

# Village of Weedsport

## *Gateway to the Finger Lakes*

**REDC Region:**  
Central New York

**Municipality:**  
Village of Weedsport

**County:**  
Cayuga County

**Downtown Revitalization  
Initiative Round 9**

**Certified Pro-Housing  
Community**

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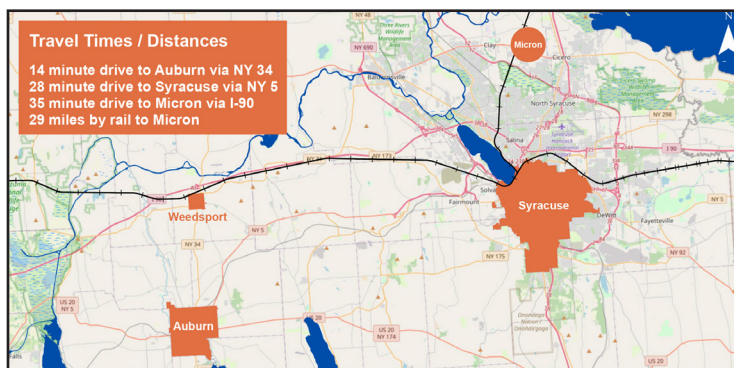




# Geographic Area & Justification

The Village of Weedsport is Central New York's gateway to the Finger Lakes. In 1825 the presence of the Erie Canal established the Village as a regional hub, enabling efficient transport of goods from Cayuga County to the Great Lakes and the Atlantic Ocean. The canal carved a path across New York State, transforming Weedsport from a small farming community into a vital part of Central New York's economic fabric.

Today, the Village is intersected by three major state highways, supporting the flow of commerce, daily commuters, and tourism throughout the region. These major transportation routes provide a critical foundation for ongoing downtown revitalization efforts and future economic growth. NYS Routes 31 and 34 bisect the village and serve as major east-west and north-south corridors along with a direct connection to NYS Route 5, linking the village to key destinations within Cayuga County and the broader region. Interstate 90 (NYS Thruway), with Exit 40 located just north of the village in the Town of Brutus, further enhances regional accessibility for residents, businesses, and visitors alike. Active CSX and Amtrak rail lines run through Weedsport with existing spurs and adjacent land zoned for light industrial development, presenting opportunities for job creation and economic growth.



The proposed DRI boundary encompasses 164.02 acres within Weedsport's downtown core along NYS Routes 31 and 34. The area includes Seneca Street, Brutus Street, Erie Drive, and adjacent blocks containing a mix of commercial, civic, residential, and recreational uses. These streets originally reflected the Erie Canal's route through the village and now form a cohesive downtown core. The boundary creates a compact, walkable district that can be traversed from end to end in approximately twenty-five minutes. This area was selected because it represents the Village's historic center, current small-

business hub, and location of several sites suitable for redevelopment. A map of the proposed boundary is included with this application.

Weedsport is a compact, close-knit community anchored by a strong school system, a resilient small-business environment, and an exceptional quality of life. Strategically located within Cayuga County and the broader Central New York region, Weedsport is well-positioned to benefit from regional economic momentum, including growth associated with the proposed Micron facility. With direct access to the NYS Thruway (I-90) via Exit 40, NYS Routes 5, 31 and 34, and existing spurs to the active CSX and Amtrak rail lines, the Village is ready to support new businesses and residents moving into the Central New York region. Weedsport combines a relatively low cost of living with desirable community assets, such as recreational access to the Empire State Trail and Erie Canalway Corridor (two of the state's most prominent recreational and cultural assets), and the Finger Lakes, making it an attractive location for workforce retention and future development. Additionally, this multimodal connectivity positions Weedsport as a central hub for downtown revitalization, tourism development, and sustainable economic investment.

The Village contains two sites directly abutting the downtown core that are currently being marketed for new industrial redevelopment. Targeted DRI investment will catalyze redevelopment of these sites, strengthen the downtown as a hub for business and community life, and attract new private investment. With this opportunity, through the New York State Downtown Revitalization Initiative, Weedsport has the potential to serve not only as a major regional hub but also as a key player in Central New York's emerging story of industrial and economic resurgence.



## Downtown Area

Weedsport's downtown area includes the village's historic commercial and mixed-use district, vibrant parks and local amenities, and surrounding areas that are ready for new development. This application's downtown boundary was developed based off 7 public meetings and workshops with local residents.



# Village of Weedsport Downtown Revitalization Initiative

-  Weedsport DRI Boundary
-  Weedsport Boundary



0 500 1,000 2,000 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 as a vibrant port 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'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.



## Downtown Revitalization Goals

### Economic Development

- Bring new businesses into the downtown core.
- Revitalize underutilized buildings along the historic canal corridor.
- Improve downtown business façades and front-facing signage.

### Tourism

- Improve wayfinding signage and reaffirm Weedsport's status as Cayuga County's gateway to the Finger Lakes.
- Use the village's location on the Empire State Trail, historic Erie Canal route, and near the county's only NYS Thruway exit to attract tourists.
- Support streetscape beautification to encourage drivers passing through the village stop and see all the community has to offer.

### Community Growth

- Improve community assets to help bring more new parents and young families to Weedsport.
- Create new housing at a variety of styles and price points to allow new residents to move in, families to grow, and seniors to age in their community.



## Past Investment & Future Potential

Weedsport stands at a pivotal moment, primed for transformative growth driven by coordinated private and public investment. Over the past five years, the Village and local businesses have invested more than \$3.95 million in building improvements, supporting a diverse range of projects, from residential upgrades to the renovation of historic commercial buildings in the heart of the village. These improvements have not only enhanced the visual and functional appeal of downtown Weedsport but have also laid a strong foundation for continued economic and community development that DRI funding can now accelerate.

At the heart of this revitalization is Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company, a locally owned business that embodies the entrepreneurial energy driving the transformation of downtown. Since opening in 2018 in a repurposed laundromat, Lunkenheimer has steadily expanded, converting a former bank into a popular brewery in 2019 and, most recently, in 2023, expanding again, transforming its parking lot into a multi-use community space with a playground, music venue, and adding a flex space. The Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company was able to accomplish this because of an untapped demand for a place where workers, residents, and passing traffic can experience community. This demonstrates how strategic investment in underutilized properties can quickly generate community and economic returns.

NuMe Wellness Recovery & Rejuvenation Center, located at 8903 N. Seneca Street, is also emerging as a key contributor to the ongoing revitalization of the Village of Weedsport. Established as the headquarters for this rapidly growing wellness company, NuMe is dedicated to promoting health and well-being both locally and nationally. The Weedsport location offers a range of innovative wellness services to residents, including 3D full body composition scans, weight loss programs, red light therapy, hyperthermic therapy, and more. As NuMe continues to expand—with new locations opening in California and New Mexico, and strategic partnerships forming with LA Fitness and UFC partnered gyms—the Village of Weedsport stands at the center of this growth.

As the company's operational hub, all new employees will travel to Weedsport for a comprehensive 5-7 day training period, bringing continued economic activity and visibility to the area. Additionally, NuMe has partnered with the Purple Banana Café, a Syracuse-based health



food establishment, to provide nutritious offerings at the Weedsport center. The café space at the front of the facility will feature smoothies, juices, wellness shots, and healthy bowls, further enhancing the center’s commitment to holistic wellness.

This trend is followed by a wave of new businesses and investments, including:

- White Rabbit Roasting Co, a coffee shop, at 8905 S. Seneca Street
- Stacy’s Permanent Solutions, a day spa, at 8934 N. Seneca Street
- Green Meadows Realty at 2688 E. Brutus Street
- Live a Little Boutique, also at 8934 N. Seneca Street
- Remi Reads, a 200 sq ft. bookstore, located inside Live a Little Boutique, at 8934 N. Seneca Street

Along with robust private investment, the Village of Weedsport is benefiting from significant public infrastructure funding aimed at fostering long-term economic growth. The New York Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) awarded the Village of Weedsport \$5 million through the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act; and the USDA Rural Development Program has committed an additional \$2 million in grants and \$10 million in loans to the Village. Together, the EFC and USDA funds will be used to upgrade and modernize the village’s water system, ensuring it is resilient, efficient, and capable of supporting both current needs and future expansion. New York State Electric & Gas (NYSEG) is also undertaking a major infrastructure upgrade through its \$468 million initiative encompassing seven projects, including the modernization of the Centreport Substation that directly impacts Weedsport. This substation, currently outdated, has constrained residential development and limited the Village’s ability to address its housing shortage. NYSEG is in the process of acquiring land within the Village to enable the necessary upgrades, which will support new housing and business development. The Centreport project, scheduled for completion in 2027, represents a \$151.7 million investment and is expected to deliver a 19.4 MW increase in capacity, along with support for an additional 5.1 MW of electrification load.

