questions are intended to help the County take a more strategic view towards implementation actions. For example, a “lower priority” project may be worth pursuing on a quicker timeline due to the ability to make concrete progress, gaining support, and momentum for subsequent priorities.

## B. Process

The Plan will be most effective if there is a group or task force specifically designated to oversee implementation activities. The primary role of a “Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee” is to take responsibility for overseeing and tracking progress toward achieving the goals of the plan. The mandate for the Committee would include:

- Review the strategies to identify projects, programs, policies and activities for which the County can sponsor.
- Review projects initiated by local municipalities to evaluate how well they align with the priorities and goals of the County’s Plan. Ideally, this will be a cooperative process and seen as a way to meet both County and local objectives.
- Coordinate implementation of this Plan with other initiatives, such as the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan, Hazard Mitigation Plan, Coordinated Transportation Plan, and the Healthy Community’s Public Health Plan. The Implementation Committee can be a valuable tool to coordinate these separate initiatives, and promote more integrated cooperation between them.
- Review potential grant proposals and made recommendations as to how these proposed projects can be better aligned with the Plan. This approach will also help increase the viability of the grant application, since alignment with local planning efforts is generally one of the scoring criteria.
- Provide yearly Progress Reports to the Legislature, as outlined below.

## C. Using the Plan

The County should use the Comprehensive Plan in conducting the following types of activities:

- **GML Section 239 Referrals:** The Cattaraugus County Planning Board should use the plan as a reference when they review development projects under GML Section 239 referrals for consistency with the County’s vision.
- **Advocacy:** The County’s Boards and Commissions should become familiar with the Plan and its priorities and use the document to evaluate their projects and activities.

# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Vision 2025

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- **Education and Awareness:** An electronic copy of the Comprehensive Plan should be made available on the County's website. Print copies of the Comprehensive Plan can be provided to appropriate County departments, committees, and boards.
- **Capital Planning:** County Department heads should refer to the Plan in determining specific projects and developing their annual capital requests.
- **Grants:** The County should investigate whether there are available grant programs to finance projects that will help implement the Plan's strategies.
- **Budgeting:** The Implementation Committee should meet with the County's Development and Agriculture Committee at budget time to discuss actions and projects for the coming year and determine the funding necessary to accomplish those actions.

## D. Progress Reporting

It is important to periodically assess what has been accomplished and what remains to be implemented. By providing regular (annual) progress reports will ensure there is accountability. The process of preparing progress reports also requires an internal assessment of what is successful and what revisions may be needed. The responsibility for preparing this assessment can be assigned to the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee, or a specific County Department, or some other entity as assigned by the County. Information that should be included in the progress reports includes:

- A summary of the implementation actions accomplished in the preceding year by the County and its departments.
- A summary of implementation actions accomplished by the County's partners (State, regional, and/or local municipalities).
- A summary of new private and public development projects within the County, where they are located, and whether they are consistent with the growth vision for the County (developed vs. conservation areas).
- Major local, regional and State actions or projects that have occurred during the past year that may affect the County.
- Studies and reports completed by the County that relate to the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan.
- A proposed work plan for the upcoming year for implementation activities.

## Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Vision 2025

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- Recommendations, if any, for revisions, amendments or additions to the Comprehensive Plan document.

This monitoring activity is in itself a useful exercise that will help the Vision of the Future remain current and relevant.

The County Legislature should also take an interest in the Plan and seek to keep it up-to-date by making suggested additions or revisions on a regular basis. The changes can be as simple as appending new data or studies by reference. More extensive changes could entail revisions to the Vision or Implementation sections of the document.

Approximately every five years, the County should undertake a more thorough assessment of the Comprehensive Plan and determine if a new update is warranted. This process would entail a more rigorous update to the inventory, expanded public outreach (surveys, public meetings) and a careful look at the goals and objectives for the County.

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# APPENDICES



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- General Handout for Round 1 of the PIMs
- General Outline for PIMs
- PIM Summary on 04/29/14 in Olean
- PIM Participants on 04/29/14 in Olean
- PIM Summary on 05/08/14 in Machias
- PIM Participants on 05/08/14 in Machias
- PIM Summary on 05/14/14 in Little Valley
- PIM Participants on 05/14/14 in Little Valley
- Goals and Vision (PIM Handout)
- Request for Ideas & Recommendations (PIM Handout)
- Summary of Survey Results (PIM Handout)
- General Handout for Round 2 of the PIMs
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**Appendix A**  
**Public Information Meetings**



# CATTARAUGUS COUNTY

## Comprehensive Plan Update

# Public Open House



**Tuesday, April 29, 2014 – Olean**

JCC Olean Campus ~ Cutco Theater  
260 North Union Street, Olean, NY

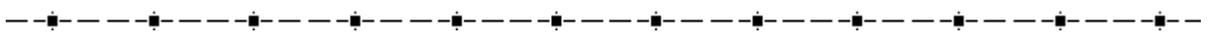


Open House starts at 6pm  
Presentation: 7pm

If you cannot attend, the Open House will also be held:

Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup> ~ Machias Library  
9538 Route 16, Machias, NY

Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> ~ Little Valley  
Legislative Chambers, County Office Bldg., Little Valley, NY



*What are our goals for the future of the County?*

*Please attend and provide your input*

**Strong Communities/ Healthy Environment /  
Vibrant Economy/ Rural Character**

# CATTARAUGUS COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



## **PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS**

Tuesday, April 29: Cutco Theater, JCC, Olean  
Thursday, May 8: Machias Library, Machias  
Wednesday, May 14: County Office Building, Little Valley

## **AGENDA**

- I. OPEN HOUSE 6:00-7:00 pm
- II. PRESENTATION 7:00 pm
  - Introductions
  - Project Background and Purpose of Meeting
  - What is a Comprehensive Plan
  - The Planning Process
- III. INPUT AND COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR
- IV. NEXT STEPS and THANK YOU

## WELCOME.

Thank you for taking the time to attend this meeting and participate in the project.

**The Comprehensive Plan:** Cattaraugus County adopted its first and only Comprehensive Plan in 1978. We are updating this plan, which guides development across the County. The new Plan will reflect current priorities and policies, and it will update the community's vision for the future. The new Plan will help us identify future projects, obtain funding to implement our goals, and promote coordination across the County's Cities, Towns and Villages. The Plan will place an emphasis on protecting the positive aspects of the County while including goals to address the issues that the County faces.

**Tonight's Meeting:** This meeting is intended to get public involvement. We will provide information about the planning process and the steps that will be taken to create the County Comprehensive Plan. We are also asking for your opinions on the priority issues facing Cattaraugus County over the next ten to twenty years.

**Public input:** Listening to the community is a very important part of the planning process. Your comments will be used to help establish goals for the County. We want to gather your opinions, thoughts and ideas about the County and its future. What are the important issues facing your communities? What are your concerns? What should the County's role be?

### OPTIONS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

**WEBSITE & SURVEY:** Information about the Plan and its progress will be posted to the County's website:

<http://www.cattco.org>

**Also, please go on-line to complete a survey.**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CattCoSurvey>

If you think of additional ideas later, please send your comments to:

Wendel Duchscherer  
140 John James Audubon Parkway, Suite 201,  
Amherst, NY 14228  
(716) 688-0766  
Attention: Ellen Parker  
e-mail: [eparker@wendelcompanies.com](mailto:eparker@wendelcompanies.com)

## AGENDA/ACTIVITIES

- A. Open House Portion (Doors Open at 6 pm)
1. Sign-In Table / Handouts (Brochure, Draft Goals, comment form)
  2. Place dot on Map where you live – Same map, different color dots each night
  3. Activities
    - a. View Mapping (Wendel preparing maps from County info)
    - b. Aerial Map – make notes / put stickers on map
      - Favorite Places -green dots
      - Least Favorite Places/ Needs improvement -red dots
    - c. Copies of relevant other studies
      - Prior Comp Plan
      - “Smart Growth” series
      - Hazard Mitigation Plan
      - REDC – Prosperity document
    - d. Surveys?
    - e. Any other materials?
- B. Presentation (Starts at 7 pm)
1. Welcome/ Introductions– County
  2. County Comprehensive Plan
    - a. What is it
    - b. What is included
    - c. Why it is needed/ Benefits
  3. Process / Schedule
  4. Question and Answer – Facilitate
  5. How do you keep in touch
  6. Closing Remarks / Thank You

## **Cattaraugus Comprehensive Plan Update Meeting Summary: Public Information Meeting Olean, April 29, 2014**

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The first Public Input Meeting for the Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Update was held on Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Jamestown Community College campus in Olean, New York.

The meeting began with an open house, where attendees could view maps and talk individually with staff from the County and the planning consultants. The formal portion of the meeting began with a welcome from James Isaacson from the Cattaraugus County Planning Department, who provided a brief discussion of the reasons why the County is preparing a new Comprehensive Plan. He introduced the planning consultants, Drew Reilly and Ellen Parker from Wendel, who gave a short presentation on the Comprehensive Plan, its purposes and its benefits. Carol Horowitz from Allegheny Planning Services assisted. Following the presentation, they opened the floor to comments and discussion, in order to obtain input on ideas for the County's future direction.

The following is a summary of the comments received.

- Cattaraugus County is a rural county – is there another rural county in NY that we can use as model?
- Cattaraugus County should separate ourselves from the rest of the State (Albany doesn't pay attention to us)
- There are 1.8 million visitors to Allegany State Park – how do we get them out of park and into the communities?
  - Breweries
  - Other ways to pull people out
  - Casino goes – find ways to pull people out into the communities
- Shovel Ready site – should Cattaraugus County establish one to encourage job development?
  - Can we attract companies?
  - Some attractive destinations
  - Quality of Life issues to bring people here
- Youth (people)
  - Coming back to take care of aging parents
  - Entrepreneurs
- Natural Resources
  - Farmland
  - Forested areas
- Agriculture is #1 business in County
  - Farmers are aging
  - How do we support agriculture as economic development?
- Farmers of today

- Skipped a generation – more interest among younger people in farming than among “baby boom” generation.
- Need to use technology, modernize farms
- Trend is toward a smaller number of larger farms
- Price per acre of farms is increasing
- Food deprivation is a problem: very active food pantry in Olean
  - Community Gardens on reclaimed land behind food pantry
  - 2/3 of customers are working families– can’t afford to support a family on low wages
  - 1/3 are seniors
  - Needs: more land, and education on nutrition, gardening, cooking, etc.
- Job Retention
  - Resources for businesses here
  - Have presence in tourism, manufacturing, agriculture
  - Need to attract high tech to keep young people here
- Reuse existing vacant buildings
- Starting business in NYS very difficult, lots of regulations
- Better, more extensive broadband internet connections needed – many areas of County don’t have access to high speed internet
- Infrastructure problems: deteriorating roads, bridges
- Quality of Life: what keeps people here
- Access to Allegheny River
  - Parkland on water – waterfront access to sit and enjoy the waterfront
  - Public access into water – kayaks
- Allegheny River as an asset: Town of Portville looking into developing a park/launch site on the River
- Create a “blue trail” (river trail) - map the river, establish a series of launches for in-and-out kayak/ canoe access along the River. This would help job creation/tourism
- Capitalize on Outdoor Recreation
  - ATVs – locations?
  - Snowmobile trails
- Retain/ attract the Younger generation
  - Outreach to them – Facebook
  - What will keep them here?
- Provide link to survey to Portland Central School, get youth input
- Amish community
  - Amish trail – tourism
  - Amish moving into area – buying up farms
- Job Retention/Job Creation
  - Need a workforce prepared for jobs (need job training) – particularly in the skilled trades and high tech – companies have problem finding trained workforce.
  - Check with businesses –what’s there need for workforce training?
- Cattaraugus County is the Land of the Enchanted Mountains – capitalize on natural beauty

- How to market the area?
  - Fight industrial windfarms
- Equine Trails: in the hills – can help promote tourism
- Poor condition of Route I-86 is bad for horses (can't trailer horses on I-86 because horses can't tolerate the bumps and potholes). This hurts the potential for horse-related tourism.
- Potential niche market: Olympic Training
  - Swain Ski Resort – ski event training
  - Biking – hills are good training
- Former Cloud 9 Amusement Park
- Destinations:
  - Sprague's Maple Farms
  - Pfeiffer Nature Center
- Outdoor Recreation is a real asset for the county
  - Ellicottville has done a great job creating a year-round destination. It is a major source of sales tax revenue
- Opportunity – selling nostalgia
  - Barns
  - Trees
  - Maple syrup
  - "country life"

**Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Update  
Public Information Meeting in Olean, NY  
April 29, 2014**

**Participants**

Rick Miller  
Carl Edwards  
Nick Goodell  
Cindy L. Wagner  
Eric Garvin  
Dan Hale  
Jim Boser  
Melissa O'Dell  
Robert & Kelly Keis  
James Isaacson  
Earl McElfresh  
David McCoy  
Maureen Curry

Bobby and Ruthe Riehle  
Larry Sorokes  
David Koch  
Gerald Maerten  
Paul Bishop  
Rick Lamberson  
Chuck & Phyllis Couture  
Julie Chartreau  
David Zilker  
David & Julie Dougherty  
John Padlo  
Bob & Holly Fischer  
Crystal Abers

## Cattaraugus Comprehensive Plan Update Meeting Summary: Public Information Meeting Machias, May 8, 2014

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The second Public Input Meeting for the Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Update was held on Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the King Memorial Library in Machias, New York.

The meeting began with an open house, where attendees could view maps and talk individually with staff from the County and the planning consultants. The formal portion of the meeting began with a welcome from James Isaacson from the Cattaraugus County Planning Department, who provided a brief discussion of the reasons why the County is preparing a new Comprehensive Plan. He introduced the planning consultants, Drew Reilly and Ellen Parker from Wendel, who gave a short presentation on the Comprehensive Plan, its purposes and its benefits. Carol Horowitz from Allegheny Planning Services assisted. Following the presentation, they opened the floor to comments and discussion, in order to obtain input on ideas for the County's future direction.

The following is a summary of the comments received.

- Mineral Rights:
  - Towns should establish their own gravel and sand pits, rather than paying for gravel/sand
  - County OK'd testing for mineral resources several years ago
- Preserve prime agricultural lands (continue farming)
  - Right to Farm laws
  - Allow farmers to develop the frontage, but maintain farms on the backlands
- Control where driveways are allowed (access management), particularly where there are curves in the road. Need to maintain good sight lines/ avoid blind driveways
- Infrastructure maintenance
  - Vehicles and equipment are larger and heavier, and results in wear and tear
  - Consider shared services for DPWs
- Over-regulation of businesses is a problem – the more regulation there is the greater burden on our children
- Be careful that zoning doesn't over-regulate
  - 50% of municipalities in the County have zoning
  - Zoning can impede development
- People who invest in the area are committed to this area – encourage investment (in businesses, homes)
- There are many seasonal homes in the northern portion of the County
- It is important to protect water quality, both groundwater and surface water. Many homes are on private wells
- Establish "Growth Areas" vs. "Non-growth Areas" – keep rural areas rural and protected from growth, while investing in Cities and Villages
- County resources that rural communities need: e.g. care for the elderly; Agricultural protection

- Balance the distribution of county resources- don't forget the rural ("non-growth") areas
- Transportation:
  - Roads need work
  - Address transportation needs of disabled/elderly (paratransit, rides to medical appointments, etc.)
  - Progress has been made on expanding bus service throughout County, but more could be done
- Broadband access is a need
- Education:
  - Keep field trips local – helps support local businesses, teaches students about local area
  - Local Options for field trips: Rock City, Bicentennial Wagon Trail
- Condition/ lack of Infrastructure is impediment to bringing development to County
- Job training – businesses train their own workforce
- Pioneer School District is one of the largest employers in the County
  - Source of significant amount of wages
  - Encourage teachers to live locally
  - Encourage hiring locally
  - Need to keep teachers here
- Franklinville is a bedroom community – people work in other communities, and shop where they work, which hurts local businesses
- Trains in northern part of County are not well known
  - Snowmobile trails
  - Hiking trails
  - Holiday Valley
- Tourism Assets:
  - Peaceful
  - Small B&Bs
  - Agricultural tourism
  - Camp grounds
  - Sculpture park
  - How do we take advantage of this? How to capitalize on these assets?
- JCC Campus – part of state development program
- Create incentives to reuse existing buildings
- Promote programs that help retain businesses - retention can be as important as growth
- Amish – the horse and buggies can be a safety issue on the road
- Weather as an asset-capitalize on what we have: four seasons, pleasant summers. Ellicottville has taken advantage of seasonality.

**Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Update  
Public Information Meeting in Machias, NY  
May 8, 2014**

**Participants**

Jacob Mountain  
Gene Tingué  
Donna Vickman  
Kathy Kellogg  
William Sprague  
Mark Kless

Matthew Bull  
Carol Dill  
Constance Walker  
David Zilker  
Carla Maul  
Paul Bishop

## Cattaraugus Comprehensive Plan Update Meeting Summary: Public Information Meeting Little Valley, May 14, 2014

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The third Public Input Meeting for the Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Update was held on Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Cattaraugus County offices in Little Valley, New York.

The meeting began with an open house, where attendees could view maps and talk individually with staff from the County and the planning consultants. The formal portion of the meeting began with a welcome from James Isaacson from the Cattaraugus County Planning Department, who provided a brief discussion of the reasons why the County is preparing a new Comprehensive Plan. He introduced the planning consultants, Ellen Parker from Wendel, who gave a short presentation on the Comprehensive Plan, its purposes and its benefits, along with Carol Horowitz from Allegheny Planning Services. Following the presentation, they opened the floor to comments and discussion, in order to obtain input on ideas for the County's future direction.

The following is a summary of the comments received.

- Attendees were asked to complete the sentence: "The best thing about Cattaraugus County is..."  
Answers included:
  - The Outdoors: scenery, parks, trees, mountains
  - Convenient Location: easily accessible to NYC, Niagara Falls, Finger Lakes
  - Good transportation systems: roads, rail, trails
  - High quality local government support: e.g. local police and fire
  - Farmland/ agricultural lands
- Gravel – county has good mineral resources for gravel
- NY Amish Trail
- Four Seasons of fun
  - Year round recreation
  - Allegany State Park
  - Native Americans
  - Festivals in Towns
- Salamanca Rail Museum
  - There is the opportunity to tie into other rail features
  - Excursion train from Jamestown
- Need better standards for signage for tourism features
  - Too many signs results in visual clutter – hard to find isolate a specific sign
  - Not the right kind of signs: they don't effectively promote the sites
  - Need to think about the next generation of "signage" – computers and social media and "apps" as a means to let visitors know about attractions, events
- Broadband and cell phone coverage is an issue – particularly with concept of "apps" – inconsistent service

- Quality of infrastructure: Budget constraints affect what can be repaired (roads, etc.)
- Need to prioritize recreation and economic development – high quality of life is a factor in where businesses choose to locate
- Focus economic development on smaller start-ups – locally grown businesses are more likely to stay in the area
- Support manufacturing and agriculture – mainstays of Cattaraugus County economy
- Students- partner with local businesses (internships, etc.) to learn skills, get workforce ready
- Problem: taking students to field trips in Buffalo costs \$400 per trip for transportation costs
- Need for better, more access to public transportation
- Transportation services in more rural areas is almost non-existent
- Example: Randolph is closer to Jamestown than Olean. Would make sense to take advantage of transportation services out of Jamestown, but service areas don't cross county lines.
- Senior citizens need more transportation options
- Aging population is an issue that needs to be addressed
- Workforce training: local School Districts are partnering with colleges to offer better training
  - FFA – re-established to support training in agricultural issues
  - Cornell Co-operative Extension
  - BOCES – career and vocational training
  - JCC –workforce training
- Natural Resources
  - Forestry, mineral extraction
  - Tension between resource preservation and extraction
- Seasonal housing: there is potential for attracting development of second homes targeting residents from Buffalo area who want to own second homes in the county (country homes)
- Need to balance presence of prime agricultural lands with gravel resources and building opportunities in the same area
- Roads are in poor condition
- Creeks and streams – untapped potential for boating, kayaking. Impediments: lack of shoreline access (boat launch sites)
- Respect private property rights
- Promote opportunities around outdoor recreation
  - Pat McGee Trail -Volunteer maintained, beautiful trail
  - Other trailway connections
- Promote Route 219 Expansion
- Historical Societies – many of the County's Towns and Villages have excellent historical societies that preserve history, could be more of an attraction – the County's rich history is an asset
- No sprawl
- Population boomed in the 1970s, and has been declining since.
- Poverty is a problem: in the Pioneer School District, 52% of students qualify for free or reduced cost lunches. Many families are working two jobs and still not able to pay the bills
  - Housing in the County is affordable, but need more diversity. In particular, there is a lack of enough housing appropriate for seniors (one floor, accessible)

- Transportation system is inadequate, especially for seniors and youth who may not be able to drive cars
- Housing
  - Affordable, but what is quality, livability of housing?
  - Need more apartments for young adults and families
  - Need a more diverse housing mix
- New development will increase the tax base
- Cattaraugus offers a lot of services to Seniors and Youths – high quality and comprehensive service, particularly for a rural county
- Regulations on agriculture will have an impact
  - EPA new regulations on wetlands – ditches, low spots to be regulated
- Cost of energy will become a larger issue
- Impacts of lack of jobs
  - Homelessness increases
  - Fewer resources to address needs

**Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Update  
Public Information Meeting in Little Valley, NY  
May 14, 2014**

**Participants**

Chuck Chamberlain  
Howard Van Rensselaer  
Florence Fuller  
Mike & Susan Zaprowski  
David Zilker  
Jeannene Wagner  
Joe Pillittere

Gene C. Tingué  
Al & Hannah Stocker  
Sharon Huff  
Tim Bigham  
Tonia Hall  
Sue Lubuhn  
Crystal Abers

# Goals and Vision for Cattaraugus County



## ***Cattaraugus County will retain its vital, rural Character***

- Protect the natural beauty that makes Cattaraugus County the “Land of the Enchanted Mountains”
- Recognize the importance of small towns and villages, farmland, forested land and scenic vistas and other elements of “Country Life” that contribute to the County’s rural character
- Maintain our rural atmosphere in support of economic development purposes, particularly for tourism-related business
- Encourage new growth in appropriate locations, where there is already development and infrastructure to support it, and promote sustainable development within those communities
- Strive to create complete communities where we can address issues such as care for the elderly, transportation choices, and creating healthy economies for our small towns and village centers

## ***Cattaraugus County will have a strong, sustainable economy where residents can support their families and their quality of life***

- Support economic development and job training
- Encourage a greater range of employment opportunities to sustain a strong local economy and improve local quality of life
- Support our existing local business owners and attract new employers
- Promote development of new businesses through entrepreneurship and encourage locally-grown businesses
- Facilitate cooperation between employers and the education system to ensure a better match between the types of jobs available and skills of potential employees
- Strive to provide the infrastructure needed in support of economic development, such as high-speed internet and adequate roads
- Develop partnerships between government and business leaders to work together toward a healthy local economy
- Recognize the importance of community character, environmental features and outdoor recreation to the economy

## ***Cattaraugus County will protect its important environmental features – for both their ecological and their economic value***

- Recognize the important ecological role provided by the County’s wetlands, floodplains, forests, mineral resources, streams, rivers and other environmental features, and their importance to the health of the environment
- Educate residents about how these features contribute to rural character and quality of life
- Develop a better understanding about how environmental features are important to the economic base of the County, contributing to the agricultural, mining, forestry and tourism sectors
- Facilitate coordination among municipalities for the protection and stewardship of environmental features that cross municipal boundaries

## ***Cattaraugus County will preserve and promote its agricultural heritage and economy***

- Recognize the importance of agriculture to the County, as an economic driver, an element of community character, and a way of life
- Support agriculture against nuisance suits
- Encourage the development of the next generation of farmers
- Encourage the sustainability of agriculture, economically and environmentally
- Support the policies of the County’s Agricultural Protection Plan

## Goals and Vision for Cattaraugus County



### ***Cattaraugus County will revitalize and restore its historic settlements – the villages, hamlets and cities – as strong, attractive, vital centers***

- Recognize the importance of the County’s historic settlements to the County’s character, economy and quality of life
- Designate these areas as priority growth areas for investment by both the public sector and the private sector to create healthy, attractive, safe places to live
- Encourage new businesses to locate in traditional downtown areas
- Promote high quality, effective infrastructure within these developed areas

### ***Cattaraugus County will promote a greater range of options for transportation and for housing for our residents***

- Support development of bicycle infrastructure (widened shoulders, pathways, etc.)
- Encourage the cities and denser villages to have a connected pedestrian network
- Support a well-maintained, interconnected road network that both connects local communities and links Cattaraugus County to the region and beyond
- Explore paratransit, ride share, van service and other creative means of providing transportation alternatives.
- Encourage new housing types within traditional neighborhoods, including housing suitable for an aging population, and housing that appeals to young adults and families

### ***Cattaraugus County will foster local arts and cultural organizations and promote tourism***

- Recognize the importance of the arts and cultural communities and local colleges and universities both as a component of the economy and for their contributions to quality of life
- Promote coordination among various arts and cultural organizations and assist those organizations in marketing their activities both within and outside of Cattaraugus County
- Partner with the Seneca Nation and the Amish community to promote the unique arts of those communities, as appropriate
- Acknowledge the prominent role of tourism in the local economy and promote the continued growth of this sector
- Continue to develop the network of recreational trails
- Encourage the development of an intra-community plan for a water-based “blue” trail that will link the communities connected by the Allegheny River and support the construction of facilities to further the use of this resource

### ***Cattaraugus County will promote healthy and safe communities***

- Work with local communities to develop and retain an appropriate level of emergency services, such as firefighters and ambulance service
- Support a range of health care facilities and services, including hospitals and clinics, to provide adequate and timely health care to County residents
- Partner with the health care and business communities to attract and retain health care professionals

# CATTARAUGUS COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Cattaraugus County adopted its first and only Comprehensive Plan in 1978. We are working on an update to this plan, which will guide development and investment across the County. The new Plan will reflect current priorities and policies, and it will update the community's vision for the future. The new Plan will help us identify future projects, obtain funding to implement our goals, and promote coordination across the County's Cities, Towns and Villages. The Plan will place an emphasis on protecting the positive aspects of the County and addressing issues that the County faces.



Please provide your input on what ideas and recommendations the County take undertake:

***Cattaraugus County will retain its vital, rural Character***

What can the County do to protect the natural beauty of the County and its small towns and villages? Where should the County invest in order to support new growth at the right scale and right locations?

*Ideas:*

***Cattaraugus County will have a strong, sustainable economy where residents can support their families and their quality of life***

What actions should the County take in support of a healthier economy?

*Ideas:*

***Cattaraugus County will protect its important environmental features – for both their ecological and their economic value***

Are there special environmental features to prioritize? What can the County do to protect its wetlands, floodplains, forests, mineral resources, streams, rivers and other environmental features?

*Ideas:*

***Cattaraugus County will preserve and promote its agricultural heritage and economy***

How can the County support agriculture and encourage the development of the next generation of farmers?

*Ideas:*

**Cattaraugus County will revitalize and restore its villages, hamlets & cities as strong, attractive, vital centers**

What actions or projects will help the County's traditional downtowns and neighborhoods? How can we encourage private investment? How can the County help?

*Ideas:*

**Cattaraugus County will promote a greater range of options for transportation and for housing**

How can we support more choices for how to get around (bikes, walking, bus, etc.)? What different types of housing should there be (seniors, young adults and families, etc.)?

*Ideas:*

**Cattaraugus County will foster local arts and cultural organizations and promote tourism**

What can Cattaraugus County do in support of arts and culture? What about tourism? Land trails? Water trails?

*Ideas:*

**Cattaraugus County will promote healthy and safe communities**

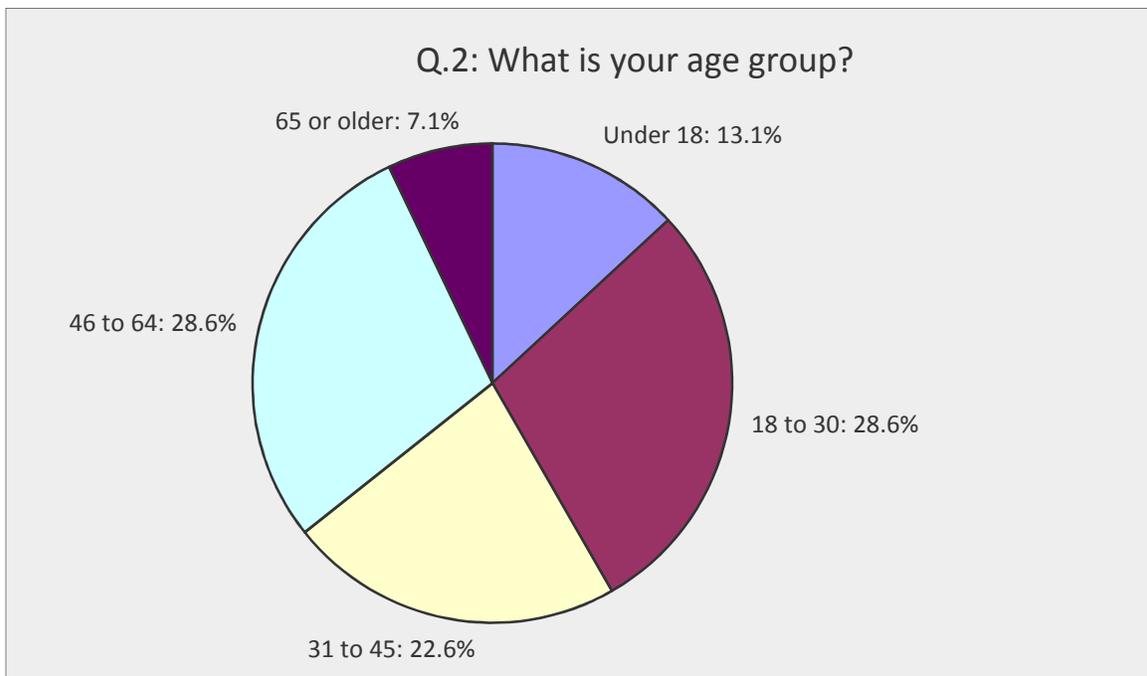
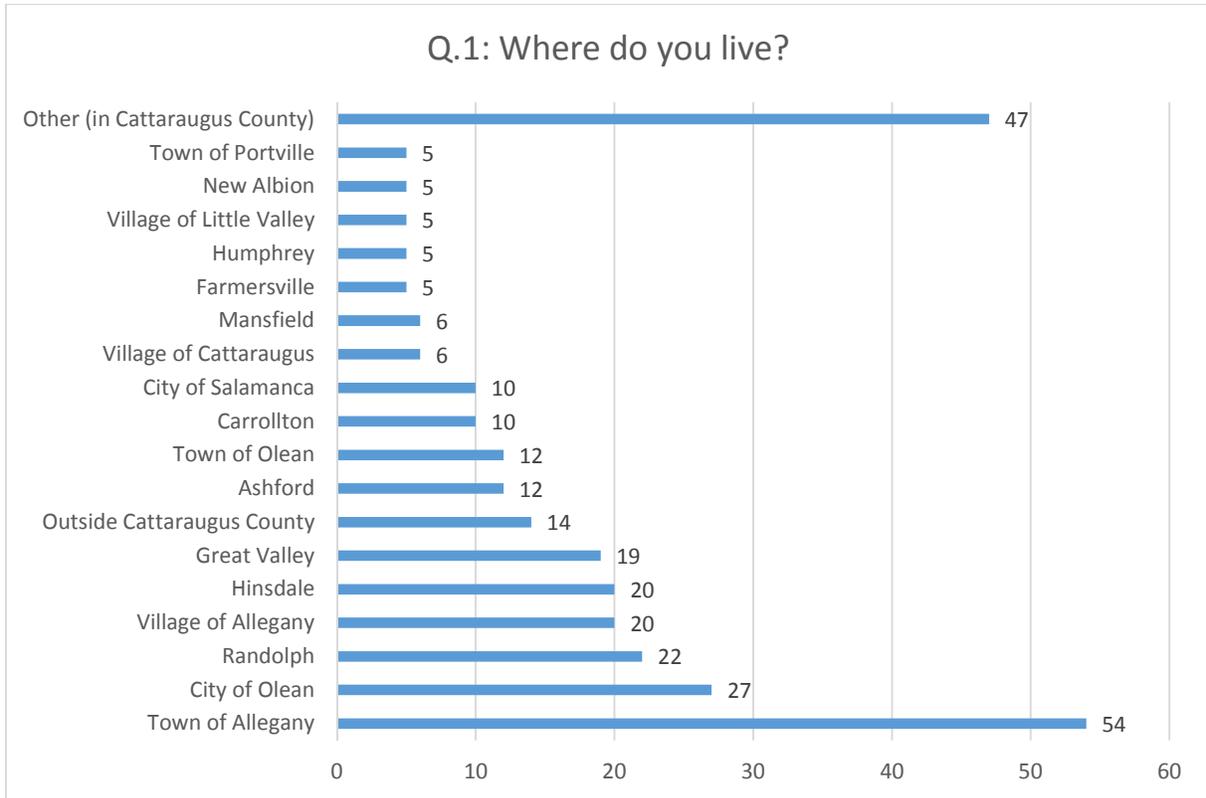
What is needed to keep the County's citizens safe and healthy? How can the County help support local communities with emergency services, such as firefighters and ambulance service? Do you have any ideas for improving access to health care?

*Ideas:*

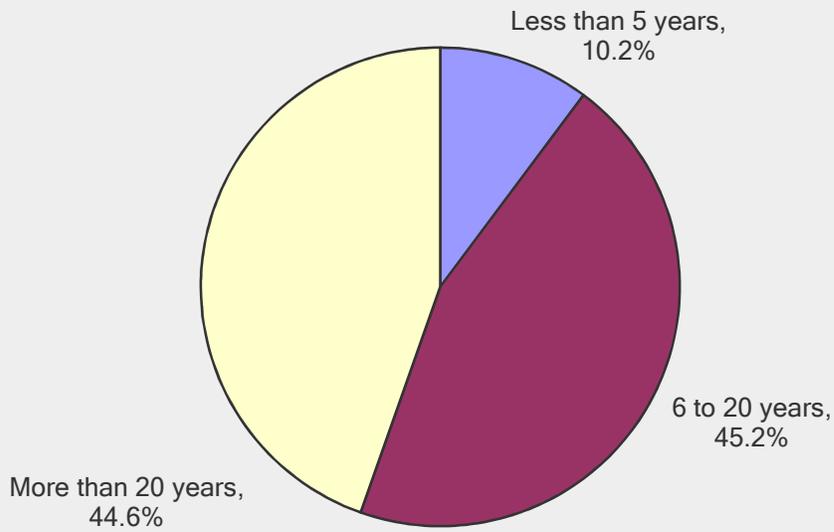
**Did we miss any important issues? What are they?**

## Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan – Survey Summary

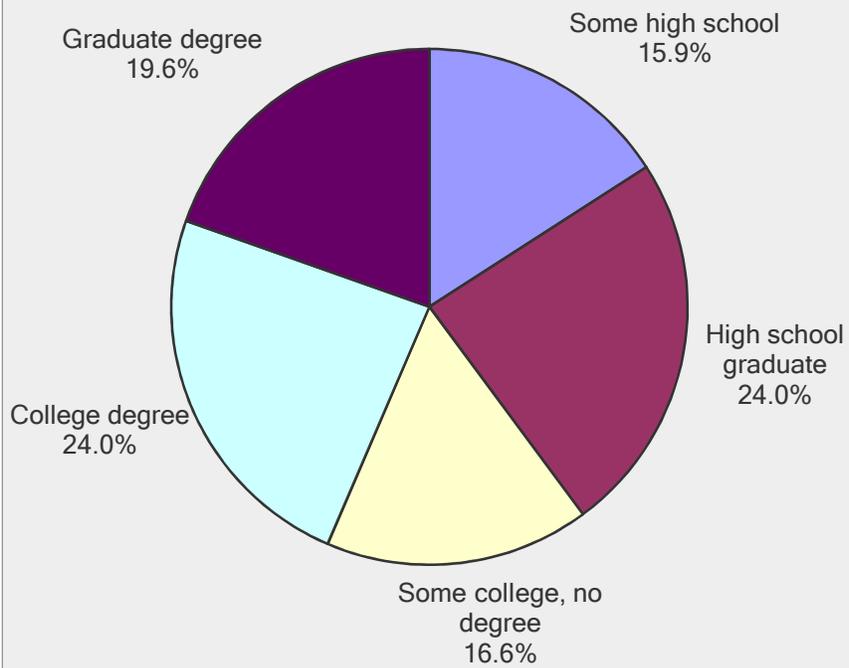
This document summarizes the results of the Survey that was taken for the Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan. A total of 303 people responded to the survey.



