



Village of **WEEDSPORT**

REDC Region: Central New York
Municipality: Village of Weedsport
County: Cayuga County
Certified Pro-Housing Community
Downtown Revitalization Initiative Round 8

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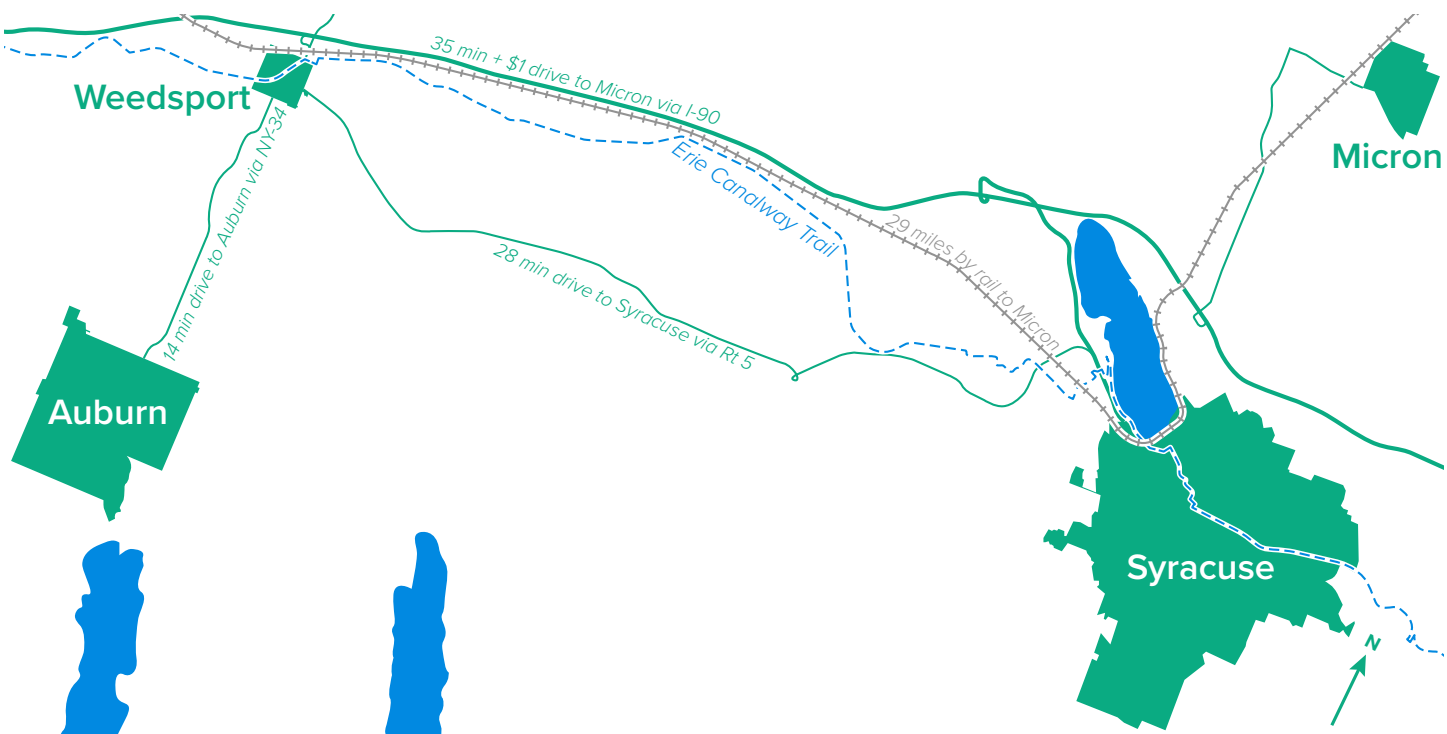
Geographic Area & Justification

The Village of Weedsport is uniquely positioned for transformational growth. Continuing to build on its historically significant role in regional commerce and development, Weedsport is well-positioned as a vital commercial and travel hub. The Erie Canal, completed in 1825, transformed Weedsport into a regional logistics center, facilitating the movement of goods from Cayuga County to the Great Lakes and the Atlantic Ocean. This canal, which once spurred local industry and commerce, carved a path that connected the village to major regional markets, embedding it deeply in Central New York’s economic framework. Today, the village is bisected by three major state highways bringing commerce, commuters and tourists to the area. NYS Routes 31 and 34 are major east-west and north-south highways, respectively, that connect the village to the rest of the county and beyond. Interstate 90 (NYS Thruway) also passes through Weedsport with Exit 40 located just north of the village boundary in the Town of Brutus. In addition to automobile and truck traffic, there are active CSX and Amtrak rail lines with access to land zoned for light industrial development at the northern end of the village. Weedsport is also located along the Empire State Trail and the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor, two of Upstate New York’s most significant recreation corridors.

Weedsport is a compact, tight-knit community with a great local school system and a resilient business environment. Weedsport is well-positioned within Cayuga County and the Central New York Region to capitalize on growth related to the proposed Micron facility. The existing railroad connections and NYS Thruway access, along with NYS Routes 31 and 34 provide easy access and a short commute for the expected growth of residents and visitors. Weedsport also offers a wide range of quality of life amenities and a relatively low cost of living. Additionally, there are two sites in the village suitable for a potential light industrial park, located at either end of the downtown area that are actively being marketed for future development. Not only could Weedsport be an idyllic upstate village, but it could be the poster child in this larger story of industrial and economic rejuvenation in Central New York.

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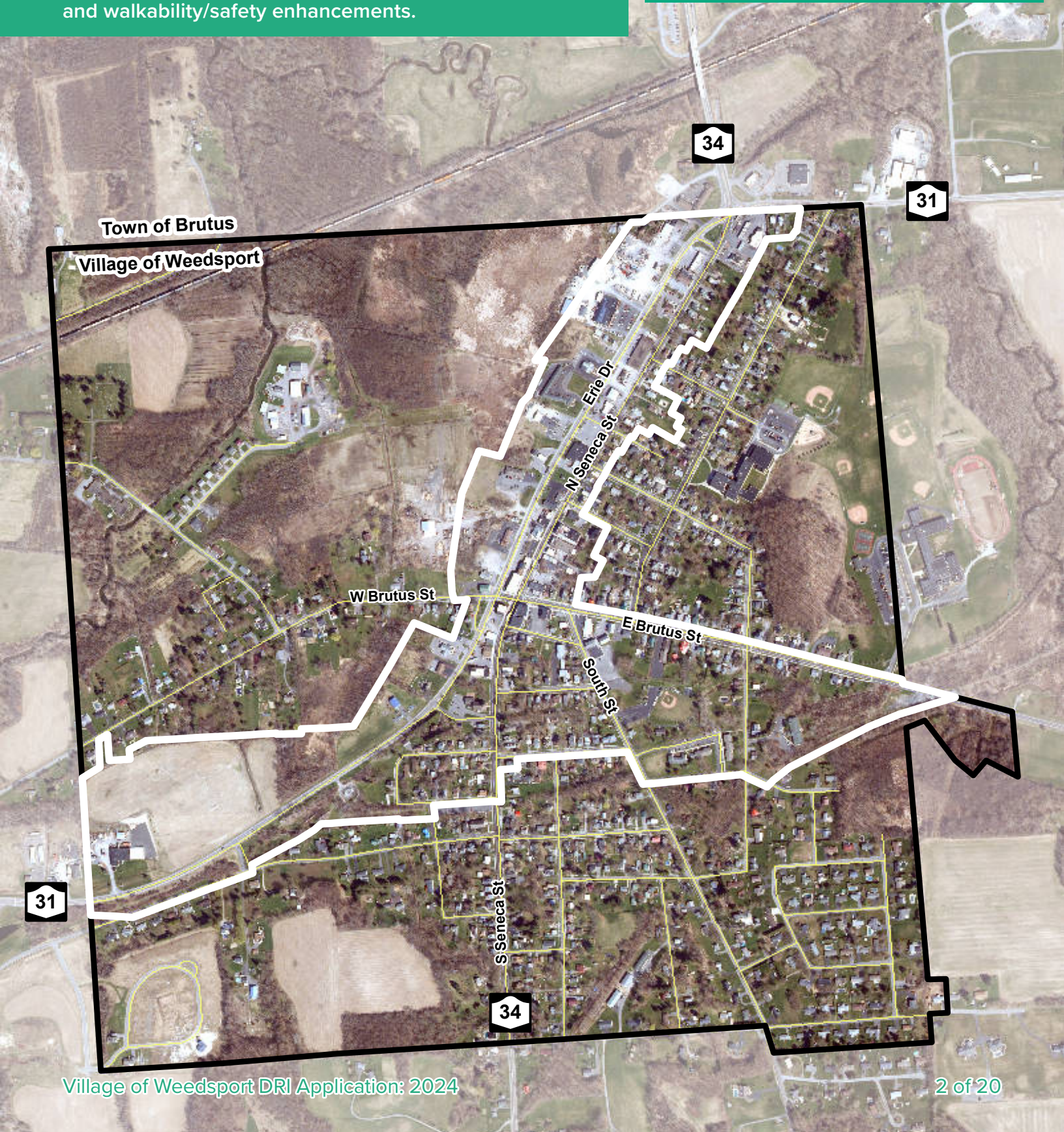
Downtown Area

The downtown area for this Downtown Revitalization Initiative application includes Weedsport's current commercial and mixed-use areas in and around the historic center of development, adjacent areas primed for mixed-use development, and strategic locations for recreational and walkability/safety enhancements.

Village of Weedsport: Downtown Revitalization Initiative

-  Downtown Boundary
-  Municipal Boundary
-  Streets

0 250 500 1,000 Feet





Vision Statement

Thriving in the center of New York's rural heartlands, Weedsport is a small village with a bright future. Built on the historic path of the Erie Canal and surrounded by the remnants of major rail lines, the village has stood as a hub of activity for generations and will continue to do so for generations to come. Weedsport will continue to attract new businesses, residents, and visitors to this tight knit, walkable, bustling community through infill development, preservation of its historic downtown, and by supporting growth through a diverse range of housing types and income levels. New developments will be centered around Weedsport's thriving school district, helping guarantee the village's future is bright. Weedsport's central, well-connected location just off the NYS Thruway, bisected by NYS Routes 31 and 34, and with direct access to Route 5, is a logistical bullseye to locate jobs and find talented workers. Yesterday, Weedsport was the county's link to commerce and tourism through the Erie Canal, a vast network of railroads, and the Syracuse-Rochester Trolley. Tomorrow, it will be Central New York's Gateway to the Finger Lakes, opening doors to residents, businesses and tourists alike. Weedsport is no longer a place people drive through, but a place people go to.

Past Investment & Future Potential

Weedsport is poised for a transformative era of growth and development, driven by substantial investments that seek to rejuvenate the community and guarantee residents a vibrant future. Over the past five years, Weedsport has seen private investments of \$3.95 million in cumulative building improvements from its residents and businesses. This funding has facilitated a variety of projects, from critical residential upgrades to complete renovations on the village's historic row buildings. These enhancements have not only improved the aesthetic and functional quality of the village and downtown but have also laid a solid foundation for future growth.