A major neighborhood-style development is being planned on the Village’s southern edge. The proposed project includes 357 single-family homes and 176 two-bedroom apartments, representing a potential 533-unit expansion, plus office and retail space – a significant increase for a community currently home to 850 households.

These investments build upon ongoing planning efforts at the local and regional level, including infrastructure

<b>Private Investment:</b>
<b>8917 N Seneca St Mixed-Use Building Façade Restoration (2021) \$120,000</b> The street facing façade of 8917 North Seneca Street was repainted and restored, attracting new businesses into the village center.
<b>8913 N Seneca St Mixed-Use Building Restoration (2022) \$200,000</b> Four units of residential and commercial space were renovated, and one new residential unit was developed in a historic building in the village center. Façade improvements were also completed.
<b>2688 E Brutus St Mixed-Use Building Rehabilitation (2022) \$700,000</b> Façade and interior renovations were completed to improve both commercial and residential units in a mixed-use building in the village center.
<b>White Rabbit, Mixed-Use Building Rehabilitation &amp; Vendor Improvements (2023) \$312,500</b> A vacant commercial space in central Weedsport was renovated and converted into a vibrant new downtown café.
<b>Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company (2023) \$130,000</b> 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
<b>8934 N Seneca St Mixed-Use Building, Rehabilitation (2024) \$750,000</b> The vacant building at 8934 North Seneca Street was completely rehabilitated into a modern new commercial space for local entrepreneurs.
<b>Former Weedsport Tool &amp; Machine Inc., Mixed-Use Building (2024) \$300,000</b> 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.
<b>2684 E Brutus St Mixed-Use Building Upper Story Apts. (2024) \$250,000</b> Renovations were completed to restore the vacant apartments above 2684 East Brutus Street.
<b>8930 N Seneca St (2024) \$50,000</b> Renovations completed on 3 upper story apartments
<b>2684 East Brutus Rehabilitation (2025) \$5,000</b> Façade and interior improvements of lower story retail space.
<b>Total: \$2,817,500.00</b>



## Public Investment:

### Upgraded Sewage Treatment Plant (2013) \$3,000,000

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 snowplow 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 Restabilization (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 Holiday Decorations (2023) \$10,700

New seasonal lights were purchased to light up 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 : \$21,300,840.00**



modernization plans, small business support initiatives, and housing development strategies led by the municipality and Cayuga County. Collectively, they demonstrate that Weedsport is not only benefiting from recent momentum but is also positioned to catalyze additional private and public investment if supported through the DRI.

Conjointly, these efforts are driving forward a vision of Weedsport as a thriving, connected, and livable rural village. By attracting new residents, supporting small businesses, creating jobs, and investing in critical infrastructure, Weedsport is preparing to meet the future with confidence and resilience. DRI investment will leverage these past efforts to accelerate revitalization, fill key gaps, and ensure that current momentum translates into long-term, transformative growth.

## 4 Recent & Impending Job Growth

The Village of Weedsport is a bustling hub of activity with a variety of thriving businesses that serve the surrounding region. Downtown Weedsport is at the crossroads of 3 major routes where 18,258 people drive through every day. Every driver is a potential neighbor or business owner, passing through and seeing all the village has to offer. People from across the region rely on the village to get their daily essentials. This has helped build up Weedsport's vibrant commercial district which serves as a major employment center, bringing in people from across the region.





Historic buildings throughout downtown Weedsport are being restored and renewed with new businesses moving in all the time. Recently, a new café opened in a renovated multi story row building ; a real estate company and five new apartments were built in another renovated row building; and four commercial and four residential units were renovated in a building along the main commercial strip. Businesses and developers are choosing to invest in Weedsport because they know they can succeed here.



These new developments are providing jobs for local residents. Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company was founded in Weedsport 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 people's quality of life across the region. Older developments like the row buildings at 8917 North Seneca Street have been restored and renewed, with new local stores thriving in the traditional village center.

Developers are actively investing in mixed use projects in the village's walkable urban core to preserve and expand Weedsport's business community. Rehabilitated commercial spaces now serve as modern and affordable sites for entrepreneurs to start their businesses and expand, helping the local economy grow and bringing in new members of the community. The commercial core is surrounded by residential neighborhoods, and new job openings allow residents with a variety of experience levels and career paths opportunities to work and thrive.

Weedsport is perfectly positioned to capitalize off of Micron moving into Central New York. 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. Weedsport has a rail spur, it has a Thruway exit, and it has land ready for new development. 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.

## 5 Quality of Life

The Village of Weedsport blends the charm of small-town living with vital commercial necessities. The entire Village is walkable, with every resident living within a 15-minute walk to the downtown center, where local shops, a hardware store, and popular Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company offer essential services and gathering places. Walkability has been a crucial part of the Village's heritage and resilience since its founding as a turnaround point along the Erie Canal.



Green space is abundant in Weedsport, from Trolley Park, which hosts ball games, concerts, and community events, to Whittler's Green, a pocket park located at the Village's main four corner intersection. In addition, new crosstown trailways are planned to connect neighborhoods to the Erie Canalway Trail and the local school. The Empire State Trail runs through downtown with a dedicated bike lane so residents from across the village can conveniently get to the downtown core. No matter where you live in



Weedsport, you'll always have access to green spaces with plenty of amenities.

The Weedsport Central School District, located in the heart of the village, serves as the center of community life. Its strong academic outcomes and walkable location support family life, while the adjacent Weedsport Free Library provides a space for after-school activities and community programming. Healthcare services are available at the local Kinny Drugs, and a new wellness center downtown brings specialized offerings directly into the Village. Reliable broadband service is available across the community, supporting remote work and modern business needs.

The downtown commercial corridor continues to expand, offering a variety of shops that serve both residents and visitors. The arrival of Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company has become a local highlight – attracting tourists while providing a welcoming spot for residents to unwind after work, complete with live music and activities for all ages. Beyond serving its own community, the village also plays a vital role in supporting neighboring towns like Brutus, Mentz, Cato, and the Village of Port Byron. The continued success of these essential businesses is crucial for maintaining the quality of life for all residents in the north-central region of Cayuga County.



Weedsport residents enjoy a quiet, close-knit community with a friendly environment and housing costs well below the state average, the median home value is just over \$153,000, about a third of the New York State median home value, making homeownership accessible to a wide range of income levels. In addition to single-family homes, the Village has opportunities to create new apartment units with mixed-use and upper-story redevelopment of existing buildings downtown, which will help expand housing options across affordability levels and support long-term growth.

Near major urban centers like Auburn, Syracuse, Rochester, and the proposed Micron site in Clay, Weedsport is ideally positioned for new commercial

and residential growth. The community's inclusivity welcomes residents of all ages, abilities, incomes, and backgrounds combined with its recreational amenities, cultural assets, and affordability, makes it well-suited for the kind of transformative investment envisioned by the DRI program. With a welcoming atmosphere, reliable services, good schools, and room to grow, Weedsport is an ideal place where people of all ages can put down their roots and thrive.

## Supportive Local Policies

The Village of Weedsport has developed a wide variety of policies and plans to support balanced development, economic growth, complete streets, and local environmental stewardship. The following policies and plans showcase the Village's dedication to promoting smart and sustainable growth, and its capability to work with New York State to revitalize downtown Weedsport.



## Pro Housing Community

As a certified Pro-Housing Community, Weedsport has demonstrated a robust commitment to enhancing housing access and affordability. The village's designation underscores its proactive stance towards addressing housing needs, which is vital for attracting and retaining residents. A DRI grant will be used to further these housing and infrastructure advancements, ensuring that investments not only meet local's immediate needs but also support Weedsport's long term growth.

## Zoning Law

Weedsport's recently updated zoning law provides a clear and supportive regulatory environment for new



Trail's route through the village. These improvements have helped connect the village's residential neighborhoods to the commercial core, and improved visitors ability to stop and see all Weedsport has to offer.

# Streetscape Standards Plan

In 2014, a comprehensive streetscape standards plan was created alongside the complete streets policy and Main Street Program application to improve infrastructure in downtown Weedsport. The extensive planning document included plans for:

- Outdoor furniture, planters, and trash cans along the major routes
- Sidewalks, high visibility crosswalks, bike lanes, and other specialized infrastructure to promote pedestrian safety
- New street lighting and utility standards
- Street trees and other green landscaping

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 its status. The village has already taken a number of actions to support environmental sustainability including:

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



# Public Support

## May 22 - Public Workshop 1

May 31 - Public Outreach at Fireman's Field Day

## June 28 - Public Outreach at the Weedsport Craft Fair

## July 15 - Canvassing Local Businesses

## July 17 - Canvassing Local Businesses

## October 8 - Public Workshop 2

October 23 - Public Workshop 3

[illegible]

In 2014, the Village of Weedsport developed and adopted a complete streets policy to promote pedestrian safety and accessibility throughout the village. The new standards made it easier for residents and visitors of all ages and abilities to visit downtown, made infrastructure more consistent around the downtown corridor, and helped drive the creation of new bike lanes along the Empire State



The Village of Weedsport applied to the Downtown Revitalization Initiative in 2024. Though it was not awarded with a DRI grant, the village successfully educated locals about the program through 8 public meetings and workshops and hundreds of flyers sent out to village residents. In April 2025, the Village of Weedsport publicly announced that it would be applying again, and the Village of Weedsport and the Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development (CCPED) embarked on a new proactive effort to engage the community in the 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 new dedicated [DRI website](#). This online platform served as a central hub for information, updates, and opportunities for public participation throughout the grant period and remains active to provide updates to the community throughout the application process. In tandem with the website launch, postcards were mailed to every property in the village, informing residents and business owners about the first public workshop, and encouraging locals to submit project ideas. These postcards played a crucial role in making residents aware of the Village's new application and guaranteeing local residents knew how to make their voices heard.