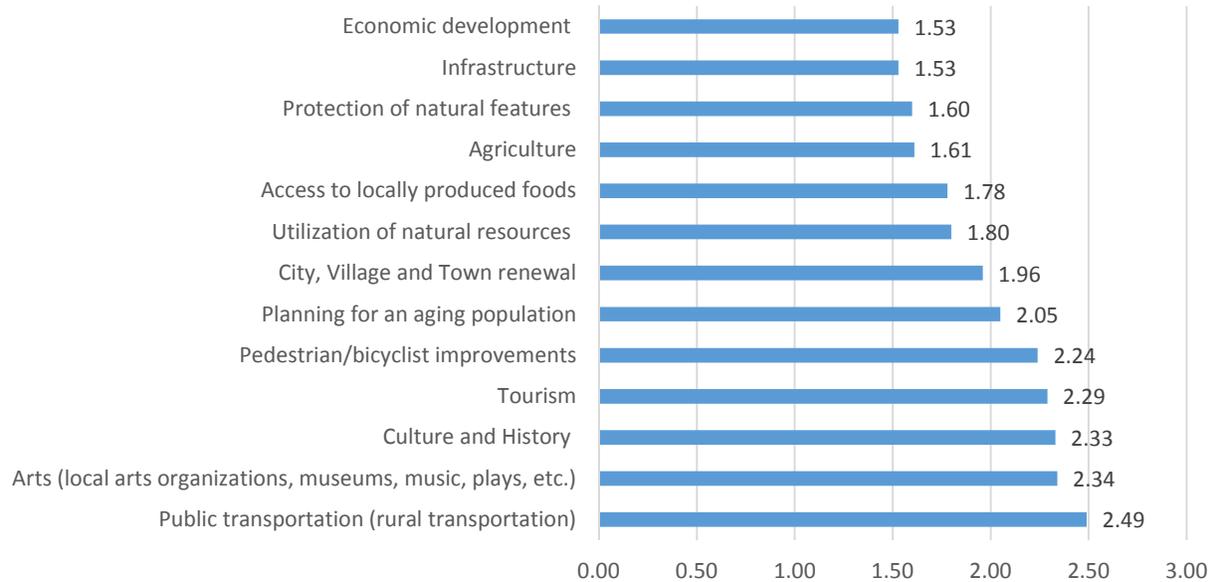
Q.3: How long have you lived in Cattaraugus County?



Q.4: What is the highest level of education that you have completed?



### Q.5: Topics Ranked by Importance to Cattaraugus County\*

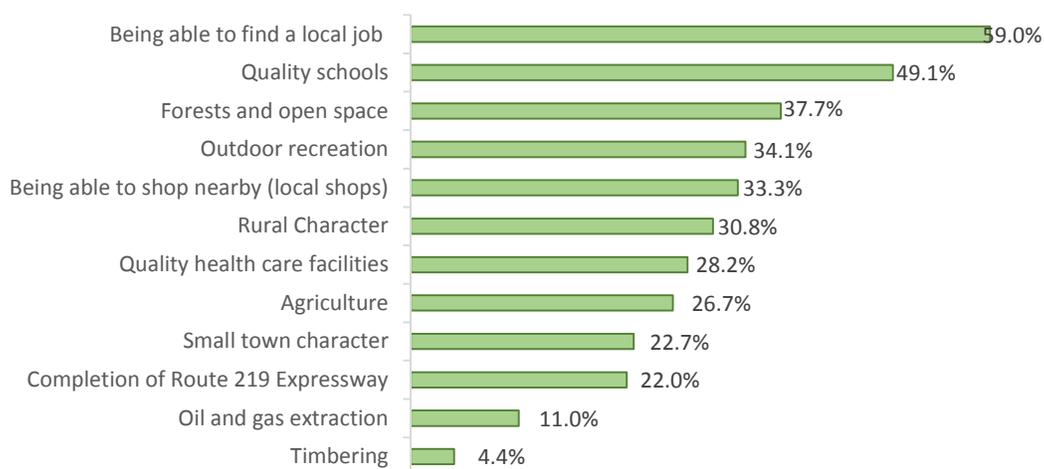


\* Note: Items ranked by average rating, where 1 is most important and 4 is not important. Highest priority items have lowest average scores.

### Q.6: Please pick the sentence that best matches your preference.

Cattaraugus County should strive to stay rural in character and limit new growth.	13.0%
Cattaraugus County needs to grow, but growth should be concentrated in and around our existing cities, villages and hamlets, and not in areas not served by existing infrastructure.	62.2%
Growth is progress and Cattaraugus County should not try to limit growth and development in any way.	24.8%

### Q.7: Which aspects are most important to you?



# CATTARAUGUS COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

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Public Information Meetings  
Round 2: September/October 2014

## AGENDA/ACTIVITIES

- A. Open House Portion (Doors Open at 6:30 pm)
  - 1. Sign-In Table
  - 2. Handouts (Brochure, Draft Goals, comment form)
  - 3. Place dot on Map where you live – Same map from first round, different colors
  - 4. Activities
    - a. Maps/ data available
    - b. Survey Summaries
    - c. Copies of relevant other studies
    - d. Project Team available for discussions/ questions
  
- B. Presentation (Starts at approximately 7:00 pm)
  - 1. Welcome/ Introductions– County
  - 2. Brief Overview of County Comprehensive Plan
  - 3. Schedule - where we are in the process
  - 4. County's role: advise, educate, influence, invest, direct control (e.g. County roads)
  
- C. Facilitated Discussion (at approximately 7:15 pm)
  - 1. Goals – Initial ideas on recommendations by topic
  - 2. General Question and Answer as needed
  
- D. Break Out Groups (at approximately 7:30 pm)
  - 1. Base Map exercise – growth & preservation
  - 2. Additional comments on future of County
  
- E. Closing Remarks, Thank You, How to Stay Informed

## **Cattaraugus Comprehensive Plan Update Meeting Summary: Public Information Meeting Olean, September 29, 2014**

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A Public Input Meeting for the Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Update was held on Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Jamestown Community College campus in Olean, New York.

The format of the meeting was similar to the first round of meetings, with an open house, followed by a brief presentation and open discussion. During the open house, attendees were given handouts that summarized the draft goals for the Plan. Updated maps and additional graphs were available for viewing. The discussion section of the meeting was structured around getting input and comments on the proposed goals. The attendees were then split into two groups for more focused discussion on ideas for recommendations, using a base map of the County to structure the discussion. The following is a summary of the comments received.

### **I. Open Discussion**

#### **A. Rural Character:**

- Concern with hydrofracking and its potential effect on rural character, environmental problems
- Alternative view: allow controlled hydrofracking in a responsible manner – there is a history of oil wells in the County, and creates economic value.
- It was noted that regulating hydrofracking is a State issue
- Support for cottage industries that can help bring in tourism
- Support for a working landscape – with proper controls
- Need for proper planning and code enforcement
- County can provide technical assistance to municipalities
- Assets that contribute to rural character include Rock City Park, Pfeiffer Nature Center, Allegany State Park
- Tourism can be year-round – e.g. snowshoeing

#### **B. Economy**

- Support eco-based tourism (i.e. kayak rentals, Machias)
- Job training – issue is trying to retain college aged residents
- Need for technology education – match training to available local jobs
- JCC programs/ Start Up NY – starting to address this issue
- Also need for basic job skills training (work hard, show up)
- High speed internet should be a top priority because it is increasing important for economic development. Jobs can be less geographically-based with high speed internet (can run a business with national reach from anywhere on-line)

- Quality of Life – make area attractive so people want to live here. Increasingly, people choose location first and job second.
- River Trail – should encourage new businesses to start up along the trail.
- County role: Tourism support

#### C. Environment

- Hellbender salamander – local species that is indicator of healthy environment (can only thrive in certain conditions) – shows that Cattaraugus County has high quality environment. Need to keep this standard
- Eco-tourism has potential
- Watershed issues – need to make sure to maintain water quality
- Mountains and viewsheds important

#### D. Arts, Culture & Tourism

- Trails – need to create more connections between trail systems
- Tuna Valley trail system at the Pennsylvania border – Tuna Creek water system has high ecological value
- Marilla Reservoir in Bradford as a model – attracts visitors from outside the area
- Interconnect the cities and village to the trail systems (connect urban to rural areas)
- Arts & Culture – Visual and Performing Arts Center – home for artists, with auditorium, studios, stores, etc. (Niagara Falls Art center as model)
- Franklinville as a potential location for arts center, using new high school auditorium
- Affordable, accessible, with programming
- County role: comprehensive trails planning:
  - Prioritize routes/ connections;
  - Support local trails groups;
  - Identify public lands that may be available for connections/ extensions to existing trails system

#### E. Transportation

- Sidewalks – County can help with grant applications, educate municipalities on proper tree selection (so tree roots don't damage sidewalks)
- Bus system – OATS bus is limited service (not county-wide)
- Need better outreach on what is available
- GBNRTC as MPO does not cover Cattaraugus County

#### F. Housing

- Incentives to develop more housing in downtowns
- Tax incentives?

- Incentives to develop greater diversity of housing

#### G. Health & Safety

- Crime is relatively low, although there is concern about rising crime rates

## II. **Break-Out Sessions**

**Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Update  
Public Information Meeting in Olean, NY  
September 29, 2014**

**Participants**

Bob & Holly Fischer  
Rob & Lindy Mrowka  
Eric Garvin  
Joseph Pillittere

Tina Hastings  
Julie Chartreau  
Melissa Meyers  
Lois Zendarski

## **Cattaraugus Comprehensive Plan Update Meeting Summary: Public Information Meeting Randolph, October 2, 2014**

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A Public Input Meeting for the Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Update was held on Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 at the Randolph Community Center in Randolph, New York.

The meeting consisted of an open house format, followed by an informal discussion on topics related to Cattaraugus County. The following summarizes the comments received.

- Trails can be an important tourism draw - the Kinzu Skyway attracts 500,000 visitors per year. A similar attraction could be built in Zoar Valley.
- A comprehensive system of trails is better – hubs and linkages.
- Problem: implementation – it is difficult to get a trail funded, built and maintained.
- Anecdotally, 60% of gasoline sales in the Village of Cattaraugus in the winter are for snowmobiles - economic development.
- There is also equestrian use on local trails.
- Should explore rights-of-ways/ rails to trails opportunities.
- Trails can be helpful for ancillary use: green infrastructure, culverts, erosion protection for the watershed; right-of-way for other infrastructure.
- Energy is an important issue in Cattaraugus County – should be addressed comprehensively: solar, hydrofracking, geothermal, wind, etc.
- Development, particularly any energy development, should be carefully regulated to minimize problems.
- Cattaraugus Local Development Corporation (LDC) – is a vehicle to help small businesses. In 1996, it raised \$4 million to create a revolving loan fund. Also helped implement the Pat McKee Trail.
- Cattaraugus County has traditionally had an industrial base: Sutter Brothers, Cattaraugus Cutlery, Dahl Tile, Bush Brothers, Dresser Rand- most of those firms have closed.
- It is difficult to build a comparable economy on tourism – jobs tend to be lower wage, seasonal.

**Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Update  
Public Information Meeting in Olean, NY  
September 29, 2014**

**Participants**

Bob & Holly Fischer  
Rob & Lindy Mrowka  
Eric Garvin  
Joseph Pillittere

Tina Hastings  
Julie Chartreau  
Melissa Meyers  
Lois Zendarski

## **Cattaraugus Comprehensive Plan Update Meeting Summary: Public Information Meeting Little Valley, October 7, 2014**

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A Public Input Meeting for the Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Update was held on Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the County Office Building in Little Valley, New York.

The format of the meeting was similar to the first round of meetings, with an open house, followed by a brief presentation and open discussion. During the open house, attendees were given handouts that summarized the draft goals for the Plan. Updated maps and additional graphs were available for viewing. The discussion section of the meeting was structured around getting input and comments on the proposed goals. The attendees were then split into two groups for more focused discussion on ideas for recommendations, using a base map of the County to structure the discussion. The following is a summary of the comments received.

### **I. Open Discussion**

#### **A. Rural Character:**

- Need balanced growth to sustain and prosper
- Development benefits the tax base – don't inhibit growth
- Growth needs to be sensitive to character – be compatible with "Enchanted Mountains"
- Need to encourage growth where we have lost population – e.g. Olean

#### **B. Economy**

- JCC – has advance manufacturing training center – asset for County
- Olean Business Incubator – encourages start-up businesses
- Need to encourage small business, help them grow
- County can leverage investment
- Support internships
- IDA can help spur business growth through incentives
- Importance of place-making in economic development – creating a strong sense of place attracts investment
- Creating temporary improvements (e.g. trees in pots, public art, etc.) helps people visualize how places can be improved, made more vital and attractive
- "Story of Place" – a methodology that bases economic development on the inherent character of a location. Cattaraugus County has traditionally been a working landscape (oil, forestry, gravel, agriculture, etc.)
- Costs of regulation are an impediment

### C. Environment

- Tree canopy is an important environmental feature in the County –forestry practices should be sensitive to that and be sustainable
- Allegany State Park is Forever Wild (not even controlled forestry allowed)
- Lumber mills – there are three in the County, plus Amish mills
- Louisville sluggers were originally made from trees forested in Ellicottville (until 2006). Replaced with other methods (metal bats)

### D. Agriculture

- Fewer Future Farmers of America (FFA) organizations than there used to be – helps train next generation of farmers
- FFAs in Yorkshire, Randolph, Franklinville, Little Valley schools
- State mandates affect business competitiveness, increase costs
- 4H another organization that helps train youth (run through Cooperative Extension)
- Asset for Cattaraugus County – clean, abundant water

### E. Arts, Culture & Tourism

- Schools have nice facilities – could host programming
- Need better coordination among different arts-related organizations

### F. Health & Safety

- Trends: decline in number of volunteers for fire, ambulance departments
- Issues: people don't have time; increased State regulations regarding required training; unfunded mandates; aging population

## II. **Break-Out Sessions**

**Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Update  
Public Information Meeting in Little Valley, NY  
October 7, 2014**

**Participants**

Steve Scott  
Carol Horowitz  
Howard Van Rensselaer  
Ellen Parker  
James Isaacson  
Corey Wiktor  
Earl McElfresh  
Timothy Bigham

Sue Lubuhn  
Paul Bishop  
Crystal Abers  
Ron Lines  
David Koch  
Carla Maul  
Norm Marsh  
David & Melissa O'Dell



# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan

Where Do You Live



Place a dot:



Olean Meeting April 29<sup>th</sup>



Machias Meeting May 8<sup>th</sup>



Little Valley May 14<sup>th</sup>



Olean - September 29<sup>th</sup>



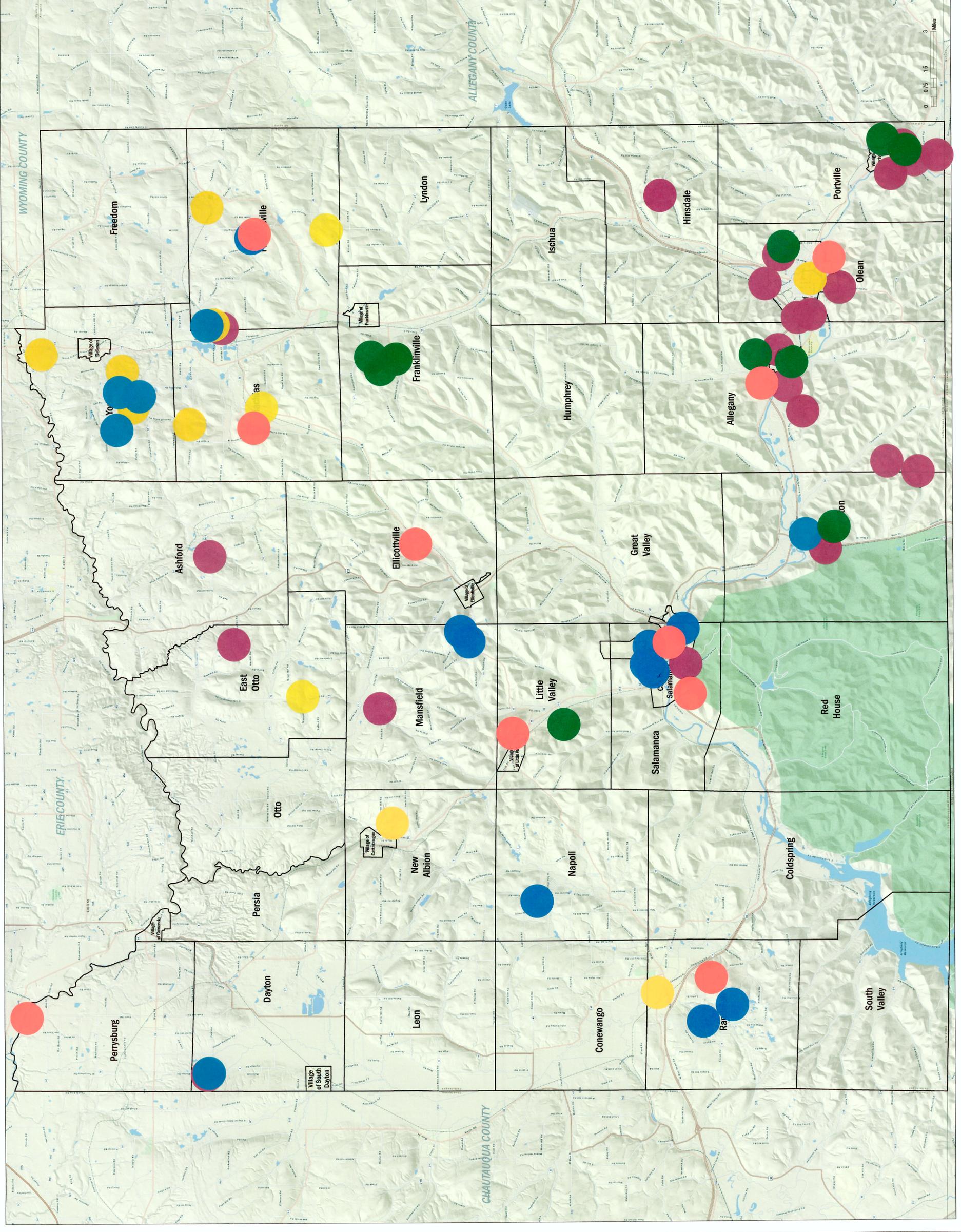
Randolph - Oct. 2



Little Valley - Oct. 7



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# **Appendix B**

## **Survey Results**



1. Where do you live?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Town of Allegany		18.7%	54
Village of Allegany		6.9%	20
Ashford		4.2%	12
Carrollton		3.5%	10
Village of Cattaraugus		2.1%	6
Coldspring		0.0%	0
Conewango		1.0%	3
Dayton		0.7%	2
Delevan		0.7%	2
East Otto		0.7%	2
Town of Ellicottville		0.3%	1
Village of Ellicottville		1.0%	3
Farmersville		1.7%	5
Town of Franklinville		0.7%	2
Village of Franklinville		1.4%	4
Freedom		0.3%	1
Gowanda		0.7%	2
Great Valley		6.6%	19
Hinsdale		6.9%	20
Humphrey		1.7%	5
Ischua		0.0%	0

Leon		0.0%	0
Town of Little Valley		1.4%	4
Village of Little Valley		1.7%	5
Lyndon		0.0%	0
Machias		1.0%	3
Mansfield		2.1%	6
Napoli		1.0%	3
New Albion		1.7%	5
City of Olean		9.3%	27
Town of Olean		4.2%	12
Otto		1.4%	4
Perrysburg		0.0%	0
Persia		1.0%	3
Town of Portville		1.7%	5
Village of Portville		0.3%	1
Randolph		7.3%	21
Red House		0.3%	1
City of Salamanca		3.5%	10
Town of Salamanca		0.7%	2
South Dayton		0.3%	1
South Valley		0.3%	1
Yorkshire		0.7%	2

Other (please specify) 16

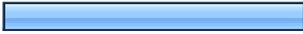
**answered question 289**

**skipped question 14**

## 2. What is your age group?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Under 18		13.1%	39
<b>18 to 30</b>		<b>28.6%</b>	<b>85</b>
31 to 45		22.6%	67
<b>46 to 64</b>		<b>28.6%</b>	<b>85</b>
65 or older		7.1%	21
<b>answered question</b>			<b>297</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>6</b>

## 3. How long have you lived in Cattaraugus County?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Less than 5 years		10.2%	30
<b>6 to 20 years</b>		<b>45.2%</b>	<b>133</b>
More than 20 years		44.6%	131
<b>answered question</b>			<b>294</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>9</b>

#### 4. What is the highest level of education that you have completed?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Some high school		15.9%	47
<b>High school graduate</b>		<b>24.0%</b>	<b>71</b>
Some college, no degree		16.6%	49
<b>College degree</b>		<b>24.0%</b>	<b>71</b>
Graduate degree		19.6%	58
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>296</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>7</b>

## 5. Please rank the following topics based on their importance to Cattaraugus County.

	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Not Important	Rating Average	Rating Count
Agriculture	<b>51.5% (139)</b>	36.3% (98)	11.5% (31)	0.7% (2)	1.61	270
Access to locally produced foods	<b>41.5% (112)</b>	41.1% (111)	15.6% (42)	1.9% (5)	1.78	270
City, Village and Town renewal	32.7% (87)	<b>42.1% (112)</b>	21.8% (58)	3.4% (9)	1.96	266
Protection of natural features (forests, water, hillsides, etc.)	<b>53.5% (144)</b>	34.6% (93)	10.4% (28)	1.5% (4)	1.60	269
Utilization of natural resources (gravel, oil & gas, timber, water, wind, solar, etc.)	<b>43.7% (118)</b>	35.9% (97)	17.4% (47)	3.0% (8)	1.80	270
Economic development (bringing in new businesses, retaining existing businesses, etc.)	<b>60.3% (164)</b>	27.9% (76)	10.3% (28)	1.5% (4)	1.53	272
Tourism	28.1% (76)	28.5% (77)	<b>30.0% (81)</b>	13.3% (36)	2.29	270
Arts (local arts organizations, museums, music, plays, etc.)	19.4% (52)	<b>39.2% (105)</b>	29.1% (78)	12.3% (33)	2.34	268
Culture and History (Seneca Nation of Indians, Amish, County and local history, etc.)	19.9% (54)	<b>37.9% (103)</b>	31.6% (86)	10.7% (29)	2.33	272
Infrastructure (upgrading and repairing roads and bridges, water lines, sewer lines, other public facilities, etc.)	<b>63.5% (172)</b>	24.0% (65)	8.9% (24)	3.7% (10)	1.53	271
Planning for an aging population (housing, accessibility, transportation, etc.)	25.8% (70)	<b>46.9% (127)</b>	23.6% (64)	3.7% (10)	2.05	271
Public transportation (buses, van service, other rural transportation services)	17.5% (47)	32.0% (86)	<b>34.2% (92)</b>	16.4% (44)	2.49	269
Pedestrian/bicyclist transportation improvements (sidewalks, crosswalks, trails, etc. for walkers, hikers and bicyclists)	24.4% (66)	<b>35.1% (95)</b>	32.5% (88)	8.1% (22)	2.24	271
<b>answered question</b>						<b>272</b>

skipped question

31

**6. Please pick the sentence that best matches your preference.**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Cattaraugus County should strive to stay rural in character and limit new growth.		13.0%	35
<b>Cattaraugus County needs to grow, but growth should be concentrated in and around our existing cities, villages and hamlets, and not in areas not served by existing infrastructure.</b>		62.2%	168
Growth is progress and Cattaraugus County should not try to limit growth and development in any way.		24.8%	67
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>270</b>
		<b>skipped question</b>	<b>33</b>

**7. Which of the following elements of Cattaraugus County are most important to you?  
(Please select only the top three)**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Rural Character		30.8%	84
Agriculture		26.7%	73
Forests and open space		37.7%	103
Outdoor recreation		34.1%	93
Local shops and business districts (being able to shop nearby)		33.3%	91
<b>Local employment opportunities (being able to find a job within the County)</b>		<b>59.0%</b>	<b>161</b>
Quality schools		49.1%	134
Quality health care facilities		28.2%	77
Small town character		22.7%	62
Completion of Route 219 Expressway		22.0%	60
Timbering		4.4%	12
Oil and gas extraction		11.0%	30
<b>answered question</b>			<b>273</b>
<b>skipped question</b>			<b>30</b>

**8. Please list what you feel are the top three issues facing Cattaraugus County.**

	<b>Response Count</b>
	207
<b>answered question</b>	<b>207</b>
<b>skipped question</b>	<b>96</b>

**9. Is there anything else you would like to share?**

	<b>Response Count</b>
	95
<b>answered question</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>skipped question</b>	<b>208</b>

**Page 1, Q1. Where do you live?**

1	joshspitzermacbookpro	Aug 5, 2014 2:08 PM
2	Kill Buck	Jul 3, 2014 7:02 PM
3	Hamburg	Jul 3, 2014 3:24 PM
4	West Valley	Jul 3, 2014 9:56 AM
5	Albany, NY	Jun 16, 2014 12:02 PM
6	town of Cuba	Jun 5, 2014 2:07 PM
7	hamlet of east randolph	Jun 4, 2014 3:51 PM
8	Erie County (raised in Catt. County)	Jun 4, 2014 9:18 AM
9	Sinclairville, Chautauqua County	Jun 3, 2014 6:43 AM
10	Adams Center	May 31, 2014 12:46 PM
11	forestville	May 30, 2014 6:45 PM
12	Town of Arcade	May 29, 2014 8:49 AM
13	Limestone	May 27, 2014 2:17 PM
14	Seneca Allegany Territory	May 21, 2014 9:21 AM
15	Cuba	May 5, 2014 10:42 AM
16	Bradford PA	May 2, 2014 4:43 PM





**Page 3, Q8. Please list what you feel are the top three issues facing Cattaraugus County.**

20	Infrastructure , job opportunities , declining population.	Jul 3, 2014 11:21 PM
21	Poverty Roads and infrastructure Availability of jobs above min wage	Jul 3, 2014 10:56 PM
22	No job and people moving away, house looking like crap and need to be fixed up, we need something to do with these kids in the town and village to keep them out of trouble	Jul 3, 2014 9:36 PM
23	High taxes, no jobs, road and bridge quality.	Jul 3, 2014 8:47 PM
24	Politicians /roads/crime	Jul 3, 2014 7:25 PM
25	Unemployment Poverty Wefare	Jul 3, 2014 3:21 PM
26	Lack of jobs, lack of affordable housing, lack of transportation	Jul 3, 2014 2:02 PM
27	Taxes lack of good jobs and no where for kids to play ball in the winter	Jul 3, 2014 1:42 PM
28	Poor school systems, local businesses shutting down, not enough youth programs.	Jul 3, 2014 12:15 PM
29	local jobs with livable pay 1,2 and 3	Jul 3, 2014 11:34 AM
30	Aging population, less residents, access to EMS in rural areas	Jul 3, 2014 11:16 AM
31	Career opportunities School Finances Limited family friendly activities	Jul 3, 2014 10:55 AM
32	Road and bridge repair and increase in employment opportunities Increase in Educational classes in high school ie.. more learning opportunities	Jul 3, 2014 10:25 AM
33	Roads, jobs schools	Jul 3, 2014 10:22 AM
34	1. Young people leaving to find jobs and better opportunities 2. Mental health services not easy accessible to those outside the cities or larger communities 3. Lack of new business/ job growth	Jul 3, 2014 10:17 AM
35	1. Property taxes too high. Property owners have no incentive to improve their property since all improvements are over taxed. 2: Business needs to know they won't be over regulated by county and state agencies or they won't come. They need incentives to bring jobs to the county. Without jobs, the schools don't matter. Because a top notch education for our local children means nothing to the future of our county if they only have to move away to work after graduation. We have to work to retain our talent. 3: The county needs a draw. Something huge that attracts regional attention (Enchanted Mountains doesn't cut it). The draw needs to be revisited. If anything deserves serious attention; perhaps serious investment, maybe serious tax breaks; A new more serious progressive draw is it.	Jul 3, 2014 10:11 AM
36	Jobs Taxes Roads	Jul 3, 2014 10:01 AM
37	Roads need repair, schools need help, towns need more people who are willing to help better them.	Jul 3, 2014 9:58 AM
38	lack of employment	Jul 3, 2014 9:11 AM

**Page 3, Q8. Please list what you feel are the top three issues facing Cattaraugus County.**

39	Fracking; infrastructure; quality of life	Jul 3, 2014 7:54 AM
40	Gov. Cuomo, B. Obama, C. Schumer	Jul 2, 2014 2:29 PM
41	No Jobs	Jun 29, 2014 1:10 PM
42	Internet access, water & sewer access, great leadership.	Jun 29, 2014 8:43 AM
43	Population loss decaying housing stock drug adiction	Jun 27, 2014 10:28 PM
44	Lack of adequate emergency care facilities in the Gowanda, Perrysburg, Persia, Cattaraugus, Dayton, New Albion Areas!	Jun 27, 2014 3:28 PM
45	People fighting windmills. Fear of large corporations. Bigotry.	Jun 26, 2014 3:18 PM
46	Repairing roads.	Jun 26, 2014 2:48 PM
47	Roads. School. Taxes.	Jun 26, 2014 2:36 PM
48	Young people leaving. Money. Construction.	Jun 26, 2014 2:23 PM
49	Bad roads. Rural area. Far away from bigger cities	Jun 26, 2014 2:01 PM
50	Bullying. Money.	Jun 26, 2014 1:36 PM
51	Drugs. Pollution. Money	Jun 26, 2014 1:31 PM
52	Politics. Size is to small. Health care is terrible.	Jun 26, 2014 1:17 PM
53	Not many things to do. Expensive.	Jun 26, 2014 1:14 PM
54	Deteriorating Infrastructure, Unemployment, Lack of Effective Internet Service	Jun 24, 2014 4:17 PM
55	Employment Education	Jun 24, 2014 3:11 PM
56	Taxes Community government Relations	Jun 20, 2014 3:19 PM
57	Jobs The people Weather	Jun 20, 2014 3:16 PM
58	Roads No jobs Low quality schools	Jun 20, 2014 3:14 PM
59	The county needs more good employment opportunities for our youth. The county needs to fix the roads.	Jun 20, 2014 3:05 PM
60	Quality of roadways No jobs	Jun 20, 2014 2:12 PM
61	Need more local jobs Drugs	Jun 20, 2014 1:38 PM
62	Roads, Crime, Employment	Jun 19, 2014 2:27 PM
63	Fix the roads	Jun 19, 2014 2:11 PM
64	Roads	Jun 19, 2014 2:05 PM

**Page 3, Q8. Please list what you feel are the top three issues facing Cattaraugus County.**

65	Roads Police Department	Jun 19, 2014 1:59 PM
66	Roadways are bad	Jun 19, 2014 1:56 PM
67	Roads Businesses Jobs	Jun 19, 2014 1:52 PM
68	Local employment opportunities Quality schools Local shops and business districts	Jun 19, 2014 1:48 PM
69	Apathy	Jun 19, 2014 1:45 PM
70	rough roads, taxes, criminal activities (drugs, violence)	Jun 19, 2014 1:39 PM
71	Roads, Activities, No tourist locatioons	Jun 19, 2014 1:28 PM
72	retaining our youth,	Jun 19, 2014 10:09 AM
73	roadways, poor growth	Jun 19, 2014 8:37 AM
74	High Taxes New Business Opportunity Multiple layers of Government	Jun 18, 2014 8:14 AM
75	Population decline, vulnerability to companies leaving the county, sprawl that diminishes the value of the clusters of population in villages and hamlets.	Jun 16, 2014 12:07 PM
76	We are not loving and honoring God to the degree we should be. We must follow God's 10 Commandments in all that we try to accomplish. When we love and obey God and our fellow man we prosper in abundant graces.	Jun 14, 2014 12:07 PM
77	Lack of good paying jobs. Protection of farmland. Aging population.	Jun 11, 2014 8:51 AM
78	1. Need to plan for climate change 2. Need to plan for shrinkage of county population and economy 3. Lack of individual responsibility	Jun 10, 2014 8:21 AM
79	roads	Jun 9, 2014 3:22 PM
80	Lack of appeal to visitors beyond the scenery	Jun 7, 2014 6:08 PM
81	With jobs come people. With people come children. With children comes the need for quality education	Jun 6, 2014 7:20 AM
82	generational welfare and the fallout from it (lack of some work ethic, lack of self reliance)	Jun 5, 2014 6:33 PM
83	1. An aging population and the exodus of many of our young people 2. Lack of attraction for young peole to stay 3. Pessimistic attitude towards change.	Jun 5, 2014 3:09 PM
84	Poor roads, lack of good jobs (careers), and education	Jun 5, 2014 2:31 PM
85	pollution radioactive waste poverty	Jun 5, 2014 2:12 PM
86	maintaing quality schools, not larger schools, but quality education in small school settings.	Jun 5, 2014 1:44 PM
87	ROADS,jobs, too many on welfare	Jun 5, 2014 1:39 PM

**Page 3, Q8. Please list what you feel are the top three issues facing Cattaraugus County.**

88	Hardships on small schools due to state ed's mandates and cost cutting. Keeping families here. Keeping businesses here.	Jun 5, 2014 1:14 PM
89	loosing our youth to other cities loss of job opportunities Lack of common sense in clean when spending money	Jun 5, 2014 12:25 PM
90	Most of the Pols in LV only care about their pay check and their ego's and playing political games along with the state and federal bungholes they just keep dragging us down	Jun 4, 2014 9:55 PM
91	219 expressway, jobs, local shops	Jun 4, 2014 6:30 PM
92	Completion of 219, Jobs, Infrastructure	Jun 4, 2014 4:27 PM
93	1. Loss of employers, even small business. 2. Loss of youth to Quality youth. 3. High tax rates.	Jun 4, 2014 1:57 PM
94	road work, jobs and transportation	Jun 4, 2014 1:49 PM
95	Pot holes lack of businesses lack of jobs	Jun 4, 2014 1:46 PM
96	Gun laws, taxes are getting high, and potholes and horrible roads.	Jun 4, 2014 1:46 PM
97	Gun laws and budget	Jun 4, 2014 1:46 PM
98	roads, businesses, health care	Jun 4, 2014 1:45 PM
99	lack of buisnesses lack of employment opportunities roads	Jun 4, 2014 1:45 PM
100	Potholes Poverty Job Shortages	Jun 4, 2014 1:44 PM
101	The environment is more important than expanding our already developing surrounding areas. We don't need another major city system. we need to preserve our natural environment to preserve our future.	Jun 4, 2014 1:44 PM
102	Need new business housing community	Jun 4, 2014 1:43 PM
103	poverty health care job shortages	Jun 4, 2014 1:43 PM
104	I don't know	Jun 4, 2014 1:42 PM
105	not enough job opportunities.	Jun 4, 2014 10:54 AM
106	1) High taxes in relation to low median household income (I know people that literally can not afford their property taxes on average incomes here) 2) The need to divest in fossil fuels and invest in sustainable resources / making sustainable options affordable for average households, 3) The need to encourage and support more local, privately owned business, vs. large chain businesses.	Jun 4, 2014 10:51 AM
107	Taxes, Gas prices, low variety of job opportunities.	Jun 4, 2014 10:50 AM
108	High taxes Road conditions Local businesses	Jun 4, 2014 10:49 AM