Included in those investments are a number of substantial renovations in Downtown Weedsport. A prime example is Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company. Local entrepreneurs started the brewery and restaurant in 2018 in a former laundromat behind the Old Erie restaurant next to the village's main commercial corridor. In 2019, they started renovating a vacant bank across the street into the revitalized business that it is now. In the summer of 2023, they expanded once again, converting their parking lot into a playground and music venue and added a garage door flex space. The Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company was able to accomplish this because of an untapped demand for a place where workers, parents, and passing traffic can experience community. While Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company is a highly visible and vibrant space in the center of downtown, their story repeats itself over and over in Weedsport with a new coffee shop at 8905 S Seneca Street, a new salon at 8934 N Seneca Street, Green Meadows Realty at 2688 E Brutus Street, NuME Wellness Recovery and Rejuvenation Center at 8930 N Seneca Street, and Live a Little Boutique also at 8934 N Seneca Street.

Weedsport is preparing for a series of pivotal investments that will further improve conditions in the village. The New York Environmental Facilities Corporation has awarded the village \$5 million through the Water Infrastructure Improvement program. Additionally, the USDA Rural Development program has committed \$2 million in grant funding and \$10 million in loans to the village. These combined funds will be strategically utilized over the coming years to modernize the village's water system, ensuring that Weedsport remains resilient, efficient, and capable of supporting a growing population

In tandem with these infrastructure improvements, a significant new residential development is being planned along the village's southern border. This new project will introduce 357 single-family homes and 176 two-bedroom apartments, potentially expanding the village's residential capacity by

Private Investment

8917 N Seneca St Mixed-Use Building Facade Restoration (2021) \$120,000

The dilapidated street facing façade of 8917 North Seneca Street was repainted and restored, attracting new businesses into the village center.

Shurfine Supermarket Propane Infrastructure (2021) \$1,200

The local Shurfine Supermarket has made a number of minor investments into improving their Weedsport location. Their most recent investment was building new propane racks.

8913 N Seneca St Mixed-Use Building Rehabilitation (2022) \$200,000

Four units of residential and commercial space were renovated, and one new residential unit developed in a historic building in the village center. Façade improvements were also completed.

2688 E Brutus St Mixed-Use Building Rehabilitation (2022) \$700,000

Façade and interior renovations were completed to improve both commercial and residential units in a mixed-use building in the village center.

White Rabbit Mixed-Use Building Rehabilitation & Vendor Improvements (2023) \$312,500

A vacant commercial space in central Weedsport was renovated and converted into a vibrant new downtown café.

Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company (fmr. Key Bank; 2023) \$130,000

Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company expanded their downtown location and built new garage doors, allowing them to operate an indoor/outdoor dining experience in the heart of Weedsport.

8934 N Seneca St Mixed-Use Building, Rehabilitation (2024) \$750,000

The vacant building at 8934 North Seneca Street was completely rehabilitated into a modern new commercial space for local entrepreneurs.

Fmr. Weedsport Tool & Machine Inc., Mixed-Use Building (2024) \$300,000

The old Weedsport Tool & Machine building's interior and exterior were completely renovated, turning a dilapidated tool shop into a new health and wellness center.

2684 E Brutus St Mixed-Use Building Upper Story Apts. (2024) \$250,000

Renovations were completed to restore the vacant apartments above 2684 East Brutus Street.

Total \$21 million

Public Investment

Upgraded Sewage Treatment Plant (2013) **\$3 million**

The sewage treatment plant has been upgraded to improve its waste capacity and modernize available infrastructure. This major infrastructural investment enables Weedsport to serve new residents moving into the community.

NY Main Street Program (2014) **\$250,000**

The Village of Weedsport secured a grant through the NY Main Street Program to help renovate mixed use buildings in the village core.

New Trolley Park Dugouts (2017) **\$7,500**

New dugouts were installed at the baseball diamond in Trolley Park. Local Little League games are held using the upgraded dugouts.

DPW Plow Truck & Fire Truck (2017) **\$482,000**

A new snow plow truck and a new fire truck were purchased to serve the village.

Trolley Park Benches (2022) **\$640**

New benches were installed at multiple locations in Trolley Park.

E Brutus Street to County Line Highway Restablization (2022) **\$550,000 (estimated)**

The New York State Department of Transportation spent \$4.3 million upgrading and stabilizing E. Brutus Street. Approximately \$550,000 was spent upgrading and doing maintenance on the stretch that runs through downtown Weedsport.

New Light Pole Holiday Decorations (2023) **\$10,700**

New seasonal lights were purchased to light up the downtown. These decorations welcome residents and visitors to Weedsport's vibrant village center throughout the holiday season.

Weedsport Water Infrastructure Improvements (Ongoing) **\$17 million**

New water and sewer infrastructure is being developed across the Village of Weedsport to replace the existing wooden pipes from 1896. New modernized lines will allow the village to serve more residents moving to the area and better fight fires.

Total **\$21 million**

533 units. Discussions are underway around annexing this additional territory into the village once homes have been constructed. Given that Weedsport currently has 850 households, this development could represent a remarkable increase in the residential base and the demand for a vibrant downtown.

These recent investments not only expanded and modernized local infrastructure and housing stock but also bolster Weedsport's local economy, grow the school population, create job opportunities, and improve the quality of life for village residents. By securing this funding, Weedsport is setting the stage for a thriving future, where the community can grow sustainably, and the downtown area can be a frequent and vibrant hub of activity and engagement.

These combined efforts will position Weedsport as a model of successful rural development in Upstate New York.

Recent & Impending Job Growth



Before and After of the White Rabbit Cafe

Downtown Weedsport is a bustling hub of activity where new businesses can locate and thrive. Local and regional investors have taken notice, investing in growing the local economy and taking advantage of all the Village has to offer. New business developments include a new café in a renovated 2-story row building, a new real estate office on the ground floor of another row building with 5 new upper story apartments, a renovated row building with 4 commercial units and 4 upstairs residential units, plus many smaller improvements throughout downtown.

These new developments are providing jobs for local residents. Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company was founded in 2018 and has since rapidly grown, becoming successful enough to provide live music in their downtown location. New businesses are hiring local residents and improving their quality of life. Existing developments like the row buildings at 8917 North Seneca Street have been restored and renewed, with local stores starting to return to the traditional village center.

Though many communities' commercial districts struggled through the pandemic, Weedsport's downtown core has emerged stronger than ever. Developers are actively investing in mixed use projects that rely on the village's walkable core to preserve and expand the local business community. Efforts to rehabilitate commercial spaces have opened up a number of new, modernized sites where entrepreneurs can afford to start new businesses and expand in the village. Their work is filling gaps exacerbated by the pandemic, and it is clear that demand exists for further growth.

Weedsport's recent investment boom has helped the village thrive, and it is now time to act to support the village to



Before and After of 8934 N Seneca Street, once in perpetual disrepair and now a popular new space for small businesses.

guarantee that this growth lasts. The combination of these new commercial spaces, the hopes behind Micron, and village leadership are the driving forces necessary to rally investment and capitalize on public interest in the community. Currently, 18,258 cars drive through Weedsport's downtown every day. Thousands drive past the village, passing by many of Weedsport's offerings; those are potential neighbors and business owners. Weedsport is only 29 miles away from Micron's proposed factory site by rail, four exits away via I-90, and has two identified greenfield sites for industrial parks with direct rail access. It is past time to seize upon the momentum brought about by recent investments in the community and take advantage of Weedsport's vital strategic location to support its position as a thriving, convenient, and attractive job center. An infusion of funding from New York State through the DRI Program is the boost needed to push these pending investments over the finish line and make Weedsport a thriving central hub of commerce and recreation in Cayuga County once again.

Quality of Life



Once a station for the Rochester-Syracuse Trolley, the park is the central village venue for events

The Village of Weedsport is a vibrant rural community that bridges the gap between small town life and vital commercial necessities. Every resident lives within a 15-minute walk from Downtown Weedsport. The walkable community has been an essential part of the Village's heritage and resilience, since its founding as a turnaround point along the Erie Canal.

Green space is a common sight in and around Weedsport. New crosstown trailways are planned to better connect neighborhoods to the Erie Canalway and the local school. Trolley Park stands in the center of the Village's residential area, with a baseball diamond, a basketball court, a playground and multiple public pavilions. It's a prominent village event space that is often used to host ball games, concerts, and cultural events for all village residents. There is also a small pocket park right at the Village's main intersection, Whittler's Green. These parks and the paths mean that no matter where you live in Weedsport, you always have access to vibrant green spaces with abundant amenities.

The center of life in Weedsport is its school system. Like many classic Upstate villages, Weedsport's school district is in the heart of the community and within walking distance of the entire village. The Weedsport Free Library is located adjacent to the school campus and is a convenient space for after-school activities. Nearby major routes also make the school district and local library easily accessible for residents living on the outskirts of the village.

The downtown commercial corridor is thriving with a wide variety of shops to serve local residents and visitors. The emergence of the Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company not only brought beer production into downtown Weedsport but also created a space for residents to go after work with live music and activities for visitors of all ages. Weedsport also has its own grocery store and hardware store conveniently located in the center of the village, in Shurfine and Ace



Before and After of 8931 N Seneca Street, a vacant bank that was converted into a thriving local brewery.

Hardware. Weedsport's amenities not only serve local residents living near the village core, but also help support people living in the nearby towns of Brutus, Cato, Mentz, and the Village of Port Byron. The continued success of these essential businesses and others is crucial for maintaining the quality of life for all residents in the north-central region of Cayuga County.

Homes in Weedsport are affordable compared to other municipalities in the region and there is land available for future residential development. The median home value in Weedsport is \$143,231.60 which is less than half of the median home value in New York State. Homes are available at a variety of price points and designed for individuals with a diverse array of income levels and needs. Weedsport is a short commute away from Auburn, Rochester, Syracuse, and the proposed Micron site in Clay, making the village the ideal space for new residential development. Weedsport is a small village with abundant amenities, a good school, affordable homes, and a vibrant community where residents of all ages can live and thrive.

Supportive Local Policies

The Town of Brutus & Village of Weedsport Joint Comprehensive Plan (2014) articulates a vision of balanced development, environmental stewardship, and preservation of local character. The vision for this DRI grant aligns with these goals, and thus supports a framework designed to protect clean water, air, and natural resources while promoting sustainable growth. The comprehensive plan emphasizes enhancing the village's role as a gateway to the Finger Lakes, an approach that fosters tourism and local engagement. Investing in this context ensures that DRI grant funding will be used to further these well-established objectives, enhancing the community's ability to live, work, and play all within their downtown area.

Weedsport's recently updated zoning law provides a clear and supportive regulatory environment for new development. It encourages diverse housing options and mixed-use development while preserving the historic charm of the village's downtown. All residential districts now allow accessory dwelling units. Surrounding the Historic Commercial zoning district in the heart of downtown is the Neighborhood Commercial zoning district (NC) which allows for live-work units, duplexes, triplexes, and multi-family. Also surrounding downtown is the Commercial zoning district (C), which allows mixed use development. Even the standard Residential zoning district (R) allows for duplexes and multi-family dwellings. A DRI award will be utilized within this framework, leveraging existing policies that support balanced, community-oriented growth.