The first public information session was held at the 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, 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 village trustees, and planning staff.



Last year staff relied on traditional public meetings, hosting events at Village Hall and Weedsport Schools to make sure projects reflected resident's priorities. This year the Village took public outreach a step further, going to community events and directly canvassing local businesses. This creative approach paid off, and county planning staff met with 43 residents at local events and spoke with 40 representatives of local businesses in the downtown core.

Feedback collected during this process 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 and private projects.

The first set of public meetings and outreach efforts helped the Village identify a slate of potential projects, a vision statement based off of feedback from local residents, and a downtown area boundary that represented where residents wanted to see downtown revitalization. The application was further refined through multiple public meetings and public workshops with the Board of Trustees. On October 8th the application and projects were presented by Cayuga County Planning staff at a public meeting at the Weedsport High School, so local residents had an opportunity to provide additional feedback on the draft application. Thirty-five local residents attended and made their voices heard. The Village of Weedsport's DRI application is based on extensive public outreach efforts and reflects residents' vision for a revitalized Village core.





# Transformative Private Projects

**Total Private Project Cost:**

**\$17,550,000**

**Total Private Ask:**

**\$7,925,000**

**Total Private Match**

**\$9,625,000**

## 1.) Transform Weedsport Skirt & Waist Co. Building



**Developer:** Weedsport Development, LLC.  
**Address:** 8936 North Seneca Street (NYS Route 34)  
**Possible funding sources:** Bank Financing & Private Equity

**Total project cost:** \$6,600,000  
**DRI request:** \$2,780,000  
**Match:** \$3,820,000

Major improvements will be made to the 27,808 sf 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. This property occupies a significant footprint in downtown Weedsport, and these improvements will have a major impact on any efforts to revitalize Weedsport's main commercial corridor.

## 2.) Restore Historic Potters Pub Building



**Developer:** Justin Allen  
**Address:** 8909 South Seneca Street (NYS Route 34)  
**Possible funding sources:** Bank Financing & Private Equity

**Total project cost:** \$2,200,000  
**DRI request:** \$1,100,000  
**Match:** \$1,100,000

Significant improvements will be made to the Potters Pub building. Multiple exterior elements will be completely rehabilitated including the historic storefront, the roof, and the northern façade which faces Weedsport's main intersection and Whittler's Green Park. 1600 sf of commercial space will be improved and 4 new apartments built in the upper stories, helping bring new life into one of the largest historic developments in downtown Weedsport. During the heyday of the Erie Canal, the Potters Pub building was once an opera house, a press room, a dance hall, and a pub. A DRI award would help restore one of the most visible landmarks in Downtown Weedsport, drawing people in and helping the village grow and thrive.

## 3.) Village Ace Hardware Building Expansion & Renovation



**Developer:** Village Ace Hardware  
**Address:** 2701 Erie Drive (NYS Route 31)  
**Possible funding sources:** Bank Financing & Private Equity

**Total project cost:** \$1,000,000  
**DRI request:** \$500,000  
**Match:** \$500,000

Multiple sections of the Village Ace Hardware building will be renovated and expanded to better serve community needs. The improved building will have 7,000-10,000 square feet of new commercial space that will allow Village Ace Hardware to significantly increase its operations in the Village of Weedsport. A new power equipment repair facility, training space, staff room, and additional space for selling hardware will be constructed. The current building is too small to properly serve customers who rely on Village Ace Hardware. A restored and renewed hardware store in Downtown Weedsport would help support locals who are working to revitalize homes and buildings across the region.



#### 4.) Build New Mixed Use Development



**Developer:** JT Properties, LLC.  
**Address:** 2685 Erie Drive (NYS Route 13)  
**Possible funding sources:** Bank Financing & Private Equity

**Total project cost:** \$3,000,000  
**DRI request:** \$1,200,000  
**Match:** \$1,800,000

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 feature first floor retail space and multiple upper floor apartment units. The new building 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.

#### 5.) Transform the Old Erie Restaurant



**Developer:** Canal Trail Ventures LLC  
**Address:** 8924 N Seneca Street (NYS Route 34)  
**Possible funding sources:** Bank Financing & Private Equity

**Total project cost:** \$600,000  
**DRI request:** \$360,000  
**Match:** \$240,000

The vacant Old Erie building will be renovated and transformed into a mixed use development with a ground floor commercial space and 3 new upper story apartments. Improvements will be made to both the building and grounds, reconnecting the building to the surrounding community. This project will transform a blighted building in the middle of downtown into a vibrant symbol of Weedsport's revitalization.

#### 6.) Improve Colonial Laundromat Building



**Developer:** JT Properties, LLC.  
**Address:** 2685 Erie Drive (NYS Route 31)  
**Possible funding sources:** Bank Financing & Private Equity

**Total project cost:** \$330,000  
**DRI request:** \$165,000  
**Match:** \$165,000

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 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 and accessible sidewalks will be built so that pedestrians can better access the site's commercial offerings.

#### 7.) Revitalize Commercial Office Building



**Developer:** Gail Upfold and Herbert Upfold Jr.  
**Address:** 2645 Erie Drive (NYS Route 31)  
**Possible funding sources:** Bank Financing & Private Equity

**Total project cost:** \$125,000  
**DRI request:** \$75,000  
**Match:** \$50,000

Improvements will be made to the office building at 2645 Erie Drive to strengthen its capacity to serve tenants and customers. Key upgrades include replacing the aging roof, modernizing the HVAC system to meet current energy standards, and repaving the parking lot to improve accessibility at the site. These improvements will 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.

#### 8.) Create Apartments in Upper Stories of The Sub Shop



**Developer:** Fingerlakes Homes, LLC.  
**Address:** 2698 East Brutus Street  
**Possible funding sources:** Bank Financing & Private Equity

**Total project cost:** \$2,200,000  
**DRI request:** \$1,100,000  
**Match:** \$1,100,000

Developers will completely renovate all floors of The Sub Shop building, improving a prominent local storefront and creating 7 new apartments. The Sub Shop is a popular lunch option for many residents, but the upper floors of



the building remain vacant and unused. Seven new housing units moving into the building would fundamentally transform that block, strengthening downtown businesses and increasing the number of residents living and shopping in the downtown core. Major façade improvements and multiple new windows will be built along the western wall of the building. The project also includes beautification of the parking area with replacement of the existing gravel lot with more visually appealing amenities.

## 9.) Enhance & Upgrade Lunkenheimer Brewing Facilities



**Developer:** Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company  
**Address:** 8931 North Seneca Street (NYS Route 34)  
**Possible funding sources:** Bank Financing & Private Equity

**Total project cost:** \$330,000  
**DRI request:** \$85,000  
**Match:** \$245,000

Lunkenheimer Craft Brewing Company will improve their production facilities and their event space in downtown Weedsport. A new brewhouse and fermentation vessel will be constructed, tripling their production capacity. The brewery will also develop the necessary infrastructure to can beverages on site. 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. Outside of the production facilities, a dedicated stage for live events with a high-quality sound system will be built, transforming the local brewery into a vibrant venue for music and community events, right on Seneca Street.

## 10.) Restore Building Exterior



**Developer:** Tyson-Bello, LLC.  
**Address:** 2684 East Brutus Street  
**Possible funding sources:** Bank Financing & Private Equity

**Total project cost:** \$335,000  
**DRI request:** \$155,000  
**Match:** \$180,000

Developers will remediate and improve the historic commercial building at 2684 East Brutus Street. The project includes repairs to the existing brick and stonework, the upper floor façades, and other features around the upper story apartments. This building stands as one of the most visible structures in Weedsport, and these improvements will help show that Weedsport is open for business.

## 11.) Restore Canal Double-Ender Façade



**Developer:** Tyson-Bello, LLC.  
**Address:** 8913 North Seneca Street (NYS Routes 31 & 34)  
**Possible funding sources:** Bank Financing & Private Equity

**Total project cost:** \$150,000  
**DRI request:** \$75,000  
**Match:** \$75,000

The developer will improve and remediate the two main façades at 8913 North Seneca Street. The windows along the NYS Route 34 facade will be replaced with period appropriate alternatives to improve the character of one of the most prominent buildings in the historic commercial district. Repairs will also be made to the rear wall of the building which faces NYS Route 31, reducing visible decay along one of Cayuga County's highest traffic corridors. These improvements will not only improve aesthetics on the village's most prominent corner, but it will extend the lifespan of the building for future generations.