**Page 3, Q8. Please list what you feel are the top three issues facing Cattaraugus County.**

109	High Taxes. Extremely High Electric bills. With no reason for the bills being so high. Bad roads in Cattaraugus County.	Jun 4, 2014 10:49 AM
110	High Taxes, Not a lot of jobs available, Not a lot to do in terms of shopping and museums	Jun 4, 2014 10:45 AM
111	bad roads not a lot of jobs and very little privacy	Jun 4, 2014 10:45 AM
112	the roads	Jun 4, 2014 10:45 AM
113	Little Job Opportunities Not a Clean Environment Little Privacy	Jun 4, 2014 10:44 AM
114	1. Taxes 2. Gas Prices 3. Rough roads	Jun 4, 2014 10:43 AM
115	Lack of well-paying jobs, lack of strong educational systems, persistent poverty	Jun 4, 2014 10:20 AM
116	Aging/deteriorating Infrastructure Declining population Unemployment	Jun 4, 2014 10:10 AM
117	Brain drain Retaining/Growing Businesses because of NYS Government does not practice project management and needs to improve transparency.	Jun 4, 2014 10:00 AM
118	decreasing population to sustain tax base decrease in healthcare providers for aging population lack of concern by telephone companies to maintain old phone lines in rural communities with aging population and individuals living alone	Jun 4, 2014 9:23 AM
119	TO DECREASE our social service population to increase our awareness to young people here and elsewhere this is a quality place to live.	Jun 3, 2014 6:42 PM
120	Need for devotion of funding for incentivizing technology-based and knowledge-based economic development; need for development of skilled labor force with skills relating to technology-based and knowledge-based businesses (e.g., enhanced STEAM education at all levels, entrepreneurial development, etc.); need for funding to maintain and improve (in some cases, where there is none, construct) infrastructure servicing residents and current and prospective businesses	Jun 3, 2014 4:29 PM
121	Hospitals-- Schools-- Improve infrastructure.	May 30, 2014 12:11 PM
122	Bad roads, no jobs, things are falling apart	May 29, 2014 2:13 PM
123	Roads are bad - pot holes	May 29, 2014 8:37 AM
124	Decrease in population Not enough local businesses Not enough jobs	May 29, 2014 8:35 AM
125	1. Public sector job to private sector job ratio is too high, too few private sector jobs 2. poor cell service and broadband availability 3. Need to more strategically use the natural resources we have	May 28, 2014 3:22 PM
126	Not enough jobs, lack of economic growth.	May 28, 2014 1:14 PM
127	Poor road conditions. poor service coverage (cable, high speed internet). Taxes hurting local businesses and communities.	May 28, 2014 1:12 PM
128	Roads need to be fixed.	May 28, 2014 1:08 PM

**Page 3, Q8. Please list what you feel are the top three issues facing Cattaraugus County.**

129	1) poverty. 2) companies have a hard time getting people to move to this area.	May 28, 2014 1:06 PM
130	Windmills, jobs, road upkeep.	May 28, 2014 1:01 PM
131	Job opportunities. Taxes. Roads/bridges condition.	May 28, 2014 12:58 PM
132	Potholes.	May 28, 2014 12:56 PM
133	Cutting trees down is taking away the beauty. It looks bad.	May 28, 2014 12:54 PM
134	Finding jobs nearby that aren't minimum wage. Pollution. Quality schools.	May 28, 2014 9:42 AM
135	drugs to much gun control to many officials	May 28, 2014 9:21 AM
136	1. Flooding of homes near poor filtration areas during small storms 2. Emerald Ashborer 3. Drugs	May 28, 2014 9:17 AM
137	I think that local shops of Randolph especially are important because they provide jobs and variety to the members of the county. Also, if we live in small towns, we need to have access to quality schools with numerous opportunities in order to compete with other, bigger schools.	May 28, 2014 9:17 AM
138	1. Road Management (potholes, and dead deer) 2. Recreational activities for kids	May 28, 2014 9:16 AM
139	fixing the roads up (back roads) more rec. centers fixing up the town/homes to make it more lively	May 28, 2014 9:16 AM
140	1. fixing up potholes and backroads 2. providing more recreational activities for teens to keep them safe and out of trouble 3. update the town and make it more visually appealing	May 28, 2014 9:16 AM
141	roads are absolutly horrible.	May 28, 2014 9:15 AM
142	1. roads 2.run down buildings 3. no jobs	May 28, 2014 9:15 AM
143	1. Better Fields for sports 2. fix the roads 3. More businesses	May 28, 2014 9:14 AM
144	better road repair, better village/ school communication, better money management	May 28, 2014 9:14 AM
145	1. fixing backroads 2. fixing old buildings or getting rid of them 3. more recreational activities to keep kids out of trouble	May 28, 2014 9:14 AM
146	1.	May 28, 2014 9:13 AM
147	Aging population and aging infrastructure. Rural poverty with little access to help.	May 27, 2014 5:40 PM
148	not enough job opportunities not enough places for teens to go.	May 27, 2014 2:19 PM
149	not a lot of jobs not many high paying jobs not many things to do (entertainment/night life)	May 27, 2014 2:04 PM
150	lack of events, lack of stores and roads need to be repaired.	May 27, 2014 1:37 PM

**Page 3, Q8. Please list what you feel are the top three issues facing Cattaraugus County.**

151	poor roads, no jobs.	May 27, 2014 1:35 PM
152	lack of quality jobs/work	May 25, 2014 11:02 AM
153	Roads Quality schools Employment	May 23, 2014 3:07 PM
154	over taxed declining population (lack of jobs) neighborhood decay	May 22, 2014 12:19 PM
155	Deteriorating job base Deteriorating infrastructures Political overspending	May 22, 2014 10:54 AM
156	jobs destruction of natural resources by oil, gas and solar lack of support from state government	May 22, 2014 9:48 AM
157	lack of employment, high taxes on all levels, no trust in State Government	May 21, 2014 9:52 PM
158	Rural transportation system, funding to deal with our aging infrastructure, access FOR ALL to high speed internet services	May 21, 2014 7:10 PM
159	Lack of jobs Road disrepair Attraction for new and expanding business	May 21, 2014 8:48 AM
160	Lack of visionary leadership at top levels, lack of Internet access in areas around the county, ridiculous taxes.	May 21, 2014 7:07 AM
161	Lack of development Lack of business High taxes	May 20, 2014 11:52 PM
162	Economy, Employment, and Budgeting (County and Town/Village levels)	May 16, 2014 10:57 AM
163	industry moving out of the area, IDA giving so much help to tourism and not trying to fill existing buildings with manufacturing jobs that pay a living wage, people want to be able to live and WORK here not work 2 jobs to just exist and live here.	May 15, 2014 4:15 PM
164	Employment Infrastructure, (water & sewer) Veterans Issues	May 14, 2014 7:22 PM
165	1. Poor leadership 2. Capacity 3. A long term strategy and process for success	May 14, 2014 12:57 PM
166	Preservation of unique natural features and areas Stabilization of villages Controlling local tax rates	May 14, 2014 12:13 PM
167	We are over taxed. We have grown a sheriffs department into a monster. Allegany Co. saves millions with no road patrols. Troopers and local police handle everything with no cost to the county. Turn more county roads oner to the towns. The town plows travel from town road to town road on county roads with their plows up. Why not just turn them over to the towns.	May 14, 2014 10:52 AM
168	There are not enough shopping choices. There are too many decaying vacant structures There are not enough job opportunitis	May 14, 2014 9:01 AM
169	1. Too high property taxes - in rural areas we pay and get nothing 2. Not enough business (which relates to high taxes) 3. Fraud in medicare (or any government assistance)	May 13, 2014 12:50 PM
170	Population loss, lack of urban renewal, and major lack of economic development	May 12, 2014 12:47 PM

**Page 3, Q8. Please list what you feel are the top three issues facing Cattaraugus County.**

171	---unreasonable housing prices for middle class year-round residents in and around the Ellicottville / Great Valley Area. ---maintaining quality schools that have art, music, and library programs without exorbitant taxes. ---quality of roads	May 12, 2014 10:49 AM
172	better roads, better telecomm, high taxes	May 8, 2014 3:18 PM
173	1. Farmers are struggling. They need help. 2. We need more jobs. 3. We need to keep our youth from leaving. Give them a reason to stay here.	May 8, 2014 11:49 AM
174	The healthcare workers seem to make dangerous and sometimes life-threatening mistakes. Also, the amount of employment opportunities in the area are virtually non-existent. The national parks and other outdoor facilities seem to be on the backburner when it comes to importance.	May 8, 2014 9:24 AM
175	1. Economic development, ie., bringing in new jobs, retaining jobs. 2. Jobs. 3. Jobs.	May 8, 2014 9:23 AM
176	Infrastructure Property taxes Employment opportunities	May 7, 2014 7:43 PM
177	Lack of a tax base. Lack of small business in the villages.	May 7, 2014 3:07 PM
178	a) Not enough involvement of our younger generation to guide us for the future. (too much say by our "older" generation and not allowing for younger input) b) Public Transportation Coordination. (Utilize systems that exist along with re-developing the rail system.) c) STOP WASTING DOLLARS ON 219! We want travelers to drive through our communities, not bypass them.	May 7, 2014 9:41 AM
179	job market high taxes nothing for our youth consider asking nys to reopen the youth facility on mutton hollow as a rec center	May 6, 2014 6:50 PM
180	Jobs, economy, infrastructure.	May 6, 2014 6:31 PM
181	Public School enrollment- decreasing Lack of above wage jobs Roads not level for safe driving (example Rt 240 and Cole Road both north and south directions force you into opposite lanes, possibly causing accidents)	May 6, 2014 6:19 PM
182	Jobs jobs & jobs - better paying jobs. Quality Day care so parents can have jobs.	May 6, 2014 5:53 PM
183	Declining population School consolodation - 1 -3 regional high schools with elementary/middle schools staying local	May 6, 2014 4:08 PM
184	1). Small town political cronyism. 2) Lack of loyalty to tax payers.	May 6, 2014 3:55 PM
185	lack of good jobs. too much government regulation. need more job training and education.	May 6, 2014 3:33 PM
186	population loss, too many layers of gov, lack of local employment	May 6, 2014 3:12 PM
187	aging population, need to open up outdoor recreation for motorized oof-road vehicles	May 6, 2014 2:55 PM
188	1. Decline in population. 2. Number of unemployed. 3. Infrastructure.	May 6, 2014 2:47 PM
189	Economic Development Access to human services Employment	May 5, 2014 4:46 PM

**Page 3, Q8. Please list what you feel are the top three issues facing Cattaraugus County.**

190	Poverty Loss of jobs	May 5, 2014 11:32 AM
191	Lack of employment opportunities, lack of businesses staying in the area, possible over development	May 5, 2014 10:51 AM
192	Schools. Roads. Recreation areas.	May 5, 2014 10:24 AM
193	Lack of employment opportunities especially for professionals High taxes and regulatory requirements stifle growth Eroding infrastructure	May 5, 2014 9:18 AM
194	Economic Development Infrastructure Development	May 5, 2014 9:08 AM
195	1. Employment 2. Environment 3. Maintaining Infrastructure	May 3, 2014 2:57 PM
196	Budget control to keep tax base acceptable. Ability to address the aging population needs Ability to receive the planned casino revenue regulary	May 3, 2014 8:42 AM
197	Young people graduating and never coming back to work here. Need more physician specialists so there is less need to drive to Buffalo or other cities. High taxes.	May 2, 2014 4:57 PM
198	Development of airports for general aviation and passenger travel.	May 2, 2014 4:31 PM
199	Employment opportunity Education Health care	May 2, 2014 2:50 PM
200	Keep this County rural and keep it's natural resources, Encourage business to the brownstone areas, Expand on tourism with the beautiful area with multi use trails and natural tourist attractions, Help agriculture to survive	Apr 30, 2014 8:27 PM
201	(1) Need more aggressive econ devel efforts (2) Need more creative theme. Enchanted Mountains is growing old. (3) Need property tax relief.	Apr 30, 2014 4:14 PM
202	Do not lose the Rural and Small town character it makes the county a nice place to move and live in	Apr 30, 2014 2:10 PM
203	work for everyone able, health care, drugs.	Apr 30, 2014 9:43 AM
204	County roads & bridges Health care-access to local doctors Property taxes	Apr 30, 2014 8:37 AM
205	Taxes, Loss of quality employment for young people, More Taxes	Apr 30, 2014 8:29 AM
206	#1 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION (SCHOOLS & 4-H), #2 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & EMPLOYMENT, #3 REBUILDING INFASTRUCTURE.	Apr 30, 2014 8:27 AM
207	Employment opportunities Broadband availability Dwindling population base	Apr 29, 2014 9:39 PM





**Page 3, Q9. Is there anything else you would like to share?**

17	I have heard the Village of Little Valley has refused more than one large business that wanted to come in because they don't want to make it a business community but instead a retirement community. I am sure this is not the only community in the county with this attitude and I fear those decisions are negatively affecting our entire community. It would be nice if the county could give incentives to communities that make the positive decision to welcome new or expanding businesses that will bring much needed jobs to our area.	Jul 3, 2014 10:17 AM
18	No	Jul 3, 2014 10:01 AM
19	government needs to be downsized and allow people to live their lives without dictating every move people make	Jul 2, 2014 2:29 PM
20	The county and cities within are spending far too much money studying things when the funds could be put to immediate use showing actual improvements.	Jun 29, 2014 8:43 AM
21	We need affordable access to high speed internet.	Jun 27, 2014 10:28 PM
22	Cattaraugus County is a beautiful county with many natural resources that need to be wisely utilized. Bring back the Gowanda Psychiatric Center (those people need assistance in a modern facility) and bring back Tri-County Memorial Hospital!!! The State of New Needs to take a lesson from the Pennsylvania and get rid of the antiquated Certificate of Need or CON process and look at the market to determine what health care should be provided in Cattaraugus County. PA rid itself of a bureacrat in the early 90's. Can we now see the difference in rural health in PA? Yes, a positive one at that with the Allegany Health System funded by the Federal Government in part because they looked at actual needs in this area and saw a legitimate market for them. Not some bureacrat in Albany who doesn't know Persia from Great Valley and doesn't care!!!!	Jun 27, 2014 3:28 PM
23	Don't limit growth at the expense of the silent majority.	Jun 26, 2014 3:18 PM
24	Repairing roads.	Jun 26, 2014 2:48 PM
25	Infrastructure (Roads, Bridges, Culverts, Water, Sewer, Etc.) is critical and should be the top priority.	Jun 24, 2014 4:17 PM
26	It's boring	Jun 20, 2014 3:16 PM
27	Legalize marijuana	Jun 20, 2014 3:14 PM
28	Please fix the roads	Jun 19, 2014 2:05 PM
29	Nothing to do for kids	Jun 19, 2014 1:28 PM
30	DO NOT EVER ALLOW FRACKING.	Jun 18, 2014 8:14 AM
31	Strive to become a tourism destination, leveraging the region's outdoor assets and commercial centers.	Jun 16, 2014 12:07 PM
32	I AM SO TIRED OF SLUMLORDS MAKING PEOPLE LIVE IN DERELICT HOUSING. YOU NEED TO WAGE A FULLSCALE DEMOLITION ON HOUSES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY, ESPECIALLY OLEAN, NY; TO REMOVE	Jun 14, 2014 12:07 PM

Page 3, Q9. Is there anything else you would like to share?

HOUSES THAT ARE BEING SOLD TO homesbycornerstone.com of Corning, NY and all of the other people who are taking advantage of others. Look at the GIS listings and you will see multiple derelict homes owned by slumlords. Sincerely, Mrs. Craig

33	The stark reality is that the county is on the periphery of the global economy and has a dependency relationship with global economic centers. This has its benefits, we have an opportunity to forge a sustainable future utilizing local resources and renewable energy. Much stands in our way, including a lack of enlightened leadership, adequate knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs) among our population and the structures of dependency that radiate through our government and economic institutions. However, our world is changing quickly and our best hope is educating our children and giving them the KSAs to survive and the creativity to sustain.	Jun 10, 2014 8:21 AM
34	Yes but it would be inappropriate.	Jun 4, 2014 9:55 PM
35	There is too much of a disconnect between agencies around the county to work together to solve problems.	Jun 4, 2014 1:57 PM
36	no	Jun 4, 2014 1:49 PM
37	no	Jun 4, 2014 1:46 PM
38	potholes need fixed badly and we need a president.	Jun 4, 2014 1:46 PM
39	Change the Gov. Coumos gun laws back to what they were previous to his tenure in office	Jun 4, 2014 1:46 PM
40	no	Jun 4, 2014 1:43 PM
41	No	Jun 4, 2014 1:42 PM
42	for more jobs, increase the timber work and especially increase the gas and oil extraction. out door jobs only. no factories. no inside jobs except could use one more gas station in hinsdale. no big stores or restaurants.	Jun 4, 2014 10:54 AM
43	unless you are in a trade, the job opportunities here are very scarce	Jun 4, 2014 10:50 AM
44	Local businesses are great for the economy and should get tax breaks to keep them here.Road conditions aren't the greatest and when they are fixed they don't last very long. Construction workers take longer than they should making detours even more horrible. I suggest using a different company. Since new houses are being developed, maybe take down the old dilapidated ones and create something with landscaping, so try to clean up the county. Also, there's nothing really exciting all year round. In the summer there's racing and the fair, but what about fall, winter and spring? If there was more community based things like the fair, it would make more money for the county and citizens would have fun	Jun 4, 2014 10:49 AM
45	More roads should be fixed in Catt county. Small towns are great. Lots of hunting land, great area, Lots of state lands:) great recreation places:)	Jun 4, 2014 10:49 AM
46	I like how there is state land and parks for recreation. The county is rural and not overpopulated	Jun 4, 2014 10:45 AM

**Page 3, Q9. Is there anything else you would like to share?**

47	how they can fix the roads and things that the county needs as a whole	Jun 4, 2014 10:45 AM
48	no, thank you.	Jun 4, 2014 10:43 AM
49	We love living here and raising our children here, but are disappointed in knowing that in order for our children to succeed and prosper, they will most certainly HAVE TO LEAVE the area to seek jobs and education. It's a real shame, and the lack of good opportunity will be leave the area in a shambles of the elderly, poor, and uneducated.	Jun 4, 2014 10:20 AM
50	I believe that the word quality should be a noun and not an adjective. Cattaraugus County needs to invest in their communities equally.	Jun 4, 2014 10:00 AM
51	city of olean should improve code enforcement look on side roads of houses of absentee landlords. brings down values of city and surrounding areas	Jun 3, 2014 6:42 PM
52	I feel that there should be a focus on devoting significant resources to proactive economic development initiatives (e.g., STEAM and infrastructure and site readiness and building readiness, etc.) that will lead in the future to technology-based and knowledge-based economic development, as opposed to a reactive, deal-based or transaction-based approach to economic development.	Jun 3, 2014 4:29 PM
53	no	May 30, 2014 12:11 PM
54	stop hurting the forests & wildlife. examples: cutting down mass amounts of trees in one area. Hunting is okay, but keep it the same.	May 29, 2014 8:37 AM
55	Things need to be changed if Catt. Cty wants to grow and keep the same population. Many younger generations plan on moving for more opportunities.	May 29, 2014 8:35 AM
56	New York State has an extremely hostile tax environment. People don't want to come here nor do existing residents want to stay.	May 28, 2014 1:12 PM
57	This is a wonderful county, but more jobs need to become available.	May 28, 2014 9:42 AM
58	the government needs to learn how to mange money and stop being such imbecile	May 28, 2014 9:21 AM
59	nope	May 28, 2014 9:17 AM
60	I think one thing that makes Randolph unique is the amount of rural and outdoor recreation that is available to people.	May 28, 2014 9:17 AM
61	No	May 28, 2014 9:16 AM
62	No	May 28, 2014 9:16 AM
63	randolph needs to prepare for floods better	May 28, 2014 9:15 AM
64	the roads literally are horrible.	May 28, 2014 9:14 AM
65	speeding on Jamestown Rd.	May 28, 2014 9:14 AM
66	No	May 28, 2014 9:14 AM

**Page 3, Q9. Is there anything else you would like to share?**

67	Wyoming County has a county wide transportation system for the poor and aged. Why can't Cattaraugus County do this?	May 27, 2014 5:40 PM
68	quit wasting time on 219. Pa. will never finish the road. bypassing local towns destroys local business If you want people to come and stay get rid of 4 lanes and let people enjoy what our small towns offer.	May 22, 2014 9:48 AM
69	area needs more jobs	May 21, 2014 9:52 PM
70	Public, informational & participatory forums are a good start. Let's continue.	May 21, 2014 7:10 PM
71	Go forward on the suggestions presented at the Brownfield Development forum in Olean to bring in new restaurants (Starbucks & Olive Garden), new motel/hotel visible from I-86, and outlet stores featuring local goods, products, and tourism features.	May 21, 2014 8:48 AM
72	Through the grapevine, I heard Apple is looking to locate a facility in upstate NY. Catt County needs to make some contacts in industries to get some here. There is a huge disconnect between schools and businesses. Businesses will be closing due to no second generation plan because their kids moved away and the kids graduating have no clue to real world work needs. Leadership needs to get creative to bring population back.	May 21, 2014 7:07 AM
73	Tourism is inportent to the county but all you have to look at what has happened to all our small towns, they are empty.	May 15, 2014 4:15 PM
74	I will email ideas to Paul Bishop	May 14, 2014 12:57 PM
75	Thank you for the oportunity to offer my opinion. It is crucial that the public be heard because this plan will guide how our community grows.	May 14, 2014 12:13 PM
76	Lime Lake needs a public boad ramp. I live and pay taxes in Machias and I can't even use the boat ramp unless I join the cottage owner ass. for \$150.00 a year. We need a free ramp not just a launch where rocks block boaters from backing a trailer in.	May 14, 2014 10:52 AM
77	Cattaraugus County should promote growth, but within current towns. It should also promote small businesses in other areas. Maybe it should have an association for small business in the county (I currently own a small business)	May 13, 2014 12:50 PM
78	The City of Olean should be playing a much higher role in county development, and we should be focusing on major expansion and urban renewal as Olean is the major economic and industrial hub of the county.	May 12, 2014 12:47 PM
79	---I think efforts should be made to make the land and water around the West Valley nuclear storage site safe. More information should be available to the public about what's happening there. Misinformation makes real estate and schooling around there undesirable. ---The bike trail being planned for the Ellicottville Area should definitely be extended into Great Valley. ---Public Libraries should be supported and maintained.	May 12, 2014 10:49 AM
80	I am opposed to any attempts to hydro-frack. Otherwise anything goes. Also, lets place an emphasis on agriculture, tourism, building infrastructure so	May 8, 2014 9:23 AM

**Page 3, Q9. Is there anything else you would like to share?**

	businesses that might want to come to the county won't have to wait. The infrastructure will already be in place.	
81	Incentives to do business or live in current villages would be great such as reduced town taxes for those areas or have the village exist outside the towns	May 7, 2014 3:07 PM
82	Listen to the public and try things instead of shutting down ideas and suggestions. There is too much selfishness that exist is this county! Open the door to our younger folks. By doing so, we may entice them to stay in our area, instead of looking for better things elsewhere.	May 7, 2014 9:41 AM
83	we love our county but with limited job potential we may have to move away.	May 6, 2014 6:50 PM
84	Catt County has ample vacation and getaway opportunity to market.	May 6, 2014 6:19 PM
85	eliminate all towns and villages, provide services from county only, eliminate school districts and have county wide district.	May 6, 2014 3:12 PM
86	Cattaraugus County is a beautiful place to live. We need to ensure viability by allowing growth to occur. Thank you for asking.	May 5, 2014 11:32 AM
87	I believe that in Olean, NY introducing a roundabout will drive businesses and people out of town	May 5, 2014 10:51 AM
88	Don't Frack our county.	May 5, 2014 10:24 AM
89	Having the County as the largest employer in the area speaks volumes for the problems we are facing	May 5, 2014 9:18 AM
90	no	May 3, 2014 2:57 PM
91	County and Towns/Villages should continue and add to the shared services concept. Do what makes sense - do not drive over one road to get to another to plow and not handle the 1st road while on it. (many/many examples in the county)	May 3, 2014 8:42 AM
92	The County should take a more proactive role in economic development. It does well in planning and tourism, but does not have staff with economic development expertise or the financial resources to undertake significant economic development initiatives that could lead to improving the local economy.	May 2, 2014 2:50 PM
93	We need to have dedicated multi use Trails that include HORSES. This would attract tourism and maybe some businesses that cater to this.	Apr 30, 2014 8:27 PM
94	Connect Catt Co trails with Chaut Co trails.	Apr 30, 2014 4:14 PM
95	Please do do any big changes	Apr 30, 2014 2:10 PM

1. Where do you live?						
	What is your age group?					
	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Totals
Town of Allegany	31.6% (12)	36.6% (30)	4.7% (3)	9.8% (8)	5.6% (1)	19.0% (54)
Village of Allegany	10.5% (4)	13.4% (11)	1.6% (1)	4.9% (4)	0.0% (0)	7.0% (20)
Ashford	0.0% (0)	2.4% (2)	6.3% (4)	4.9% (4)	5.6% (1)	3.9% (11)
Carrollton	5.3% (2)	6.1% (5)	1.6% (1)	0.0% (0)	11.1% (2)	3.5% (10)
Village of Cattaraugus	2.6% (1)	1.2% (1)	1.6% (1)	2.4% (2)	5.6% (1)	2.1% (6)
Coldspring	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)
Conewango	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.6% (1)	2.4% (2)	0.0% (0)	1.1% (3)
Dayton	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	2.4% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.7% (2)
Delevan	0.0% (0)	1.2% (1)	1.6% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.7% (2)
East Otto	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.6% (1)	1.2% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.7% (2)
Town of Ellicottville	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.6% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.4% (1)
Village of Ellicottville	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.6% (1)	1.2% (1)	5.6% (1)	1.1% (3)
Farmersville	0.0% (0)	1.2% (1)	1.6% (1)	3.7% (3)	0.0% (0)	1.8% (5)

Town of Franklinville	0.0% (0)	1.2% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	5.6% (1)	0.7% (2)
Village of Franklinville	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	6.3% (4)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.4% (4)
Freedom	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.2% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.4% (1)
Gowanda	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	2.4% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.7% (2)
Great Valley	0.0% (0)	1.2% (1)	<b>17.2%</b> <b>(11)</b>	7.3% (6)	0.0% (0)	6.3% (18)
Hinsdale	23.7% (9)	6.1% (5)	3.1% (2)	4.9% (4)	0.0% (0)	7.0% (20)
Humphrey	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.6% (1)	3.7% (3)	0.0% (0)	1.4% (4)
Ischua	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)
Leon	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)
Town of Little Valley	0.0% (0)	1.2% (1)	0.0% (0)	2.4% (2)	5.6% (1)	1.4% (4)
Village of Little Valley	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	6.3% (4)	0.0% (0)	5.6% (1)	1.8% (5)
Lyndon	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)
Machias	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.6% (1)	1.2% (1)	5.6% (1)	1.1% (3)
Mansfield	0.0% (0)	2.4% (2)	1.6% (1)	2.4% (2)	5.6% (1)	2.1% (6)
Napoli	0.0% (0)	1.2% (1)	3.1% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.1% (3)
New Albion	2.6% (1)	1.2% (1)	1.6% (1)	0.0% (0)	5.6% (1)	1.4% (4)

City of Olean	2.6% (1)	3.7% (3)	12.5% (8)	<b>14.6%</b> <b>(12)</b>	<b>16.7%</b> <b>(3)</b>	9.5% (27)
Town of Olean	10.5% (4)	3.7% (3)	1.6% (1)	4.9% (4)	0.0% (0)	4.2% (12)
Otto	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.6% (1)	3.7% (3)	0.0% (0)	1.4% (4)
Perrysburg	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)
Persia	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.2% (1)	11.1% (2)	1.1% (3)
Town of Portville	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.6% (1)	4.9% (4)	0.0% (0)	1.8% (5)
Village of Portville	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.6% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.4% (1)
Randolph	10.5% (4)	13.4% (11)	7.8% (5)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	7.0% (20)
Red House	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	5.6% (1)	0.4% (1)
City of Salamanca	0.0% (0)	1.2% (1)	4.7% (3)	7.3% (6)	0.0% (0)	3.5% (10)
Town of Salamanca	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	2.4% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.7% (2)
South Dayton	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.6% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.4% (1)
South Valley	0.0% (0)	1.2% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.4% (1)
Yorkshire	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	2.4% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.7% (2)
Other (please specify)	1 reply	5 replies	3 replies	5 replies	1 reply	15
<b>answered question</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>284</b>
<b>skipped question</b>						<b>13</b>

## 2. What is your age group?

	What is your age group?					
	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Totals
Under 18	<b>100.0%</b> (39)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	13.1% (39)
18 to 30	0.0% (0)	<b>100.0%</b> (85)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	<b>28.6%</b> (85)
31 to 45	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	<b>100.0%</b> (67)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	22.6% (67)
46 to 64	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	<b>100.0%</b> (85)	0.0% (0)	<b>28.6%</b> (85)
65 or older	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	<b>100.0%</b> (21)	7.1% (21)
<b>answered question</b>	39	85	67	85	21	<b>297</b>
<b>skipped question</b>						<b>0</b>

## 3. How long have you lived in Cattaraugus County?

	What is your age group?					
	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Totals
Less than 5 years	10.3% (4)	10.6% (9)	13.4% (9)	9.5% (8)	0.0% (0)	10.2% (30)
6 to 20 years	<b>89.7%</b> (35)	<b>75.3%</b> (64)	26.9% (18)	15.5% (13)	15.8% (3)	<b>45.2%</b> (133)
More than 20 years	0.0% (0)	14.1% (12)	<b>59.7%</b> (40)	<b>75.0%</b> (63)	<b>84.2%</b> (16)	44.6% (131)
<b>answered question</b>	39	85	67	84	19	<b>294</b>
<b>skipped question</b>						<b>3</b>

#### 4. What is the highest level of education that you have completed?

	What is your age group?					Response Totals
	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	
Some high school	<b>64.1%</b> <b>(25)</b>	25.9% (22)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	15.9% (47)
High school graduate	33.3% (13)	<b>48.2%</b> <b>(41)</b>	9.0% (6)	9.5% (8)	14.3% (3)	<b>24.0%</b> <b>(71)</b>
Some college, no degree	2.6% (1)	11.8% (10)	14.9% (10)	27.4% (23)	23.8% (5)	16.6% (49)
College degree	0.0% (0)	11.8% (10)	<b>50.7%</b> <b>(34)</b>	27.4% (23)	19.0% (4)	<b>24.0%</b> <b>(71)</b>
Graduate degree	0.0% (0)	2.4% (2)	25.4% (17)	<b>35.7%</b> <b>(30)</b>	<b>42.9%</b> <b>(9)</b>	19.6% (58)
<b>answered question</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>296</b>
<b>skipped question</b>						<b>1</b>

## 5. Please rank the following topics based on their importance to Cattaraugus County.

		What is your age group?					
		Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Totals
Agriculture	Very Important	36.1% (13)	<b>42.2%</b> <b>(35)</b>	<b>58.3%</b> <b>(35)</b>	<b>66.2%</b> <b>(49)</b>	41.2% (7)	
	Important	<b>47.2%</b> <b>(17)</b>	30.1% (25)	38.3% (23)	31.1% (23)	<b>58.8%</b> <b>(10)</b>	
	Neutral	13.9% (5)	27.7% (23)	1.7% (1)	2.7% (2)	0.0% (0)	
	Not Important	2.8% (1)	0.0% (0)	1.7% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	
rating average		1.83 (36)	1.86 (83)	1.47 (60)	1.36 (74)	1.59 (17)	1.61 (270)
Access to locally produced foods	Very Important	16.7% (6)	30.1% (25)	<b>50.0%</b> <b>(30)</b>	<b>60.8%</b> <b>(45)</b>	35.3% (6)	
	Important	<b>44.4%</b> <b>(16)</b>	<b>48.2%</b> <b>(40)</b>	40.0% (24)	29.7% (22)	<b>52.9%</b> <b>(9)</b>	
	Neutral	36.1% (13)	19.3% (16)	10.0% (6)	8.1% (6)	5.9% (1)	
	Not Important	2.8% (1)	2.4% (2)	0.0% (0)	1.4% (1)	5.9% (1)	
rating average		2.25 (36)	1.94 (83)	1.60 (60)	1.50 (74)	1.82 (17)	1.78 (270)
City, Village and Town renewal	Very Important	13.9% (5)	22.0% (18)	33.3% (20)	<b>47.2%</b> <b>(34)</b>	<b>62.5%</b> <b>(10)</b>	
	Important	36.1% (13)	<b>52.4%</b> <b>(43)</b>	<b>41.7%</b> <b>(25)</b>	38.9% (28)	18.8% (3)	
	Neutral	<b>38.9%</b> <b>(14)</b>	23.2% (19)	21.7% (13)	12.5% (9)	18.8% (3)	
	Not Important	11.1% (4)	2.4% (2)	3.3% (2)	1.4% (1)	0.0% (0)	

rating average		2.47 (36)	2.06 (82)	1.95 (60)	1.68 (72)	1.56 (16)	1.96 (266)
Protection of natural features (forests, water, hillsides, etc.)	<b>Very Important</b>	27.8% (10)	<b>47.0%</b> <b>(39)</b>	<b>52.5%</b> <b>(31)</b>	<b>68.0%</b> <b>(51)</b>	<b>81.3%</b> <b>(13)</b>	
	<b>Important</b>	<b>41.7%</b> <b>(15)</b>	39.8% (33)	37.3% (22)	28.0% (21)	12.5% (2)	
	<b>Neutral</b>	27.8% (10)	9.6% (8)	10.2% (6)	4.0% (3)	6.3% (1)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	2.8% (1)	3.6% (3)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	
rating average		2.06 (36)	1.70 (83)	1.58 (59)	1.36 (75)	1.25 (16)	1.60 (269)
Utilization of natural resources (gravel, oil & gas, timber, water, wind, solar, etc.)	<b>Very Important</b>	25.0% (9)	<b>41.5%</b> <b>(34)</b>	<b>39.0%</b> <b>(23)</b>	<b>56.6%</b> <b>(43)</b>	<b>52.9%</b> <b>(9)</b>	
	<b>Important</b>	<b>55.6%</b> <b>(20)</b>	36.6% (30)	37.3% (22)	22.4% (17)	47.1% (8)	
	<b>Neutral</b>	11.1% (4)	20.7% (17)	23.7% (14)	15.8% (12)	0.0% (0)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	8.3% (3)	1.2% (1)	0.0% (0)	5.3% (4)	0.0% (0)	
rating average		2.03 (36)	1.82 (82)	1.85 (59)	1.70 (76)	1.47 (17)	1.80 (270)
Economic development (bringing in new businesses, retaining existing businesses, etc.)	<b>Very Important</b>	27.8% (10)	<b>49.4%</b> <b>(41)</b>	<b>71.7%</b> <b>(43)</b>	<b>73.7%</b> <b>(56)</b>	<b>82.4%</b> <b>(14)</b>	
	<b>Important</b>	<b>44.4%</b> <b>(16)</b>	33.7% (28)	21.7% (13)	21.1% (16)	17.6% (3)	
	<b>Neutral</b>	25.0% (9)	14.5% (12)	6.7% (4)	3.9% (3)	0.0% (0)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	2.8% (1)	2.4% (2)	0.0% (0)	1.3% (1)	0.0% (0)	
rating average		2.03 (36)	1.70 (83)	1.35 (60)	1.33 (76)	1.18 (17)	1.53 (272)
Tourism	<b>Very</b>	5.6%	13.3%	34.5%	<b>44.7%</b>	<b>52.9%</b>	