As a newly certified Pro-Housing Community, Weedsport has demonstrated a robust commitment to enhancing housing access and affordability. This designation underscores a proactive stance towards addressing housing needs, which is vital for attracting and retaining residents. The Village has also engaged with NYSEG to secure additional electrical capacity which reflects a forward-thinking approach to infrastructure that supports new developments in a sustainable manner. A DRI grant will be used to further these housing and infrastructure advancements, ensuring that investments not only meet immediate needs but also position Weedsport for long-term success.

Weedsport knows the success of new development in its downtown does not happen in isolation. These policies work together to create an environment where DRI grant funding can drive meaningful, sustainable change. The comprehensive plan's focus on preservation and growth, combined with the zoning law's support for balanced development and the community's dedication to housing affordability, provide a solid foundation for transformative investment. A DRI grant will catalyze projects that align with these goals, fostering economic vitality while respecting the community's character and enhancing its infrastructure.

Comprehensive Plan Goals (2014)

- Maintain a family-friendly Town and Village with a strong sense of community.
- Permit and encourage housing units in the upper stories of commercial buildings in the Village Center.
- Expand opportunities for two-family homes and apartments.
- Preserve historic structures by providing assistance to property owners through property tax incentives and other programs.
- Improve sidewalks, throughout the Town and Village, and pedestrian facilities in the Village Center.

Complete Streets (2014)

The Village of Weedsport developed and adopted a new set of streetscape standards to help improve pedestrian safety and walkability throughout the village.

Pro-Housing Community (2024)

Weedsport has become a New York State certified Pro-Housing Community. The Village of Weedsport's zoning law was amended in 2023 to allow for more housing to be built in and around the village center, and in 2024 the Village of Weedsport passed the Pro-Housing Communities Model Resolution declaring their village ready for development. Notable changes to the zoning law include:

- Permitting duplexes in most all residential zoning districts.
- Permitting accessory dwelling units on all village lots.
- Permitting mixed residential/commercial development in all commercial zoning districts.
- Updated review and approval process to streamline and support housing development within the village.

Clean Energy Community (2024)

Weedsport is a one star clean energy community through NYSERDA's clean energy communities program, and is currently working to expand the village's green infrastructure and improve their status. The village has already taken a number of actions to support environmental sustainability including:

- Adopting the unified solar permitting process for new solar development.
- Introducing new energy efficient LED streetlights.
- Documenting energy usage in public buildings and facilities.
- Conducting energy code enforcement training.

Public Support

March 21 - Public Info Session introducing NYF/DRI

April 22 - Public Workshop Meeting at Village offices

August 1 - Public Workshop Meeting at Village offices

August 14 - Public Meeting at Village offices

August 22 - Public Workshop Meeting at Village offices

Sept. 26 - Draft Application Workshop at Village offices

Oct. 5 - Draft Application Q&A at High School FB Game

Oct. 9 - Final Public Meeting at Village Offices



Workshop responses

Where do you envision Weedsport in 5 to 10 years?

"A busier commercial downtown. Upper apartments with off street parking more readily available to them."

"I would like to see an active & booming downtown."

Comment about the the village offices

"Add in Community Center/Voting Space, maybe on second story with elevator for accessibility."

Comments

"I have a historic landmark home which is a national and state landmark. Any help I could get in helping to maintain and preserve the facade would be amazing."



In March, the Village of Weedsport and the Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development (CCPED) embarked on a proactive effort to engage the community in the New York Forward and Downtown Revitalization Initiative application process. These collaborative actions aimed to ensure that the voices of residents were heard and incorporated into the planning process to develop this application.

To kick off the engagement process, the village and county jointly established a dedicated [DRI/NY Forward website](#). This online platform served as a central hub for information, updates, and opportunities for public participation throughout the grant period. In tandem with the website launch, postcards were mailed to every household in the village, informing residents about a public information session and encouraging their participation and feedback. These postcards played a crucial role in generating awareness and ensuring broad community involvement.

The first public information session was held at the local high school, which provided a forum for residents to learn about the proposed projects, ask questions, and share their feedback with village officials and county planners. The session was well attended with 60 residents and business owners present, reflecting the community's keen interest in contributing to the improvement of their village. Interested stakeholders took advantage of this valuable platform to engage with the mayor, multiple trustees, and planning staff.

Feedback collected during this session was instrumental in identifying key areas of need and refining project proposals. Residents offered valuable insights into local priorities, which have been incorporated into this application to ensure that the proposed projects align with community needs and aspirations. That initial wave of feedback heavily influenced the shape of the downtown area boundary and the scope of public projects.

The application was further refined through multiple public meetings and public workshops with the Board of Trustees. On September 26th the application and projects were presented by the Cayuga County Planning staff at a public meeting, and staff set up an informational booth at Weedsport's High School Football game on October 5th for residents and visitors to provide additional feedback on the vision statement, downtown area boundary, and proposed projects. 250 People attended the game and 65 local residents made their voices heard.

Transformative Projects - Private

Revitalize the Weedsport Skirt & Waist Co.

Weedsport Development, LLC.

8936 N Seneca Street

Major improvements will be made to the former industrial site at 8936 North Seneca Street. Currently the building is in a general state of disrepair, with the first floor being the only section of the building with modern fixtures and features. The upper floors will be refurbished and converted into new apartments. Improvements will also be made to the first-floor retail space and downstairs basement to attract new tenants to the site. The developer will repair the sprinkler system, modernize the elevator shaft, and conduct extensive retrofits for habitation. The project will also involve landscaping a double-loaded parking lot for residents and improved handicap accessibility. This property and building occupies a large footprint in downtown Weedsport, and these improvements and reactivation of the upper floors will make a major impact in the efforts to revitalize Weedsport's main commercial corridor.



Possible Funding Sources: Owner Capital, bank financing

Total: \$6,200,000

DRI Request: \$2,580,000

Match: \$3,620,000

Restore the Potter's Pub Building

Justin Allen

8909 S Seneca Street

Significant improvements are planned for the Potter's Pub building, adjacent to Whittlers Green Park and sitting on Weedsport's main intersection. The building has served many functions over its lifetime originally as an opera house, later as a press room, dance hall, and pub. Now, this project will introduce the next phase of its life, renovating 1600 SF of retail space and providing 4 housing units on the 2 upper stories. This project also includes extensive rehabilitation to the roof, exterior storefront facades, and the northern façade, which was a makeshift exterior replacing a portion of the building that was lost to fire.



Possible Funding Sources: Owner Capital, bank financing

Total: \$1,500,000

DRI Request: \$400,000

Match: \$1,100,000

Construct New Mixed-Use Development

JT Properties, LLC.

2685 Erie Drive

The property owners will construct a new mixed-use building near the southern end of the lot at 2685 Erie Drive which is currently a vacant greenfield site. This new development will provide first floor retail space and apartments throughout the building. The development will match downtown Weedsport's historic character and reflect the developments that once stood in the area when Erie Drive was an important part of the Erie Canal's path through Central New York.



Possible Funding Sources: Owner Capital, bank financing

Total: \$3,000,000

DRI Request: \$1,200,000

Match: \$1,800,000

Transformative Projects - Private

Renovate Upper Stories of the Sub Shop



Fingerlakes Homes, LLC.

2698 E Brutus Street

Developers plan to completely renovate the empty floors above The Sub Shop to create 7 new apartments. The current space is highly visible downtown and operates as favorite lunch option for many residents, but the upper stories remain vacant and unused. This renovation and restoration would revitalize this historic property and promote a livelier village center. Seven new households moving into the downtown would be a proportionally transformational change for this block, making Downtown Weedsport more economically viable with a growing number of residents living and shopping within the village core. A number of façade improvements and additional windows are planned along the western side of the building, improving the apartment's appeal to new residents. The project also includes beatification of the parking area with replacement of the existing gravel lot with more visually appealing amenities.

Possible Funding Sources: Owner Capital, bank financing

Total: \$2,000,000

DRI Request: \$1,000,000

Match: \$1,000,000

Rebuild Commercial Storefront



Tyson-Bello, LLC.

2684 E Brutus Street

Developers intend to remediate and improve 2684 East Brutus Street's aged storefront. This project includes repairs to the existing brickwork, general façade improvements, and redesign/restoration of the woodwork on the first-floor storefront. This building stands as one of the most visible structures in Weedsport, and these improvements will provide a much-needed face lift and beautification of a historic structure in a highly visible downtown location.

Possible Funding Sources: Owner Capital, bank financing

Total: \$535,000

DRI Request: \$255,000

Match: \$280,000

Duplex Conversion



Johannes Fey

8852 S Seneca Street

The property owner will upgrade a historic single family home near the village center that has fallen into a state of disrepair. The project will rehabilitate and restore 8852 South Seneca Street and convert it into a duplex. This will involve a complete interior renovation and modernization, adding appliance fixtures and high efficiency furnaces in addition to repairing and restoring several interior features. Additionally, the house's exterior will have its trim and siding repainted and restored to its period appropriate state. This project is emblematic of what could be one of many duplex conversions made possible by Weedsport's newly adopted Zoning Law and will be the first of many innovative ways to add housing into the downtown core.

Possible Funding Sources: Owner Capital, bank financing

Total: \$150,000

DRI Request: \$75,000

Match: \$75,000

Transformative Projects - Private

Restore Canal Double-Ender Facade

Tyson-Bello, LLC.

8913 N Seneca Street

Facade improvements are planned at 8913 North Seneca Street. Windows will be replaced with period appropriate alternatives to improve aesthetics in downtown Weedsport. Repairs will also be made to the rear wall of the building which faces NY State Route 31, reducing visible decay on the site. These improvements will not only improve downtown aesthetics on the village's most prominent corner, but it will extend the lifespan of the building for future generations.



Possible Funding Sources: Owner Capital, bank financing

Total: \$150,000

DRI Request: \$70,000

Match: \$80,000

Revitalize Colonial Laundromat Building

JT Properties, LLC.

2685 Erie Drive

Several improvements are planned for the commercial site at 2685 Erie Drive including internal and external renovations, sidewalk repairs, parking lot improvements, new lighting, additional landscaping, and updated internal fixtures. The property owner plans to completely renovate the front facing storefront, making the space viable for modern businesses and improving the curb appeal of the site. They also intend to purchase new laundromat equipment to modernize Weedsport's only laundromat and improve their economic capacity and environmental efficiency. The building will be repainted to better fit within the surrounding streetscape. Accessible sidewalks will be built so that pedestrians can better access the site's commercial offerings. The parking lot will be relandscaped, restriped, and new lighting will be added, improving the aesthetics and safety.



Possible Funding Sources: Owner Capital, bank financing

Total: \$330,000

DRI Request: \$165,000

Match: \$165,000

Restore Historic Mixed-Use Building Facade

B&B Solutions, Inc.