## 12.) Improve the Lin Bo Building



**Developer:** Kristen Lunkenheimer & Derric Slocum  
**Address:** 8932 North Seneca Street (NYS Route 34)  
**Possible funding sources:** Bank Financing & Private Equity

**Total project cost:** \$205,000  
**DRI request:** \$100,000  
**Match:** \$105,000

Local entrepreneurs will be restoring the Lin Bo building at 8932 North 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.



### 13.) Restore Historic Mixed-Use Building Façade



**Developer:** B&B Solutions, Inc.  
**Address:** 2692 East Brutus Street  
**Possible funding sources:** Bank Financing & Private Equity

**Total project cost:** \$325,000  
**DRI request:** \$155,000  
**Match:** \$170,000

The developer will replace and improve 2692 East Brutus Street's façade. The eastern façade 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. These investments will also prolong the life of the building, ensuring it will be a part of Weedsport's downtown for years to come.

### 14.) Duplex Conversion



**Developer:** Johannes Fey  
**Address:** 8852 South Seneca Street (NYS Route 34)  
**Possible funding sources:** Bank Financing & Private Equity

**Total project cost:** \$150,000  
**DRI request:** \$75,000  
**Match:** \$75,000

The property owner will preserve and restore a historic home near the village center that has fallen into a state of disrepair. The project will include completely renovating the structure and converting it into a duplex. Several internal features will be modernized, fixtures will be added, and an energy efficient furnace will be installed. In addition to the necessary interior renovations, the building's exterior will be restored to a period appropriate state with new paint and repaired trim. This project exemplifies how Weedsport's newly adopted Zoning Law can enable similar duplex conversions, helping to increase the supply of much-needed housing in the downtown area.



## Transformative Public Projects

**Total Public Project Cost:**

**\$8,595,800**

**Total Public Ask:**

**\$6,392,000**

**Total Public Match**

**\$2,203,800**



### 15.) Beautify Whittler's Green



**Developer:** Village of Weedsport  
**Address:** Corner of Seneca and Brutus Streets (NYS Route 31 & 34)  
**Possible funding sources:** NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

**Total project cost:** \$255,000  
**DRI request:** \$195,000  
**Match:** \$60,000

The Village of Weedsport will revitalize Whittler's Green, a pocket park located in the heart of the community. Whittler's Green is the most visible park in the village and upgrades will significantly improve downtown Weedsport's visual character. 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. These new amenities will support residents of all ages and abilities at Weedsport's main intersection.



## 16.) Transform Trolley Park



**Developer:** Village of Weedsport  
**Address:** 8868 South Street (NYS Route 34)  
**Possible funding sources:** NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

**Total project cost:** \$1,600,000  
**DRI request:** \$1,200,000  
**Match:** \$400,000

Several improvements will be made to Trolley Park, a historic park next to the village offices. Sections of the playground will be replaced and upgraded, and a new safer rubberized play surface will be installed. The local basketball courts will also be resurfaced, and the parking lot will be improved with new landscaping features to reduce stormwater run-off. A new dog park will also be constructed so that the park can better support pet-owning residents. Park improvements will significantly strengthen connectivity around Downtown Weedsport and support public health for residents living in the surrounding neighborhoods.

## 17.) Construct Village Community Center



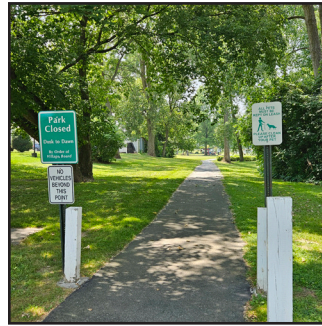
Conceptual Rendering

**Developer:** Village of Weedsport  
**Address:** 8878 South Street (NYS Route 34)  
**Possible funding sources:** USDA Rural Development, NYS Parks, NBRC

**Total project cost:** \$2,250,000  
**DRI request:** \$1,685,000  
**Match:** \$565,000

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 2,600 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.

## 18.) Connect Centreport Aqueduct to the School Multi-Purpose Trail



**Developer:** Town of Brutus  
**Address:** Former West Shore Railroad Railbed  
**Possible funding sources:** Town reserves, NYS DOT

**Total project cost:** \$720,000  
**DRI request:** \$302,000  
**Match:** \$418,000

The Town of Brutus will develop a new Trolley Connection Trail to connect the Erie Canal Trail to the Southwest Trail in the Village of Weedsport. The Southwest trail runs along the historic rail bed of the West Shore Railroad, and the new route would allow pedestrians traveling along the Empire State Trail & Erie Canal Trail the option to avoid crossing or traveling on a high traffic road with a large amount of heavy vehicle traffic (NYS Route 31). The new trail will provide locals and visitors with a cross-village pedestrian path connecting Trolley Park, Centreport Aqueduct Park, and the Weedsport public school complex. The Trolley Connection Trail will significantly improve pedestrian accessibility across the village.

## 19.) Construct Town Community Center



Conceptual Rendering

**Developer:** Town of Brutus  
**Address:** 2575 Erie Drive  
**Possible funding sources:** USDA Rural Development, NYS Parks, NBRC

**Total project cost:** \$2,220,800  
**DRI request:** \$1,700,000  
**Match:** \$520,800

The Town of Brutus will build a new community center on Erie Drive (NYS Route 31), one of Weedsport's main high traffic corridors. The new building will be a part of the planned Brutus municipal complex and serve residents of both the Village of Weedsport and the Town of Brutus. The site will use the nearby Centreport Aqueduct 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.



## 20.) New Parklet and Downtown Lot Landscaping



**Developer:** Village of Weedsport  
**Address:** 2692 East Brutus Street  
**Possible funding sources:** NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

**Total project cost:** \$600,000  
**DRI request:** \$150,000  
**Match:** \$450,000

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 surfaces and creating opportunities for stormwater management. A new park will also be constructed on site to improve pedestrians experience along the downtown corridor. 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.

## 21.) Historic and Community Signage



**Developer:** Village of Weedsport  
**Address:** Throughout the Downtown Area  
**Possible funding sources:** NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

**Total project cost:** \$100,000  
**DRI request:** \$75,000  
**Match:** \$25,000

The Village will develop new branding and signage to encourage visitors and tourists to stop and see everything Weedsport has to offer. A new, modern welcome sign will be built on the northern end of the village to let people know they are traveling through Weedsport. A series of historical signs and kiosks will be built along the Empire State Trail and near other historically significant places throughout the village showcasing Weedsport's history as a canal town, a rail hub, and as a local destination in the Central New York Region. Additional wayfinding signage will be built to direct people to places like the village hall, town hall, dog park, schools, baseball fields, and local parks.

## 22.) Downtown Streetscape & Beautification



**Developer:** Village of Weedsport  
**Address:** Throughout the Downtown Area on NYS Route 34  
**Possible funding sources:** NYSDOT TAP

**Total project cost:** \$250,000  
**DRI request:** \$185,000  
**Match:** \$65,000

Streetscape improvements will be developed to enhance the ambiance and safety of the village's main street (NYS Route 34). 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 without disrupting existing traffic design. Such installation will occur in coordination with NYS DOT and in accordance with the Village's adopted Streetscape Standards and Designs which have been reviewed by NYS DOT.

## 23.) Small Project Fund



**Developer:** Village of Weedsport  
**Address:** Throughout the Downtown Area  
**Possible funding sources:** Project Sponsor Matching Funds

**Total project cost:** \$600,000  
**DRI request:** \$600,000

The Village of Weedsport will establish a small project fund 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 projects including

- ADA Improvements
- Façade repairs
- Asbestos abatement
- Energy efficiency improvements
- New HVAC systems
- Streetscape improvements
- Residential unit rehabilitation
- Commercial unit revitalization