	<b>Important</b>	(2)	(11)	(20)	<b>(34)</b>	<b>(9)</b>	
	<b>Important</b>	16.7% (6)	19.3% (16)	<b>39.7%</b> <b>(23)</b>	35.5% (27)	29.4% (5)	
	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>38.9%</b> <b>(14)</b>	<b>47.0%</b> <b>(39)</b>	19.0% (11)	18.4% (14)	17.6% (3)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	<b>38.9%</b> <b>(14)</b>	20.5% (17)	6.9% (4)	1.3% (1)	0.0% (0)	
rating average		3.11 (36)	2.75 (83)	1.98 (58)	1.76 (76)	1.65 (17)	2.29 (270)
Arts (local arts organizations, museums, music, plays, etc.)	<b>Very Important</b>	16.7% (6)	15.7% (13)	15.0% (9)	27.4% (20)	25.0% (4)	
	<b>Important</b>	<b>30.6%</b> <b>(11)</b>	26.5% (22)	<b>45.0%</b> <b>(27)</b>	<b>46.6%</b> <b>(34)</b>	<b>68.8%</b> <b>(11)</b>	
	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>30.6%</b> <b>(11)</b>	<b>42.2%</b> <b>(35)</b>	33.3% (20)	16.4% (12)	0.0% (0)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	22.2% (8)	15.7% (13)	6.7% (4)	9.6% (7)	6.3% (1)	
rating average		2.58 (36)	2.58 (83)	2.32 (60)	2.08 (73)	1.88 (16)	2.34 (268)
Culture and History (Seneca Nation of Indians, Amish, County and local history, etc.)	<b>Very Important</b>	19.4% (7)	18.1% (15)	15.0% (9)	23.7% (18)	29.4% (5)	
	<b>Important</b>	19.4% (7)	27.7% (23)	<b>41.7%</b> <b>(25)</b>	<b>50.0%</b> <b>(38)</b>	<b>58.8%</b> <b>(10)</b>	
	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>38.9%</b> <b>(14)</b>	<b>41.0%</b> <b>(34)</b>	33.3% (20)	21.1% (16)	11.8% (2)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	22.2% (8)	13.3% (11)	10.0% (6)	5.3% (4)	0.0% (0)	
rating average		2.64 (36)	2.49 (83)	2.38 (60)	2.08 (76)	1.82 (17)	2.33 (272)
Infrastructure (upgrading and repairing roads and bridges, water lines, sewer lines, other public facilities, etc.)	<b>Very Important</b>	<b>44.4%</b> <b>(16)</b>	<b>55.4%</b> <b>(46)</b>	<b>58.3%</b> <b>(35)</b>	<b>80.0%</b> <b>(60)</b>	<b>88.2%</b> <b>(15)</b>	
	<b>Important</b>	22.2% (8)	26.5% (22)	35.0% (21)	16.0% (12)	11.8% (2)	

	<b>Neutral</b>	19.4% (7)	12.0% (10)	6.7% (4)	4.0% (3)	0.0% (0)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	13.9% (5)	6.0% (5)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	
	rating average	2.03 (36)	1.69 (83)	1.48 (60)	1.24 (75)	1.12 (17)	1.53 (271)
Planning for an aging population (housing, accessibility, transportation, etc.)	<b>Very Important</b>	16.7% (6)	19.3% (16)	8.5% (5)	<b>43.4%</b> <b>(33)</b>	<b>58.8%</b> <b>(10)</b>	
	<b>Important</b>	<b>38.9%</b> <b>(14)</b>	<b>50.6%</b> <b>(42)</b>	<b>57.6%</b> <b>(34)</b>	<b>43.4%</b> <b>(33)</b>	23.5% (4)	
	<b>Neutral</b>	30.6% (11)	25.3% (21)	32.2% (19)	13.2% (10)	17.6% (3)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	13.9% (5)	4.8% (4)	1.7% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	
	rating average	2.42 (36)	2.16 (83)	2.27 (59)	1.70 (76)	1.59 (17)	2.05 (271)
Public transportation (buses, van service, other rural transportation services)	<b>Very Important</b>	2.9% (1)	13.3% (11)	8.3% (5)	29.7% (22)	<b>47.1%</b> <b>(8)</b>	
	<b>Important</b>	31.4% (11)	30.1% (25)	28.3% (17)	<b>37.8%</b> <b>(28)</b>	29.4% (5)	
	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>37.1%</b> <b>(13)</b>	<b>37.3%</b> <b>(31)</b>	<b>43.3%</b> <b>(26)</b>	25.7% (19)	17.6% (3)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	28.6% (10)	19.3% (16)	20.0% (12)	6.8% (5)	5.9% (1)	
	rating average	2.91 (35)	2.63 (83)	2.75 (60)	2.09 (74)	1.82 (17)	2.49 (269)
Pedestrian/bicyclist transportation improvements (sidewalks, crosswalks, trails, etc. for walkers, hikers and bicyclists)	<b>Very Important</b>	8.3% (3)	19.3% (16)	30.5% (18)	30.3% (23)	<b>35.3%</b> <b>(6)</b>	
	<b>Important</b>	<b>38.9%</b> <b>(14)</b>	<b>38.6%</b> <b>(32)</b>	23.7% (14)	<b>40.8%</b> <b>(31)</b>	23.5% (4)	
	<b>Neutral</b>	36.1% (13)	33.7% (28)	<b>33.9%</b> <b>(20)</b>	27.6% (21)	<b>35.3%</b> <b>(6)</b>	
	<b>Not Important</b>	16.7% (6)	8.4% (7)	11.9% (7)	1.3% (1)	5.9% (1)	

rating average	2.61 (36)	2.31 (83)	2.27 (59)	2.00 (76)	2.12 (17)	2.24 (271)
<b>answered question</b>	36	83	60	76	17	<b>272</b>
<b>skipped question</b>						<b>25</b>

## 6. Please pick the sentence that best matches your preference.

	What is your age group?					Response Totals
	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	
Cattaraugus County should strive to stay rural in character and limit new growth.	14.3% (5)	18.3% (15)	11.7% (7)	6.6% (5)	17.6% (3)	13.0% (35)
Cattaraugus County needs to grow, but growth should be concentrated in and around our existing cities, villages and hamlets, and not in areas not served by existing infrastructure.	<b>54.3%</b> <b>(19)</b>	<b>52.4%</b> <b>(43)</b>	<b>75.0%</b> <b>(45)</b>	<b>64.5%</b> <b>(49)</b>	<b>70.6%</b> <b>(12)</b>	<b>62.2%</b> <b>(168)</b>
Growth is progress and Cattaraugus County should not try to limit growth and development in any way.	31.4% (11)	29.3% (24)	13.3% (8)	28.9% (22)	11.8% (2)	24.8% (67)
<b>answered question</b>	35	82	60	76	17	<b>270</b>
<b>skipped question</b>						<b>27</b>

**7. Which of the following elements of Cattaraugus County are most important to you?  
(Please select only the top three)**

	What is your age group?					Response Totals
	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	
Rural Character	24.3% (9)	20.5% (17)	41.7% (25)	35.5% (27)	35.3% (6)	30.8% (84)
Agriculture	18.9% (7)	26.5% (22)	31.7% (19)	25.0% (19)	35.3% (6)	26.7% (73)
Forests and open space	48.6% (18)	38.6% (32)	41.7% (25)	28.9% (22)	35.3% (6)	37.7% (103)
Outdoor recreation	40.5% (15)	36.1% (30)	43.3% (26)	26.3% (20)	11.8% (2)	34.1% (93)
Local shops and business districts (being able to shop nearby)	35.1% (13)	33.7% (28)	28.3% (17)	34.2% (26)	41.2% (7)	33.3% (91)
Local employment opportunities (being able to find a job within the County)	54.1% (20)	<b>60.2%</b> <b>(50)</b>	<b>60.0%</b> <b>(36)</b>	<b>60.5%</b> <b>(46)</b>	<b>52.9%</b> <b>(9)</b>	<b>59.0%</b> <b>(161)</b>
Quality schools	<b>59.5%</b> <b>(22)</b>	43.4% (36)	<b>60.0%</b> <b>(36)</b>	48.7% (37)	17.6% (3)	49.1% (134)
Quality health care facilities	16.2% (6)	15.7% (13)	28.3% (17)	42.1% (32)	<b>52.9%</b> <b>(9)</b>	28.2% (77)
Small town character	24.3% (9)	21.7% (18)	21.7% (13)	22.4% (17)	29.4% (5)	22.7% (62)
Completion of Route 219 Expressway	21.6% (8)	18.1% (15)	21.7% (13)	25.0% (19)	29.4% (5)	22.0% (60)
Timbering	5.4% (2)	6.0% (5)	1.7% (1)	2.6% (2)	11.8% (2)	4.4% (12)
Oil and gas extraction	16.2% (6)	14.5% (12)	8.3% (5)	7.9% (6)	5.9% (1)	11.0% (30)
<b>answered question</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>273</b>
<b>skipped question</b>						<b>24</b>

### 8. Please list what you feel are the top three issues facing Cattaraugus County.

	What is your age group?					
	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Count
	32 replies	61 replies	42 replies	56 replies	16 replies	207
<b>answered question</b>	32	61	42	56	16	<b>207</b>
<b>skipped question</b>						<b>90</b>

### 9. Is there anything else you would like to share?

	What is your age group?					
	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Count
	15 replies	24 replies	18 replies	28 replies	10 replies	95
<b>answered question</b>	15	24	18	28	10	<b>95</b>
<b>skipped question</b>						<b>202</b>

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Other (please specify)
1		X				Bradford PA May 2, 2014 4:43 PM
2			X			Cuba May 5, 2014 10:42 AM
3			X			Seneca Allegany Territory May 21, 2014 9:21 AM
4		X				Limestone May 27, 2014 2:17 PM
5	X					Town of Arcade May 29, 2014 8:49 AM
6				X		forestville May 30, 2014 6:45 PM
7		X				Adams Center May 31, 2014 12:46 PM
8					X	Sinclairville, Chautauqua County Jun 3, 2014 6:43 AM
9				X		Erie County (raised in Catt. County) Jun 4, 2014 9:18 AM
10				X		hamlet of east randolph Jun 4, 2014 3:51 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Other (please specify)	
11				X		town of Cuba	Jun 5, 2014 2:07 PM
12				X		Albany, NY	Jun 16, 2014 12:02 PM
13		X				West Valley	Jul 3, 2014 9:56 AM
14			X			Kill Buck	Jul 3, 2014 7:02 PM
15		X				joshspitzermacbookpro	Aug 5, 2014 2:08 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
1				X		Employment opportunities Broadband availability Dwindling population base	Apr 29, 2014 9:39 PM
2				X		#1 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT & EDUCATION (SCHOOLS & 4-H), #2 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & EMPLOYMENT, #3 REBUILDING INFASTRUCTURE.	Apr 30, 2014 8:27 AM
3				X		Taxes, Loss of quality employment for young people, More Taxes	Apr 30, 2014 8:29 AM
4					X	County roads & bridges Health care-access to local doctors Property taxes	Apr 30, 2014 8:37 AM
5					X	work for everyone able, health care, drugs.	Apr 30, 2014 9:43 AM
6					X	Do not lose the Rural and Small town character it makes the county a nice place to move and live in	Apr 30, 2014 2:10 PM
7					X	(1) Need more aggressive econ devel efforts (2) Need more creative theme. Enchanted Mountains is growing old. (3) Need property tax relief.	Apr 30, 2014 4:14 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
8				X		Keep this County rural and keep it's natural resources, Encourage business to the brownstone areas, Expand on tourism with the beautiful area with multi use trails and natural tourist attractions, Help agriculture to survive	Apr 30, 2014 8:27 PM
9				X		Employment opportunity Education Health care	May 2, 2014 2:50 PM
10				X		Development of airports for general aviation and passenger travel.	May 2, 2014 4:31 PM
11				X		Young people graduating and never coming back to work here. Need more physician specialists so there is less need to drive to Buffalo or other cities. High taxes.	May 2, 2014 4:57 PM
12				X		Budget control to keep tax base acceptable. Ability to address the aging population needs Ability to receive the planned casino revenue regulary	May 3, 2014 8:42 AM
13					X	1. Employment 2. Environment 3. Maintaining Infrastructure	May 3, 2014 2:57 PM
14				X		Economic Development Infrastructure Development	May 5, 2014 9:08 AM
15				X		Lack of employment opportunities especially for professionals High taxes and regulatory requirements stifle growth Eroding infrastructure	May 5, 2014 9:18 AM
16				X		Schools. Roads. Recreation areas.	May 5, 2014 10:24 AM
17			X			Lack of employment opportunities, lack of businesses staying in the area, possible over development	May 5, 2014 10:51 AM
18				X		Poverty Loss of jobs	May 5, 2014 11:32 AM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
19					X	Economic Development Access to human services Employment	May 5, 2014 4:46 PM
20			X			1. Decline in population. 2. Number of unemployed. 3. Infrastructure.	May 6, 2014 2:47 PM
21			X			aging population, need to open up outdoor recreation for motorized oof-road vehicles	May 6, 2014 2:55 PM
22			X			population loss, too many layers of gov, lack of local employment	May 6, 2014 3:12 PM
23			X			lack of good jobs. too much government regulation. need more job training and education.	May 6, 2014 3:33 PM
24				X		1). Small town political cronyism. 2) Lack of loyalty to tax payers.	May 6, 2014 3:55 PM
25				X		Declining population School consolodation - 1 -3 regional high schools with elementary/middle schools staying local	May 6, 2014 4:08 PM
26		X				Jobs jobs & jobs - better paying jobs. Quality Day care so parents can have jobs.	May 6, 2014 5:53 PM
27			X			Public School enrollment- decreasing Lack of above wage jobs Roads not level for safe driving (example Rt 240 and Cole Road both north and south directions force you into opposite lanes, possibly causing accidents)	May 6, 2014 6:19 PM
28				X		Jobs, economy, infrastrucure.	May 6, 2014 6:31 PM
29		X				job market high taxes nothing for our youth consider asking nys to reopen the youth facility on mutton hollow as a rec center	May 6, 2014 6:50 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
30				X		a) Not enough involvement of our younger generation to guide us for the future. (too much say by our "older" generation and not allowing for younger input) b) Public Transportation Coordination. (Utilize systems that exist along with re-developing the rail system.) c) STOP WASTING DOLLARS ON 219! We want travelers to drive through our communities, not bypass them.	May 7, 2014 9:41 AM
31			X			Lack of a tax base. Lack of small business in the villages.	May 7, 2014 3:07 PM
32					X	Infrastructure Property taxes Employment opportunities	May 7, 2014 7:43 PM
33				X		1. Economic development, ie., bringing in new jobs, retaining jobs. 2. Jobs. 3. Jobs.	May 8, 2014 9:23 AM
34		X				The healthcare workers seem to make dangerous and sometimes life-threatening mistakes. Also, the amount of employment opportunities in the area are virtually non-existent. The national parks and other outdoor facilities seem to be on the backburner when it comes to importance.	May 8, 2014 9:24 AM
35			X			1. Farmers are struggling. They need help. 2. We need more jobs. 3. We need to keep our youth from leaving. Give them a reason to stay here.	May 8, 2014 11:49 AM
36			X			better roads, better telecomm, high taxes	May 8, 2014 3:18 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
37			X			---unreasonable housing prices for middle class year-round residents in and around the Ellicottville / Great Valley Area. ---maintaining quality schools that have art, music, and library programs without exorbitant taxes. ---quality of roads	May 12, 2014 10:49 AM
38		X				Population loss, lack of urban renewal, and major lack of economic development	May 12, 2014 12:47 PM
39				X		1. Too high property taxes - in rural areas we pay and get nothing 2. Not enough business (which relates to high taxes) 3. Fraud in medicare (or any government assistance)	May 13, 2014 12:50 PM
40				X		There are not enough shopping choices. There are too many decaying vacant structures There are not enough job opportunities	May 14, 2014 9:01 AM
41				X		We are over taxed. We have grown a sheriffs department into a monster. Allegany Co. saves millions with no road patrols. Troopers and local police handle everything with no cost to the county. Turn more county roads over to the towns. The town plows travel from town road to town road on county roads with their plows up. Why not just turn them over to the towns.	May 14, 2014 10:52 AM
42				X		Preservation of unique natural features and areas Stabilization of villages Controlling local tax rates	May 14, 2014 12:13 PM
43					X	1. Poor leadership 2. Capacity 3. A long term strategy and process for success	May 14, 2014 12:57 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
44				X		Employment Infrastructure, (water & sewer) Veterans Issues	May 14, 2014 7:22 PM
45					X	industry moving out of the area, IDA giving so much help to tourism and not trying to fill existing buildings with manufacturing jobs that pay a living wage, people want to be able to live and WORK here not work 2 jobs to just exist and live here.	May 15, 2014 4:15 PM
46			X			Economy, Employment, and Budgeting (County and Town/Village levels)	May 16, 2014 10:57 AM
47			X			Lack of development Lack of business High taxes	May 20, 2014 11:52 PM
48				X		Lack of visionary leadership at top levels, lack of Internet access in areas around the county, ridiculous taxes.	May 21, 2014 7:07 AM
49					X	Lack of jobs Road disrepair Attraction for new and expanding business	May 21, 2014 8:48 AM
50					X	Rural transportation system, funding to deal with our aging infrastructure, access FOR ALL to high speed internet services	May 21, 2014 7:10 PM
51				X		lack of employment, high taxes on all levels, no trust in State Government	May 21, 2014 9:52 PM
52				X		jobs destruction of natural resources by oil, gas and solar lack of support from state government	May 22, 2014 9:48 AM
53				X		Deteriorating job base Deteriorating infrastructures Political overspending	May 22, 2014 10:54 AM
54					X	over taxed declining population (lack of jobs) neighborhood decay	May 22, 2014 12:19 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text
55	X					Roads Quality schools Employment May 23, 2014 3:07 PM
56		X				lack of quality jobs/work May 25, 2014 11:02 AM
57		X				poor roads, no jobs. May 27, 2014 1:35 PM
58		X				lack of events, lack of stores and roads need to be repaired. May 27, 2014 1:37 PM
59		X				not a lot of jobs not many high paying jobs not many things to do (entertainment/night life) May 27, 2014 2:04 PM
60		X				not enough job opportunities not enough places for teens to go. May 27, 2014 2:19 PM
61					X	Aging population and aging infrastructure. Rural poverty with little access to help. May 27, 2014 5:40 PM
62		X				1. May 28, 2014 9:13 AM
63	X					1. fixing backroads 2. fixing old buildings or getting rid of them 3. more recreational activities to keep kids out of trouble May 28, 2014 9:14 AM
64		X				better road repair, better village/ school communication, better money management May 28, 2014 9:14 AM
65		X				1. Better Fields for sports 2. fix the roads 3. More businesses May 28, 2014 9:14 AM
66		X				1. roads 2.run down buildings 3. no jobs May 28, 2014 9:15 AM
67		X				roads are absolutly horrible. May 28, 2014 9:15 AM
68		X				1. fixing up potholes and backroads 2. providing more recreational activities for teens to keep them safe and out of trouble 3. update the town and make it more visually appealing May 28, 2014 9:16 AM
69	X					fixing the roads up (back roads) more rec. centers fixing up the town/homes to make it more lively May 28, 2014 9:16 AM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text
70		X				1. Road Management (potholes, and dead deer) 2. Recreational activities for kids May 28, 2014 9:16 AM
71	X					I think that local shops of Randolph especially are important because they provide jobs and variety to the members of the county. Also, if we live in small towns, we need to have access to quality schools with numerous opportunities in order to compete with other, bigger schools. May 28, 2014 9:17 AM
72		X				1. Flooding of homes near poor filtration areas during small storms 2. Emerald Ashborer 3. Drugs May 28, 2014 9:17 AM
73		X				drugs to much gun control to many officials May 28, 2014 9:21 AM
74	X					Finding jobs nearby that aren't minimum wage. Pollution. Quality schools. May 28, 2014 9:42 AM
75		X				Cutting trees down is taking away the beauty. It looks bad. May 28, 2014 12:54 PM
76		X				Potholes. May 28, 2014 12:56 PM
77	X					Job opportunities. Taxes. Roads/bridges condition. May 28, 2014 12:58 PM
78		X				Windmills, jobs, road upkeep. May 28, 2014 1:01 PM
79		X				1) poverty. 2) companies have a hard time getting people to move to this area. May 28, 2014 1:06 PM
80	X					Roads need to be fixed. May 28, 2014 1:08 PM
81	X					Poor road conditions. poor service coverage (cable, high speed internet). Taxes hurting local businesses and communities. May 28, 2014 1:12 PM
82		X				Not enough jobs, lack of economic growth. May 28, 2014 1:14 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
83				X		1. Public sector job to private sector job ratio is too high, too few private sector jobs 2. poor cell service and broadband availability 3. Need to more strategically use the natural resources we have	May 28, 2014 3:22 PM
84		X				Decrease in population Not enough local businesses Not enough jobs	May 29, 2014 8:35 AM
85		X				Roads are bad - pot holes	May 29, 2014 8:37 AM
86		X				Bad roads, no jobs, things are falling apart	May 29, 2014 2:13 PM
87				X		Hospitals-- Schools-- Improve infrastructure.	May 30, 2014 12:11 PM
88				X		Need for devotion of funding for incentivizing technology-based and knowledge-based economic development; need for development of skilled labor force with skills relating to technology-based and knowledge-based businesses (e.g., enhanced STEAM education at all levels, entrepreneurial development, etc.); need for funding to maintain and improve (in some cases, where there is none, construct) infrastructure servicing residents and current and prospective businesses	Jun 3, 2014 4:29 PM
89				X		TO DECREASE our social service population to increase our awareness to young people here and elsewhere this is a quality place to live.	Jun 3, 2014 6:42 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
90				X		decreasing population to sustain tax base decrease in healthcare providers for aging population lack of concern by telephone companies to maintain old phone lines in rural communities with aging population and individuals living alone	Jun 4, 2014 9:23 AM
91			X			Brain drain Retaining/Growing Businesses because of NYS Government does not practice project management and needs to improve transparency.	Jun 4, 2014 10:00 AM
92			X			Aging/deteriorating Infrastructure Declining population Unemployment	Jun 4, 2014 10:10 AM
93			X			Lack of well-paying jobs, lack of strong educational systems, persistent poverty	Jun 4, 2014 10:20 AM
94		X				1. Taxes 2. Gas Prices 3. Rough roads	Jun 4, 2014 10:43 AM
95	X					Little Job Opportunities Not a Clean Environment Little Privacy	Jun 4, 2014 10:44 AM
96	X					the roads	Jun 4, 2014 10:45 AM
97		X				bad roads not a lot of jobs and very little privacy	Jun 4, 2014 10:45 AM
98		X				High Taxes, Not a lot of jobs available, Not a lot to do in terms of shopping and museums	Jun 4, 2014 10:45 AM
99		X				High Taxes. Extremely High Electric bills. With no reason for the bills being so high. Bad roads in Cattaraugus County.	Jun 4, 2014 10:49 AM
100	X					High taxes Road conditions Local businesses	Jun 4, 2014 10:49 AM
101	X					Taxes, Gas prices, low variety of job opportunities.	Jun 4, 2014 10:50 AM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
102			X			1) High taxes in relation to low median household income (I know people that literally can not afford their property taxes on average incomes here) 2) The need to divest in fossil fuels and invest in sustainable resources / making sustainable options affordable for average households, 3) The need to encourage and support more local, privately owned business, vs. large chain businesses.	Jun 4, 2014 10:51 AM
103		X				not enough job opportunities.	Jun 4, 2014 10:54 AM
104	X					I don't know	Jun 4, 2014 1:42 PM
105	X					poverty health care job shortages	Jun 4, 2014 1:43 PM
106	X					Need new business housing community	Jun 4, 2014 1:43 PM
107		X				The environment is more important than expanding our already developing surrounding areas. We don't need another major city system. we need to preserve our natural environment to preserve our future.	Jun 4, 2014 1:44 PM
108	X					Potholes Poverty Job Shortages	Jun 4, 2014 1:44 PM
109	X					lack of businesses lack of employment opportunities roads	Jun 4, 2014 1:45 PM
110		X				roads, businesses, health care	Jun 4, 2014 1:45 PM
111	X					Gun laws and budget	Jun 4, 2014 1:46 PM
112	X					Gun laws, taxes are getting high, and potholes and horrible roads.	Jun 4, 2014 1:46 PM
113	X					Pot holes lack of businesses lack of jobs	Jun 4, 2014 1:46 PM
114		X				road work, jobs and transportation	Jun 4, 2014 1:49 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text
115			X			1. Loss of employers, even small business. 2. Loss of youth to Quality youth. 3. High tax rates.
116				X		Completion of 219, Jobs, Infrastructure
117				X		219 expressway, jobs, local shops
118				X		Most of the Pols in LV only care about their pay check and their ego's and playing political games along with the state and federal bungholes they just keep dragging us down
119				X		loosing our youth to other cities loss of job opportunities Lack of common sense in olean when spending money
120				X		Hardships on small schools due to state ed's mandates and cost cutting. Keeping families here. Keeping businesses here.
121			X			ROADS,jobs, too many on welfare
122				X		maintaing quality schools, not larger schools, but quality education in small school settings.
123				X		pollution radioactive waste poverty
124			X			Poor roads, lack of good jobs (careers), and education
125			X			1. An aging population and the exodus of many of our young people 2. Lack of attraction for young peole to stay 3. Pessimistic attitude towards change.
126				X		generational welfare and the fallout from it (lack of some work ethic, lack of self reliance)

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text
127			X			With jobs come people. With people come children. With children comes the need for quality education Jun 6, 2014 7:20 AM
128		X				Lack of appeal to visitors beyond the scenery Jun 7, 2014 6:08 PM
129		X				roads Jun 9, 2014 3:22 PM
130			X			1. Need to plan for climate change 2. Need to plan for shrinkage of county population and economy 3. Lack of individual responsibility Jun 10, 2014 8:21 AM
131				X		Lack of good paying jobs. Protection of farmland. Aging population. Jun 11, 2014 8:51 AM
132				X		We are not loving and honoring God to the degree we should be.  We must follow God's 10 Commandments in all that we try to accomplish.  When we love and obey God and our fellow man we prosper in abundant graces. Jun 14, 2014 12:07 PM
133				X		Population decline, vulnerability to companies leaving the county, sprawl that diminishes the value of the clusters of population in villages and hamlets. Jun 16, 2014 12:07 PM
134					X	High Taxes New Business Opportunity Multiple layers of Government Jun 18, 2014 8:14 AM
135	X					roadways, poor growth Jun 19, 2014 8:37 AM
136				X		retaining our youth, Jun 19, 2014 10:09 AM
137		X				Roads, Activities, No tourist locations Jun 19, 2014 1:28 PM
138	X					rough roads, taxes, criminal activities (drugs, violence) Jun 19, 2014 1:39 PM
139	X					Apathy Jun 19, 2014 1:45 PM
140		X				Local employment opportunities Quality schools Local shops and business districts Jun 19, 2014 1:48 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
141		X				Roads Businesses Jobs	Jun 19, 2014 1:52 PM
142		X				Roadways are bad	Jun 19, 2014 1:56 PM
143		X				Roads Police Department	Jun 19, 2014 1:59 PM
144	X					Roads	Jun 19, 2014 2:05 PM
145		X				Fix the roads	Jun 19, 2014 2:11 PM
146		X				Roads, Crime, Employment	Jun 19, 2014 2:27 PM
147		X				Need more local jobs Drugs	Jun 20, 2014 1:38 PM
148		X				Quality of roadways No jobs	Jun 20, 2014 2:12 PM
149			X			The county needs more good employment opportunities for our youth. The county needs to fix the roads.	Jun 20, 2014 3:05 PM
150		X				Roads No jobs Low quality schools	Jun 20, 2014 3:14 PM
151		X				Jobs The people Weather	Jun 20, 2014 3:16 PM
152		X				Taxes Community government Relations	Jun 20, 2014 3:19 PM
153				X		Employment Education	Jun 24, 2014 3:11 PM
154		X				Deteriorating Infrastructure, Unemployment, Lack of Effective Internet Service	Jun 24, 2014 4:17 PM
155		X				Not many things to do. Expensive.	Jun 26, 2014 1:14 PM
156	X					Politics. Size is to small. Health care is terrible.	Jun 26, 2014 1:17 PM
157	X					Drugs. Pollution. Money	Jun 26, 2014 1:31 PM
158	X					Bullying. Money.	Jun 26, 2014 1:36 PM
159	X					Bad roads. Rural area. Far away from bigger cities	Jun 26, 2014 2:01 PM
160		X				Young people leaving. Money. Construction.	Jun 26, 2014 2:23 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
161	X					Roads. School. Taxes.	Jun 26, 2014 2:36 PM
162		X				Repairing roads.	Jun 26, 2014 2:48 PM
163		X				People fighting windmills. Fear of large corporations. Bigotry.	Jun 26, 2014 3:18 PM
164					X	Lack of adequate emergency care facilities in the Gowanda, Perrysburg, Persia, Cattaraugus, Dayton, New Albion Areas!	Jun 27, 2014 3:28 PM
165			X			Population loss decaying housing stock drug adiction	Jun 27, 2014 10:28 PM
166				X		Internet access, water & sewer access, great leadership.	Jun 29, 2014 8:43 AM
167			X			No Jobs	Jun 29, 2014 1:10 PM
168			X			Gov. Cuomo, B. Obama, C. Schumer	Jul 2, 2014 2:29 PM
169				X		Fracking; infrastructure; quality of life	Jul 3, 2014 7:54 AM
170			X			lack of employment	Jul 3, 2014 9:11 AM
171		X				Roads need repair, schools need help, towns need more people who are willing to help better them.	Jul 3, 2014 9:58 AM
172				X		Jobs Taxes Roads	Jul 3, 2014 10:01 AM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text
173				X		<p>1. Property taxes too high. Property owners have no incentive to improve their property since all improvements are over taxed. 2: Business needs to know they won't be over regulated by county and state agencies or they won't come. They need incentives to bring jobs to the county. Without jobs, the schools don't matter. Because a top notch education for our local children means nothing to the future of our county if they only have to move away to work after graduation. We have to work to retain our talent. 3: The county needs a draw. Something huge that attracts regional attention (Enchanted Mountains doesn't cut it). The draw needs to be revisited. If anything deserves serious attention; perhaps serious investment, maybe serious tax breaks; A new more serious progressive draw is it.</p> <p>Jul 3, 2014 10:11 AM</p>
174			X			<p>1. Young people leaving to find jobs and better opportunities 2. Mental health services not easy accessible to those outside the cities or larger communities 3. Lack of new business/ job growth</p> <p>Jul 3, 2014 10:17 AM</p>
175					X	<p>Roads, jobs schools</p> <p>Jul 3, 2014 10:22 AM</p>
176			X			<p>Road and bridge repair and increase in employment opportunities Increase in Educational classes in high school ie.. more learning opportunities</p> <p>Jul 3, 2014 10:25 AM</p>
177			X			<p>Career opportunities School Finances Limited family friendly activities</p> <p>Jul 3, 2014 10:55 AM</p>

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
178			X			Aging population, less residents, access to EMS in rural areas	Jul 3, 2014 11:16 AM
179			X			local jobs with livable pay 1,2 and 3	Jul 3, 2014 11:34 AM
180			X			Poor school systems, local businesses shutting down, not enough youth programs.	Jul 3, 2014 12:15 PM
181			X			Taxes lack of good jobs and no where for kids to play ball in the winter	Jul 3, 2014 1:42 PM
182				X		Lack of jobs, lack of affordable housing, lack of transportation	Jul 3, 2014 2:02 PM
183				X		Unemployment Poverty Wefare	Jul 3, 2014 3:21 PM
184				X		Politicians /roads/crime	Jul 3, 2014 7:25 PM
185			X			High taxes, no jobs, road and bridge quality.	Jul 3, 2014 8:47 PM
186			X			No job and people moving away, house looking like crap and need to be fixed up, we need something to do with these kids in the town and village to keep them out of trouble	Jul 3, 2014 9:36 PM
187			X			Poverty Roads and infrastructure Availability of jobs above min wage	Jul 3, 2014 10:56 PM
188				X		Infrastructure , job opportunities , declining population.	Jul 3, 2014 11:21 PM
189			X			Lack of quality employment, extremely high cost of homes thanks to Holiday Valley, Decreasing population because of the first two reason I just wrote.	Jul 4, 2014 9:55 AM
190			X			219 highway completion, and bike/trail way connecting Great Valley and Ellicottville	Jul 5, 2014 2:40 PM
191				X		I see Catt. County as being a progressive County but also a place to call home and a place for PEACEfulness. Green Energy keeping pollution down.	Jul 10, 2014 10:47 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
192				X		Fracking(against) Comprehensive plan without political influence Healthcare	Jul 12, 2014 9:59 AM
193	X					Repairing Roads	Jul 15, 2014 9:15 AM
194		X				Employment, Shopping Nearby, Quality Schools	Jul 15, 2014 9:19 AM
195		X				Need Newer Roads Better School Systems More Job Opportunities	Jul 15, 2014 9:30 AM
196		X				Employment School Funding Not Enough Local Stores	Jul 15, 2014 9:38 AM
197		X				Not a Lot to Do More Job Opportunities	Jul 15, 2014 9:52 AM
198		X				Global Warming Pollution Ruining Ecosystems	Jul 15, 2014 9:57 AM
199	X					Limited Jobs Oil and Gas Extraction Windmills	Jul 15, 2014 10:40 AM
200			X			increasing welfare population high taxes degrading infrastructure	Jul 23, 2014 12:51 PM
201				X		Jobs,so family stays here to fill them. Small town life.Farming	Jul 25, 2014 10:31 PM
202			X			Unemployment Mental Health Drug Use	Jul 26, 2014 12:26 AM
203				X		poor job possibilities poor roads low pay scale	Jul 28, 2014 9:51 AM
204	X					1)Mosquito population 2)Building more businesses 3)Saving Wildlife and keeping everyone interested in outdoor activities	Jul 29, 2014 7:57 PM
205		X				Maintaining and improving existing infrastructure. Attracting new business. Retaining existing businesses and helping them grow.	Aug 2, 2014 4:41 PM