2692 E Brutus Street

The developer plans to replace and improve 2692 East Brutus Street's facades. Currently the Eastern facade of the building is covered in metal siding to protect deteriorated sections of the brick wall. The existing siding will be removed, and the historic brick surface will be repointed and restored. This will make the site fit in with the aesthetic fabric present within the rest of downtown Weedsport and promote community cohesion. Additionally, this investment will prolong the lifetime of the building, ensuring it will be a part of Weedsport's downtown for years to come.



Possible Funding Sources: Owner Capital, bank financing

Total: \$325,000

DRI Request: \$155,000

Match: \$170,000

Transformative Projects - Private

Revitalize Commercial Office Building



Gail Upfold & Herbert Upfold, Jr.

2645 Erie Drive

Improvements will be made to the office building at 2645 Erie Drive to strengthen its capacity to serve tenants and customers. Key upgrades will include replacing the aging roof, modernizing the HVAC system to meet contemporary energy standards, implementing waterproofing measures, and repaving the parking lot to improve accessibility on the site. These improvements would make the site more energy efficient and preserve the structure so that the building remains a valuable asset for generations to come. The project is spearheaded by a dedicated 4th generation Weedsport resident who has deep roots in the community and has successfully operated in local construction for 43 years.

Possible Funding Sources: Owner Capital, bank financing

Total: \$75,000

DRI Request: \$20,000

Match: \$55,000

Restore the Lin Bo Building



Kristen Lunkenheimer & Derric Slocum

8932 Seneca Street

Local entrepreneurs will be restoring the Lin Bo building at 8932 Seneca Street. A number of façade improvements will be completed including repointing brickwork and rehabilitating the original wooden trim. These essential renovations will preserve the historic integrity of the structure, helping one of the oldest buildings in the village survive and thrive. Additional improvements will be constructed to make the space handicap accessible so more residents can access the site, and to install a new modernized HVAC system.

Possible Funding Sources: Owner Capital, bank financing

Total: \$205,000

DRI Request: \$55,000

Match: \$150,000

Enhance & Upgrade Lunkenheimer Brewing Facilities



Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company

8931 Seneca Street

Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company will be improving their facilities to significantly increase production in downtown Weedsport. A new brewhouse and fermentation vessel will be added, tripling their production capacity within the village. The brewery will also develop the necessary infrastructure to can beverages. Currently all canning is outsourced to mobile vendors, and this added capacity would allow the brewery to centralize their production into Weedsport's main commercial corridor. This new infrastructure would strengthen the village's role as an employment and production center, helping make the greater region's economy thrive. The brewery will also be expanding their public facing infrastructure. A dedicated stage for live events will be constructed with a high-quality sound system, transforming the local brewery into a vibrant venue for music and community events, right on Seneca Street. These improvements will not only draw in larger crowds, but also create a gathering space that strengthens community ties and supports local artists. Together, these enhancements will ensure the brewery remains a driving force helping Weedsport thrive.

Possible Funding Sources: Owner Capital, bank financing

Total: \$330,000

DRI Request: \$85,000

Match: \$245,000

Transformative Projects - Public

Beautify Whittler's Green

Village of Weedsport

SW Corner of Seneca and Brutus Streets

The Village of Weedsport will revitalize Whittler's Green, a pocket park located in the heart of the community. Currently the park provides little utility and does not yet provide aesthetic value befitting its highly visible location. The project will improve the green space by planting new trees and foliage, constructing an accessible paver walkway, and adding landscaping features that frame the space. The village will provide these amenities designed to support residents of all ages on a park site at Weedsport's main intersection.



Possible Funding Sources: NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Pres.

Total: \$255,000

DRI Request: \$195,000

Match: \$60,000

Enhance Trolley Park

Village of Weedsport

8868 South Street

Several improvements will be made to Trolley Park, a mid-sized park embedded within Weedsport's residential fabric and adjacent to the village offices. Sections of the playground will be replaced and upgraded, and a new safer rubberized play surface will be installed. This will provide local children and parents with a safe and enjoyable space to exercise and relax. The local basketball courts will also be resurfaced, and the parking lot will be completely converted utilizing landscaping features that reduce stormwater run-off. A new dog park will also be constructed, improving the site's appeal and functionality for pet-owning residents. Park improvements have the potential to significantly improve connectivity and public health for residents living within the surrounding neighborhoods.



Possible Funding Sources: NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Pres.

Total: \$1,600,000

DRI Request: \$1,200,000

Match: \$400,000

Construct Village Community Center

Village of Weedsport

8878 South Street

Unused space between the Weedsport Fire Department building and Trolley Park will be developed into a new community center with a commercial kitchen and restrooms. This new 2600 SF space will serve as a center for both public and private events. Its strategic location between the ball fields and the Village offices will allow for multiple uses by local residents and organizations. This asset will have notable positive effects on the surrounding community, providing a central space for civic and cultural engagement.



Possible Funding Sources: USDA Rural Development, NYS Parks, Recreation, & Historic Preservation, Northern Borders Regional Commission

Total: \$2,250,000

DRI Request: \$1,685,000

Match: \$565,000

Transformative Projects - Public

Connect Centerport Aqueduct to the School Multi-Purpose Trail

conceptual rendering



Town of Brutus

Along railbed of former West Shore Railroad

The Town of Brutus will develop a new Brutus Trolley Connection Trail to connect the Erie Canal Trail to the Southwest Trail. The Southwest trail sits on the historic rail bed of the West Shore Railroad and the portion of the Erie Canal Trail to be connected is an Empire State Trail running along the original path of the Erie Canal. This trail would provide a cross-village pedestrian path connecting Trolley Park, Centreport Aqueduct Park, and the Weedsport public school complex. The new path will interface with several different residential and commercial areas, improving accessibility and recreation across the village. The trail starts at Centreport Aqueduct and follows 31 up to Washington Street, doglegs to Van Buren Street, cuts through trolley park, then Willow and East Streets, and finally follows the an old railbed that connects up to Erie Canalway Trail.

Possible Funding Sources: Town Reserves, NYS DOT

Total: \$720,000

DRI Request: \$302,000

Match: \$418,000

Construct Town Community Center

conceptual rendering



Town of Brutus

2575 Erie Drive

The Town of Brutus will develop a new community center on Erie Drive, one of Weedsport's main roads. The new building will fit in with the planned Brutus municipal complex to serve residents of both the Village of Weedsport and the Town of Brutus. The site will use the nearby Centerport Aquaduct Park to host local events and support the community. The community center will also have a built-in kitchenette, so organizations can better use the space to serve local residents. Additional features will be added in and around the area once the Brutus municipal complex is completed.

Possible Funding Sources: USDA Rural Development, NYS Parks, Recreation, & Historic Preservation, Northern Borders Regional Commission

Total: \$2,220,800

DRI Request: \$1,700,000

Match: \$520,800

New Parklet and Downtown Lot Landscaping

Village of Weedsport

2692 E Brutus Street

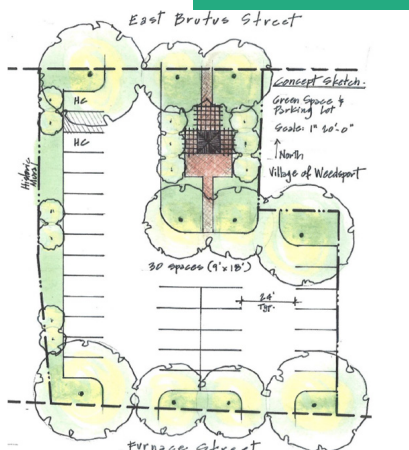
The Village of Weedsport's main downtown parking lot is in poor condition and takes away from residents and visitor's experiences when visiting downtown. Green space will be added to the lot, reducing impervious surface and creating opportunities for stormwater management. A new park will also be constructed on site to give the space more pedestrian utility. Additional trees and lighting will be added to improve visual appeal and nighttime safety, turning the dilapidated parking lot into a major new asset in the heart of downtown Weedsport.

Possible Funding Sources: NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Pres.

Total: \$600,000

DRI Request: \$150,000

Match: \$450,000



Transformative Projects - Public

Develop History Kiosks

Village of Weedsport

Throughout the Downtown Area

New kiosks will be created around Weedsport's historic commercial corridor showing various site's significance to the Village, and narratives describing important events. This new pedestrian engagement infrastructure will draw in individuals interested in their village's heritage and drive more people to walk around downtown and see all Weedsport has to offer. Sets of binoculars will also be built in areas such as Whittler's Green Park based off of historical research conducted by the Old Brutus Historical Society, using the existing binoculars at Forman Park in Syracuse as precedent. The project will provide an interactive fixture where residents can look through and see what life looked like downtown through historic photographs, helping activate the main commercial strip and the well-located pocket park.



Possible Funding Sources: NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Pres.

Total: \$75,000

DRI Request: \$55,000

Match: \$20,000

Downtown Streetscape & Beautification

Village of Weedsport

Throughout the Downtown Area

The proposed streetscape improvements will enhance the ambiance and safety of the village's main street, which also serves as a state highway. Improvements include the installation of public benches, trash cans, and other fixed furniture. Additionally, the project includes the placement of traffic posts, traffic paint, pedestrian signals, crosswalk markings and planters to establish safer crossings at key intersections, thereby promoting pedestrian safety and revitalizing the street's aesthetic appeal without disrupting existing traffic design. Such installation will happen in coordination with NYS DOT and their current design standards.



Possible Funding Sources: NYSDOT TAP

Total: \$250,000

DRI Request: \$185,000

Match: \$65,000

Small Project Fund

Village of Weedsport

Throughout the Downtown Area

The Village of Weedsport will establish a small project fund designed to help property owners and developers in the downtown core complete improvements that are too small to exist as independent funding requests through the Downtown Revitalization Initiative program. Local stakeholders have already proposed a number of façade improvements, carriage house renovations, streetscape improvements, and energy efficiency measures that could be implemented using available funding. The village will create a committee to develop specific parameters, determine the required match amount, receive, review, and approve applications to the fund. A wide array of minor improvements and efforts to resolve deferred maintenance would significantly improve conditions along Weedsport's main commercial corridor.