Transformative Private Projects	Project Cost	DRI Request	Match	New/Improved Commercial Space	New Residential Units
1.) Transform Weedsport Skirt & Waist Co. Building, 8936 North Seneca Street	\$6,600,000	\$2,780,000	\$3,820,000	27,800 sf	15
2.) Restore Historic Potters Pub Building, 8909 South Seneca Street	\$2,200,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	2,100 sf	4
3.) Village Ace Hardware Building Expansion & Renovation, 2701 Erie Drive	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	10,000 sf	
4.) Build New Mixed Use Development, 2685 Erie Drive	\$3,000,000	\$1,200,000	\$1,800,000	2,500 sf	8
5.) Transform the Old Erie Restaurant, 8924 North Seneca Street	\$600,000	\$360,000	\$240,000	6,800 sf	3
6.) Improve Colonial Laundromat Building, 2685 Erie Drive	\$330,000	\$165,000	\$165,000	1,400 sf	
7.) Revitalize Commercial Office Building, 2645 Erie Drive	\$125,000	\$75,000	\$50,000	3,400 sf	
8.) Create Apartments in Upper Stories of The Sub Shop, 2698 East Brutus Street	\$2,200,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000	4,700 sf	7
9.) Enhance & Upgrade Lunkenheimer Brewing Facilities, 8931 North Seneca Street	\$330,000	\$85,000	\$245,000	3,900 sf	
10.) Restore Building Exterior, 2684 East Brutus Street	\$335,000	\$155,000	\$180,000	2,100 sf	
11.) Restore Canal Double-Ender Façade, 8913 North Seneca Street	\$150,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	2,200 sf	
12.) Improve the Lin Bo Building, 8932 North Seneca Street	\$205,000	\$100,000	\$105,000	1,000 sf	
13.) Restore Historic Mixed-Use Building Façade, 2692 East Brutus Street	\$325,000	\$155,000	\$170,000	2,200 sf	
14.) Duplex Conversion, 8852 South Seneca Street	\$150,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	2,704 sf	2
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$17,550,000</b>	<b>\$7,925,000</b>	<b>\$9,625,000</b>	<b>72,804 sf</b>	<b>39</b>
Transformative Public Projects	Project Cost	DRI Request	Match	New Community Space	Improved Community Space
15.) Beautify Whittler’s Green, Corner of Seneca and Brutus Streets	\$255,000	\$195,000	\$60,000		1,800 sf
16.) Transform Trolley Park, 8868 South Street	\$1,600,000	\$1,200,000	\$400,000		187,300 sf
17.) Construct Village Community Center, 8878 South Street	\$2,250,000	\$1,685,000	\$565,000	2,600 sf	13,500 sf
18.) Connect Centreport Aqueduct to the School Multi-Purpose Trail, Former West Shore Railroad Railbed	\$720,000	\$302,000	\$418,000		72,480 sf
19.) Construct Town Community Center, 2575 Erie Drive	\$2,220,800	\$1,700,000	\$520,800	5,000 sf	70,000 sf
20.) New Parklet and Downtown Lot Landscaping, 2692 East Brutus Street	\$600,000	\$450,000	\$150,000		15,800 sf
21.) Historic and Community Signage, Throughout the Downtown Area (Not Shown on Map)	\$100,000	\$75,000	\$25,000		225 sf
22.) Downtown Streetscape & Beautification, Throughout the Downtown Area (Not Shown on Map)	\$250,000	\$185,000	\$65,000		16,000 sf
23.) Small Project Fund, Throughout the Downtown Area (Not Shown on Map)	\$600,000	\$600,000			
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$8,595,800</b>	<b>\$6,392,000</b>	<b>\$2,203,800</b>	<b>7,600 sf</b>	<b>377,105 sf</b>
Transformative Public/Private Project Totals:	Project Cost	DRI Request	Match	New/Improved Space	New Residential Units
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$26,145,800</b>	<b>\$14,317,000</b>	<b>\$11,828,800</b>	<b>457,509 sf</b>	<b>39</b>

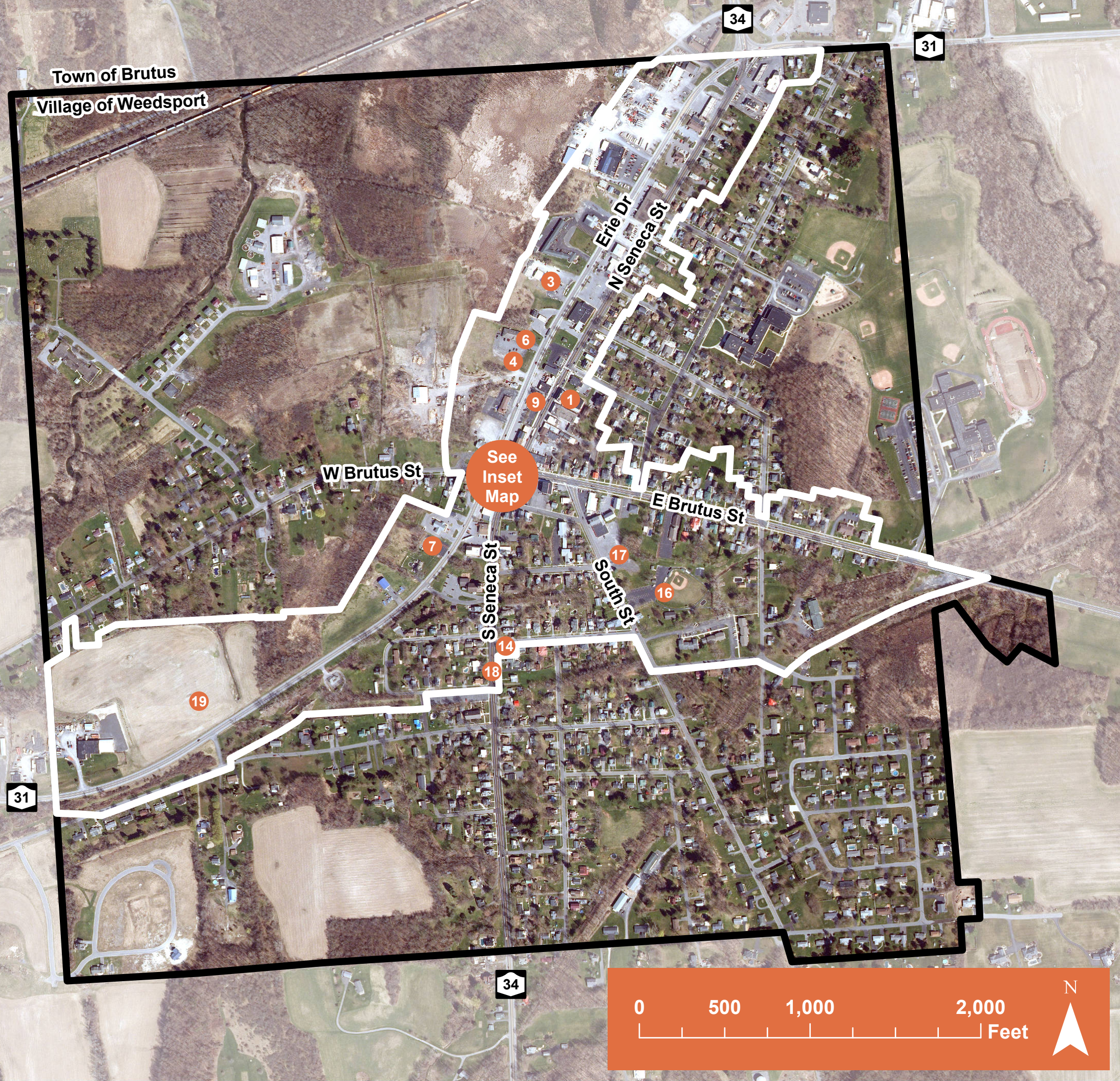
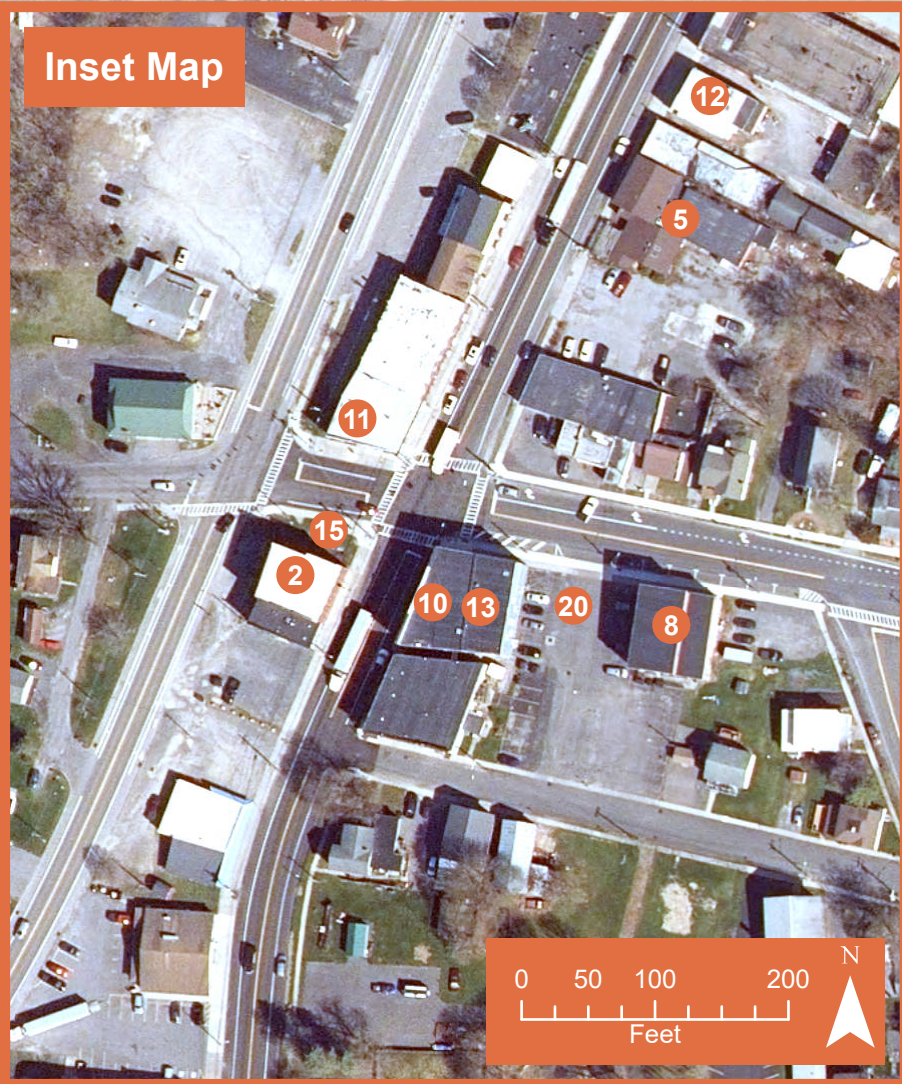