	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
4				X		The County should take a more proactive role in economic development. It does well in planning and tourism, but does not have staff with economic development expertise or the financial resources to undertake significant economic development initiatives that could lead to improving the local economy.	May 2, 2014 2:50 PM
5				X		County and Towns/Villages should continue and add to the shared services concept. Do what makes sense - do not drive over one road to get to another to plow and not handle the 1st road while on it. (many/many examples in the county)	May 3, 2014 8:42 AM
6					X	no	May 3, 2014 2:57 PM
7				X		Having the County as the largest employer in the area speaks volumes for the problems we are facing	May 5, 2014 9:18 AM
8				X		Don't Frack our county.	May 5, 2014 10:24 AM
9			X			I believe that in Olean, NY introducing a roundabout will drive businesses and people out of town	May 5, 2014 10:51 AM
10				X		Cattaraugus County is a beautiful place to live. We need to ensure viability by allowing growth to occur. Thank you for asking.	May 5, 2014 11:32 AM
11			X			eliminate all towns and villages, provide services from county only, eliminate school districts and have county wide district.	May 6, 2014 3:12 PM
12			X			Catt County has ample vacation and getaway opportunity to market.	May 6, 2014 6:19 PM
13		X				we love our county but with limited job potential we may have to move away.	May 6, 2014 6:50 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text
14				X		Listen to the public and try things instead of shutting down ideas and suggestions. There is too much selfishness that exist is this county! Open the door to our younger folks. By doing so, we may entice them to stay in our area, instead of looking for better things elsewhere. May 7, 2014 9:41 AM
15			X			Incentives to do business or live in current villages would be great such as reduced town taxes for those areas or have the village exist outside the towns May 7, 2014 3:07 PM
16				X		I am opposed to any attempts to hydro-frack. Otherwise anything goes. Also, lets place an emphasis on agriculture, tourism, building infrastructure so businesses that might want to come to the county won't have to wait. The infrastructure will already be in place. May 8, 2014 9:23 AM
17			X			---I think efforts should be made to make the land and water around the West Valley nuclear storage site safe. More information should be available to the public about what's happening there. Misinformation makes real estate and schooling around there undesirable. ---The bike trail being planned for the Ellicottville Area should definitely be extended into Great Valley. ---Public Libraries should be supported and maintained. May 12, 2014 10:49 AM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text
18		X				The City of Olean should be playing a much higher role in county development, and we should be focusing on major expansion and urban renewal as Olean is the major economic and industrial hub of the county. May 12, 2014 12:47 PM
19				X		Cattaraugus County should promote growth, but within current towns. It should also promote small businesses in other areas. Maybe it should have an association for small business in the county (I currently own a small business) May 13, 2014 12:50 PM
20				X		Lime Lake needs a public boad ramp. I live and pay taxes in Machias and I can't even use the boat ramp unless I join the cottage owner ass. for \$150.00 a year. We need a free ramp not just a launch where rocks block boaters from backing a trailer in. May 14, 2014 10:52 AM
21				X		Thank you for the oportunity to offer my opinion. It is crucial that the public be heard because this plan will guide how our community grows. May 14, 2014 12:13 PM
22					X	I will email ideas to Paul Bishop May 14, 2014 12:57 PM
23					X	Tourism is inportent to the county but all you have to look at what has happened to all our small towns, they are empty. May 15, 2014 4:15 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
24				X		Through the grapevine, I heard Apple is looking to locate a facility in upstate NY. Catt County needs to make some contacts in industries to get some here. There is a huge disconnect between schools and businesses. Businesses will be closing due to no second generation plan because their kids moved away and the kids graduating have no clue to real world work needs. Leadership needs to get creative to bring population back.	May 21, 2014 7:07 AM
25					X	Go forward on the suggestions presented at the Brownfield Development forum in Olean to bring in new restaurants (Starbucks & Olive Garden), new motel/hotel visible from I-86, and outlet stores featuring local goods, products, and tourism features.	May 21, 2014 8:48 AM
26					X	Public, informational & participatory forums are a good start. Let's continue.	May 21, 2014 7:10 PM
27				X		area needs more jobs	May 21, 2014 9:52 PM
28				X		quit wasting time on 219. Pa. will never finish the road. bypassing local towns destroys local business If you want people to come and stay get rid of 4 lanes and let people enjoy what our small towns offer.	May 22, 2014 9:48 AM
29					X	Wyoming County has a county wide transportation system for the poor and aged. Why can't Cattaraugus County do this?	May 27, 2014 5:40 PM
30	X					No	May 28, 2014 9:14 AM
31		X				speeding on Jamestown Rd.	May 28, 2014 9:14 AM
32		X				the roads literally are horrible.	May 28, 2014 9:14 AM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text
33		X				randolph needs to prepare for floods better May 28, 2014 9:15 AM
34		X				No May 28, 2014 9:16 AM
35	X					No May 28, 2014 9:16 AM
36	X					I think one thing that makes Randolph unique is the amount of rural and outdoor recreation that is available to people. May 28, 2014 9:17 AM
37		X				nope May 28, 2014 9:17 AM
38		X				the government needs to learn how to mange money and stop being such imbecile May 28, 2014 9:21 AM
39	X					This is a wonderful county, but more jobs need to become available. May 28, 2014 9:42 AM
40	X					New York State has an extremely hostile tax environment. People don't want to come here nor do existing residents want to stay. May 28, 2014 1:12 PM
41		X				Things need to be changed if Catt. Cty wants to grow and keep the same population. Many younger generations plan on moving for more opportunities. May 29, 2014 8:35 AM
42		X				stop hurting the forests & wildlife. examples: cutting down mass amounts of trees in one area. Hunting is okay, but keep it the same. May 29, 2014 8:37 AM
43					X	no May 30, 2014 12:11 PM
44					X	I feel that there should be a focus on devoting significant resources to proactive economic development initiatives (e.g., STEAM and infrastructure and site readiness and building readiness, etc.) that will lead in the future to technology-based and knowledge-based economic development, as opposed to a reactive, deal-based or transaction-based approach to economic development. Jun 3, 2014 4:29 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text
45				X		city of olean should improve code enforcement look on side roads of houses of absentee landlords. brings down values of city and surrounding areas Jun 3, 2014 6:42 PM
46			X			I believe that the word quality should be a noun and not an adjective. Cattaraugus County needs to invest in their communities equally. Jun 4, 2014 10:00 AM
47			X			We love living here and raising our children here, but are disappointed in knowing that in order for our children to succeed and prosper, they will most certainly HAVE TO LEAVE the area to seek jobs and education. It's a real shame, and the lack of good opportunity will be leave the area in a shambles of the elderly, poor, and uneducated. Jun 4, 2014 10:20 AM
48		X				no, thank you. Jun 4, 2014 10:43 AM
49		X				how they can fix the roads and things that the county needs as a whole Jun 4, 2014 10:45 AM
50		X				I like how there is state land and parks for recreation. The county is rural and not overpopulated Jun 4, 2014 10:45 AM
51		X				More roads should be fixed in Catt county. Small towns are great. Lots of hunting land, great area, Lots of state lands:) great recreation places:) Jun 4, 2014 10:49 AM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
52	X					Local businesses are great for the economy and should get tax breaks to keep them here. Road conditions aren't the greatest and when they are fixed they don't last very long. Construction workers take longer than they should making detours even more horrible. I suggest using a different company. Since new houses are being developed, maybe take down the old dilapidated ones and create something with landscaping, so try to clean up the county. Also, there's nothing really exciting all year round. In the summer there's racing and the fair, but what about fall, winter and spring? If there was more community based things like the fair, it would make more money for the county and citizens would have fun	Jun 4, 2014 10:49 AM
53	X					unless you are in a trade, the job opportunities here are very scarce	Jun 4, 2014 10:50 AM
54		X				for more jobs, increase the timber work and especially increase the gas and oil extraction. out door jobs only. no factories. no inside jobs except could use one more gas station in hinsdale. no big stores or restaurants.	Jun 4, 2014 10:54 AM
55	X					No	Jun 4, 2014 1:42 PM
56	X					no	Jun 4, 2014 1:43 PM
57	X					Change the Gov. Coumos gun laws back to what they were previous to his tenure in office	Jun 4, 2014 1:46 PM
58	X					potholes need fixed badly and we need a president.	Jun 4, 2014 1:46 PM
59	X					no	Jun 4, 2014 1:46 PM
60		X				no	Jun 4, 2014 1:49 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text
61			X			There is too much of a disconnect between agencies around the county to work together to solve problems. Jun 4, 2014 1:57 PM
62				X		Yes but it would be inappropriate. Jun 4, 2014 9:55 PM
63			X			The stark reality is that the county is on the periphery of the global economy and has a dependency relationship with global economic centers. This has its benefits, we have an opportunity to forge a sustainable future utilizing local resources and renewable energy. Much stands in our way, including a lack of enlightened leadership, adequate knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs) among our population and the structures of dependency that radiate through our government and economic institutions. However, our world is changing quickly and our best hope is educating our children and giving them the KSAs to survive and the creativity to sustain. Jun 10, 2014 8:21 AM
64				X		I AM SO TIRED OF SLUMLORDS MAKING PEOPLE LIVE IN DERELICT HOUSING. YOU NEED TO WAGE A FULLSCALE DEMOLITION ON HOUSES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY, ESPECIALLY OLEAN, NY; TO REMOVE HOUSES THAT ARE BEING SOLD TO homesbycornerstone.com of Corning, NY and all of the other people who are taking advantage of others. Look at the GIS listings and you will see multiple derelict homes owned by slumlords. Sincerely, Mrs. Craig Jun 14, 2014 12:07 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text
65				X		Strive to become a tourism destination, leveraging the region's outdoor assets and commercial centers. Jun 16, 2014 12:07 PM
66					X	DO NOT EVER ALLOW FRACKING. Jun 18, 2014 8:14 AM
67		X				Nothing to do for kids Jun 19, 2014 1:28 PM
68	X					Please fix the roads Jun 19, 2014 2:05 PM
69		X				Legalize marijuana Jun 20, 2014 3:14 PM
70		X				It's boring Jun 20, 2014 3:16 PM
71		X				Infrastructure (Roads, Bridges, Culverts, Water, Sewer, Etc.) is critical and should be the top priority. Jun 24, 2014 4:17 PM
72		X				Repairing roads. Jun 26, 2014 2:48 PM
73		X				Don't limit growth at the expense of the silent majority. Jun 26, 2014 3:18 PM
74					X	Cattaraugus County is a beautiful county with many natural resources that need to be wisely utilized. Bring back the Gowanda Psychiatric Center (those people need assistance in a modern facility) and bring back Tri-County Memorial Hospital!!! The State of New Needs to take a lesson from the Pennsylvania and get rid of the antiquated Certificate of Need or CON process and look at the market to determine what health care should be provided in Cattaraugus County. PA rid itself of a bureacrat in Albany who doesn't know Persia from Great Valley and doesn't care!!!! Jun 27, 2014 3:28 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text
75			X			We need affordable access to high speed internet. Jun 27, 2014 10:28 PM
76				X		The county and cities within are spending far too much money studying things when the funds could be put to immediate use showing actual improvements. Jun 29, 2014 8:43 AM
77			X			government needs to be downsized and allow people to live their lives without dictating every move people make Jul 2, 2014 2:29 PM
78				X		No Jul 3, 2014 10:01 AM
79			X			I have heard the Village of Little Valley has refused more than one large business that wanted to come in because they don't want to make it a business community but instead a retirement community. I am sure this is not the only community in the county with this attitude and I fear those decisions are negatively affecting our entire community. It would be nice if the county could give incentives to communities that make the positive decision to welcome new or expanding businesses that will bring much needed jobs to our area. Jul 3, 2014 10:17 AM
80			X			I also feel teachers in school should be allowed to conceal carry provided with a background check and training Jul 3, 2014 11:34 AM
81				X		Higher wages are needed if housing options are going to remain at present levels. Minimum wage workers cannot afford to live here, and that is the majority of jobs available. Jul 3, 2014 2:02 PM
82				X		Everyone should take time and clean up their community . Jul 3, 2014 7:25 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text	
83			X			Cops and fire Dept's need to do work program with the kids in this town so they know they care and can trust them	Jul 3, 2014 9:36 PM
84			X			I predict taxes associated with living in New York will eventually push me out of the state I've lived in my entire life.	Jul 3, 2014 10:56 PM
85			X			Most of us parents encourage our children to get good educations and leave the area so that they can make a better living for themselves and better their own futures.	Jul 4, 2014 9:55 AM
86				X		Bring in Windmills. They are NOT ugly when you see what they can do for us in Energy Savings...and if worried about killing birds, don't drive a car. They kill 2.	Jul 10, 2014 10:47 PM
87				X		Taxes in New York State	Jul 12, 2014 9:59 AM
88	X					Repair Your Roads	Jul 15, 2014 9:15 AM
89		X				More Employment Opprtunities	Jul 15, 2014 9:38 AM
90				X		We should have more windmills	Jul 25, 2014 10:31 PM
91			X			We need to be strong as a county and take a stand against the state in issues that are detrimental to our small town environment.	Jul 26, 2014 12:26 AM
92				X		I definitely like the idea of bike paths because I now travel to Erie County to ride on the beautiful paved trails that they have. The Pat McGee trail was a great idea but after a few years it wasn't maintained.	Jul 28, 2014 9:51 AM
93	X					I love Cattaraugus County, but I do believe the Cattaraugus county fair needs to expand "ride-wise". The selection of rides seems to be depleting and the fairgrounds should consider an increase in ride capacity, and maybe run longer.	Jul 29, 2014 7:57 PM

	Under 18	18 to 30	31 to 45	46 to 64	65 or older	Response Text
94		X				joshspitzermacbookprojosh spitzermacbookprojoshspitz ermacbookprojoshspitzerm acbookprojoshspitzermac ookprojoshspitzermacbook projoshspitzermacbookproj oshspitzermacbookprojosh pitzermacbookprojoshspitze rmacbookprojoshspitzerma cbookprojoshspitzermacbo okprojoshspitzermacbookpr ojoshspitzermacbookprojos hspitzermacbookprojoshspit zermacbookprojoshspitzer macbookprojoshspitzermac bookprojoshspitzermacboo kprojoshspitzermacbookpro joshspitzermacbookprojosh spitzermacbookprojoshspitz ermacbookprojoshspitzerm acbookprojoshspitzermac ookprojoshspitzermacbook projoshspitzermacbookproj oshspitzermacbookprojosh pitzermacbookpro
95			X			Please see #8 and pass on to pertinent departments so that they may become aware of this newly developing issue. Thank you!

1. Where do you live?				
	How long have you lived in Cattaraugus County?			
	Less than 5 years	6 to 20 years	More than 20 years	Response Totals
Town of Allegany	14.8% (4)	27.5% (36)	11.1% (14)	19.0% (54)
Village of Allegany	3.7% (1)	13.0% (17)	1.6% (2)	7.0% (20)
Ashford	3.7% (1)	1.5% (2)	6.3% (8)	3.9% (11)
Carrollton	3.7% (1)	4.6% (6)	2.4% (3)	3.5% (10)
Village of Cattaraugus	3.7% (1)	0.8% (1)	3.2% (4)	2.1% (6)
Coldspring	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)
Conewango	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	2.4% (3)	1.1% (3)
Dayton	0.0% (0)	0.8% (1)	0.8% (1)	0.7% (2)
Delevan	0.0% (0)	0.8% (1)	0.8% (1)	0.7% (2)
East Otto	3.7% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.8% (1)	0.7% (2)
Town of Ellicottville	0.0% (0)	0.8% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.4% (1)
Village of Ellicottville	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	2.4% (3)	1.1% (3)

Farmersville	0.0% (0)	0.8% (1)	3.2% (4)	1.8% (5)
Town of Franklinville	0.0% (0)	0.8% (1)	0.8% (1)	0.7% (2)
Village of Franklinville	0.0% (0)	2.3% (3)	0.8% (1)	1.4% (4)
Freedom	0.0% (0)	0.8% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.4% (1)
Gowanda	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.6% (2)	0.7% (2)
Great Valley	0.0% (0)	3.1% (4)	11.1% (14)	6.3% (18)
Hinsdale	7.4% (2)	9.9% (13)	4.0% (5)	7.0% (20)
Humphrey	3.7% (1)	2.3% (3)	0.0% (0)	1.4% (4)
Ischua	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)
Leon	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)
Town of Little Valley	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	3.2% (4)	1.4% (4)
Village of Little Valley	0.0% (0)	0.8% (1)	3.2% (4)	1.8% (5)
Lyndon	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)
Machias	3.7% (1)	0.0% (0)	1.6% (2)	1.1% (3)
Mansfield	0.0% (0)	1.5% (2)	3.2% (4)	2.1% (6)
Napoli	3.7% (1)	0.8% (1)	0.8% (1)	1.1% (3)
New Albion	0.0% (0)	1.5% (2)	1.6% (2)	1.4% (4)

City of Olean	11.1% (3)	6.1% (8)	<b>12.7%</b> <b>(16)</b>	9.5% (27)
Town of Olean	0.0% (0)	5.3% (7)	4.0% (5)	4.2% (12)
Otto	11.1% (3)	0.8% (1)	0.0% (0)	1.4% (4)
Perrysburg	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)
Persia	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	2.4% (3)	1.1% (3)
Town of Portville	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	4.0% (5)	1.8% (5)
Village of Portville	0.0% (0)	0.8% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.4% (1)
Randolph	<b>18.5%</b> <b>(5)</b>	10.7% (14)	0.8% (1)	7.0% (20)
Red House	0.0% (0)	0.8% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.4% (1)
City of Salamanca	0.0% (0)	1.5% (2)	6.3% (8)	3.5% (10)
Town of Salamanca	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	1.6% (2)	0.7% (2)
South Dayton	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.8% (1)	0.4% (1)
South Valley	3.7% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.4% (1)
Yorkshire	3.7% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.8% (1)	0.7% (2)
Other (please specify)	3 replies	2 replies	8 replies	13
<b>answered question</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>284</b>
<b>skipped question</b>				<b>10</b>

## 2. What is your age group?

	How long have you lived in Cattaraugus County?			Response Totals
	Less than 5 years	6 to 20 years	More than 20 years	
Under 18	13.3% (4)	26.3% (35)	0.0% (0)	13.3% (39)
18 to 30	<b>30.0%</b> <b>(9)</b>	<b>48.1%</b> <b>(64)</b>	9.2% (12)	<b>28.9%</b> <b>(85)</b>
31 to 45	<b>30.0%</b> <b>(9)</b>	13.5% (18)	30.5% (40)	22.8% (67)
46 to 64	26.7% (8)	9.8% (13)	<b>48.1%</b> <b>(63)</b>	28.6% (84)
65 or older	0.0% (0)	2.3% (3)	12.2% (16)	6.5% (19)
<b>answered question</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>294</b>
<b>skipped question</b>				<b>0</b>

### 3. How long have you lived in Cattaraugus County?

	How long have you lived in Cattaraugus County?			
	Less than 5 years	6 to 20 years	More than 20 years	Response Totals
Less than 5 years	100.0% (30)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	10.2% (30)
6 to 20 years	0.0% (0)	100.0% (133)	0.0% (0)	45.2% (133)
More than 20 years	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	100.0% (131)	44.6% (131)
<b>answered question</b>	30	133	131	<b>294</b>
<b>skipped question</b>				<b>0</b>

#### 4. What is the highest level of education that you have completed?

	How long have you lived in Cattaraugus County?			Response Totals
	Less than 5 years	6 to 20 years	More than 20 years	
Some high school	23.3% (7)	30.3% (40)	0.0% (0)	16.0% (47)
High school graduate	13.3% (4)	<b>36.4%</b> <b>(48)</b>	13.7% (18)	23.9% (70)
Some college, no degree	6.7% (2)	8.3% (11)	26.7% (35)	16.4% (48)
College degree	20.0% (6)	13.6% (18)	<b>35.9%</b> <b>(47)</b>	<b>24.2%</b> <b>(71)</b>
Graduate degree	<b>36.7%</b> <b>(11)</b>	11.4% (15)	23.7% (31)	19.5% (57)
<b>answered question</b>	30	132	131	<b>293</b>
<b>skipped question</b>				<b>1</b>

## 5. Please rank the following topics based on their importance to Cattaraugus County.

		How long have you lived in Cattaraugus County?			
		Less than 5 years	6 to 20 years	More than 20 years	Response Totals
Agriculture	<b>Very Important</b>	<b>56.5%</b> <b>(13)</b>	38.4% (48)	<b>63.3%</b> <b>(76)</b>	
	<b>Important</b>	34.8% (8)	<b>40.0%</b> <b>(50)</b>	33.3% (40)	
	<b>Neutral</b>	8.7% (2)	20.0% (25)	3.3% (4)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	0.0% (0)	1.6% (2)	0.0% (0)	
rating average		1.52 (23)	1.85 (125)	1.40 (120)	1.62 (268)
Access to locally produced foods	<b>Very Important</b>	<b>43.5%</b> <b>(10)</b>	27.0% (34)	<b>56.3%</b> <b>(67)</b>	
	<b>Important</b>	30.4% (7)	<b>50.0%</b> <b>(63)</b>	33.6% (40)	
	<b>Neutral</b>	26.1% (6)	21.4% (27)	7.6% (9)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	0.0% (0)	1.6% (2)	2.5% (3)	
rating average		1.83 (23)	1.98 (126)	1.56 (119)	1.78 (268)
City, Village and Town renewal	<b>Very Important</b>	21.7% (5)	21.6% (27)	<b>46.2%</b> <b>(54)</b>	
	<b>Important</b>	<b>56.5%</b> <b>(13)</b>	<b>44.8%</b> <b>(56)</b>	36.8% (43)	
	<b>Neutral</b>	21.7% (5)	28.0% (35)	15.4% (18)	
	<b>Not</b>	0.0%	5.6%	1.7%	

	<b>Important</b>	(0)	(7)	(2)	
	rating average	2.00 (23)	2.18 (125)	1.73 (117)	1.96 (265)
Protection of natural features (forests, water, hillsides, etc.)	<b>Very Important</b>	39.1% (9)	40.8% (51)	<b>68.9%</b> <b>(82)</b>	
	<b>Important</b>	<b>43.5%</b> <b>(10)</b>	<b>41.6%</b> <b>(52)</b>	26.1% (31)	
	<b>Neutral</b>	17.4% (4)	15.2% (19)	4.2% (5)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	0.0% (0)	2.4% (3)	0.8% (1)	
	rating average	1.78 (23)	1.79 (125)	1.37 (119)	1.60 (267)
Utilization of natural resources (gravel, oil & gas, timber, water, wind, solar, etc.)	<b>Very Important</b>	<b>39.1%</b> <b>(9)</b>	33.1% (41)	<b>56.2%</b> <b>(68)</b>	
	<b>Important</b>	34.8% (8)	<b>40.3%</b> <b>(50)</b>	30.6% (37)	
	<b>Neutral</b>	26.1% (6)	21.8% (27)	11.6% (14)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	0.0% (0)	4.8% (6)	1.7% (2)	
	rating average	1.87 (23)	1.98 (124)	1.59 (121)	1.79 (268)
Economic development (bringing in new businesses, retaining existing businesses, etc.)	<b>Very Important</b>	<b>56.5%</b> <b>(13)</b>	<b>49.2%</b> <b>(62)</b>	<b>72.7%</b> <b>(88)</b>	
	<b>Important</b>	34.8% (8)	31.7% (40)	22.3% (27)	
	<b>Neutral</b>	4.3% (1)	17.5% (22)	4.1% (5)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	4.3% (1)	1.6% (2)	0.8% (1)	
	rating average	1.57 (23)	1.71 (126)	1.33 (121)	1.53 (270)

Tourism	<b>Very Important</b>	<b>39.1%</b> <b>(9)</b>	14.4% (18)	<b>40.8%</b> <b>(49)</b>	
	<b>Important</b>	21.7% (5)	23.2% (29)	34.2% (41)	
	<b>Neutral</b>	21.7% (5)	<b>40.0%</b> <b>(50)</b>	21.7% (26)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	17.4% (4)	22.4% (28)	3.3% (4)	
rating average		2.17 (23)	2.70 (125)	1.88 (120)	2.29 (268)
Arts (local arts organizations, museums, music, plays, etc.)	<b>Very Important</b>	21.7% (5)	13.5% (17)	25.6% (30)	
	<b>Important</b>	30.4% (7)	34.9% (44)	<b>45.3%</b> <b>(53)</b>	
	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>34.8%</b> <b>(8)</b>	<b>37.3%</b> <b>(47)</b>	18.8% (22)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	13.0% (3)	14.3% (18)	10.3% (12)	
rating average		2.39 (23)	2.52 (126)	2.14 (117)	2.34 (266)
Culture and History (Seneca Nation of Indians, Amish, County and local history, etc.)	<b>Very Important</b>	26.1% (6)	16.7% (21)	21.5% (26)	
	<b>Important</b>	<b>34.8%</b> <b>(8)</b>	26.2% (33)	<b>50.4%</b> <b>(61)</b>	
	<b>Neutral</b>	30.4% (7)	<b>42.1%</b> <b>(53)</b>	21.5% (26)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	8.7% (2)	15.1% (19)	6.6% (8)	
rating average		2.22 (23)	2.56 (126)	2.13 (121)	2.34 (270)
Infrastructure (upgrading and repairing roads and bridges, water lines, sewer lines, other public facilities, etc.)	<b>Very Important</b>	<b>43.5%</b> <b>(10)</b>	<b>53.2%</b> <b>(67)</b>	<b>78.3%</b> <b>(94)</b>	
	<b>Important</b>	30.4% (7)	27.0% (34)	19.2% (23)	

	<b>Neutral</b>	13.0% (3)	14.3% (18)	2.5% (3)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	13.0% (3)	5.6% (7)	0.0% (0)	
	rating average	1.96 (23)	1.72 (126)	1.24 (120)	1.53 (269)
Planning for an aging population (housing, accessibility, transportation, etc.)	<b>Very Important</b>	18.2% (4)	14.3% (18)	39.7% (48)	
	<b>Important</b>	36.4% (8)	<b>47.6%</b> <b>(60)</b>	<b>47.1%</b> <b>(57)</b>	
	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>45.5%</b> <b>(10)</b>	31.0% (39)	12.4% (15)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	0.0% (0)	7.1% (9)	0.8% (1)	
	rating average	2.27 (22)	2.31 (126)	1.74 (121)	2.05 (269)
Public transportation (buses, van service, other rural transportation services)	<b>Very Important</b>	21.7% (5)	10.4% (13)	24.4% (29)	
	<b>Important</b>	<b>34.8%</b> <b>(8)</b>	29.6% (37)	<b>34.5%</b> <b>(41)</b>	
	<b>Neutral</b>	30.4% (7)	<b>38.4%</b> <b>(48)</b>	29.4% (35)	
	<b>Not Important</b>	13.0% (3)	21.6% (27)	11.8% (14)	
	rating average	2.35 (23)	2.71 (125)	2.29 (119)	2.49 (267)
Pedestrian/bicyclist transportation improvements (sidewalks, crosswalks, trails, etc. for walkers, hikers and bicyclists)	<b>Very Important</b>	26.1% (6)	17.5% (22)	31.7% (38)	
	<b>Important</b>	26.1% (6)	<b>36.5%</b> <b>(46)</b>	<b>35.0%</b> <b>(42)</b>	
	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>43.5%</b> <b>(10)</b>	34.9% (44)	27.5% (33)	
	<b>Not</b>	4.3%	11.1%	5.8%	

	<b>Important</b>	(1)	(14)	(7)	
	rating average	2.26 (23)	2.40 (126)	2.08 (120)	2.24 (269)
	<b>answered question</b>	23	126	121	<b>270</b>
<b>skipped question</b>					<b>24</b>

## 6. Please pick the sentence that best matches your preference.

	How long have you lived in Cattaraugus County?			Response Totals
	Less than 5 years	6 to 20 years	More than 20 years	
Cattaraugus County should strive to stay rural in character and limit new growth.	8.7% (2)	17.7% (22)	8.3% (10)	12.7% (34)
Cattaraugus County needs to grow, but growth should be concentrated in and around our existing cities, villages and hamlets, and not in areas not served by existing infrastructure.	<b>60.9%</b> <b>(14)</b>	<b>59.7%</b> <b>(74)</b>	<b>65.3%</b> <b>(79)</b>	<b>62.3%</b> <b>(167)</b>
Growth is progress and Cattaraugus County should not try to limit growth and development in any way.	30.4% (7)	22.6% (28)	26.4% (32)	25.0% (67)
<b>answered question</b>	23	124	121	<b>268</b>
<b>skipped question</b>				<b>26</b>

**7. Which of the following elements of Cattaraugus County are most important to you?  
(Please select only the top three)**

	How long have you lived in Cattaraugus County?			Response Totals
	Less than 5 years	6 to 20 years	More than 20 years	
Rural Character	34.8% (8)	28.3% (36)	31.4% (38)	30.3% (82)
Agriculture	34.8% (8)	22.0% (28)	29.8% (36)	26.6% (72)
Forests and open space	43.5% (10)	40.9% (52)	33.1% (40)	37.6% (102)
Outdoor recreation	30.4% (7)	36.2% (46)	33.1% (40)	34.3% (93)
Local shops and business districts (being able to shop nearby)	<b>56.5%</b> <b>(13)</b>	32.3% (41)	30.6% (37)	33.6% (91)
Local employment opportunities (being able to find a job within the County)	52.2% (12)	<b>56.7%</b> <b>(72)</b>	<b>62.8%</b> <b>(76)</b>	<b>59.0%</b> <b>(160)</b>
Quality schools	43.5% (10)	46.5% (59)	53.7% (65)	49.4% (134)
Quality health care facilities	17.4% (4)	19.7% (25)	39.7% (48)	28.4% (77)
Small town character	13.0% (3)	19.7% (25)	26.4% (32)	22.1% (60)
Completion of Route 219 Expressway	8.7% (2)	21.3% (27)	25.6% (31)	22.1% (60)
Timbering	8.7% (2)	3.9% (5)	4.1% (5)	4.4% (12)
Oil and gas extraction	4.3% (1)	11.8% (15)	11.6% (14)	11.1% (30)
<b>answered question</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>271</b>
<b>skipped question</b>				<b>23</b>

**8. Please list what you feel are the top three issues facing Cattaraugus County.**

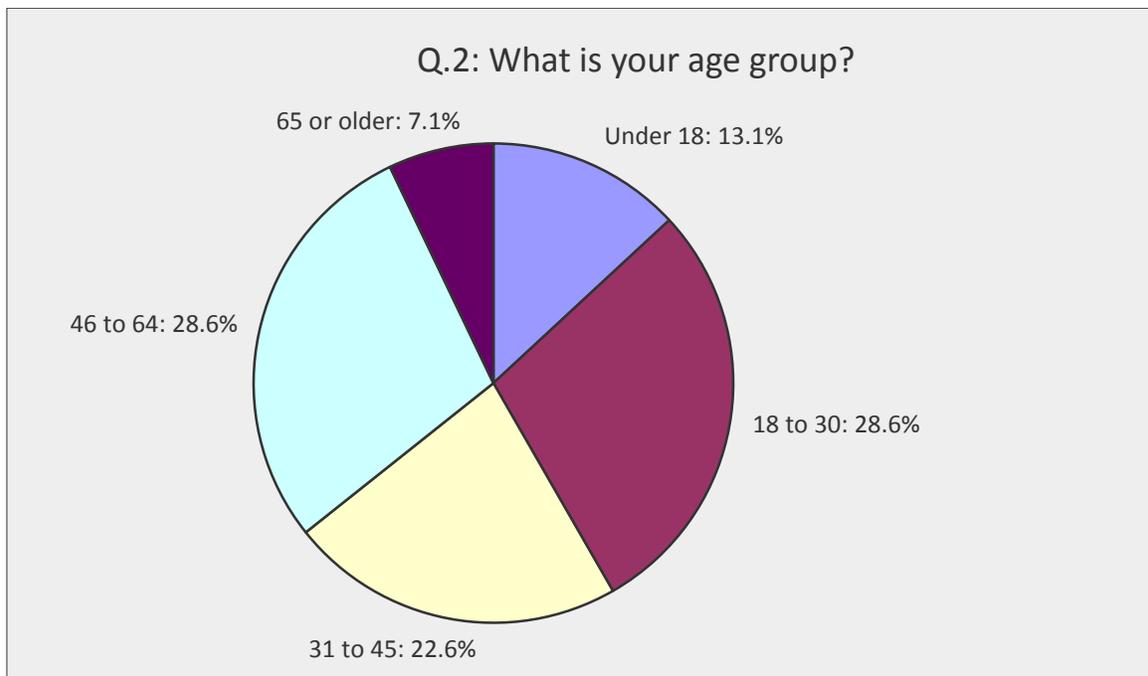
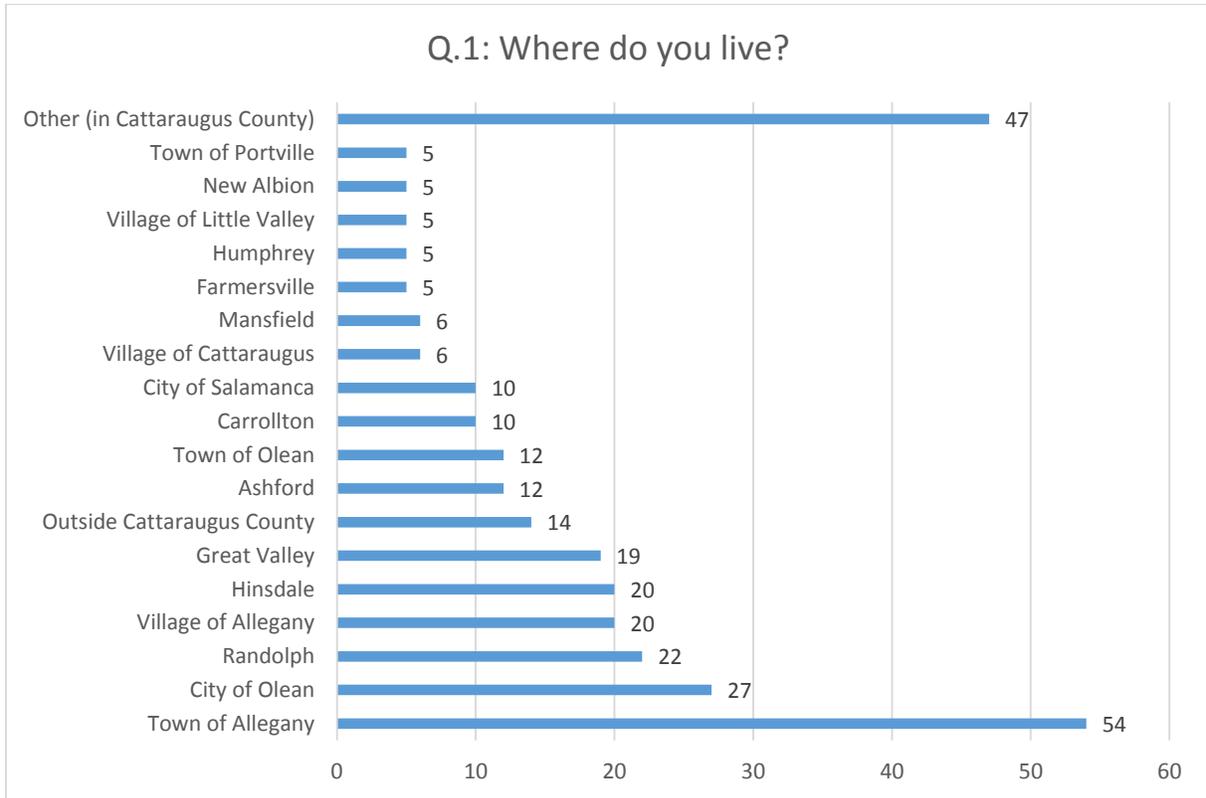
	How long have you lived in Cattaraugus County?			
	Less than 5 years	6 to 20 years	More than 20 years	Response Count
	19 replies	97 replies	90 replies	206
<b>answered question</b>	19	97	90	<b>206</b>
<b>skipped question</b>				<b>88</b>

**9. Is there anything else you would like to share?**

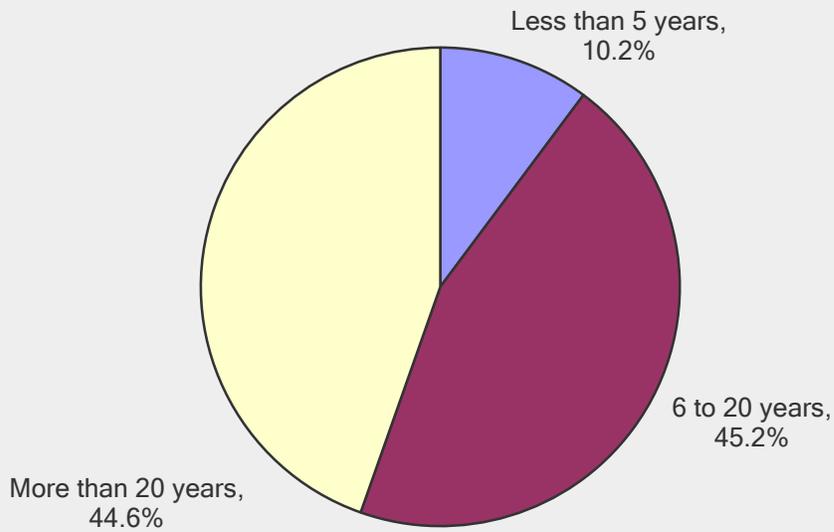
	How long have you lived in Cattaraugus County?			
	Less than 5 years	6 to 20 years	More than 20 years	Response Count
	9 replies	44 replies	41 replies	94
<b>answered question</b>	9	44	41	<b>94</b>
<b>skipped question</b>				<b>200</b>

## Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan – Survey Summary

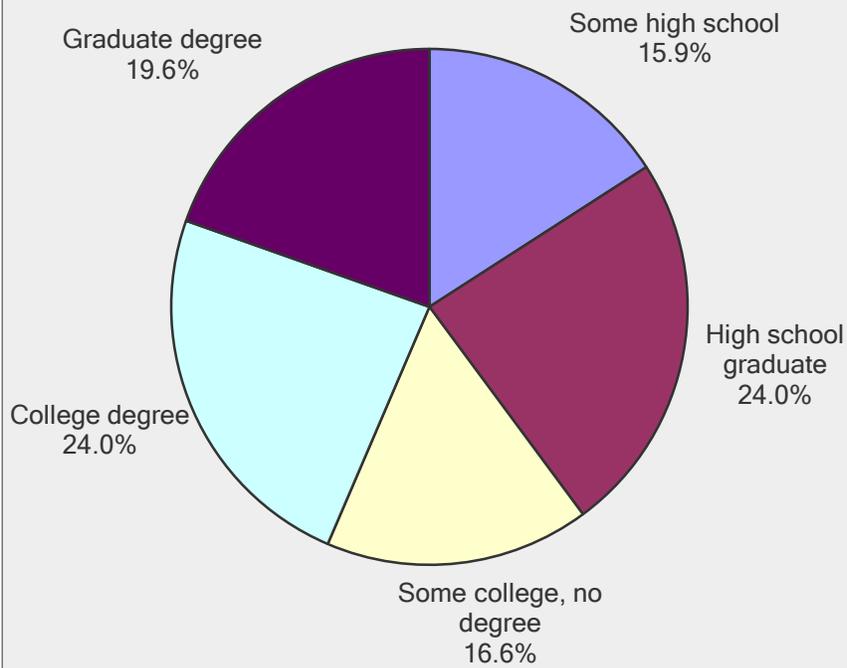
This document summarizes the results of the Survey that was taken for the Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan. A total of 303 people responded to the survey.