Total: \$300,000

DRI Request: \$300,000

Match: \$0

Project Summary

		Project Cost	DRI Request	Match
1	Revitalize the Weedsport Waist & Skirt Co. Building 8936 N Seneca Street	\$6,200,000	\$2,580,000	\$3,620,000
2	Restore the Potter's Pub Building 8909 S Seneca Street	\$1,500,000	\$400,000	\$1,100,000
3	Construct New Mixed-Use Development 2685 Erie Drive	\$3,000,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,800,000
4	Renovate Upper Stories of the Sub Shop 2698 E Brutus Street	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
5	Rebuild Commercial Storefront 2684 E Brutus Street	\$535,000	\$255,000	\$280,000
6	Duplex Conversion 8852 S Seneca Street	\$150,000	\$75,000	\$75,000
7	Restore Canal Double-Ender Facade 8913 N Seneca Street	\$150,000	\$70,000	\$80,000
8	Revitalize Colonial Laundromat Building 2685 Erie Drive	\$330,000	\$165,000	\$165,000
9	Restore Historic Mixed-Use Building Facade 2692 E Brutus Street	\$325,000	\$155,000	\$170,000
10	Revitalize Commercial Office Building 2645 Erie Drive	\$75,000	\$20,000	\$55,000
11	Restore the Lin Bo Building 8932 Seneca Street	\$205,000	\$55,000	\$150,000
12	Enhance & Upgrade Lunkenheimer Brewing Facilities 8931 Seneca Street	\$330,000	\$85,000	\$245,000
13	Construct Village Community Center 8878 South Street	\$255,000	\$195,000	\$60,000
14	Enhance Trolley Park 8868 South Street	\$1,600,000	\$1,200,000	\$400,000
15	Construct Village Community Center 8878 South Street	\$2,250,000	\$1,685,000	\$565,000
16	Connect Centerport Aqueduct to the School Multi-Purpose Trail Along railbed of former West Shore Railroad	\$720,000	\$302,000	\$418,000
17	Construct Town Community Center 2575 Erie Drive	\$2,220,800	\$1,700,000	\$520,800
18	New Parklet & Downtown Lot Landscaping 2692 E Brutus Street	\$600,000	\$450,000	\$150,000
19	Develop History Kiosks Throughout the Downtown Area	\$75,000	\$55,000	\$20,000
20	Downtown Streetscape & Beautification Throughout the Downtown Area	\$250,000	\$185,000	\$65,000
21	Small Project Fund Throughout the Downtown Area	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0
TOTAL —		\$23,070,800	\$11,972,000	\$10,488,800

Inset Map

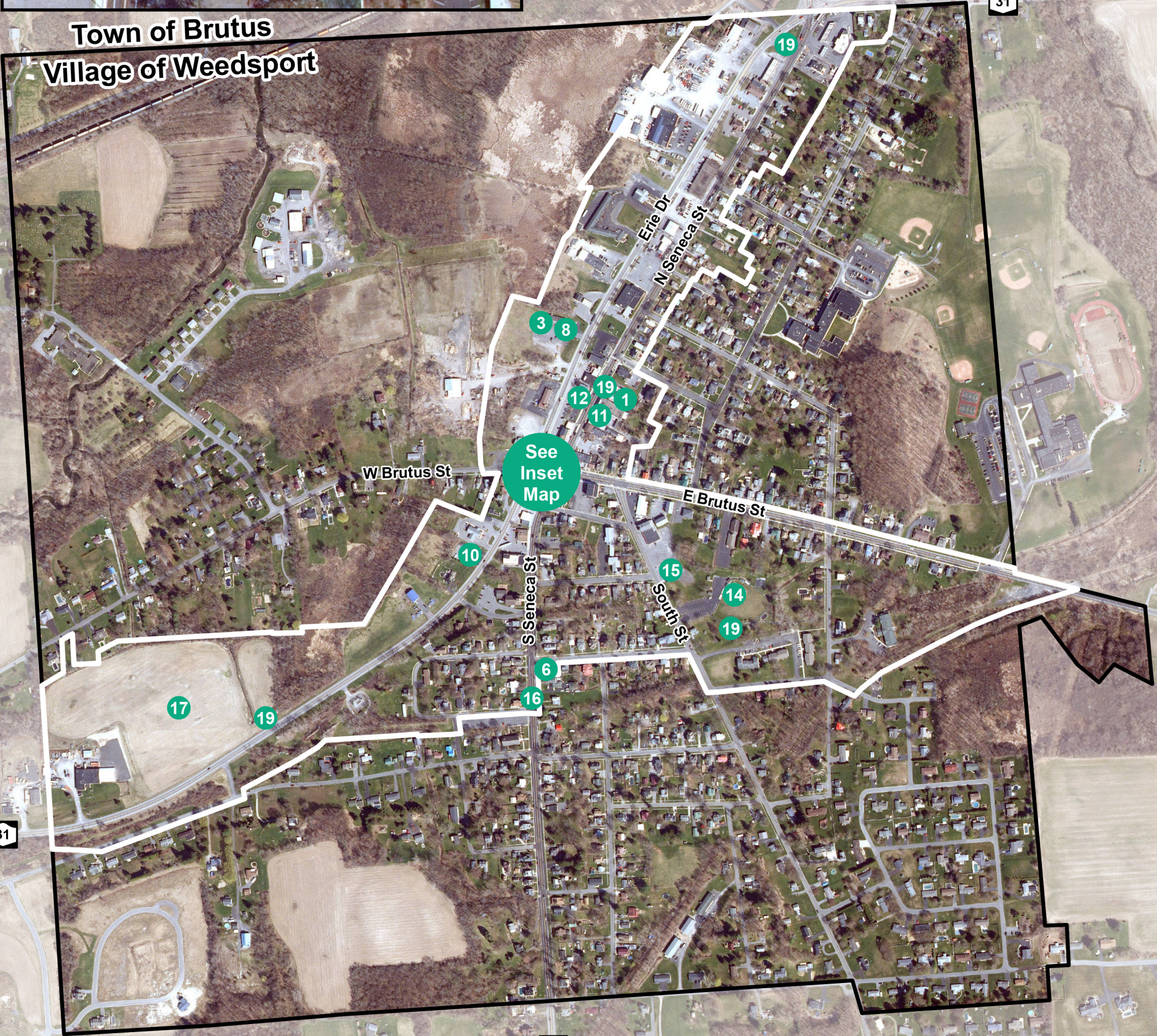


Village of Weedsport: Downtown Revitalization Initiative Projects

- 1 Project Site
 - Downtown Boundary
 - Municipal Boundary
- 0 250 500 1,000 Feet



Town of Brutus
Village of Weedsport



Administrative Capacity

The Village of Weedsport is well positioned to administer and implement a Downtown Revitalization Initiative award with assistance from partners with various local, county, and regional agencies and entities. The Mayor, Clerk, Treasurer, Village Trustees, and staff at the Village have successfully administered five-million dollars worth of public improvements since 2013. The village has recently demonstrated its administrative capacity to successfully manage and implement programs while administering funds from the American Reinvestment & Recovery Act (2011), the Green Innovation Grant (2011), the NY Main Street Program (2014), the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (2023) and USDA Rural Development (2024). The Village is also managing a public improvement bond (2017) that will terminate in 2027.

The village will work to further their longstanding partnership with the Cayuga County Department of Planning & Economic Development (CCPED), benefiting from their collective experience administering grants and managing vital programs. CCPED staff will be actively involved with helping administer the proposed Small Project Fund. CCPED Planners will also be instrumental in providing technical assistance and grant administration for both public and private projects. Their extensive experience will be invaluable in aligning Weedsport's local projects with regional goals and standards. Cayuga County has previously worked on similar initiatives; having assisted the village with updating their zoning law, its joint comprehensive plan with the Town of Brutus, and providing technical support through the Cayuga, Union Springs, Aurora DRI (2023) and the Village of Moravia NY Forward (2022).

Key Bank, Auburn Federal Credit Union and the Lyons National Bank stand ready as local financial institutions to provide their financial expertise with their history of supporting similar private projects. They have demonstrated a longstanding commitment to Weedsport's revitalization through their lending and local knowledge to ensure the success of this DRI application.

Additionally, the village will engage with the Cayuga County Development Corporation (CCDC), the Cayuga County Industrial Development Agency (CCIDA), the Cayuga County Tourism Office, and state-provided consultants to help guide project sponsors while they develop projects that transform Weedsport's downtown. These partnerships are crucial to establishing and supporting the Local Planning Committee (LPC), developing the Strategic Investment Plan (SIP), and submitting final proposals to the state.

The Village of Weedsport is committed to an open and transparent public planning and implementation process. The LPC will consist of local residents, business owners, and representatives from major project sponsors, partnering entities, and local/regional experts. This is a continuation of a community driven process that developed this application.

Through this network of support and collaboration, the Village of Weedsport is prepared and has the capacity necessary to establish an LPC and implement the grant-funded projects successfully, enhancing the community through strategic building renovations and public space improvements.

Letters of Support

Letters in support of the Village's vision and application are attached. Several of the organizations that provided letters of support have either been involved in the preparation of the application, are major project sponsors, or will be active contributors to the formation of the LPC and implementation process. This list is a small representation of local residents and stakeholders excitement in this application and their decades of persistent investment to make Weedsport the best version of itself.

These groups and individuals represent developers, lending institutions, affordable housing developers, elected officials, business owners, and local non-profit organizations. Letters of support are attached from the following:

Mayor Chad Platten

Supervisor Jim Hotaling, Town of Brutus

William Upfold

Colonial Laundromat

Green Meadows Realty, LLC

Housing Visions

Cayuga County Department of Planning & Economic Development

Cayuga County Development Corporation

Weedsport Central School District

Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce

Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor

Preservation League of NY State

Cayuga County Tourism Office

Aileen McNabb-Coleman, Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature

Assemblyman John Lemondes, Jr.

Senator Rachel May

Cayuga County Industrial Development Agency

United Way of Cayuga County

Trustee & Downtown Business Owner Heather Van Luven-Skiff

Legislator & Former Mayor Tom Winslow

KyleCroft Development, LLC

Lyons National Bank

In Closing

The Village of Weedsport has the resources, capacity, experience and broad public support to implement their ambitious DRI vision. The projects proposed include 35 new housing units, innovative public space improvements, and vibrant new commercial spaces. This unmistakably transformational slate of projects will leverage over \$11 million in sponsor investment into more than \$23 million of total investment in the village. The Village of Weedsport is ready to work with the CNY REDC to invest in local residents' vision to make Weedsport into a thriving model of rural community development in Central New York. The coalescing of local and regional investments make the village poised to be the model of rural community development in Central New York.

RESOLUTION NO. 81 of 2024

Submission of an Application to Round 8 of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative and to Round 3 of the NY Forward Program for the Village of Weedsport

WHEREAS, The Village of Weedsport has collaborated with the Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development over the past nine (9) months to develop an application to the Downtown Revitalization Initiative and New York Forward Program; and

WHEREAS, The Village of Weedsport and the Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development have completed an extensive public engagement effort that included sending mailers out to village residents, publishing details about the process in local newspapers, holding two (2) public meetings, and six (6) public workshops; and

WHEREAS, The Village held an open call for projects that identified twelve (12) potential private projects and nine (9) potential public projects within the downtown area; and

WHEREAS, New York State is currently offering \$10 million to one (1) community within the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council region through the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) to support transformative projects to revitalize municipalities' downtown areas; and

WHEREAS, New York State is currently offering \$4.5 million to two (2) communities within the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council region through the NY Forward Program to support transformative projects to revitalize municipalities' downtown areas; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Weedsport is well positioned to capitalize on recent private and public investments in the downtown area and work to attract appropriate commercial and housing development in support of the historical Micron development a short commute to the east of the village; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Weedsport Board of Trustees has taken the first step in this process by becoming a Certified Pro-Housing Community; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Weedsport Board of Trustees wishes to continue supporting the revitalization of downtown Weedsport through private and public investment and recognizes the role that the community plays in Cayuga County and the region as a gateway to the Finger Lakes; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Weedsport Board of Trustees is committed to implementing and administering either a DRI or NY Forward award should one be granted to the Village by New York State; and NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, by the Village of Weedsport Board of Trustees that applications shall be submitted by the Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development on behalf of the Village of Weedsport to both the Round 8 Downtown Revitalization Initiative and Round 3 New York Forward Program via the New York State Consolidated Funding Application on or before the deadline of October 18, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, THAT I HAVE COMPARED THE FOREGOING COPY OF A RESOLUTION DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE VILLAGE OF WEEDSPORT BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT A MEETING HELD ON THE 9TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2024 WITH THE ORIGINAL RESOLUTION, AND THAT THE SAME IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY AND TRANSCRIPT THEREOF, AND THE WHOLE THEREOF.