# 2025 Projects

- 1 Project Site
- Weedsport DRI Boundary
- Weedsport Boundary

Town of Brutus  
Village of Weedsport

Inset Map





## 10 Administrative Capacity

The Village of Weedsport is well positioned to administer and implement a Downtown Revitalization Initiative award with assistance from partners at 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 improvement projects since 2013. The Village has recently demonstrated its administrative capacity to successfully manage and implement 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 Planners will be instrumental in providing technical assistance for public 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, developing the Village's Main Street Program, Downtown Design Guidelines, and Streetscape Standards; 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 Lyons National Bank stand ready as local financial institutions to provide their financial expertise to support private project sponsors. 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 Small Business Development Center (SBDC), the Cayuga County Convention and Visitors Bureau (Tour Cayuga), and state-provided consultants to help guide project sponsors while they develop projects that transform downtown Weedsport. 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 the 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, revitalizing the community through strategic building renovations and public space improvements.





# Letters of Support

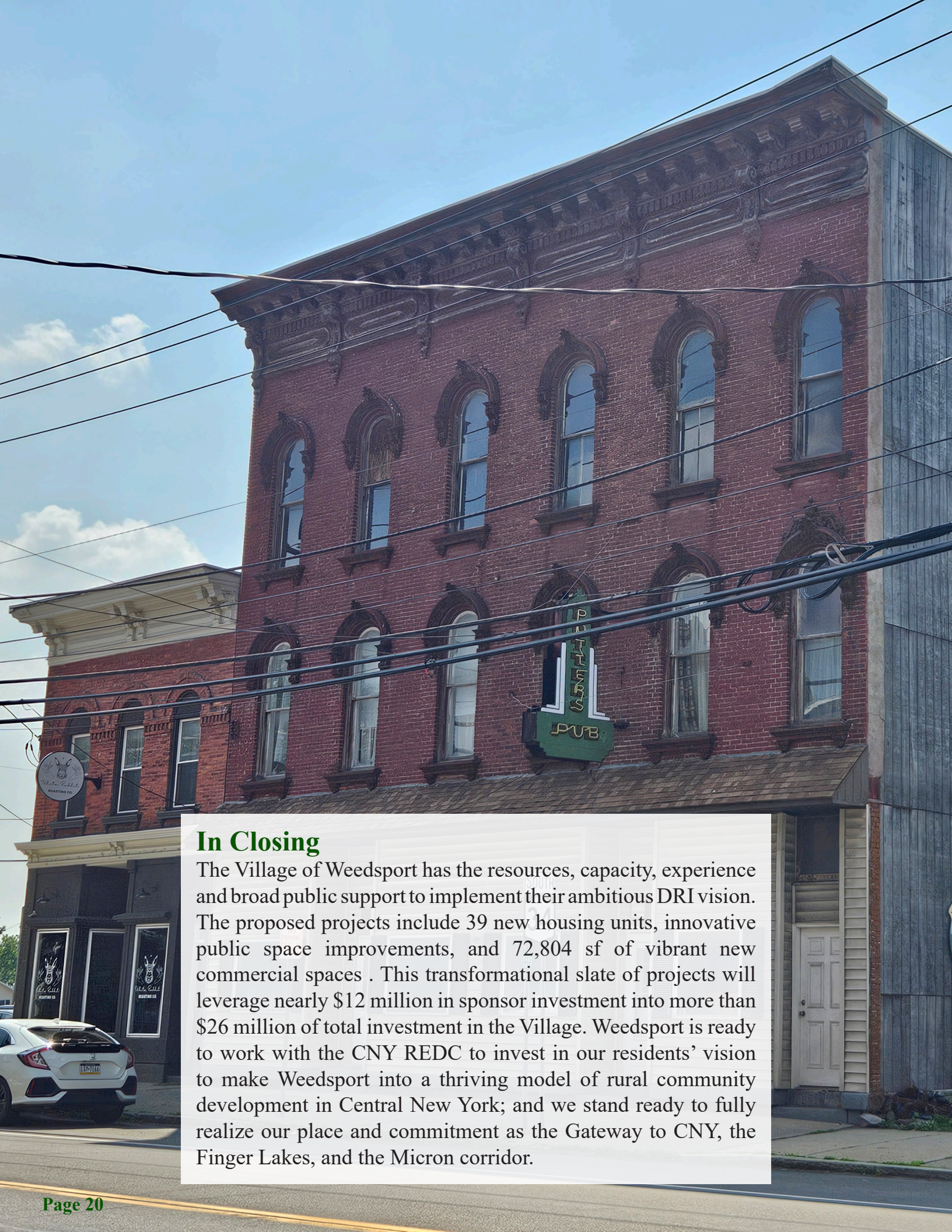
Letters in support of the Village's vision and application are attached. Several of the organizations that provided letters of support have either been involved in the preparation of this application, are major project sponsors, or will be active contributors to the formation of the LPC and implementation 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 nonprofits, elected officials, business owners, and local non-profit organizations. Letters of support are attached from the following:

- **Mayor Chad Platten**
- **Weedsport Central School District**
- **Weedsport Free Library**
- **Old Brutus Historical Society Museum**
- **Cayuga County Development Corporation**
- **Cayuga County Industrial Development Agency**
- **Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce**
- **Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development**
- **Cayuga County Legislature**
- **Tour Cayuga**
- **Local Business Owner and Village Trustee, Heather Van Luven-Skiff**
- **Developer, William Upfold**
- **Colonial Laundromats**
- **Village Ace Hardware**
- **Habitat for Humanity**
- **Housing Visions**
- **Homsite Development Corporation**
- **Preservation League of NYS**
- **Lyons National Bank**
- **United Way**
- **Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor**







## In Closing

The Village of Weedsport has the resources, capacity, experience and broad public support to implement their ambitious DRI vision. The proposed projects include 39 new housing units, innovative public space improvements, and 72,804 sf of vibrant new commercial spaces . This transformational slate of projects will leverage nearly \$12 million in sponsor investment into more than \$26 million of total investment in the Village. Weedsport is ready to work with the CNY REDC to invest in our residents' vision to make Weedsport into a thriving model of rural community development in Central New York; and we stand ready to fully realize our place and commitment as the Gateway to CNY, the Finger Lakes, and the Micron corridor.





# Village of Weedsport

8892 South Street, Box 190  
Weedsport, New York 13166  
(315) 834-6634  
Fax (315) 834-9110  
Website: [villageofweedsport.org](http://villageofweedsport.org)

29th of October, 2025

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

Re: Weedsport's Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

The Village of Weedsport is submitting a comprehensive plan for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant. I recognize the competitive nature of this process, with many excellent communities across Central New York demonstrating their potential. However, the evidence of **Weedsport's existing momentum and fiscal responsibility** makes a strategic investment here particularly pivotal for the entire region.

## **Demonstrated Private Investment and Community Action**

Weedsport has already established itself as a community prepared to execute its vision. Over the last five years, significant private capital has flowed into our downtown and surrounding community. Property and business owners have proactively invested in what were previously vacant and underutilized buildings. These rehabilitated properties now align with our **2014 Comprehensive Plan** and are successfully attracting new small businesses to the area.

This revitalization is evident in the quality of life being created: properties have been brought up to the comprehensively updated **2022 zoning code** and have become aesthetically pleasing. New apartments are rapidly filling the upper levels of our historic buildings, increasing residential density. Furthermore, the village's consistently **top-ranked schools** have been a powerful driver, encouraging families to move in and revitalize formerly derelict homes. This private sector confidence confirms that the



community is moving forward independent of this grant. As you may notice in our application, we have added additional projects to our list as more business and property owners look to upgrade. This funding will be the catalyst for substantial improvements to both our residential and commercial properties.