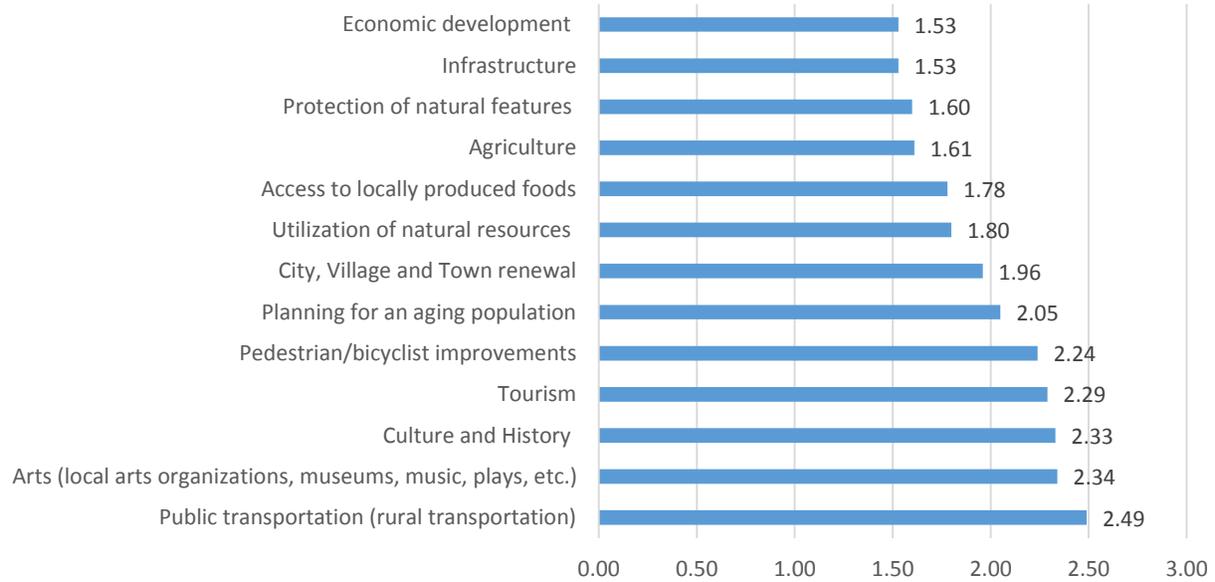
Q.3: How long have you lived in Cattaraugus County?



Q.4: What is the highest level of education that you have completed?



### Q.5: Topics Ranked by Importance to Cattaraugus County\*

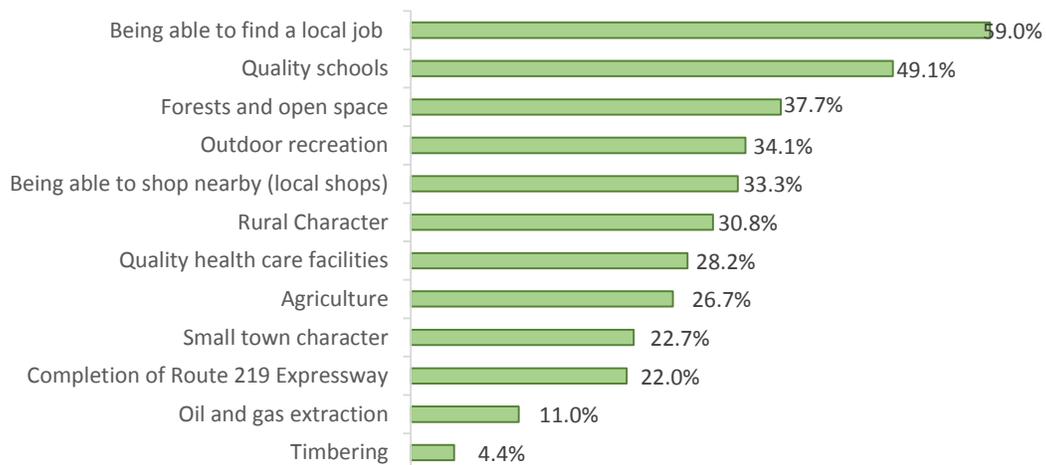


\* Note: Items ranked by average rating, where 1 is most important and 4 is not important. Highest priority items have lowest average scores.

### Q.6: Please pick the sentence that best matches your preference.

Cattaraugus County should strive to stay rural in character and limit new growth.	13.0%
Cattaraugus County needs to grow, but growth should be concentrated in and around our existing cities, villages and hamlets, and not in areas not served by existing infrastructure.	62.2%
Growth is progress and Cattaraugus County should not try to limit growth and development in any way.	24.8%

### Q.7: Which aspects are most important to you?



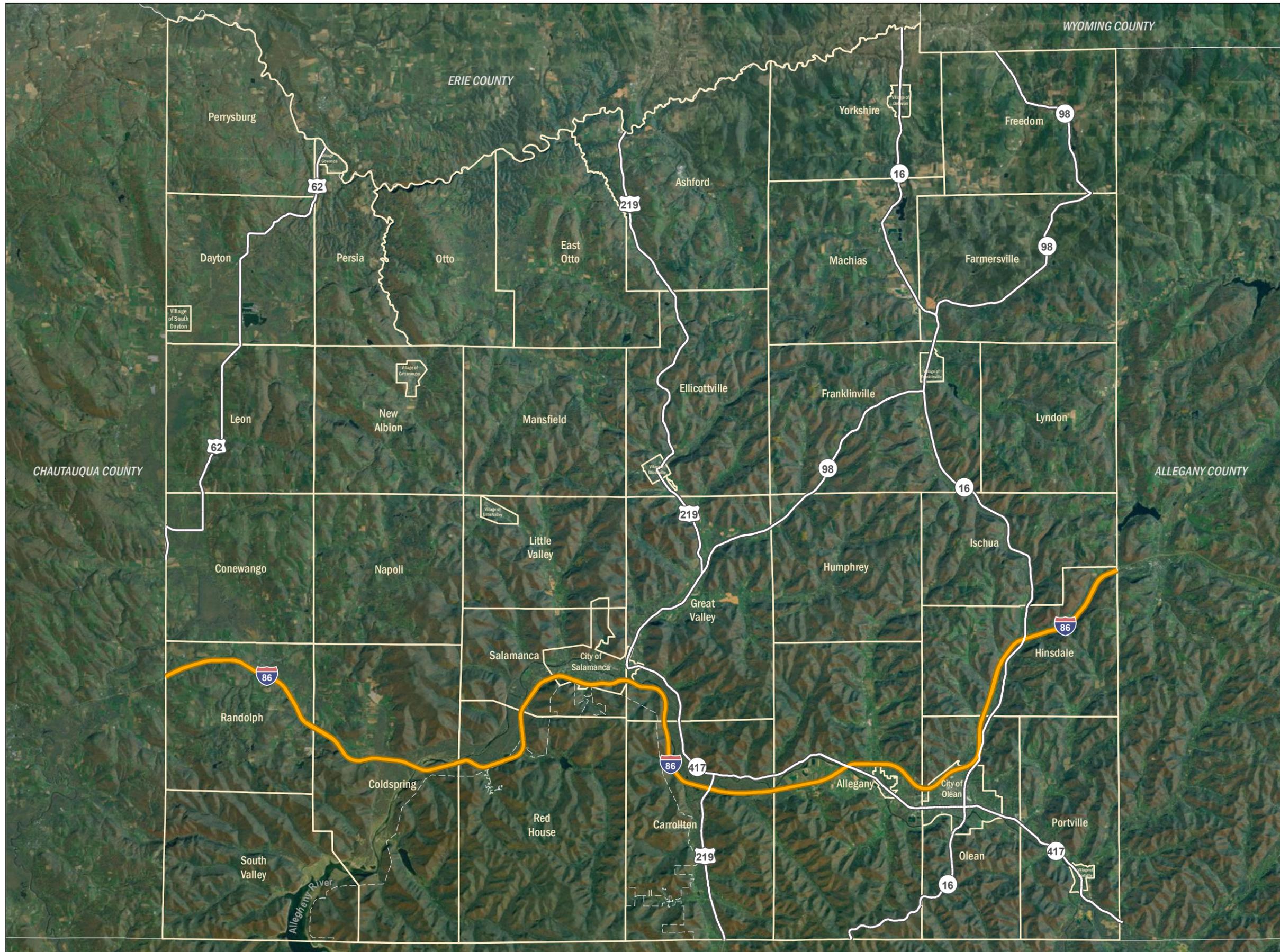




# Appendix C

## Maps





# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan 2011 Aerial Imagery



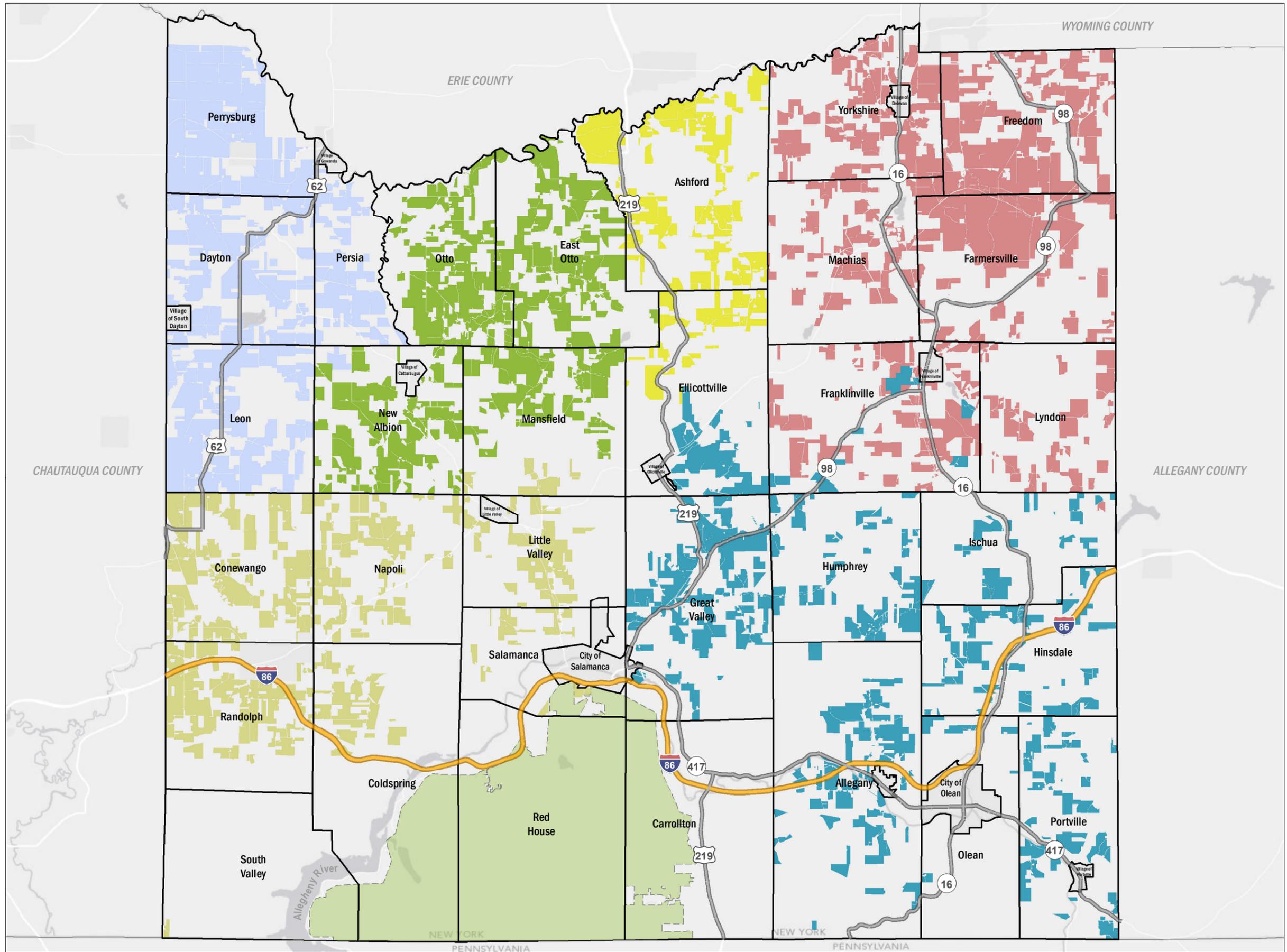
**LEGEND**

- Municipal Boundary
- Allegheny State Park



WD Project # 307638  
Map Created: April, 2014

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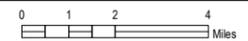
# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan

## Agricultural Districts

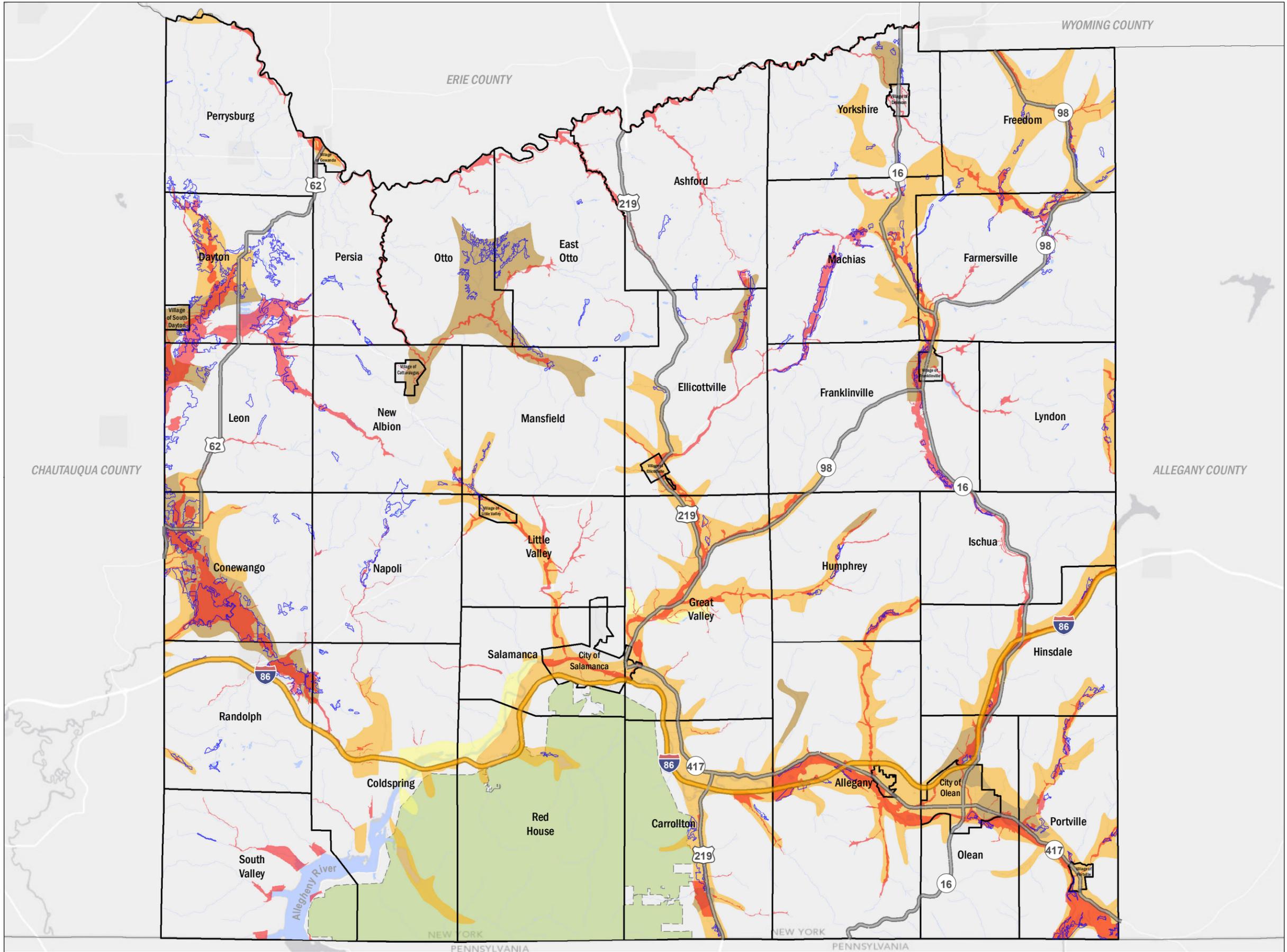


**LEGEND**

- Municipal Boundary
- Allegany State Park
- Agriculture Districts**
- Ashford Meadows
- Farmersville - Freedom
- Northwest
- South Branch
- Southeast Central
- Southwest



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Data Sources: NYS GIS Clearinghouse, Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning & Tourism, ESRI Basemap



# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan

## Environmental Features



**LEGEND**

- Municipal Boundary
- Streams
- Water
- Allegany State Park
- State Wetlands
- Special Flood Hazard Area

**Aquifers**

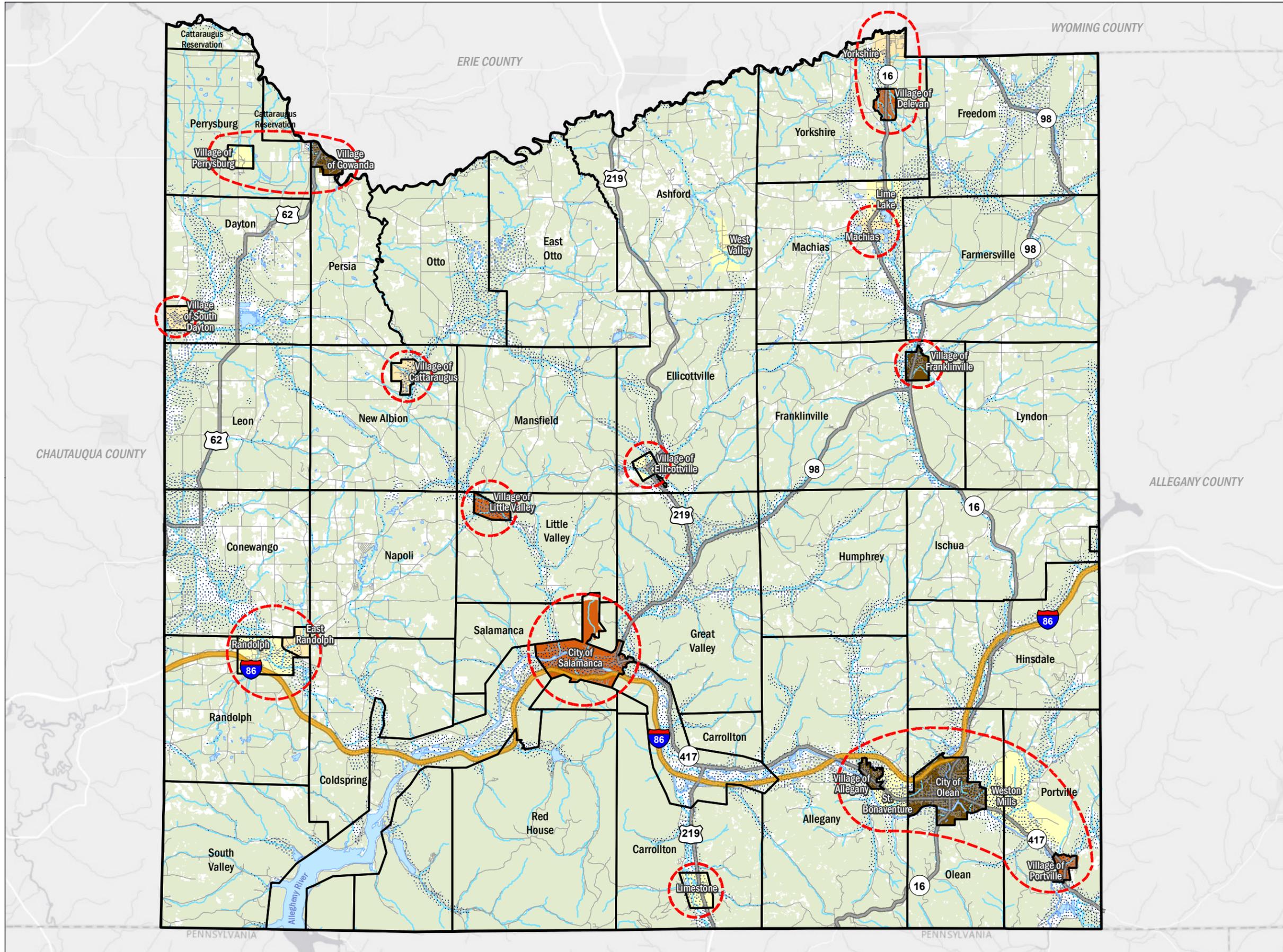
- Confined
- Unconfined
- Unknown



\* Please note that Federal Wetlands have not been digitally mapped for Cattaraugus County



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Data Sources: NYS GIS Clearinghouse, Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning & Tourism, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, ESRI Basemap



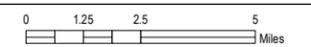
# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan

## Future Growth Areas



### LEGEND

- Municipal Boundary
  - Primary Growth Area
  - Environmental Protection Area
  - Streams
  - Conservation Areas
- Persons Per Square Mile**
- |           |               |
|-----------|---------------|
| 0 - 65    | 901 - 1,500   |
| 66 - 450  | 1,501 - 2,400 |
| 451 - 900 |               |



\* Please note that Federal Wetlands have not been digitally mapped for Cattaraugus County



WD Project # 307638  
Map Created: March, 2015

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Data Sources: NYS GIS Clearinghouse, Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning & Tourism, NYS Department of Environmental, US Census Bureau

# Gravel Resources

## Cattaraugus County, NY

### Legend

▲ Sand and Gravel Mines

### Major Highways

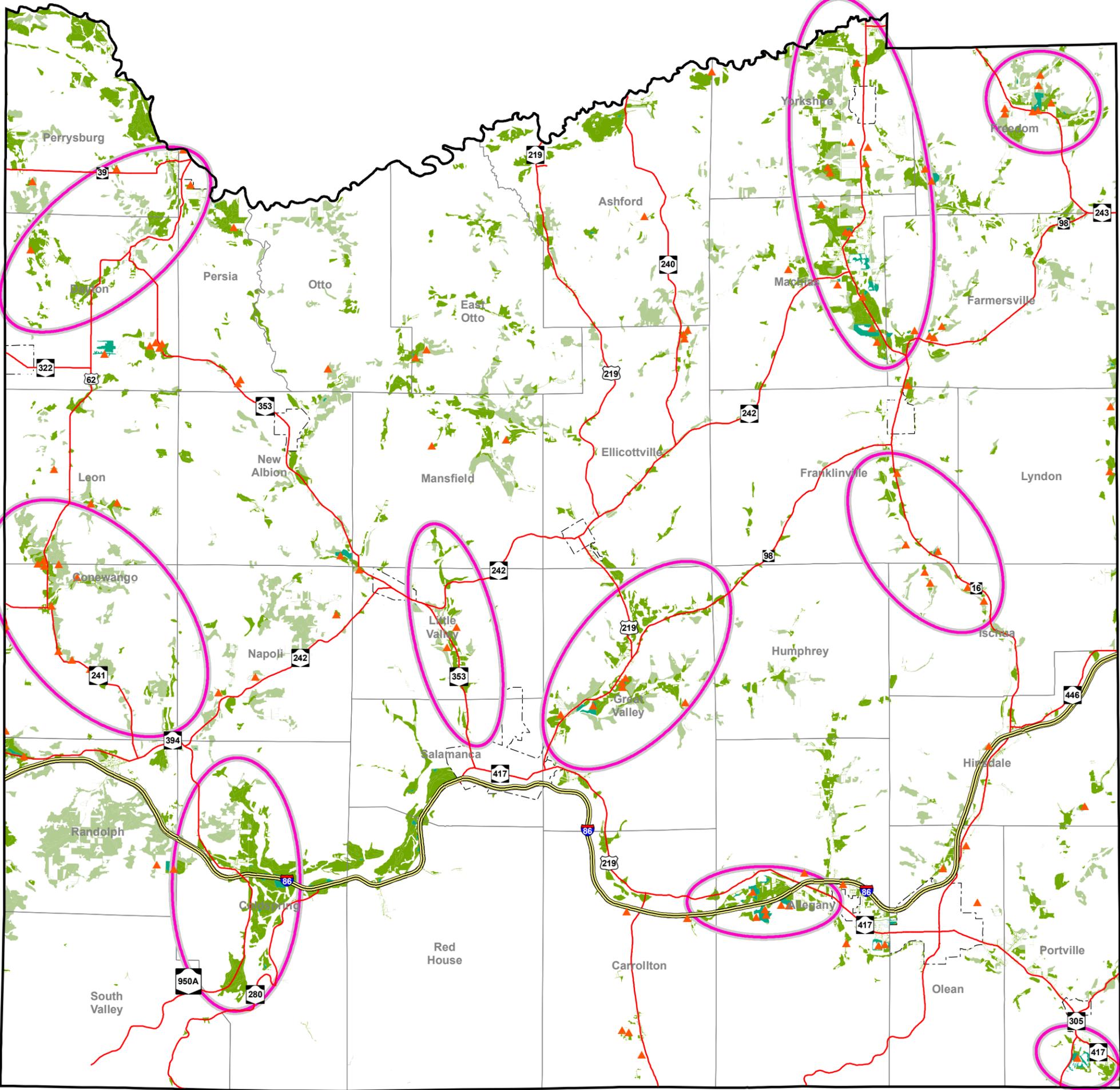
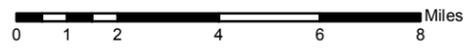
— Interstate 86

— US Highway

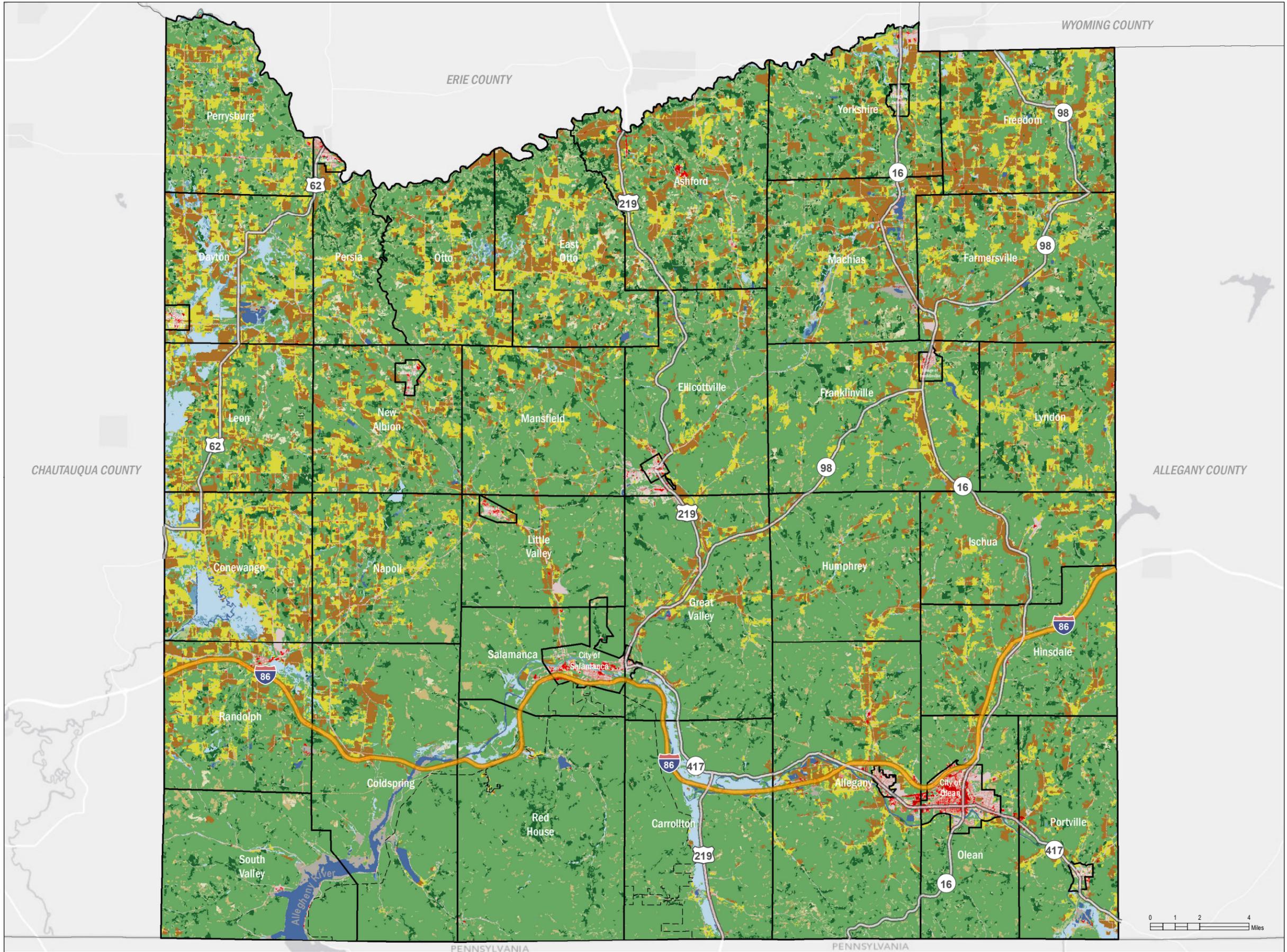
— State Highway

### Gravel Soils

- Allard silt loam
- Castile gravelly silt loam
- Chenango gravelly silt loam
- Chenango channery silt loam
- Chenango fine gravelly sandy loam
- Chenango sandy loam
- Olean silt loam
- Unadilla silt loam
- Colonie fine sandy loam
- Valois gravelly silt loam
- Valois-Valusia-Mardin Complex
- Gravel Pits
- Gravel Regions
- Cattaraugus County
- Towns
- Cities and Villages



This map was created using GIS and GPS technology  
 Prepared by the Cattaraugus County  
 Department of Economic Development, Planning & Tourism  
 303 Court Street  
 Little Valley, NY 14755  
 James H. Isaacson, Senior Planner  
 (716) 938-2320  
[www.cattco.org](http://www.cattco.org)  
 August 2014



# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan

## Land Coverage



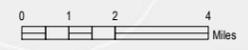
### LEGEND

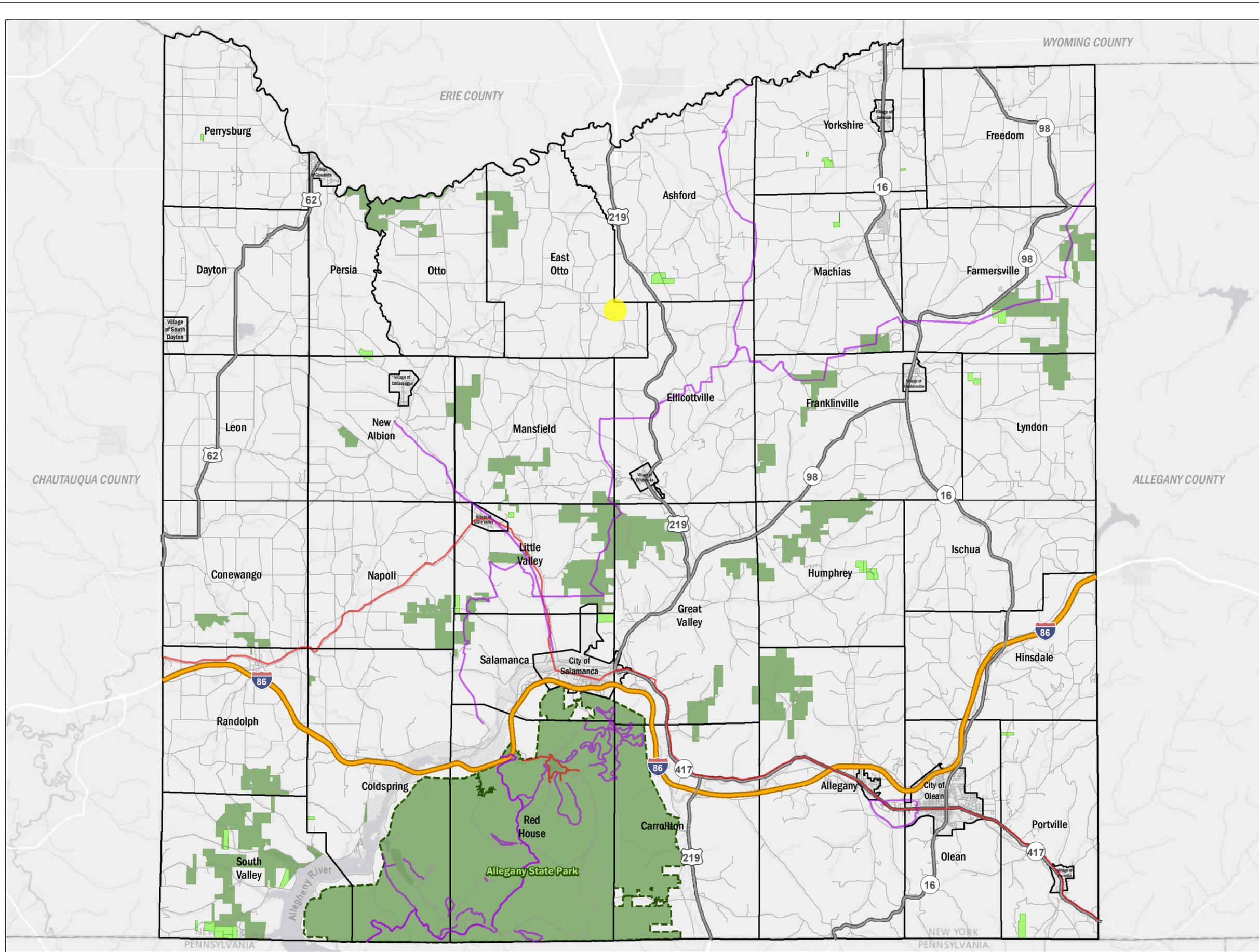
- National Land Cover Dataset 2011 Classification**
- 11 Open Water
  - 21 Developed, Open Space
  - 22 Developed, Low Intensity
  - 23 Developed, Medium Intensity
  - 24 Developed, High Intensity
  - 31 Barren Land (Rock/Sand/Clay)
  - 41 Deciduous Forest
  - 42 Evergreen Forest
  - 43 Mixed Forest
  - 52 Shrub/Scrub
  - 71 Grassland/Herbaceous
  - 81 Pasture/Hay
  - 82 Cultivated Crops
  - 90 Woody Wetlands
  - 95 Emergent Herbaceous Wetlands



WD Project # 307638  
Map Created: April, 2014

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Data Sources: NYS GIS Clearinghouse, Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning & Tourism, Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium, ESRI Basemap





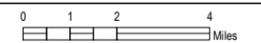
# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan

## Recreational Lands and Trails



### LEGEND

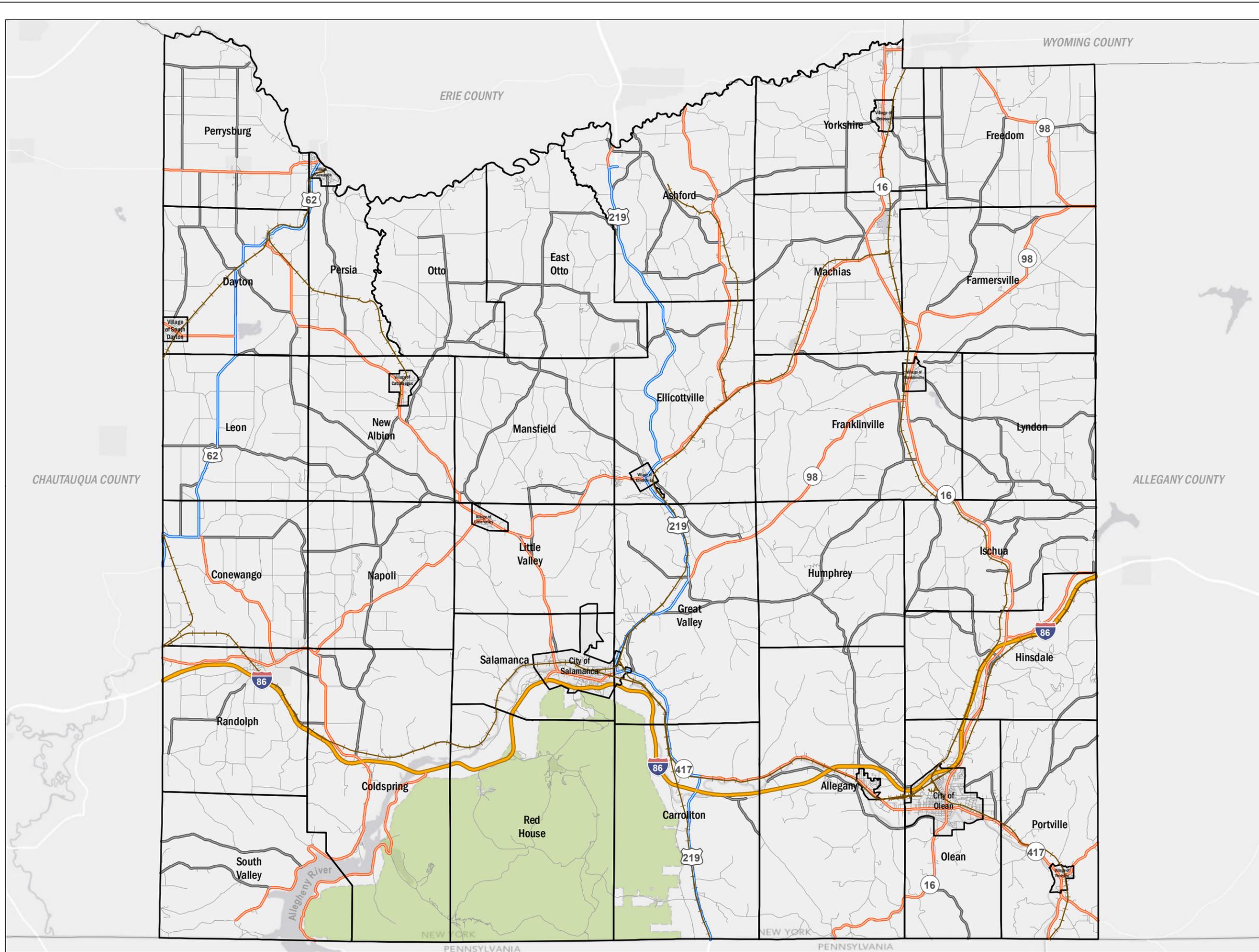
- Municipal Boundary
- Allegany State Park
- County-Owned Forest Parcels
- State-Owned Recreation Land
- Griffis Sculpture Park
- Trail Types**
- Biking Trails
- Hiking Trails



WD Project # 307638  
Map Created: June, 2015

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Data Sources: NYS GIS Clearinghouse, Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning & Tourism, ESRI Base Map





# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan Transportation



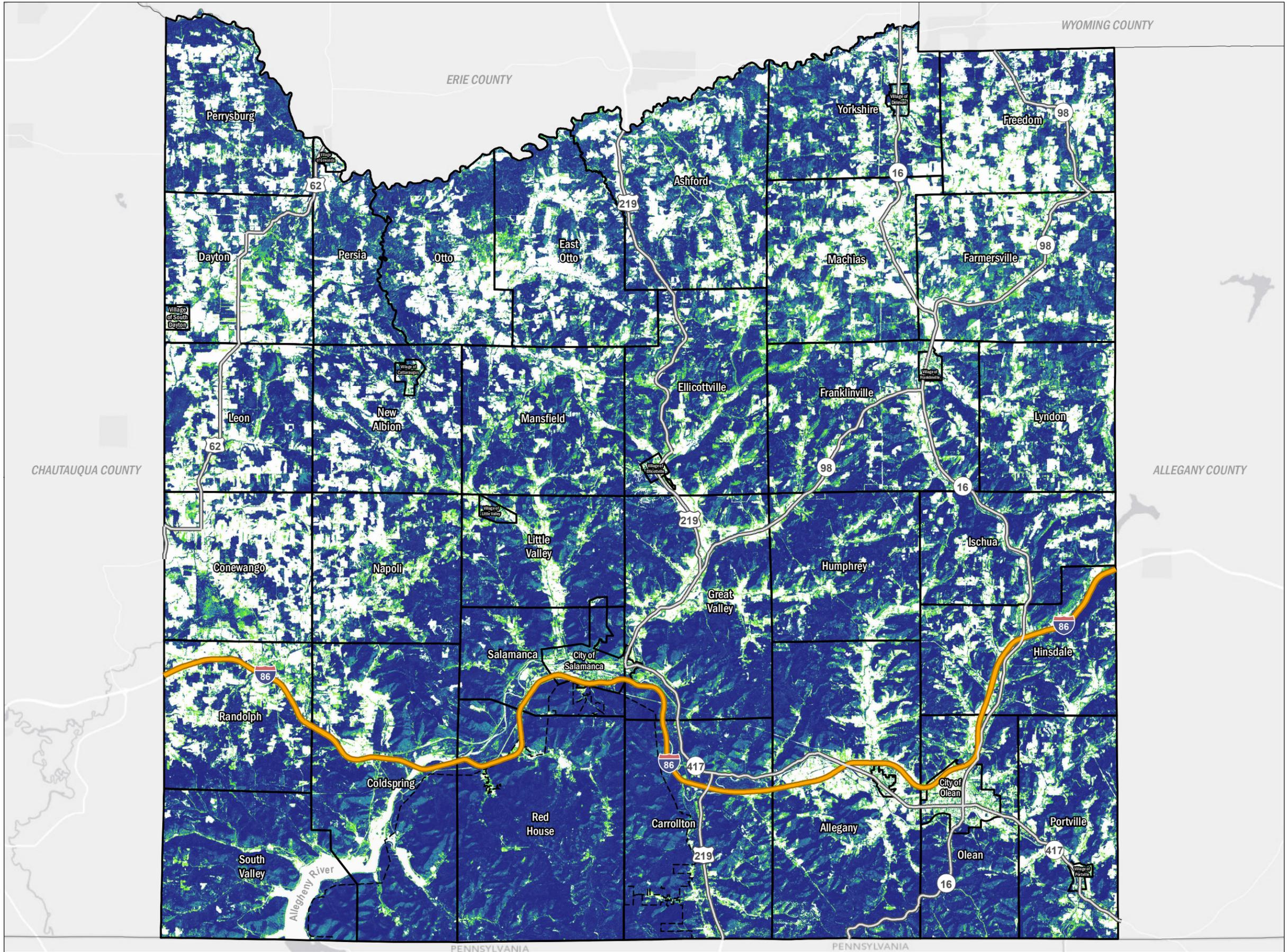
**LEGEND**

- Municipal Boundary
- Allegheny State Park
- Railroads
- Roads**
- Local Roads
- County Roads
- State Roads
- US Roads
- I-86

0 1 2 4 Miles



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Data Sources: NYS GIS Clearinghouse, Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning & Tourism, ESRI Basemap



# Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan

## Tree Canopy Coverage

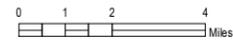


**LEGEND**

- Municipal Boundary
- Allegany State Park

**National Land Cover Dataset 2001  
Tree Canopy Coverage Percentage**

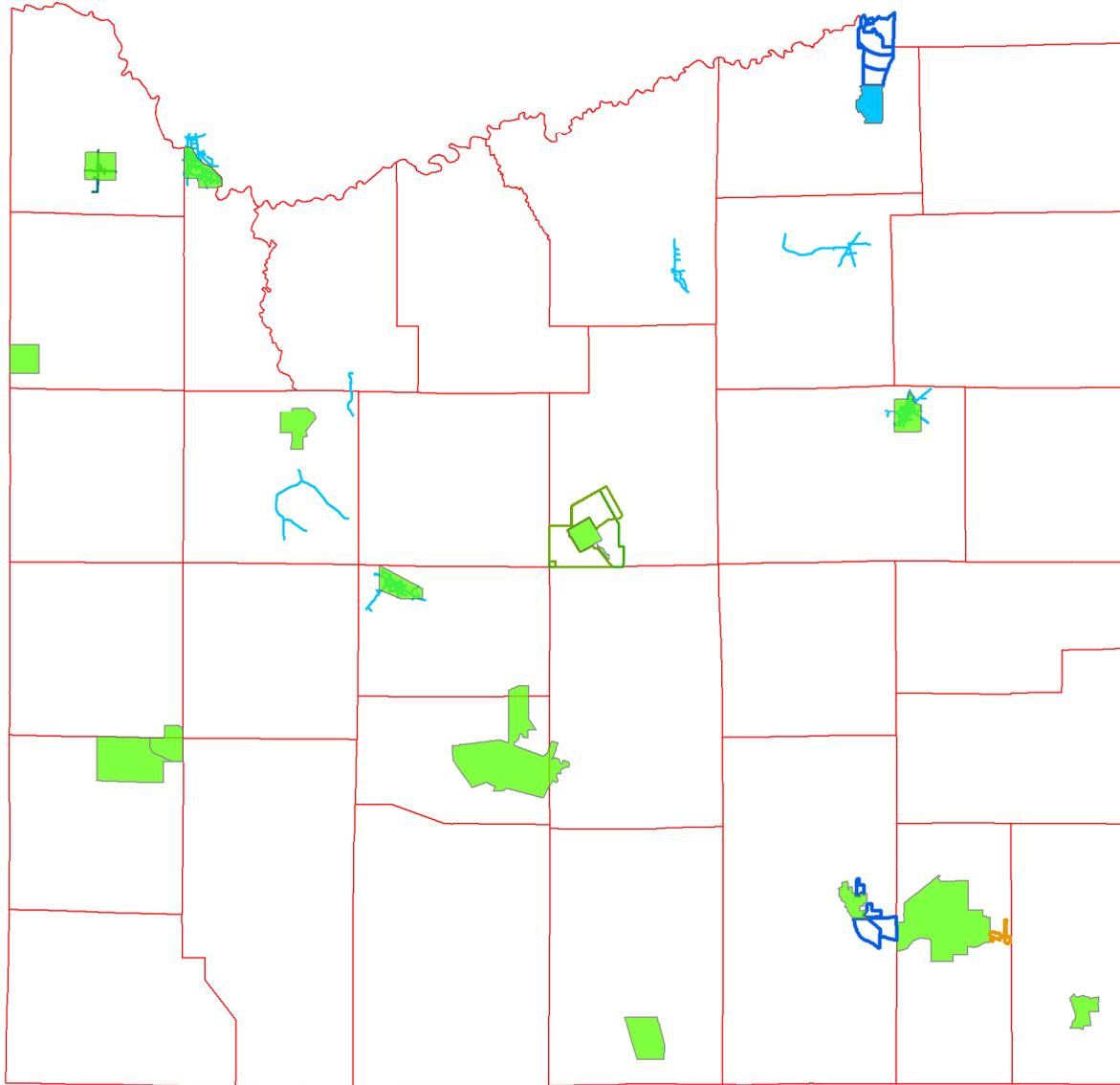
	0%		75%
	25%		100%
	50%		



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Data Sources: NYS GIS Clearinghouse, Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning & Tourism, Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium, ESRI Basemap

# Cattaraugus County Water and Sewer



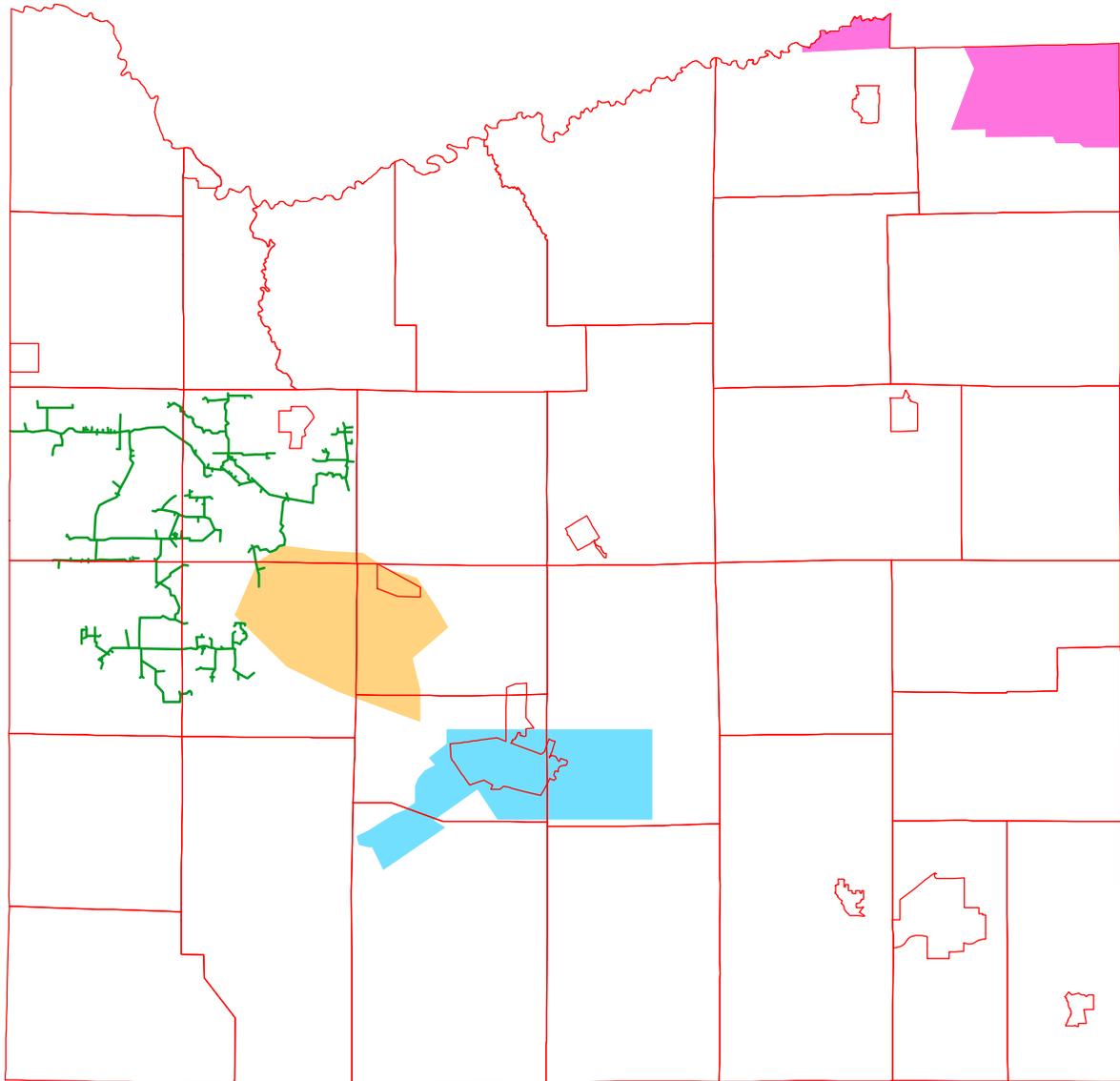
**Legend**

-  Water and Sewer
-  Water
-  Water Lines
-  Water and Sewer District
-  Water District
-  Sewer District



This map was created using  
GIS TECHNOLOGY  
Prepared by  
Cattaraugus County  
Department of Economic Development,  
Planning & Tourism  
303 Court St.  
Little Valley, NY 14755  
Paul R. Bishop, Senior Planner  
October, 2014

# Cattaraugus County Municipal Electric



**Legend**

-  Municipalities
-  Steuben Power
-  Salamanca
-  Little Valley
-  Arcade



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Prepared by  
Cattaraugus County  
Department of Economic Development,  
Planning & Tourism  
303 Court St.  
Little Valley, NY 14755  
Paul R. Bishop, Senior Planner  
October, 2014

**Appendix D**  
**SEQR**



**Full Environmental Assessment Form**  
**Part 1 - Project and Setting**

**Instructions for Completing Part 1**

**Part 1 is to be completed by the applicant or project sponsor.** Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification.

Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information; indicate whether missing information does not exist, or is not reasonably available to the sponsor; and, when possible, generally describe work or studies which would be necessary to update or fully develop that information.

Applicants/sponsors must complete all items in Sections A & B. In Sections C, D & E, most items contain an initial question that must be answered either “Yes” or “No”. If the answer to the initial question is “Yes”, complete the sub-questions that follow. If the answer to the initial question is “No”, proceed to the next question. Section F allows the project sponsor to identify and attach any additional information. Section G requires the name and signature of the project sponsor to verify that the information contained in Part 1 is accurate and complete.

**A. Project and Sponsor Information.**

Name of Action or Project:		
Project Location (describe, and attach a general location map):		
Brief Description of Proposed Action (include purpose or need):		
Name of Applicant/Sponsor:		Telephone:
		E-Mail:
Address:		
City/PO:	State:	Zip Code:
Project Contact (if not same as sponsor; give name and title/role):		Telephone:
		E-Mail:
Address:		
City/PO:	State:	Zip Code:
Property Owner (if not same as sponsor):		Telephone:
		E-Mail:
Address:		
City/PO:	State:	Zip Code:

**B. Government Approvals**

**B. Government Approvals, Funding, or Sponsorship.** (“Funding” includes grants, loans, tax relief, and any other forms of financial assistance.)

Government Entity	If Yes: Identify Agency and Approval(s) Required	Application Date (Actual or projected)
a. City Council, Town Board, or Village Board of Trustees <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
b. City, Town or Village Planning Board or Commission <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
c. City Council, Town or Village Zoning Board of Appeals <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
d. Other local agencies <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
e. County agencies <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
f. Regional agencies <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
g. State agencies <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
h. Federal agencies <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
i. Coastal Resources. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="121 829 1485 861">i. Is the project site within a Coastal Area, or the waterfront area of a Designated Inland Waterway? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</li> <li data-bbox="121 892 1485 924">ii. Is the project site located in a community with an approved Local Waterfront Revitalization Program? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</li> <li data-bbox="121 924 1485 955">iii. Is the project site within a Coastal Erosion Hazard Area? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</li> </ul>		

**C. Planning and Zoning**

**C.1. Planning and zoning actions.**

Will administrative or legislative adoption, or amendment of a plan, local law, ordinance, rule or regulation be the only approval(s) which must be granted to enable the proposed action to proceed?  Yes  No

- **If Yes**, complete sections C, F and G.
- **If No**, proceed to question C.2 and complete all remaining sections and questions in Part 1

**C.2. Adopted land use plans.**

a. Do any municipally- adopted (city, town, village or county) comprehensive land use plan(s) include the site where the proposed action would be located?  Yes  No

If Yes, does the comprehensive plan include specific recommendations for the site where the proposed action would be located?  Yes  No

b. Is the site of the proposed action within any local or regional special planning district (for example: Greenway Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA); designated State or Federal heritage area; watershed management plan; or other?)  Yes  No

If Yes, identify the plan(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

c. Is the proposed action located wholly or partially within an area listed in an adopted municipal open space plan, or an adopted municipal farmland protection plan?  Yes  No

If Yes, identify the plan(s):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**C.3. Zoning**

a. Is the site of the proposed action located in a municipality with an adopted zoning law or ordinance.  Yes  No  
If Yes, what is the zoning classification(s) including any applicable overlay district?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

b. Is the use permitted or allowed by a special or conditional use permit?  Yes  No

c. Is a zoning change requested as part of the proposed action?  Yes  No

If Yes,

i. What is the proposed new zoning for the site? \_\_\_\_\_

**C.4. Existing community services.**

a. In what school district is the project site located? \_\_\_\_\_

b. What police or other public protection forces serve the project site?  
\_\_\_\_\_

c. Which fire protection and emergency medical services serve the project site?  
\_\_\_\_\_

d. What parks serve the project site?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**D. Project Details**

**D.1. Proposed and Potential Development**

a. What is the general nature of the proposed action (e.g., residential, industrial, commercial, recreational; if mixed, include all components)?  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action? \_\_\_\_\_ acres  
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed? \_\_\_\_\_ acres  
c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor? \_\_\_\_\_ acres

c. Is the proposed action an expansion of an existing project or use?  Yes  No  
i. If Yes, what is the approximate percentage of the proposed expansion and identify the units (e.g., acres, miles, housing units, square feet)? % \_\_\_\_\_ Units: \_\_\_\_\_

d. Is the proposed action a subdivision, or does it include a subdivision?  Yes  No  
If Yes,

i. Purpose or type of subdivision? (e.g., residential, industrial, commercial; if mixed, specify types)  
\_\_\_\_\_

ii. Is a cluster/conservation layout proposed?  Yes  No

iii. Number of lots proposed? \_\_\_\_\_

iv. Minimum and maximum proposed lot sizes? Minimum \_\_\_\_\_ Maximum \_\_\_\_\_

e. Will proposed action be constructed in multiple phases?  Yes  No

i. If No, anticipated period of construction: \_\_\_\_\_ months

ii. If Yes:

- Total number of phases anticipated \_\_\_\_\_
- Anticipated commencement date of phase 1 (including demolition) \_\_\_\_\_ month \_\_\_\_\_ year
- Anticipated completion date of final phase \_\_\_\_\_ month \_\_\_\_\_ year

• Generally describe connections or relationships among phases, including any contingencies where progress of one phase may determine timing or duration of future phases: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

f. Does the project include new residential uses?  Yes  No  
 If Yes, show numbers of units proposed.

	<u>One Family</u>	<u>Two Family</u>	<u>Three Family</u>	<u>Multiple Family (four or more)</u>
Initial Phase	_____	_____	_____	_____
At completion	_____	_____	_____	_____
of all phases	_____	_____	_____	_____

g. Does the proposed action include new non-residential construction (including expansions)?  Yes  No  
 If Yes,

i. Total number of structures \_\_\_\_\_

ii. Dimensions (in feet) of largest proposed structure: \_\_\_\_\_ height; \_\_\_\_\_ width; and \_\_\_\_\_ length

iii. Approximate extent of building space to be heated or cooled: \_\_\_\_\_ square feet

h. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that will result in the impoundment of any liquids, such as creation of a water supply, reservoir, pond, lake, waste lagoon or other storage?  Yes  No  
 If Yes,

i. Purpose of the impoundment: \_\_\_\_\_

ii. If a water impoundment, the principal source of the water:  Ground water  Surface water streams  Other specify: \_\_\_\_\_

iii. If other than water, identify the type of impounded/contained liquids and their source.  
 \_\_\_\_\_

iv. Approximate size of the proposed impoundment. Volume: \_\_\_\_\_ million gallons; surface area: \_\_\_\_\_ acres

v. Dimensions of the proposed dam or impounding structure: \_\_\_\_\_ height; \_\_\_\_\_ length

vi. Construction method/materials for the proposed dam or impounding structure (e.g., earth fill, rock, wood, concrete):  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**D.2. Project Operations**

a. Does the proposed action include any excavation, mining, or dredging, during construction, operations, or both?  Yes  No  
 (Not including general site preparation, grading or installation of utilities or foundations where all excavated materials will remain onsite)  
 If Yes:

i. What is the purpose of the excavation or dredging? \_\_\_\_\_

ii. How much material (including rock, earth, sediments, etc.) is proposed to be removed from the site?

- Volume (specify tons or cubic yards): \_\_\_\_\_
- Over what duration of time? \_\_\_\_\_

iii. Describe nature and characteristics of materials to be excavated or dredged, and plans to use, manage or dispose of them.  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

iv. Will there be onsite dewatering or processing of excavated materials?  Yes  No  
 If yes, describe. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

v. What is the total area to be dredged or excavated? \_\_\_\_\_ acres

vi. What is the maximum area to be worked at any one time? \_\_\_\_\_ acres

vii. What would be the maximum depth of excavation or dredging? \_\_\_\_\_ feet

viii. Will the excavation require blasting?  Yes  No

ix. Summarize site reclamation goals and plan: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

b. Would the proposed action cause or result in alteration of, increase or decrease in size of, or encroachment into any existing wetland, waterbody, shoreline, beach or adjacent area?  Yes  No  
 If Yes:

i. Identify the wetland or waterbody which would be affected (by name, water index number, wetland map number or geographic description): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

ii. Describe how the proposed action would affect that waterbody or wetland, e.g. excavation, fill, placement of structures, or alteration of channels, banks and shorelines. Indicate extent of activities, alterations and additions in square feet or acres:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

iii. Will proposed action cause or result in disturbance to bottom sediments?  Yes  No

If Yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_

iv. Will proposed action cause or result in the destruction or removal of aquatic vegetation?  Yes  No

If Yes:

- acres of aquatic vegetation proposed to be removed: \_\_\_\_\_
- expected acreage of aquatic vegetation remaining after project completion: \_\_\_\_\_
- purpose of proposed removal (e.g. beach clearing, invasive species control, boat access): \_\_\_\_\_
- proposed method of plant removal: \_\_\_\_\_
- if chemical/herbicide treatment will be used, specify product(s): \_\_\_\_\_

v. Describe any proposed reclamation/mitigation following disturbance: \_\_\_\_\_

c. Will the proposed action use, or create a new demand for water?  Yes  No

If Yes:

i. Total anticipated water usage/demand per day: \_\_\_\_\_ gallons/day

ii. Will the proposed action obtain water from an existing public water supply?  Yes  No

If Yes:

- Name of district or service area: \_\_\_\_\_
- Does the existing public water supply have capacity to serve the proposal?  Yes  No
- Is the project site in the existing district?  Yes  No
- Is expansion of the district needed?  Yes  No
- Do existing lines serve the project site?  Yes  No

iii. Will line extension within an existing district be necessary to supply the project?  Yes  No

If Yes:

- Describe extensions or capacity expansions proposed to serve this project: \_\_\_\_\_
- Source(s) of supply for the district: \_\_\_\_\_

iv. Is a new water supply district or service area proposed to be formed to serve the project site?  Yes  No

If Yes:

- Applicant/sponsor for new district: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date application submitted or anticipated: \_\_\_\_\_
- Proposed source(s) of supply for new district: \_\_\_\_\_

v. If a public water supply will not be used, describe plans to provide water supply for the project: \_\_\_\_\_

vi. If water supply will be from wells (public or private), maximum pumping capacity: \_\_\_\_\_ gallons/minute.

d. Will the proposed action generate liquid wastes?  Yes  No

If Yes:

i. Total anticipated liquid waste generation per day: \_\_\_\_\_ gallons/day

ii. Nature of liquid wastes to be generated (e.g., sanitary wastewater, industrial; if combination, describe all components and approximate volumes or proportions of each): \_\_\_\_\_

iii. Will the proposed action use any existing public wastewater treatment facilities?  Yes  No

If Yes:

- Name of wastewater treatment plant to be used: \_\_\_\_\_
- Name of district: \_\_\_\_\_
- Does the existing wastewater treatment plant have capacity to serve the project?  Yes  No
- Is the project site in the existing district?  Yes  No
- Is expansion of the district needed?  Yes  No

- Do existing sewer lines serve the project site?  Yes  No
- Will line extension within an existing district be necessary to serve the project?  Yes  No

 If Yes:
 

- Describe extensions or capacity expansions proposed to serve this project: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

iv. Will a new wastewater (sewage) treatment district be formed to serve the project site?  Yes  No  
 If Yes:
 

- Applicant/sponsor for new district: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date application submitted or anticipated: \_\_\_\_\_
- What is the receiving water for the wastewater discharge? \_\_\_\_\_

v. If public facilities will not be used, describe plans to provide wastewater treatment for the project, including specifying proposed receiving water (name and classification if surface discharge, or describe subsurface disposal plans):  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

vi. Describe any plans or designs to capture, recycle or reuse liquid waste: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

---

e. Will the proposed action disturb more than one acre and create stormwater runoff, either from new point sources (i.e. ditches, pipes, swales, curbs, gutters or other concentrated flows of stormwater) or non-point source (i.e. sheet flow) during construction or post construction?  Yes  No  
 If Yes:
 

- How much impervious surface will the project create in relation to total size of project parcel?  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Square feet or \_\_\_\_\_ acres (impervious surface)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Square feet or \_\_\_\_\_ acres (parcel size)
- Describe types of new point sources. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- Where will the stormwater runoff be directed (i.e. on-site stormwater management facility/structures, adjacent properties, groundwater, on-site surface water or off-site surface waters)?  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
  - If to surface waters, identify receiving water bodies or wetlands: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
  - Will stormwater runoff flow to adjacent properties?  Yes  No

iv. Does proposed plan minimize impervious surfaces, use pervious materials or collect and re-use stormwater?  Yes  No

---

f. Does the proposed action include, or will it use on-site, one or more sources of air emissions, including fuel combustion, waste incineration, or other processes or operations?  Yes  No  
 If Yes, identify:
 

- Mobile sources during project operations (e.g., heavy equipment, fleet or delivery vehicles)  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- Stationary sources during construction (e.g., power generation, structural heating, batch plant, crushers)  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- Stationary sources during operations (e.g., process emissions, large boilers, electric generation)  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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g. Will any air emission sources named in D.2.f (above), require a NY State Air Registration, Air Facility Permit, or Federal Clean Air Act Title IV or Title V Permit?  Yes  No  
 If Yes:
 

- Is the project site located in an Air quality non-attainment area? (Area routinely or periodically fails to meet ambient air quality standards for all or some parts of the year)  Yes  No
- In addition to emissions as calculated in the application, the project will generate:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Tons/year (short tons) of Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Tons/year (short tons) of Nitrous Oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Tons/year (short tons) of Perfluorocarbons (PFCs)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Tons/year (short tons) of Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Tons/year (short tons) of Carbon Dioxide equivalent of Hydroflouorocarbons (HFCs)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Tons/year (short tons) of Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs)

h. Will the proposed action generate or emit methane (including, but not limited to, sewage treatment plants, landfills, composting facilities)?  Yes  No

If Yes:

*i.* Estimate methane generation in tons/year (metric): \_\_\_\_\_

*ii.* Describe any methane capture, control or elimination measures included in project design (e.g., combustion to generate heat or electricity, flaring): \_\_\_\_\_

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i. Will the proposed action result in the release of air pollutants from open-air operations or processes, such as quarry or landfill operations?  Yes  No

If Yes: Describe operations and nature of emissions (e.g., diesel exhaust, rock particulates/dust): \_\_\_\_\_

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j. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels or generate substantial new demand for transportation facilities or services?  Yes  No

If Yes:

*i.* When is the peak traffic expected (Check all that apply):  Morning  Evening  Weekend  
 Randomly between hours of \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

*ii.* For commercial activities only, projected number of semi-trailer truck trips/day: \_\_\_\_\_

*iii.* Parking spaces: Existing \_\_\_\_\_ Proposed \_\_\_\_\_ Net increase/decrease \_\_\_\_\_

*iv.* Does the proposed action include any shared use parking?  Yes  No

*v.* If the proposed action includes any modification of existing roads, creation of new roads or change in existing access, describe: \_\_\_\_\_

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*vi.* Are public/private transportation service(s) or facilities available within 1/2 mile of the proposed site?  Yes  No

*vii.* Will the proposed action include access to public transportation or accommodations for use of hybrid, electric or other alternative fueled vehicles?  Yes  No

*viii.* Will the proposed action include plans for pedestrian or bicycle accommodations for connections to existing pedestrian or bicycle routes?  Yes  No

---

k. Will the proposed action (for commercial or industrial projects only) generate new or additional demand for energy?  Yes  No

If Yes:

*i.* Estimate annual electricity demand during operation of the proposed action: \_\_\_\_\_

*ii.* Anticipated sources/suppliers of electricity for the project (e.g., on-site combustion, on-site renewable, via grid/local utility, or other): \_\_\_\_\_

*iii.* Will the proposed action require a new, or an upgrade to, an existing substation?  Yes  No

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l. Hours of operation. Answer all items which apply.