Sarena Ward
Clerk, Village of Weedsport

DATED: October 9, 2024



Village of Weedsport

8892 South Street, Box 190
Weedsport, New York 13166
(315) 834-6634

Fax (315) 834-9110

Website: villageofweedsport.org

9th of October, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Weedsport's New York Forward / Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

Why Weedsport? I imagine there are many great communities across Central New York that are writing to you, expressing their hope to be awarded either the NY Forward Grant or the Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant. In a perfect world, I would love to see all of these communities receive the funding they need to help them move forward or get back on their feet. Sadly, that's not how this works though. Each year there will be winners and almost winners. Weedsport should be in the first category (I'm really proud of my village). Please allow me to explain why spending money in Weedsport is a good investment for our region and for Weedsport.

First and foremost, we have business and property owners who have already started making investments and improvements to our developing community. Over the course of the last five years, we have had several properties throughout the downtown change hands. What were once vacant buildings and blighted eyesores, now have been rehabilitated according to our communities Comprehensive Plan (2014) and are attracting small business owners—bringing them back to our downtown area. Recently, properties that were dilapidated have not only been brought up to our zoning code (comprehensively updated 2022) but have become aesthetically pleasing. In the same manner, new apartments are filling the upper levels of our historic buildings, bringing new residents into our community. In addition, our schools consistently rank as some of the best in the region on a variety of metrics; this encouraged families to move into the village and revitalize formerly derelict properties. Families want to live here.

In the meantime, we as a community haven't sat back and ignored our infrastructure needs. In 2012, the village, with the help from State and Federal monies, was able to upgrade and update our wastewater treatment facility, bringing it into the 21st century. In the same fashion, we are currently working to secure funds to reconstruct and rehabilitate our municipal water distribution system. Subsequently, we have already been awarded \$17,000,000 in grants and loans to repair and replace water lines that haven't been seen since 1896. Many communities talk about doing the work; we actually do it.

Concurrently, we are in talks with the NYS Department of Transportation to plan for the eventual reconstruction of NY-34 and NY-31 through our village to help make it more walkable, bikeable, and enjoyable for all of the current and future residents in our community. Right now, we have over 18,000 people driving through every day. We want to help our business owners attract more people to slow down, pull over, and visit all of the wonderful shops in Weedsport—bringing in more revenue for our community. Uniquely, we are blessed to have an exit from the NYS Thruway. We want to give more people more reasons to get off the highway here in Weedsport. These grants along with public and private investments will make for a dramatic rebirth to this port along the Erie canal.

By and large, all communities deserve thoughtful growth that enriches the lives of everyone. With this in mind, we have interested investors, developers, and landowners who are pursuing the development of affordable housing. There is a 300+ acre parcel bordering the village that could potentially be used. The housing will be a mixture of 500+ apartments, townhouses, and single family residences that will further enhance and grow our village. Additionally, our proximity to Micron's facility—a 32 minute drive, available land, and existing infrastructure make us a perfect location for growth in Central New York.

Sincerely,



Chad Platten, Mayor
Village of Weedsport



TOWN OF BRUTUS

9021 North Seneca Street, P.O. Box 720, Weedsport, New York 13166

Phone: 315-834-9398 | FAX: 315-834-9381 | E-Mail: townofbrutus@centralny.twcbc.com | TDD 1-800-622-1220

The Town of Brutus is an Equal Opportunity Lender, Provider, Employer

Complaints of discrimination should be sent to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

August 12, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to offer my wholehearted support for the New York Forward application submitted by the Village of Weedsport. As the Supervisor of the Town of Brutus, in which the village is nestled, I am deeply invested in the success and growth of our communities.

The Village of Weedsport and Brutus share a rich historical connection as a gateway to the Erie Canal, a heritage that has shaped our identity and economic development for generations. The proposed projects in this NY Forward represent a significant opportunity to revitalize our shared downtown area, honoring this historical legacy while paving the way for a prosperous future.

Utilizing the Erie Canalway Trail and the village's historical assets as key elements in this project will be transformative. The Erie Canalway Trail offers a unique and scenic asset that draws visitors and enhance the village's appeal. By preserving and integrating the historical building stock into the revitalization efforts, we will not only celebrate our past but also create an attractive and functional future.

The success of this grant will invigorate the village's downtown, create a thriving hub for small developers and businesses. This, in turn, will benefit our entire town, reinforcing our position as a vibrant, historic gateway to the County.

I fully support the Village of Weedsport and our shared vision and urge you to consider this proposal favorably. The funding will be instrumental in realizing a progressive future of our historical heritage while driving economic and community development.

Sincerely,

James Hotaling, Brutus Town Supervisor



October 02, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Village of Weedsport's New York Forward application. As a local developer with a deep commitment to revitalizing the Village's mixed-use buildings, I am particularly excited about the projects I am sponsoring in this application, which include Weedsport Waist Skirt & Co. Building, the Sub Shop building, 8913 N Seneca and 2686-2688 E Brutus.

Over the years, I have had the privilege of working on numerous redevelopment projects within our downtown. These projects, focused on historic Main Street-type buildings, have presented unique challenges due to their age and urban nature. However, they also offer incredible opportunities to breathe new life into the heart of our community. The revitalization efforts proposed in this grant application align perfectly with my vision of preserving the character and enhancing the vibrancy of our downtown area.

The excitement and enthusiasm from Village leadership in support of this grant application have been palpable. Their commitment to advancing this vision reflects a shared understanding of the transformative potential that these improvements hold for our community. Their proactive stance and dedication to pushing for this application demonstrate a forward-thinking approach that is essential for achieving meaningful and lasting change.

In summary, I fully support Weedsport's application. The Village's vision has the potential to significantly enhance our village and support ongoing efforts to revitalize our historic downtown area. I commend the village leadership for their vision and dedication to the projects our local development community envision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W Upfold', written in a cursive, stylized font.

William Upfold

Colonial Laundromats

September 10, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

We are writing to express our support for the Village of Weedsport's NY Forward Application. As a small family business with multiple locations throughout the region, we have witnessed firsthand the profound impact that a vibrant, well-maintained downtown area has on local businesses and the community as a whole.

We can attest to the importance of a thriving downtown environment. Our property not only houses our laundromat but also includes several rental units that contribute to the vitality of our area. After being in business since 1983, we have noticed first-hand that the presence of residents nearby greatly enhances the foot traffic to our business, our tenants' businesses, and fosters a lively and engaged community. When people live close to the services and amenities they need, it creates a more dynamic and sustainable local economy.

The renovations and public space improvements outlined in the grant application will enhance the overall appeal of our downtown area. By updating historic buildings and creating inviting public spaces, these projects will attract more residents and visitors, contributing to the economic and social vibrancy of the village and our business. The integration of innovative housing solutions will also address the need for diverse living options, supporting the growth of our community in a balanced and sustainable way.

We fully support Weedsport's vision. The proposed projects represent a valuable investment, enhancing both the physical environment and the quality of life for residents and business owners alike. I commend the initiative and the leadership behind it and we are optimistic about the positive impact these improvements will bring to our community.

Thank you for considering my support in your review.
Sincerely,



Tim, Ryan, and Dan O'Connell



Green Meadows Realty, LLC

2688 E Brutus St, PO Box 83, Weedsport, NY 13166

(315) 406-0402 Cell / Office

Lic # 10991236567

September 28, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to offer my strong support for the New York Forward application submitted by the Village of Weedsport. As a local real estate broker with extensive experience in the region, I recognize the transformative potential of this vision for both the village and the surrounding community.

One of the village's key assets is its proximity to a well-regarded school, which is within walking distance of all residential areas within the community. This proximity to educational facilities consistently keeps nearby housing in high demand. By improving the downtown area's building stock and its public spaces, the grant will not only bolster the appeal of the neighborhood but also reinforce the attractiveness of local housing options. A completer and more revitalized downtown will enhance the overall quality of life, making the area even more desirable to potential homeowners and renters.

This grant represents an opportunity to create a cohesive and vibrant neighborhood that integrates well with the existing residential areas and educational facilities. The economic and social benefits of a revitalized downtown will lead to increased property values, a flourishing local economy, and a stronger sense of community.

I wholeheartedly support the Village of Weedsport's vision and urge you to consider their proposal favorably. The potential impact of this New York Forward on the village's economic and residential landscape is substantial and will contribute significantly to the area's long-term success.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Lori Murnane
Real Estate Broker / Owner

September 9, 2024



HOUSINGVISIONS

Real Plans. Real People. Real Progress.

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to offer my full support for the New York Forward submitted by the Village of Weedsport for its downtown revitalization projects. As the Vice President of Housing Visions, I am acutely aware of the critical role that community plays in the success of affordable housing.

The proposed grant has the potential to fundamentally transform the Village of Weedsport into a more complete and walkable community. This transformation will enhance the downtown area, making it a vibrant and accessible hub for residents and visitors alike. Such improvements are essential for creating an environment where affordable housing can truly thrive.

Walkable communities with well-designed public spaces and accessible public and private amenities not only enhance the aesthetic appeal of a village, but also create a more supportive and economically viable environment. For residents of affordable housing units, this means greater access to jobs, education, and social services. All of these factors contribute in concert to increased economic opportunity and social mobility. The interconnected nature of a walkable community passively fosters stronger social ties and a more inclusive atmosphere, which are vital for the long-term success of affordable housing.

I strongly endorse the Village of Weedsport in their New York Forward application and urge you to provide the necessary support to realize this ambitious vision.

Thank you for your attention and support.

Sincerely,

Christopher D. Trevisani
Vice President, Business Development



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Kari Terwilliger, AICP
Director

160 Genesee Street, 5th Floor
Auburn, New York 13021

Email: planning@cayugacounty.us
Voice: (315) 253-1276

September 10, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to express my support for the Village of Weedsport's NY Forward application. As the Director of the Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development, I recognize that the NY Forward grant will spark major transformation in the Village of Weedsport, effectively revitalizing the community's downtown.

The Village of Weedsport stands poised to further establish itself as a dynamic and prosperous community through strategic investments and regional economic support. The NY Forward grant will play a key role in this transformation by providing vital funding to improve housing access, expanding upon existing efforts, enhancing public spaces, and bolstering local businesses that drive our economy.