### **Proactive Infrastructure Modernization**

Weedsport has demonstrated a strong commitment to managing and modernizing its core infrastructure. In 2012, the village successfully leveraged State and Federal funding to upgrade and update our **wastewater treatment facility**, bringing it into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

We are currently undertaking a massive project to rehabilitate our municipal water distribution system. We have successfully secured **\$17 million in grants and loans** to repair and replace water lines that have not been significantly updated since 1896. This record of **securing large-scale, non-local funding and executing essential, decades-overdue infrastructure work** proves the village's capacity for project management.

We are in conversations with our municipal neighbors to create a plan that will strengthen our connections and help to build a stronger hub for commerce and community development. Collaboration between local governments is necessary for any meaningful progress to happen. In the past, there has been friction between various levels of government in our area. We have been working to remove those barriers by having joint Town and Village board meetings over the past year in order to create better relationships and allow for meaningful collaboration.

### **Regional Connectivity and Strategic Growth**

The village is taking active steps to improve connectivity and leverage its regional assets. We are currently collaborating with the NYS Department of Transportation on plans for the eventual reconstruction of NY-34 and NY-31, a crucial project that will enhance the village's **walkability and bikeability**. With over **18,000 people driving through Weedsport daily** and a vital **NYS Thruway exit**, these improvements are essential for converting passing traffic into local patrons and supporting downtown commerce.

The village is also positioning itself for major regional growth, particularly concerning housing. We have interested investors, developers, and landowners pursuing the development of affordable housing on a **300+ acre parcel** bordering the village, which could yield a mixture of over **500 new residences**. This land availability, existing infrastructure, and our proximity—a manageable **32-minute drive to the Micron facility**—make Weedsport an ideal, high-impact location to support the region's economic future.

I know I am biased; but I feel that Weedsport's potential puts us in a strong position to take the support and guidance from the CNY Regional Economic Development Council and New York State to truly multiply the investment many times over. We have a strong commitment from our business owners, community members, Cayuga County, and my Village Board to make wonderful things happen. It is my hope that we can work together to not only revitalize our downtown but also our Village, our Town, and our region into a place where people want to live, work, and enjoy for many years to come. Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to meeting with you to discuss this application and then to celebrate the many ground breaking events to follow!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad Platten". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chad" being more prominent than the last name "Platten".

Chad Platten, Mayor  
Village of Weedsport





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)

October 6, 2025

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

**Re: Weedsport Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application**

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Village of Weedsport's application to the Downtown Revitalization Initiative. As Superintendent of the Weedsport Central School District, I understand how vital a thriving, vibrant downtown is to the overall well-being of our students, families, and community.

This DRI funding would be a transformative investment in the Village, enhancing access to housing, strengthening small businesses, and improving public spaces that serve as important gathering points for our residents. These improvements directly support the work we do in the district by fostering a more connected, prosperous, and stable environment for our students and their families.

The Village of Weedsport has shown a consistent commitment to revitalization and economic growth, taking important steps to invest in itself and plan for a stronger future. With DRI support, these efforts will be significantly accelerated, helping to turn our downtown into a more vibrant, attractive destination that reflects the pride and potential of the community.

On behalf of the Weedsport Central School District, I wholeheartedly endorse the Village's DRI application and urge you to give it full consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory M. Stone', written over a horizontal line.

Gregory Stone

Superintendent of Schools

October 3, 2025

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken

Regional Co-Chairs

Central New York REDC

620 Erie BLVD, Suite 112

Syracuse, NY 13204

**Re: Weedsport Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application**

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Village of Weedsport's application to the Downtown Revitalization Initiative. As the Director of the Weedsport Free Library, I know how vital a thriving, vibrant, downtown is to the overall well-being of our residents, families, and community.

This DRI funding would be a transformative investment in the Village, enhancing access to housing, strengthening small businesses, and improving public spaces that serve as important gathering points for our residents. These improvements will directly support the work we do serving village residents, fostering a more connected, prosperous, and stable environment for our community.

The Village of Weedsport has shown a consistent commitment to revitalization and economic growth, taking important steps to invest in itself and plan for a stronger future. With a DRI award, these efforts will be significantly accelerated, helping to turn our downtown into a more vibrant, attractive destination that reflects the pride and potential of the community.

On behalf of the Weedsport Free Library, I wholeheartedly endorse the Village's DRI application and urge you to give it full consideration.

Sincerely,



Christine Jordan

Director of Weedsport Free Library



**Old Brutus Historical Society Museum**  
**8943 North Seneca St., PO Box 516**  
**Weedsport, NY 13166**  
**315-834-9342**  
**oldbrutushistorical@gmail.com**

October 22, 2025

Re: Weedsport Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

On behalf of the Old Brutus Historical Society, I am writing to extend our enthusiastic support for Weedsport's Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant application. As an organization committed to preserving and sharing the unique history of the Town of Brutus and the Village of Weedsport, we are especially encouraged by how this proposal honors our region's deep historical roots, particularly the pivotal role of the Erie Canal.

The Erie Canal was instrumental in shaping Weedsport's economic growth and historical identity. Its enduring influence is visible throughout the village's architecture and layout. The proposed DRI projects, which include the revitalization of key Canal-era structures and enhancements to public spaces with historical context, represent an important step forward in preserving this legacy.

The plan to restore and adaptively reuse several historic downtown buildings is not only a matter of preservation, but also a reinvestment in the cultural soul of our community. These buildings are tangible links to Weedsport's Canal-era prosperity and continue to tell the story of our village's past. Thoughtful restoration will breathe new life into these structures, allowing them to serve present-day needs while retaining their historical significance.

Moreover, projects spotlighting the Canal and Rail era will serve as an educational resource and point of pride for our community. Enhancing public spaces with interpretive elements related to the canal era will engage residents and visitors alike, fostering a deeper appreciation for our shared heritage. This connection to the past is crucial for maintaining a sense of identity and continuity within the village.

We believe that this project represents a significant opportunity to celebrate and sustain the rich history of the Erie Canal while giving historic buildings a new phase of life.

Thank you for considering our support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas J. Atkins". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with a large, stylized 'T' and 'A'.

Thomas J. Atkins, President  
Old Brutus Historical Society

Cayuga County Development Corporation  
PO BOX 189, Auburn, NY 13021

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October 3, 2025

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

Re: Weedsport Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken:

I am writing on behalf of the Cayuga County Development Corporation Board of Directors (CCDC), to offer CCDC's strong support for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant application submitted by the Village of Weedsport. As Executive Director of the Cayuga County Development Corporation, I can confidently attest to both the readiness and long-term vision of the Village, as well as the unique opportunity this investment represents for Cayuga County and the broader Central New York Region.

CCDC understands that the Village of Weedsport is a critical point of entry into Cayuga County due to its strategic location with an exit on the NY Thruway. It is well-positioned to serve as a connector between regional economic hubs. With the construction of the Micron facility—located just four Thruway exits away—the Village is uniquely situated to support and benefit from the associated job growth, business expansion, and residential demand expected throughout this prime economic development corridor.

A targeted investment through the DRI would allow Weedsport to modernize its downtown infrastructure, expand small business opportunities, and enhance quality of life for current and future residents. The Village leadership has shown a deep commitment to revitalization planning and stakeholder engagement, and they have laid a thoughtful foundation for sustainable growth. Weedsport's downtown is rich with history, character, and potential. With DRI support, it can become a vibrant hub that anchors economic activity. To compliment these local actions should a DRI designation be awarded, the CCDC Board stands ready to provide significant financial support via our small business loan program, to leverage the planned equity investments by property owners and businesses in concert with local lenders and economic development partners.

I respectfully urge the REDC to give the Village of Weedsport's application full and favorable consideration. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

*Stephen F. Lynch*

Stephen F. Lynch, Executive Director, CCDC

---





October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

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

**Re: Weedsport Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application**

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to express my strongest support for the Village of Weedsport's application to the Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant. As Chair of the Cayuga County Industrial Development Agency, I have seen firsthand the village's potential for economic growth and community enrichment.

Strategically located just off the New York State Thruway, Weedsport serves as a key gateway to the Finger Lakes region and a critical transportation hub for northern Cayuga County. Weedsport offers direct access to major roadways, local rail infrastructure, and two development-ready sites situated on either side of the community.

While the Village has already made meaningful investments in revitalizing its downtown, the DRI grant would breathe even more life into this already vibrant community. These improvements would significantly boost the Village's appeal and functionality. Moreover, the timing of this revitalization is particularly advantageous given the anticipated development of Micron located just four exits away on NYS Thruway. Weedsport is ideally positioned to support and benefit from increased demand for housing, services, and amenities. A strong, revitalized Weedsport will not only serve its residents but also contribute significantly to the broader economic vitality of Cayuga County.

I urge you to give full and favorable consideration to Weedsport's DRI application. The potential impact of this funding will be both immediate and long-lasting for our region.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful review.