<p><i>i.</i> During Construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday - Friday: _____</li> <li>• Saturday: _____</li> <li>• Sunday: _____</li> <li>• Holidays: _____</li> </ul>	<p><i>ii.</i> During Operations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday - Friday: _____</li> <li>• Saturday: _____</li> <li>• Sunday: _____</li> <li>• Holidays: _____</li> </ul>
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<p>m. Will the proposed action produce noise that will exceed existing ambient noise levels during construction, operation, or both? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If yes:</p> <p>i. Provide details including sources, time of day and duration:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>ii. Will proposed action remove existing natural barriers that could act as a noise barrier or screen? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>Describe: _____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>n.. Will the proposed action have outdoor lighting? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If yes:</p> <p>i. Describe source(s), location(s), height of fixture(s), direction/aim, and proximity to nearest occupied structures:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>ii. Will proposed action remove existing natural barriers that could act as a light barrier or screen? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>Describe: _____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>o. Does the proposed action have the potential to produce odors for more than one hour per day? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes, describe possible sources, potential frequency and duration of odor emissions, and proximity to nearest occupied structures: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>p. Will the proposed action include any bulk storage of petroleum (combined capacity of over 1,100 gallons) or chemical products 185 gallons in above ground storage or any amount in underground storage? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes:</p> <p>i. Product(s) to be stored _____</p> <p>ii. Volume(s) _____ per unit time _____ (e.g., month, year)</p> <p>iii. Generally describe proposed storage facilities: _____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>q. Will the proposed action (commercial, industrial and recreational projects only) use pesticides (i.e., herbicides, insecticides) during construction or operation? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes:</p> <p>i. Describe proposed treatment(s):</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>ii. Will the proposed action use Integrated Pest Management Practices? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p>	
<p>r. Will the proposed action (commercial or industrial projects only) involve or require the management or disposal of solid waste (excluding hazardous materials)? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes:</p> <p>i. Describe any solid waste(s) to be generated during construction or operation of the facility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction: _____ tons per _____ (unit of time)</li> <li>• Operation : _____ tons per _____ (unit of time)</li> </ul> <p>ii. Describe any proposals for on-site minimization, recycling or reuse of materials to avoid disposal as solid waste:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction: _____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>• Operation: _____</li> <li>_____</li> </ul> <p>iii. Proposed disposal methods/facilities for solid waste generated on-site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction: _____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>• Operation: _____</li> <li>_____</li> </ul>	

s. Does the proposed action include construction or modification of a solid waste management facility?  Yes  No  
 If Yes:  
 i. Type of management or handling of waste proposed for the site (e.g., recycling or transfer station, composting, landfill, or other disposal activities): \_\_\_\_\_  
 ii. Anticipated rate of disposal/processing:  
 • \_\_\_\_\_ Tons/month, if transfer or other non-combustion/thermal treatment, or  
 • \_\_\_\_\_ Tons/hour, if combustion or thermal treatment  
 iii. If landfill, anticipated site life: \_\_\_\_\_ years

t. Will proposed action at the site involve the commercial generation, treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous waste?  Yes  No  
 If Yes:  
 i. Name(s) of all hazardous wastes or constituents to be generated, handled or managed at facility: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 ii. Generally describe processes or activities involving hazardous wastes or constituents: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 iii. Specify amount to be handled or generated \_\_\_\_\_ tons/month  
 iv. Describe any proposals for on-site minimization, recycling or reuse of hazardous constituents: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 v. Will any hazardous wastes be disposed at an existing offsite hazardous waste facility?  Yes  No  
 If Yes: provide name and location of facility: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 If No: describe proposed management of any hazardous wastes which will not be sent to a hazardous waste facility:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**E. Site and Setting of Proposed Action**

**E.1. Land uses on and surrounding the project site**

a. Existing land uses.  
 i. Check all uses that occur on, adjoining and near the project site.  
 Urban  Industrial  Commercial  Residential (suburban)  Rural (non-farm)  
 Forest  Agriculture  Aquatic  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_  
 ii. If mix of uses, generally describe:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

b. Land uses and covertypes on the project site.

Land use or Covertypes	Current Acreage	Acreage After Project Completion	Change (Acres +/-)
• Roads, buildings, and other paved or impervious surfaces			
• Forested			
• Meadows, grasslands or brushlands (non-agricultural, including abandoned agricultural)			
• Agricultural (includes active orchards, field, greenhouse etc.)			
• Surface water features (lakes, ponds, streams, rivers, etc.)			
• Wetlands (freshwater or tidal)			
• Non-vegetated (bare rock, earth or fill)			
• Other Describe: _____ _____			

c. Is the project site presently used by members of the community for public recreation?  Yes  No  
i. If Yes: explain: \_\_\_\_\_

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d. Are there any facilities serving children, the elderly, people with disabilities (e.g., schools, hospitals, licensed day care centers, or group homes) within 1500 feet of the project site?  Yes  No  
If Yes,  
i. Identify Facilities:  
\_\_\_\_\_

---

e. Does the project site contain an existing dam?  Yes  No  
If Yes:  
i. Dimensions of the dam and impoundment:  

- Dam height: \_\_\_\_\_ feet
- Dam length: \_\_\_\_\_ feet
- Surface area: \_\_\_\_\_ acres
- Volume impounded: \_\_\_\_\_ gallons OR acre-feet

ii. Dam's existing hazard classification: \_\_\_\_\_  
iii. Provide date and summarize results of last inspection:  
\_\_\_\_\_

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f. Has the project site ever been used as a municipal, commercial or industrial solid waste management facility, or does the project site adjoin property which is now, or was at one time, used as a solid waste management facility?  Yes  No  
If Yes:  
i. Has the facility been formally closed?  Yes  No  

- If yes, cite sources/documentation: \_\_\_\_\_

ii. Describe the location of the project site relative to the boundaries of the solid waste management facility:  
\_\_\_\_\_

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g. Have hazardous wastes been generated, treated and/or disposed of at the site, or does the project site adjoin property which is now or was at one time used to commercially treat, store and/or dispose of hazardous waste?  Yes  No  
If Yes:  
i. Describe waste(s) handled and waste management activities, including approximate time when activities occurred:  
\_\_\_\_\_

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h. Potential contamination history. Has there been a reported spill at the proposed project site, or have any remedial actions been conducted at or adjacent to the proposed site?  Yes  No  
If Yes:  
i. Is any portion of the site listed on the NYSDEC Spills Incidents database or Environmental Site Remediation database? Check all that apply:  Yes  No  
 Yes – Spills Incidents database                      Provide DEC ID number(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Yes – Environmental Site Remediation database                      Provide DEC ID number(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Neither database  
ii. If site has been subject of RCRA corrective activities, describe control measures: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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iii. Is the project within 2000 feet of any site in the NYSDEC Environmental Site Remediation database?  Yes  No  
If yes, provide DEC ID number(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
iv. If yes to (i), (ii) or (iii) above, describe current status of site(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_

v. Is the project site subject to an institutional control limiting property uses?  Yes  No

- If yes, DEC site ID number: \_\_\_\_\_
- Describe the type of institutional control (e.g., deed restriction or easement): \_\_\_\_\_
- Describe any use limitations: \_\_\_\_\_
- Describe any engineering controls: \_\_\_\_\_
- Will the project affect the institutional or engineering controls in place?  Yes  No
- Explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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**E.2. Natural Resources On or Near Project Site**

a. What is the average depth to bedrock on the project site? \_\_\_\_\_ feet

b. Are there bedrock outcroppings on the project site?  Yes  No  
 If Yes, what proportion of the site is comprised of bedrock outcroppings? \_\_\_\_\_%

c. Predominant soil type(s) present on project site: \_\_\_\_\_ %  
 \_\_\_\_\_ %  
 \_\_\_\_\_ %

d. What is the average depth to the water table on the project site? Average: \_\_\_\_\_ feet

e. Drainage status of project site soils:  Well Drained: \_\_\_\_\_ % of site  
 Moderately Well Drained: \_\_\_\_\_ % of site  
 Poorly Drained \_\_\_\_\_ % of site

f. Approximate proportion of proposed action site with slopes:  0-10%: \_\_\_\_\_ % of site  
 10-15%: \_\_\_\_\_ % of site  
 15% or greater: \_\_\_\_\_ % of site

g. Are there any unique geologic features on the project site?  Yes  No  
 If Yes, describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

h. Surface water features.

i. Does any portion of the project site contain wetlands or other waterbodies (including streams, rivers, ponds or lakes)?  Yes  No

ii. Do any wetlands or other waterbodies adjoin the project site?  Yes  No  
 If Yes to either *i* or *ii*, continue. If No, skip to E.2.i.

iii. Are any of the wetlands or waterbodies within or adjoining the project site regulated by any federal, state or local agency?  Yes  No

iv. For each identified regulated wetland and waterbody on the project site, provide the following information:

- Streams: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Classification \_\_\_\_\_
- Lakes or Ponds: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Classification \_\_\_\_\_
- Wetlands: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate Size \_\_\_\_\_
- Wetland No. (if regulated by DEC) \_\_\_\_\_

v. Are any of the above water bodies listed in the most recent compilation of NYS water quality-impaired waterbodies?  Yes  No  
 If yes, name of impaired water body/bodies and basis for listing as impaired: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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i. Is the project site in a designated Floodway?  Yes  No

j. Is the project site in the 100 year Floodplain?  Yes  No

k. Is the project site in the 500 year Floodplain?  Yes  No

l. Is the project site located over, or immediately adjoining, a primary, principal or sole source aquifer?  Yes  No  
 If Yes:  
 i. Name of aquifer: \_\_\_\_\_

<p>m. Identify the predominant wildlife species that occupy or use the project site: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>n. Does the project site contain a designated significant natural community? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">i. Describe the habitat/community (composition, function, and basis for designation): _____</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">ii. Source(s) of description or evaluation: _____</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">iii. Extent of community/habitat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently: _____ acres</li> <li>• Following completion of project as proposed: _____ acres</li> <li>• Gain or loss (indicate + or -): _____ acres</li> </ul>	
<p>o. Does project site contain any species of plant or animal that is listed by the federal government or NYS as endangered or threatened, or does it contain any areas identified as habitat for an endangered or threatened species? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p>	
<p>p. Does the project site contain any species of plant or animal that is listed by NYS as rare, or as a species of special concern? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p>	
<p>q. Is the project site or adjoining area currently used for hunting, trapping, fishing or shell fishing? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If yes, give a brief description of how the proposed action may affect that use: _____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p><b>E.3. Designated Public Resources On or Near Project Site</b></p>	
<p>a. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in a designated agricultural district certified pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law, Article 25-AA, Section 303 and 304? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes, provide county plus district name/number: _____</p>	
<p>b. Are agricultural lands consisting of highly productive soils present? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">i. If Yes: acreage(s) on project site? _____</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">ii. Source(s) of soil rating(s): _____</p>	
<p>c. Does the project site contain all or part of, or is it substantially contiguous to, a registered National Natural Landmark? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">i. Nature of the natural landmark: <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Community <input type="checkbox"/> Geological Feature</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">ii. Provide brief description of landmark, including values behind designation and approximate size/extent: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	
<p>d. Is the project site located in or does it adjoin a state listed Critical Environmental Area? <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</span></p> <p>If Yes:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">i. CEA name: _____</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">ii. Basis for designation: _____</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">iii. Designating agency and date: _____</p>	

e. Does the project site contain, or is it substantially contiguous to, a building, archaeological site, or district which is listed on, or has been nominated by the NYS Board of Historic Preservation for inclusion on, the State or National Register of Historic Places?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If Yes:	
<i>i.</i> Nature of historic/archaeological resource: <input type="checkbox"/> Archaeological Site <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Building or District	
<i>ii.</i> Name: _____	
<i>iii.</i> Brief description of attributes on which listing is based: _____	
f. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in or adjacent to an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
g. Have additional archaeological or historic site(s) or resources been identified on the project site?	
If Yes:	
<i>i.</i> Describe possible resource(s): _____	
<i>ii.</i> Basis for identification: _____	
h. Is the project site within five miles of any officially designated and publicly accessible federal, state, or local scenic or aesthetic resource?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If Yes:	
<i>i.</i> Identify resource: _____	
<i>ii.</i> Nature of, or basis for, designation (e.g., established highway overlook, state or local park, state historic trail or scenic byway, etc.): _____	
<i>iii.</i> Distance between project and resource: _____ miles.	
i. Is the project site located within a designated river corridor under the Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Program 6 NYCRR 666?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If Yes:	
<i>i.</i> Identify the name of the river and its designation: _____	
<i>ii.</i> Is the activity consistent with development restrictions contained in 6NYCRR Part 666?	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**F. Additional Information**

Attach any additional information which may be needed to clarify your project.

If you have identified any adverse impacts which could be associated with your proposal, please describe those impacts plus any measures which you propose to avoid or minimize them.

**G. Verification**

I certify that the information provided is true to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant/Sponsor Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

**Full Environmental Assessment Form**  
**Part 2 - Identification of Potential Project Impacts**

Project :

Date :

**Part 2 is to be completed by the lead agency.** Part 2 is designed to help the lead agency inventory all potential resources that could be affected by a proposed project or action. We recognize that the lead agency’s reviewer(s) will not necessarily be environmental professionals. So, the questions are designed to walk a reviewer through the assessment process by providing a series of questions that can be answered using the information found in Part 1. To further assist the lead agency in completing Part 2, the form identifies the most relevant questions in Part 1 that will provide the information needed to answer the Part 2 question. When Part 2 is completed, the lead agency will have identified the relevant environmental areas that may be impacted by the proposed activity.

If the lead agency is a state agency **and** the action is in any Coastal Area, complete the Coastal Assessment Form before proceeding with this assessment.

**Tips for completing Part 2:**

- Review all of the information provided in Part 1.
- Review any application, maps, supporting materials and the Full EAF Workbook.
- Answer each of the 18 questions in Part 2.
- If you answer “**Yes**” to a numbered question, please complete all the questions that follow in that section.
- If you answer “**No**” to a numbered question, move on to the next numbered question.
- Check appropriate column to indicate the anticipated size of the impact.
- Proposed projects that would exceed a numeric threshold contained in a question should result in the reviewing agency checking the box “Moderate to large impact may occur.”
- The reviewer is not expected to be an expert in environmental analysis.
- If you are not sure or undecided about the size of an impact, it may help to review the sub-questions for the general question and consult the workbook.
- When answering a question consider all components of the proposed activity, that is, the “whole action”.
- Consider the possibility for long-term and cumulative impacts as well as direct impacts.
- Answer the question in a reasonable manner considering the scale and context of the project.

<b>1. Impact on Land</b>			
Proposed action may involve construction on, or physical alteration of, the land surface of the proposed site. (See Part 1. D.1)		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
<i>If “Yes”, answer questions a - j. If “No”, move on to Section 2.</i>			
	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may involve construction on land where depth to water table is less than 3 feet.	E2d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may involve construction on slopes of 15% or greater.	E2f	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may involve construction on land where bedrock is exposed, or generally within 5 feet of existing ground surface.	E2a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may involve the excavation and removal of more than 1,000 tons of natural material.	D2a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may involve construction that continues for more than one year or in multiple phases.	D1e	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. The proposed action may result in increased erosion, whether from physical disturbance or vegetation removal (including from treatment by herbicides).	D2e, D2q	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. The proposed action is, or may be, located within a Coastal Erosion hazard area.	B1i	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Other impacts: _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>2. Impact on Geological Features</b> The proposed action may result in the modification or destruction of, or inhibit access to, any unique or unusual land forms on the site (e.g., cliffs, dunes, minerals, fossils, caves). (See Part 1. E.2.g) <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES</span> <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - c. If "No", move on to Section 3.</i>			
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>
a. Identify the specific land form(s) attached: _____ _____	E2g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may affect or is adjacent to a geological feature listed as a registered National Natural Landmark. Specific feature: _____	E3c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>3. Impacts on Surface Water</b> The proposed action may affect one or more wetlands or other surface water bodies (e.g., streams, rivers, ponds or lakes). (See Part 1. D.2, E.2.h) <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES</span> <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - l. If "No", move on to Section 4.</i>			
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>
a. The proposed action may create a new water body.	D2b, D1h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may result in an increase or decrease of over 10% or more than a 10 acre increase or decrease in the surface area of any body of water.	D2b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may involve dredging more than 100 cubic yards of material from a wetland or water body.	D2a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may involve construction within or adjoining a freshwater or tidal wetland, or in the bed or banks of any other water body.	E2h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may create turbidity in a waterbody, either from upland erosion, runoff or by disturbing bottom sediments.	D2a, D2h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. The proposed action may include construction of one or more intake(s) for withdrawal of water from surface water.	D2c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. The proposed action may include construction of one or more outfall(s) for discharge of wastewater to surface water(s).	D2d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. The proposed action may cause soil erosion, or otherwise create a source of stormwater discharge that may lead to siltation or other degradation of receiving water bodies.	D2e	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. The proposed action may affect the water quality of any water bodies within or downstream of the site of the proposed action.	E2h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. The proposed action may involve the application of pesticides or herbicides in or around any water body.	D2q, E2h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. The proposed action may require the construction of new, or expansion of existing, wastewater treatment facilities.	D1a, D2d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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<b>4. Impact on groundwater</b> The proposed action may result in new or additional use of ground water, or may have the potential to introduce contaminants to ground water or an aquifer. <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES</span> (See Part 1. D.2.a, D.2.c, D.2.d, D.2.p, D.2.q, D.2.t) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - h. If "No", move on to Section 5.</i>			
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>
a. The proposed action may require new water supply wells, or create additional demand on supplies from existing water supply wells.	D2c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Water supply demand from the proposed action may exceed safe and sustainable withdrawal capacity rate of the local supply or aquifer. Cite Source: _____	D2c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may allow or result in residential uses in areas without water and sewer services.	D1a, D2c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may include or require wastewater discharged to groundwater.	D2d, E2l	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may result in the construction of water supply wells in locations where groundwater is, or is suspected to be, contaminated.	D2c, E1f, E1g, E1h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. The proposed action may require the bulk storage of petroleum or chemical products over ground water or an aquifer.	D2p, E2l	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. The proposed action may involve the commercial application of pesticides within 100 feet of potable drinking water or irrigation sources.	E2h, D2q, E2l, D2c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>5. Impact on Flooding</b> The proposed action may result in development on lands subject to flooding. <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES</span> (See Part 1. E.2) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - g. If "No", move on to Section 6.</i>			
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>
a. The proposed action may result in development in a designated floodway.	E2i	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may result in development within a 100 year floodplain.	E2j	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may result in development within a 500 year floodplain.	E2k	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may result in, or require, modification of existing drainage patterns.	D2b, D2e	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may change flood water flows that contribute to flooding.	D2b, E2i, E2j, E2k	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. If there is a dam located on the site of the proposed action, is the dam in need of repair, or upgrade?	E1e	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

g. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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<b>6. Impacts on Air</b>			
The proposed action may include a state regulated air emission source. (See Part 1. D.2.f., D.2.h, D.2.g) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - f. If "No", move on to Section 7.</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. If the proposed action requires federal or state air emission permits, the action may also emit one or more greenhouse gases at or above the following levels: i. More than 1000 tons/year of carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ) ii. More than 3.5 tons/year of nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O) iii. More than 1000 tons/year of carbon equivalent of perfluorocarbons (PFCs) iv. More than .045 tons/year of sulfur hexafluoride (SF <sub>6</sub> ) v. More than 1000 tons/year of carbon dioxide equivalent of hydrochloroflourocarbons (HFCs) emissions vi. 43 tons/year or more of methane	D2g D2g D2g D2g D2g D2h	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may generate 10 tons/year or more of any one designated hazardous air pollutant, or 25 tons/year or more of any combination of such hazardous air pollutants.	D2g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may require a state air registration, or may produce an emissions rate of total contaminants that may exceed 5 lbs. per hour, or may include a heat source capable of producing more than 10 million BTU's per hour.	D2f, D2g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may reach 50% of any of the thresholds in "a" through "c", above.	D2g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may result in the combustion or thermal treatment of more than 1 ton of refuse per hour.	D2s	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>7. Impact on Plants and Animals</b>			
The proposed action may result in a loss of flora or fauna. (See Part 1. E.2. m.-q.) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - j. If "No", move on to Section 8.</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may cause reduction in population or loss of individuals of any threatened or endangered species, as listed by New York State or the Federal government, that use the site, or are found on, over, or near the site.	E2o	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may result in a reduction or degradation of any habitat used by any rare, threatened or endangered species, as listed by New York State or the federal government.	E2o	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may cause reduction in population, or loss of individuals, of any species of special concern or conservation need, as listed by New York State or the Federal government, that use the site, or are found on, over, or near the site.	E2p	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may result in a reduction or degradation of any habitat used by any species of special concern and conservation need, as listed by New York State or the Federal government.	E2p	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

e. The proposed action may diminish the capacity of a registered National Natural Landmark to support the biological community it was established to protect.	E3c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. The proposed action may result in the removal of, or ground disturbance in, any portion of a designated significant natural community. Source: _____	E2n	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. The proposed action may substantially interfere with nesting/breeding, foraging, or over-wintering habitat for the predominant species that occupy or use the project site.	E2m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. The proposed action requires the conversion of more than 10 acres of forest, grassland or any other regionally or locally important habitat. Habitat type & information source: _____	E1b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Proposed action (commercial, industrial or recreational projects, only) involves use of herbicides or pesticides.	D2q	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Other impacts: _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>8. Impact on Agricultural Resources</b>			
The proposed action may impact agricultural resources. (See Part 1. E.3.a. and b.)		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
<i>If "Yes", answer questions a - h. If "No", move on to Section 9.</i>			
	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may impact soil classified within soil group 1 through 4 of the NYS Land Classification System.	E2c, E3b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may sever, cross or otherwise limit access to agricultural land (includes cropland, hayfields, pasture, vineyard, orchard, etc).	E1a, E1b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may result in the excavation or compaction of the soil profile of active agricultural land.	E3b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may irreversibly convert agricultural land to non-agricultural uses, either more than 2.5 acres if located in an Agricultural District, or more than 10 acres if not within an Agricultural District.	E1b, E3a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may disrupt or prevent installation of an agricultural land management system.	E1 a, E1b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. The proposed action may result, directly or indirectly, in increased development potential or pressure on farmland.	C2c, C3, D2c, D2d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. The proposed project is not consistent with the adopted municipal Farmland Protection Plan.	C2c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Other impacts: _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>9. Impact on Aesthetic Resources</b> The land use of the proposed action are obviously different from, or are in sharp contrast to, current land use patterns between the proposed project and a scenic or aesthetic resource. (Part 1. E.1.a, E.1.b, E.3.h.) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - g. If "No", go to Section 10.</i>			
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>
a. Proposed action may be visible from any officially designated federal, state, or local scenic or aesthetic resource.	E3h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may result in the obstruction, elimination or significant screening of one or more officially designated scenic views.	E3h, C2b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may be visible from publicly accessible vantage points: i. Seasonally (e.g., screened by summer foliage, but visible during other seasons) ii. Year round	E3h	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
d. The situation or activity in which viewers are engaged while viewing the proposed action is: i. Routine travel by residents, including travel to and from work ii. Recreational or tourism based activities	E3h E2q, E1c	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may cause a diminishment of the public enjoyment and appreciation of the designated aesthetic resource.	E3h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. There are similar projects visible within the following distance of the proposed project: 0-1/2 mile 1/2 -3 mile 3-5 mile 5+ mile	D1a, E1a, D1f, D1g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>10. Impact on Historic and Archeological Resources</b> The proposed action may occur in or adjacent to a historic or archaeological resource. (Part 1. E.3.e, f. and g.) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - e. If "No", go to Section 11.</i>			
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>
a. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, any buildings, archaeological site or district which is listed on or has been nominated by the NYS Board of Historic Preservation for inclusion on the State or National Register of Historic Places.	E3e	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory.	E3f	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may occur wholly or partially within, or substantially contiguous to, an archaeological site not included on the NY SHPO inventory. Source: _____	E3g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

d. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. If any of the above (a-d) are answered “Yes”, continue with the following questions to help support conclusions in Part 3:			
i. The proposed action may result in the destruction or alteration of all or part of the site or property.	E3e, E3g, E3f	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. The proposed action may result in the alteration of the property’s setting or integrity.	E3e, E3f, E3g, E1a, E1b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii. The proposed action may result in the introduction of visual elements which are out of character with the site or property, or may alter its setting.	E3e, E3f, E3g, E3h, C2, C3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>11. Impact on Open Space and Recreation</b>			
The proposed action may result in a loss of recreational opportunities or a reduction of an open space resource as designated in any adopted municipal open space plan. (See Part 1. C.2.c, E.1.c., E.2.q.) <i>If “Yes”, answer questions a - e. If “No”, go to Section 12.</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>
a. The proposed action may result in an impairment of natural functions, or “ecosystem services”, provided by an undeveloped area, including but not limited to stormwater storage, nutrient cycling, wildlife habitat.	D2e, E1b E2h, E2m, E2o, E2n, E2p	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may result in the loss of a current or future recreational resource.	C2a, E1c, C2c, E2q	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may eliminate open space or recreational resource in an area with few such resources.	C2a, C2c E1c, E2q	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may result in loss of an area now used informally by the community as an open space resource.	C2c, E1c	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>12. Impact on Critical Environmental Areas</b>			
The proposed action may be located within or adjacent to a critical environmental area (CEA). (See Part 1. E.3.d) <i>If “Yes”, answer questions a - c. If “No”, go to Section 13.</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>
a. The proposed action may result in a reduction in the quantity of the resource or characteristic which was the basis for designation of the CEA.	E3d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may result in a reduction in the quality of the resource or characteristic which was the basis for designation of the CEA.	E3d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>13. Impact on Transportation</b> The proposed action may result in a change to existing transportation systems. <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES (See Part 1. D.2.j) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - g. If "No", go to Section 14.</i>			
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>
a. Projected traffic increase may exceed capacity of existing road network.	D2j	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may result in the construction of paved parking area for 500 or more vehicles.	D2j	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action will degrade existing transit access.	D2j	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action will degrade existing pedestrian or bicycle accommodations.	D2j	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may alter the present pattern of movement of people or goods.	D2j	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>14. Impact on Energy</b> The proposed action may cause an increase in the use of any form of energy. <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES (See Part 1. D.2.k) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - e. If "No", go to Section 15.</i>			
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>
a. The proposed action will require a new, or an upgrade to an existing, substation.	D2k	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action will require the creation or extension of an energy transmission or supply system to serve more than 50 single or two-family residences or to serve a commercial or industrial use.	D1f, D1q, D2k	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may utilize more than 2,500 MWhrs per year of electricity.	D2k	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may involve heating and/or cooling of more than 100,000 square feet of building area when completed.	D1g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Other Impacts: _____ _____			

<b>15. Impact on Noise, Odor, and Light</b> The proposed action may result in an increase in noise, odors, or outdoor lighting. <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES (See Part 1. D.2.m., n., and o.) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - f. If "No", go to Section 16.</i>			
	<b>Relevant Part I Question(s)</b>	<b>No, or small impact may occur</b>	<b>Moderate to large impact may occur</b>
a. The proposed action may produce sound above noise levels established by local regulation.	D2m	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may result in blasting within 1,500 feet of any residence, hospital, school, licensed day care center, or nursing home.	D2m, E1d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may result in routine odors for more than one hour per day.	D2o	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

d. The proposed action may result in light shining onto adjoining properties.	D2n	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may result in lighting creating sky-glow brighter than existing area conditions.	D2n, E1a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>16. Impact on Human Health</b>			
The proposed action may have an impact on human health from exposure to new or existing sources of contaminants. (See Part 1.D.2.q., E.1. d. f. g. and h.) <i>If "Yes", answer questions a - m. If "No", go to Section 17.</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action is located within 1500 feet of a school, hospital, licensed day care center, group home, nursing home or retirement community.	E1d	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The site of the proposed action is currently undergoing remediation.	E1g, E1h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. There is a completed emergency spill remediation, or a completed environmental site remediation on, or adjacent to, the site of the proposed action.	E1g, E1h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The site of the action is subject to an institutional control limiting the use of the property (e.g., easement or deed restriction).	E1g, E1h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may affect institutional control measures that were put in place to ensure that the site remains protective of the environment and human health.	E1g, E1h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. The proposed action has adequate control measures in place to ensure that future generation, treatment and/or disposal of hazardous wastes will be protective of the environment and human health.	D2t	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. The proposed action involves construction or modification of a solid waste management facility.	D2q, E1f	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. The proposed action may result in the unearthing of solid or hazardous waste.	D2q, E1f	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. The proposed action may result in an increase in the rate of disposal, or processing, of solid waste.	D2r, D2s	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. The proposed action may result in excavation or other disturbance within 2000 feet of a site used for the disposal of solid or hazardous waste.	E1f, E1g E1h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. The proposed action may result in the migration of explosive gases from a landfill site to adjacent off site structures.	E1f, E1g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
l. The proposed action may result in the release of contaminated leachate from the project site.	D2s, E1f, D2r	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
m. Other impacts: _____ _____			

<b>17. Consistency with Community Plans</b>			
The proposed action is not consistent with adopted land use plans. (See Part 1. C.1, C.2. and C.3.) <i>If “Yes”, answer questions a - h. If “No”, go to Section 18.</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action’s land use components may be different from, or in sharp contrast to, current surrounding land use pattern(s).	C2, C3, D1a E1a, E1b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action will cause the permanent population of the city, town or village in which the project is located to grow by more than 5%.	C2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action is inconsistent with local land use plans or zoning regulations.	C2, C2, C3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action is inconsistent with any County plans, or other regional land use plans.	C2, C2	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action may cause a change in the density of development that is not supported by existing infrastructure or is distant from existing infrastructure.	C3, D1c, D1d, D1f, D1d, E1b	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. The proposed action is located in an area characterized by low density development that will require new or expanded public infrastructure.	C4, D2c, D2d D2j	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. The proposed action may induce secondary development impacts (e.g., residential or commercial development not included in the proposed action)	C2a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Other: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>18. Consistency with Community Character</b>			
The proposed project is inconsistent with the existing community character. (See Part 1. C.2, C.3, D.2, E.3) <i>If “Yes”, answer questions a - g. If “No”, proceed to Part 3.</i>		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> YES
	Relevant Part I Question(s)	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
a. The proposed action may replace or eliminate existing facilities, structures, or areas of historic importance to the community.	E3e, E3f, E3g	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. The proposed action may create a demand for additional community services (e.g. schools, police and fire)	C4	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. The proposed action may displace affordable or low-income housing in an area where there is a shortage of such housing.	C2, C3, D1f D1g, E1a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. The proposed action may interfere with the use or enjoyment of officially recognized or designated public resources.	C2, E3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The proposed action is inconsistent with the predominant architectural scale and character.	C2, C3	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Proposed action is inconsistent with the character of the existing natural landscape.	C2, C3 E1a, E1b E2g, E2h	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Other impacts: _____ _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Project :

Date :

***Full Environmental Assessment Form***  
***Part 3 - Evaluation of the Magnitude and Importance of Project Impacts***  
***and***  
***Determination of Significance***

Part 3 provides the reasons in support of the determination of significance. The lead agency must complete Part 3 for every question in Part 2 where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.

Based on the analysis in Part 3, the lead agency must decide whether to require an environmental impact statement to further assess the proposed action or whether available information is sufficient for the lead agency to conclude that the proposed action will not have a significant adverse environmental impact. By completing the certification on the next page, the lead agency can complete its determination of significance.

**Reasons Supporting This Determination:**

To complete this section:

- Identify the impact based on the Part 2 responses and describe its magnitude. Magnitude considers factors such as severity, size or extent of an impact.
- Assess the importance of the impact. Importance relates to the geographic scope, duration, probability of the impact occurring, number of people affected by the impact and any additional environmental consequences if the impact were to occur.
- The assessment should take into consideration any design element or project changes.
- Repeat this process for each Part 2 question where the impact has been identified as potentially moderate to large or where there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action will not, or may, result in a significant adverse environmental impact.
- Provide the reason(s) why the impact may, or will not, result in a significant adverse environmental impact
- For Conditional Negative Declarations identify the specific condition(s) imposed that will modify the proposed action so that no significant adverse environmental impacts will result.
- Attach additional sheets, as needed.

**Determination of Significance - Type 1 and Unlisted Actions**

SEQR Status:             Type 1                       Unlisted

Identify portions of EAF completed for this Project:    Part 1             Part 2             Part 3

Upon review of the information recorded on this EAF, as noted, plus this additional support information

and considering both the magnitude and importance of each identified potential impact, it is the conclusion of the \_\_\_\_\_ as lead agency that:

A. This project will result in no significant adverse impacts on the environment, and, therefore, an environmental impact statement need not be prepared. Accordingly, this negative declaration is issued.

B. Although this project could have a significant adverse impact on the environment, that impact will be avoided or substantially mitigated because of the following conditions which will be required by the lead agency:

There will, therefore, be no significant adverse impacts from the project as conditioned, and, therefore, this conditioned negative declaration is issued. A conditioned negative declaration may be used only for UNLISTED actions (see 6 NYCRR 617.d).

C. This Project may result in one or more significant adverse impacts on the environment, and an environmental impact statement must be prepared to further assess the impact(s) and possible mitigation and to explore alternatives to avoid or reduce those impacts. Accordingly, this positive declaration is issued.

Name of Action:

Name of Lead Agency:

Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency:

Title of Responsible Officer:

Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency:

Date:

Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)

Date:

**For Further Information:**

Contact Person:

Address:

Telephone Number:

E-mail:

**For Type 1 Actions and Conditioned Negative Declarations, a copy of this Notice is sent to:**

Chief Executive Officer of the political subdivision in which the action will be principally located (e.g., Town / City / Village of)

Other involved agencies (if any)

Applicant (if any)

Environmental Notice Bulletin: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/enb/enb.html>

**NOTICE  
SEQR: LEAD AGENCY DESIGNATION**

**CATTARAUGUS COUNTY**

County Legislature

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

This notice is filed pursuant to Part 617 6NYCRR, Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law (SEQRA)

The Cattaraugus County Legislature is proposing to adopt a Local Law:

**Regarding:** The Cattaraugus County Comprehensive Plan

**Description & Location of Action:** The project is the adoption of a new Comprehensive Plan, which will affect all areas of the County.

Information about the Comprehensive Plan is available on the County's website:

<http://www.cattco.org/planning/comprehensive-plan>

As the most local agency with permitting authority, the County Legislature wishes to declare Lead Agency and conduct a coordinated review of the proposal.

There are no other potential permitting/approval agencies.

The following are Interested Agencies:

- State Department of Environmental Conservation
- State Department of Transportation
- State Department of Health
- State Department of Agriculture and Markets
- Western New York Regional Economic Development Council
- Army Corps of Engineers
- [local municipalities in the county – optional]

**Comment [EP1]:** You should notify the municipalities. It is up to you whether to send this official notice

A preliminary review of the proposed action indicates that it is a SEQR Type:

Unlisted Action  
 Type I Action (justification: Comprehensive Plan that affects entire County)

The attached Full Environmental Assessment form has been completed by the County.

Please notify us within thirty (30) days, by   [DATE]  , if your agency objects to our acting as lead

agency, otherwise we will proceed with our review and determination of significance. Any information or concerns should be mailed to the below address. If no response is received by this date, we will assume your agency has no specific concerns about the action.

A public hearing on the Plan is being held on     [DATE/ TIME/ LOCATION]    .

For further information, please contact:

Contact person: Andrew C. Reilly or Ellen Parker  
Wendel  
Centerpointe Corporate Park, 375 Essjay Road, Suite 200, Williamsville, NY 14221  
Williamsville, NY 14221  
Phone: 716-688-0766

Or Crystal Abers, Director  
Cattaraugus County Department of Economic Development, Planning and Tourism  
303 Court Street  
Little Valley, New York 14755  
Phone: 716-938-2369