With this grant award, Weedsport can revitalize its downtown area, fostering economic growth and enhancing community vibrancy. The infusion of resources will boost the local economy by supporting business development, job creation, and overall quality of life.

The Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development and our staff will continue to support the Village of Weedsport in their downtown revitalization efforts and provide assistance where possible for grant administration and project management. To say the village is ready, capable, and deserving of a NY Forward award to catalyze further investments is an understatement. The timing is now, and Weedsport is the place everyone wants to be.

Thank you for your consideration of Weedsport's NY Forward application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kari Terwilliger", is written over a horizontal line.

Kari Terwilliger, AICP
Director

**Cayuga County
Development Corporation**

Cayuga County Office Building
160 Genesee St., 6th Floor
Auburn, NY 13021

Phone: 315.253.1558
slynch@cayugacounty.us

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Mr. Stephen F. Lynch

August 9, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the grant application submitted by the Village of Weedsport for its downtown revitalization projects. As the Executive Director of the Cayuga County Development Corporation, I have observed firsthand the significant potential this village holds for economic growth and community enrichment.

The Village of Weedsport serves a critical role as a point of entry into Cayuga County due to its strategic location with an exit on the NY Thruway. This position not only makes it a gateway for travelers and visitors but also highlights the importance of ensuring that the village makes a strong and welcoming first impression.

A New York Forward award will be pivotal in transforming the village's downtown area through necessary public space enhancements, and support for local businesses and development. These improvements will significantly boost the village's appeal and functionality, making it a more attractive destination for both residents and visitors.

**Cayuga County
Development Corporation**

Cayuga County Office Building
160 Genesee St., 6th Floor
Auburn, NY 13021

Phone: 315.253.1558
slynch@cayugacounty.us

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Stephen F. Lynch

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
August 9, 2024
Page 2 of 2

Moreover, the timing of this revitalization initiative is particularly advantageous given the anticipated development of a major micro-chip manufacturing facility located just four Thruway exits away from the village, potentially bringing in a substantial number of jobs and increasing the need for nearby services and amenities. By revitalizing the downtown area now, the Village of Weedsport is well-positioned to capitalize on this upcoming economic boom and to establish itself as a key hub for workers and businesses associated with the facility and any other new development in the region.

The village's leadership has demonstrated a strong vision for their future. I strongly encourage you to consider their application favorably, as the funding will have a far-reaching impact on the economic and community development of the Village of Weedsport. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,



Stephen F. Lynch, Executive Director
Cayuga County Development Corporation



Gregory M. Stone, Superintendent of Schools

Melinda Ervay, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

Stacie McNabb, Business Manager

2821 East Brutus Street, Weedsport, New York 13166-9105

| (315) 834-6637 (ofc.)

| (315) 834-8693 (fax)

September 10, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to express my support for the Village of Weedsport's NY Forward application. As the Superintendent of the Weedsport Central School District, I recognize the impacts that the NY Forward grant has the potential to make in the Village of Weedsport's downtown, contributing to a high quality of life and enhanced community vibrancy.

The NY Forward grant is a pivotal component in this endeavor, offering essential funding to enhance housing access, build upon our current initiatives, improve public spaces, and support local businesses that are the backbone of our economy.

With this grant, Weedsport will have the opportunity to revitalize our downtown area, stimulating economic growth and enriching community life. This financial support will foster business development, create job opportunities, and elevate our overall quality of life.

As the Superintendent of Weedsport Central School District, I am highly supportive of the Village of Weedsport's application to the New York Forward Program. I hope their proposal is considered.

Sincerely,

Gregory M. Stone

Superintendent of Schools
Weedsport Central School District



CAYUGA COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

September 9, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to express my strong support for New York Forward application submitted by the Village of Weedsport. As the Executive Director of the Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce, I am deeply excited about the potential of this vision to transform Weedsport into a vibrant and economically thriving community.

Weedsport is strategically positioned as a first point of entry into Cayuga County, thanks to its convenient exit on the Upstate Thruway. This prime location provides a unique opportunity for Weedsport to make a lasting impression on visitors and residents alike. Investments identified in this NY Forward application will fund critical improvements to the village's building stock and public spaces, which are essential for enhancing its appeal and functionality.

Moreover, Weedsport has the potential to become a key stop on the Erie Canalway Trail, arguably the most consequential recreational trail in Upstate New York, attracting visitors from across the region. By revitalizing its downtown area, Weedsport can capitalize on this opportunity, creating a welcoming and engaging environment for those traveling the trail. Improved public spaces, rehabilitated commercial buildings, new upper story housing, and a cohesive, walkable downtown will not only enhance the visitor experience but drive economic activity in the village for years to come.

Weedsport is already emerging as a model for downtown revitalization for the villages in our county. The proposed grant application will further solidify its position as a leader in creating dynamic, walkable environments that benefit both residents and businesses alike. This vision represents a significant opportunity to enhance the village's economic and social fabric, showcasing the success of community-focused development.

I wholeheartedly support the Village of Weedsport in its grant application and strongly encourage you to consider this proposal favorably. The positive impact of this project will extend beyond Weedsport, benefiting the entire county and serving as a model for other communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Amy M. Fuller
Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce



September 21, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Weedsport – New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken:

The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor is pleased to extend our support for the Village of Weedsport's application for a NY Forward grant.

Weedsport stands on the brink of an exciting transformation as it embraces and builds from its unique and authentic heritage assets. For many years, Weedsport has prioritized projects that enhance the quality of life for residents while also welcoming visitors from around the world. A NY Forward grant will provide timely and critical resources to advance many of its goals by improving housing access, upgrading public spaces, fostering job creation and strengthening local businesses.

The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor works to preserve and promote the nationally significant historical, cultural, educational, recreational, scenic, and natural resources of the 524-mile-long New York State Canal System and to foster vibrant communities connected by our waterways. Weedsport is a critical partner in these efforts to advance our Preservation and Management Plan.

Your thoughtful consideration of their application consistent with all relevant laws, rules, regulations, and policies is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Bob Radliff
Executive Director



September 30, 2024

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620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

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Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing on behalf of the Preservation League of New York State to express our support for Weedsport's New York Forward application. As the statewide nonprofit working for historic preservation, we are particularly excited about how this project thoughtfully integrates and celebrates the village's rich Erie Canal and rail history.

Jay DiLorenzo
President

The proposed renovations and public space improvements are a testament to the village's commitment to preserving its historical heritage while enhancing its present-day vibrancy. The careful attention given to forming projects that recognize the importance of the Erie Canal is not only commendable but also crucial for maintaining the village's unique character and historical significance as a local center of commerce.

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The proposed renovations are poised to revitalize several historic buildings in the downtown area. These structures, which have witnessed the village's evolution over the years, hold invaluable stories and provide architectural character. By rehabilitating these buildings, the project will preserve their historical integrity while adapting them for contemporary needs and uses. This balance between preservation and modern functionality is essential for sustaining the historical and cultural fabric of the Village and aligns with our mission to empower all New Yorkers to use historic preservation to enrich their communities, protect their heritage, and build a sustainable future.

In conclusion, we fully support Weedsport's vision and offer our technical services to help the community realize the benefits of historic preservation. The emphasis on preserving and celebrating its canal and rail history, combined with its commitment to revitalizing historic buildings, represents a significant contribution to the village's cultural and historical preservation. We believe this initiative will have a lasting positive impact on the community, enriching both its historical narrative and its present-day vibrancy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Janna M. Rudler'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Janna' being the most prominent.

Janna M. Rudler, Grants and Technical Services Manager

September 10th, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to voice my support for the Village of Weedsport's application to the New York Forward grant program. Heading the Cayuga County Tourism Office, I understand the value that New York Forward funds have on local communities. As New York Forward's mission to revitalize downtowns in smaller and rural communities in New York State, the Village Weedsport is in a perfect position to put these funds to work and multiply their impact.

As a NYS Thruway exit, the Village of Weedsport is a vital gateway for visitors traveling to Auburn and other urban centers within the Finger Lakes Vacation region. Investments are needed to draw tourists in and keep our region competitive. The proposed restoration of the Erie Canalway Trail through Weedsport, alongside new historic signage will help transform Weedsport into a regional destination. In addition, new streetscape improvements and revitalized storefronts will draw people in allowing the Village to benefit from the thousands of people who traverse their community every day.

Weedsport has the perfect strategic location to draw in tourists and further the regional economy. New York Forward funds will give Weedsport the ability to harness their potential, strengthening the village core and investing in the region's future.

Once again, I fully support the Village's grant application and commitment to improving the lives of people who live, work, and travel to the community. I look forward to seeing this application come to fruition.

Sincerely,



Karen Kühl
Cayuga County Tourism
Executive Director
315-255-1658



County of Cayuga

Aileen McNabb-Coleman
Chair Cayuga County Legislature
160 Genesee St.
Auburn, NY 13021

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to offer my strong support for the New York Forward application submitted by the Village of Weedsport to fund its downtown revitalization projects. As the Chair of the Legislature for Cayuga County, I recognize the importance of this initiative, having seen the impact this program has had on other communities within the county, and particularly for Weedsport given the village's unique role as a key gateway into our county.

The Village of Weedsport is strategically positioned with an exit on the NYS Thruway, making it a significant point of entry for many travelers and visitors coming into Cayuga County. This location underscores the critical importance of ensuring that the county has an inviting and prosperous gateway.

A New York Forward award will significantly enhance the village's public spaces, small businesses, and overall aesthetic appeal. These improvements are crucial not only for the village itself but for the broader county as well. By upgrading downtown Weedsport, we can create a more attractive and engaging gateway into the Finger Lakes region, which will positively influence visitors' perceptions of our county and encourage them to explore further.

I wholeheartedly support the Village of Weedsport in its pursuit of this grant. The funding will be a vital step toward enhancing the county's overall well-being and economic vitality. I urge you to give their application your favorable consideration.

Thank you for your attention and support.

Sincerely,

Aileen McNabb-Coleman

Aileen McNabb-Coleman
Cayuga County Legislature Chair



John Lemondes, Jr.
Assemblyman 126th District
Cayuga and Onondaga Counties

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
Corporations, Authorities and
Commissions

COMMITTEES

Agriculture

Banks

Corporations, Authorities and

Commissions

Economic Development, Job Creation,

Commerce and Industry

Environmental Conservation

September 16, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am pleased to offer my wholehearted support for the New York Forward application submitted by the Village of Weedsport for its downtown center. As the Assemblyman for the 126th District, I am keenly aware of the transformative potential of this initiative.

The Village of Weedsport stands on the cusp of becoming a model of what an idyllic upstate New York village can be. The proposed projects represent a vital step toward achieving this vision. By investing in the downtown, the village will not only enhance its aesthetic appeal but will also create a thriving hub of small business opportunities, vibrant public spaces, and vitality for schools and parks. Furthermore, the application's emphasis on enhancing a walkable community with accessible schools and parks aligns with the growing trend towards sustainable and family-friendly living environments. This holistic approach will not only improve the quality of life for current residents but also attract new families and small businesses to the area.

I strongly encourage you to support this application. Funding from the New York Forward program will be instrumental in helping the village realize their vision for downtown revitalization.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Lemondes
Member of Assembly, NYS District 126

**THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK**



RACHEL MAY
SENATOR, 48TH DISTRICT

Chair
Cities 2
Legislative Commission on
Rural Resources
Committees
Aging
Agriculture
Elections
Environmental Conservation
Health
Housing, Construction and
Community Development

Albany Office
Legislative Office Building
Room 803
Albany, New York 12247
(518) 455-2838

District Office
State Office Building
Room 805
333 East Washington St.
Syracuse, New York 13202
(315) 478-8745
may@nysenate.gov

October 4, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to offer my strong support for the Village of Weedsport in their NY Forward application. As a State Senator dedicated to the growth and development of the 48th Senate District, I believe this project is of paramount importance for our community and will serve as a critical lever for transformative regional development.

The Village of Weedsport is distinguished by its walkable nature, which not only enhances the quality of life for its residents but also attracts visitors and potential businesses. The village's charming downtown area, with its historic buildings and vibrant public spaces, stands ready for a revitalization initiative that will infuse new energy and opportunities into the area.

The synergy between regional investments such as Micron and the Erie Canalway Trail and Weedsport's vision creates a unique opportunity for the Central New York region. By enhancing its walkable environment and its public spaces, the village can capitalize on the anticipated economic influx from regional development growth, attracting new residents and businesses. This strategic alignment will not only help the village grow but also ensure it remains a vibrant and desirable place to live, work, and invest.

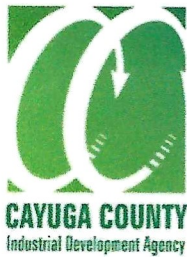
In conclusion, the grant funding for downtown renovations, public space enhancements, and support for small businesses in the Village of Weedsport will be a critical investment in the future of our region. I fully support this application and urge you to consider the significant impact it will have on fostering economic growth and community development.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rachel May".

Senator Rachel May
48th Senate District



September 9th, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to voice my support for the Village of Weedsport's application to the New York Forward grant program. As Executive Director for the Cayuga County Industrial Development Agency, I have observed firsthand the significant potential this village holds for economic growth and community enrichment.

The Village of Weedsport serves a critical role as a point of entry into the Finger Lakes off the NYS Thruway and as a major transportation hub in Northern Cayuga County. Weedsport has vital roadway access, local rail access, and affordable sites for future development.

A New York Forward grant will be pivotal in transforming the village's downtown area through necessary public space enhancements, and support for local businesses and development. These improvements will significantly boost the village's appeal and functionality, making it a more attractive destination for both residents and visitors.

Moreover, the timing of this revitalization initiative is particularly advantageous given the anticipated development of a major microchip manufacturing facility located just four Thruway exits away from the village, potentially bringing in a substantial number of jobs and increasing the need for nearby services and amenities. By revitalizing the downtown area now, the Village of Weedsport is well-positioned to capitalize on this upcoming economic boom and to establish itself as a key hub for workers and businesses associated with the facility and any other new development in the region. The village's leadership has demonstrated a strong vision for their future. I strongly encourage you to consider their application favorably, as the funding will have a far-reaching impact on the economic and community development of the Village of Weedsport.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael Miller'.

Michael Miller
Executive Director
(315) 612-7775
director@cayugacountyida.org

United Way of Cayuga County



October 1, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing on behalf of United Way of Cayuga County to express our strong support for the NY Forward application from the Village of Weedsport. Our organization is dedicated to supporting county residents who are financially vulnerable, lack healthcare, or are food insecure, and we believe that this project is crucial for fostering a more supportive and cohesive community.

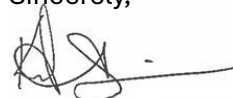
As a non-profit committed to addressing the needs of our most disadvantaged residents, we have seen firsthand how vital it is for communities to offer walkable, vibrant spaces that provide essential amenities and services. Such environments are not just about aesthetics; they are foundational to building a community where all residents, especially those facing financial hardships, can thrive.

Walkable areas with well-designed public spaces and accessible services significantly enhance the quality of life for all residents. For individuals and families who struggle with transportation barriers, having essential services, food resources, and community support within walking distance can make an enormous difference. The proposed renovations and improvements will create a more accessible and inviting downtown area where residents can easily reach vital resources, participate in community activities, and engage with local services.

In addition, the proposed improvements will help us enhance the effectiveness of our own outreach programs. Upgraded public spaces and facilities will enable us and our member agencies to better host community events, workshops, and resource distribution efforts. This, in turn, will amplify our ability to connect with those in need and provide them with timely and accessible support.

We wholeheartedly support Weedsport's vision and believe it will greatly benefit the at-large community by creating an environment where services are easily accessible, community ties are strengthened, and residents feel valued and included. Thank you for considering our support in your evaluation.

Sincerely,



Kathryn Dennis, Executive Director

October 11, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to express my strong support for Weedsport's New York Forward application. As a longtime business owner and a member of the Village Board of Trustees, I have witnessed firsthand the vital role that a vibrant downtown plays in the success of our small businesses and the overall health of our community.

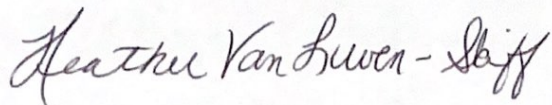
Our downtown area is not just the heart of our village; it is a gathering place where residents and visitors come together to connect. By restoring our marquee buildings and enhancing our public spaces, we will not only improve the aesthetic appeal of our downtown but also create a welcoming atmosphere that encourages foot traffic. This will invite residents to linger, explore, and enjoy our local offerings. A vibrant downtown attracts not just locals but also visitors, which is crucial for the sustainability and success of small businesses across our village.

Moreover, investing in our downtown is an investment in our small business community. When our public spaces are lively and our buildings are well-maintained, it sends a powerful message to potential customers that our village is thriving. This, in turn, will encourage local entrepreneurs to open new businesses and invest in their existing ones, further cultivating a diverse and resilient local economy.

I wholeheartedly support the Village of Weedsport's application and urge you to consider the profound impact it will have on our community. Together, we can create a vibrant downtown that not only supports our local businesses but also strengthens the bonds among our residents.

Thank you for considering our application. I look forward to the positive changes this funding will bring to our village.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Heather Van Luven-Skiff". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Heather Van Luven- Skiff

October 15, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Weedsport's New York Forward. As the former mayor who initiated the pursuit of this grant and is now a county legislator, I firmly believe that investing in the vitality of Weedsport is not just beneficial for the village but is also a strategic investment in the broader well-being of Cayuga County.

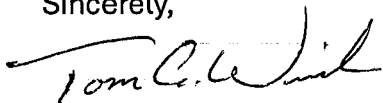
Weedsport serves as the only exit off the Thruway within Cayuga County, making it a critical gateway for travelers and a focal point for economic activity. By enhancing Weedsport, we have the opportunity to transform this vital focal point into a vibrant and welcoming destination. Restorations to its prominent buildings and improvements to its public spaces will not only elevate the aesthetic appeal of Weedsport but will also create an inviting atmosphere that attracts visitors and encourages them to explore our local businesses.

A thriving downtown is essential for fostering community engagement and supporting local entrepreneurs. When our public spaces are well-maintained and our buildings are revitalized, we send a clear message that our village is committed to growth and progress. This investment will stimulate economic activity, not just within our borders but throughout Cayuga County, as increased foot traffic will benefit neighboring businesses and services.

I wholeheartedly endorse Weedsport's application and encourage the committee to recognize the broader implications of investing in its vitality. The success of Weedsport is intrinsically linked to the economic health of the entire county, and I believe that with your support, we can create a brighter future for all.

Thank you for your consideration. I am confident that together we can achieve meaningful improvements that will benefit not just Weedsport, but our all of Cayuga County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom A. Winslow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Tom A. Winslow
Cayuga County Legislator



Grant Kyle
KyleCroft Development LLC
89 York Street
Auburn, NY 13021

October 14th, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the New York Forward application submitted by the Village of Weedsport. As a local housing developer with an upcoming project adjacent to the village, I am acutely aware of the profound impact that a revitalized downtown area can have on both the community and other nearby developments.

Our upcoming 356 acre, 900 unit housing development, located in close proximity to Village of Weedsport, stands to benefit greatly from these enhancements. A thriving, walkable downtown with well-maintained public spaces and a robust commercial sector is crucial for the success of any residential project. By improving the downtown area, the grant will contribute to a more dynamic and desirable neighborhood, which in turn will drive greater interest and success.

A vibrant downtown will serve as a key asset for the community, offering residents easy access to shops, restaurants, and services, all within walking distance. This accessibility is a significant factor in attracting potential residents and businesses, ensuring that our development aligns with the broader vision of a thriving, interconnected community.

I fully support the Village of Weedsport in its vision and strongly encourage you to approve the funding request. The revitalization projects represent a critical opportunity to enhance the village's economic and social fabric, ensuring the success of both the downtown area and nearby developments such as ours.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Grant Kyle", written in a cursive style.

Grant Kyle
KyleCroft Development LLC
315-612-4053
grant@kylecroft.com

October 17, 2024

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken
Regional Co-Chairs
Central New York REDC
620 Erie Blvd. Suite 112
Syracuse, NY 13204

Re: Downtown Weedsport's New York Forward Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Village of Weedsport and its NY Forward application. As a representative of Lyons National Bank, a well-known and respected institution in the local financial and economic landscape of the region, I am keenly aware of the transformative potential that this grant holds for our communities in Cayuga County.

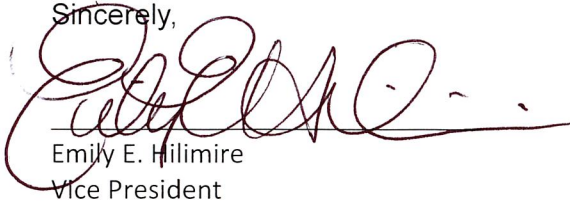
The Village of Weedsport is at a pivotal moment, with the opportunity to further establish itself as an economically vibrant and thriving community through internal infrastructural investments and regional economic investments. This New York Forward grant opportunity will provide essential funding to provide housing, improve public spaces, and support local businesses in the commercial corridors. These enhancements are crucial for transforming the village's downtown into a bustling, walkable environment that supports economic growth and community engagement.

Economic development often begins with small-scale developers that build a foundation for broader success. By investing in Weedsport, this NY Forward application acts as a catalytic endorsement of the work. A walkable downtown area fosters a dynamic environment where small developers and entrepreneurs can thrive, creating a positive and growing ripple effect throughout the community.

I wholeheartedly support the Village of Weedsport in their NY Forward application and strongly encourage you to consider this proposal favorably. The funding will be instrumental in creating a vibrant and economically dynamic community that benefits all residents and businesses.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,


Emily E. Hilimire
Vice President