Sincerely,

*Michael Miller*

Michael Miller  
Executive Director  
Cayuga County Industrial Development Agency



October 16, 2025

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,

On behalf of the Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce, I am pleased to offer my strong support for the Village of Weedsport's Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) application. As Executive Director, I am continually inspired by the Village's forward-thinking vision and commitment to strengthening its local economy and sense of place.

Strategically located just off the New York State Thruway, Weedsport serves as a prominent gateway not only to Cayuga County but to the entire Finger Lakes Region. This visibility presents an exceptional opportunity to leave a lasting impression on both residents and visitors. Investments outlined in this application will provide critical enhancements to the Village's building infrastructure, public spaces, and commercial corridor- boosting the Village's appeal and functionality.

Importantly, Weedsport is poised to become a key destination along the Erie Canalway Trail, one of Upstate New York's most significant recreational assets. By leveraging this DRI opportunity, the Village can further elevate its role in the regional tourism economy. Planned improvements such as the redevelopment of the Old Erie Building will attract new visitors, spur business activity, and contribute to long-term economic sustainability.

Weedsport has already begun to emerge as a model for downtown revitalization among our county's small communities. With this grant, it can fully realize its potential as a leader in community-centered, economically impactful development.

The Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce strongly supports the Village of Weedsport's application and encourages you to give it your highest consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Amy M. Fuller', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Amy M. Fuller  
Executive Director  
Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce





## DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**Kari Terwilliger, AICP**  
Director

160 Genesee Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Auburn, New York 13021

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

October 6, 2025

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

Re: Village of Weedsport Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application – Round 9

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Village of Weedsport's application to the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI). This initiative presents a transformative opportunity for Weedsport, and I believe the village is exceptionally well-positioned to leverage this investment to stimulate economic growth and community revitalization.

Weedsport's application reflects a vision to reinvigorate its downtown core through targeted investment in housing, infrastructure, public spaces, and local businesses. These efforts are not only aligned with regional economic development priorities, but they also build upon ongoing initiatives in the community, as Weedsport has demonstrated both readiness and commitment to successfully implement this initiative.

Having played a key role for decades in developing comprehensive plans, zoning regulations, area revitalization plans, natural resource, farmland, and agricultural protection plans, economic development strategies, and more at all levels, including for the Village of Weedsport, I strongly support the Village's DRI grant application. I look forward to the positive impacts that a DRI award will have on the Village of Weedsport community, and for Cayuga County as a whole, as the Village truly is the gateway to the Finger Lakes.

A DRI grant award would serve as a catalyst for meaningful change in Weedsport by unlocking new potential for job creation, small business development, and enhanced quality of life for residents and visitors alike. With this grant award, Weedsport will foster economic growth and further enhance the community's vibrancy.

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 giving this application your full consideration.

Sincerely,

*Kari Terwilliger*  
Kari Terwilliger, AICP  
Director



## County of Cayuga

**Jonathan Anna**  
Chair Cayuga County Legislature  
160 Genesee St.  
Auburn, NY 13021

October 7, 2025

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

### **Re: Weedsport Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application**

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

On behalf of the Cayuga County Legislature, I am pleased to offer my strongest support for the Village of Weedsport's application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant.

As Chair of the Legislature for Cayuga County, I've witnessed firsthand the transformative impact of this initiative on communities in the county. Weedsport serves as a critical gateway into our county - an entrance for thousands of visitors via its exit on the NYS Thruway. It is essential that this gateway presents an inviting, vibrant face that reflects the quality and character of Cayuga County.

A successful Downtown Revitalization Initiative in Weedsport would enhance public spaces, strengthen small businesses, and elevate the Village's overall appeal to residents, visitors and investors. These improvements on top of investments the Village have already made, will not only benefit Weedsport but also uplift Cayuga County as a whole. By improving this key entry point into the Finger Lakes Region, we will be encouraging regional exploration and supporting the broader economic vitality of our communities.

I wholeheartedly support the Village of Weedsport's application for the DRI Grant and respectfully request your favorable consideration.

Thank you for your time and dedication to supporting downtown revitalization throughout Central New York.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Anna", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jonathan Anna, Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature



October 16, 2025

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

**Re: Village of Weedsport Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application**

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the Village of Weedsport's application to the Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant. As the Executive Director of Tour Cayuga, I have witnessed the transformative impact that DRI investments can have on communities throughout our region, and I strongly believe Weedsport is poised to be the next success story.

Strategically located at a major gateway to Auburn and the broader Finger Lakes region, Weedsport serves as an important access point for both day-trippers and overnight visitors. With targeted investments, the village has the potential to become a vibrant hub that draws travelers off the highway and into the heart of Cayuga County.

In particular, streetscape and façade enhancements will help visually transform the village, encouraging more of the thousands of daily drivers to stop, explore, and support the local economy. These types of improvements play a crucial role in shaping positive first impressions and encourage people to return.

Weedsport's location and potential make it an ideal candidate for DRI funding. These investments will strengthen its downtown core and reinforce the region's broader tourism and economic development goals.

I fully support the Village's application and commend its commitment to revitalization and growth. I look forward to seeing the exciting progress that will come from this effort and the positive ripple effects it will have across Cayuga County.

Sincerely,



Courtney Kasper  
Executive Director  
Tour Cayuga



October 26, 2025

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.

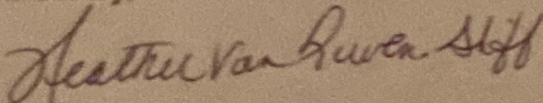
Our downtown area is not just the heart of our village; it is a gathering place where residents and visitors come together to connect. By restoring our marquee buildings and enhancing our public spaces, we will not only improve the aesthetic appeal of our downtown but also create a welcoming atmosphere 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, 2025

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 as a proud local business owner and community stakeholder to express my full support for the Village of Weedsport's Downtown Revitalization grant application. As someone directly involved in the restoration and redevelopment of mixed-use buildings within the Village, I have seen firsthand both the challenges and immense potential that Weedsport's historic downtown holds.

Over the years, I have worked on several renovation projects along Main Street, breathing new life into some of our community's most iconic structures. While the age and condition of the infrastructure pose certain obstacles, these buildings remain vital assets with the power to anchor renewed economic activity and community engagement. The investments proposed in this DRI application align perfectly with my vision—and that of many others—for a vibrant, walkable, and economically diverse downtown district.

The leadership shown by the Village in advancing this application has been exceptional. The proactive outreach, collaboration with local stakeholders, and commitment to a unified vision for revitalization reflect a deep understanding of what's needed to create sustainable, long-term change. As a business owner, it's encouraging to witness this level of dedication to community and economic growth.

The Village's DRI application has the potential to significantly transform our Village's ongoing efforts to revitalize the historic downtown of Weedsport. I encourage full support of this application and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



William Upfold

# Colonial Laundromats

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

Re: Weedsport Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

As a small family business operating in the Village of Weedsport, we are writing to express our support for the Village's application to the Downtown Revitalization Initiative. Colonial Laundromat is a frequent location for village residents and people passing through needing to do their laundry. Located in the middle of the village, we see firsthand the potential for growth and the importance of creating a vibrant, walkable, and welcoming downtown. This initiative is a great opportunity for Weedsport to build upon its historic character, strengthen its economy, and enhance the quality of life for residents, business owners, and visitors alike.

Our property includes our laundromat, an H&R Block, and Social Services office. In my other locations the presence of residents nearby increases foot traffic and fosters a lively community. When people live close to the services and amenities, it creates a more sustainable economy. The renovations and public space improvements outlined in the DRI application will enhance the overall appeal of Weedsport's downtown area. By updating historic buildings and creating inviting spaces, we will attract more residents and visitors, contributing to the economic and social vibrancy of the Village and my business. The implementation of housing units proposed in the application will address the need for housing and diverse living options.

The proposed projects represent a valuable investment, enhancing both the physical environment and quality of life for residents and business owners. I commend the initiative and the leadership behind it and am optimistic about the positive impact these improvements will bring to our community.

Sincerely,

Tim, Ryan, & Dan O'Connell  
Colonial Laundromats

6609 South Salina Street \* PO Box 138 Nedrow, New York 13120  
Ph: (315) 469-5593  
Email: [coloniallaundry@aol.com](mailto:coloniallaundry@aol.com)

Visit our website: [www.coloniallaundromats.com](http://www.coloniallaundromats.com)



October 21, 2025

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 offering my full support for the Village of Weedsport Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant application. As a business owner in the Village, I can't say enough how the DRI would be transformative for Weedsport.

Our village has a rich history and strong sense of community, and the DRI represents a chance to build on our strengths, attract new investment, and create a downtown that is welcoming and vibrant for residents, visitors, and future businesses.

I have submitted a project proposal to be included in this application, which I believe will directly contribute to these goals. By investing in the Village, my business and many others can grow in a way that benefits not only my customers and employees, but the downtown district as a whole.

The DRI investment would provide a lasting impact for our community, strengthening the local economy, encouraging entrepreneurship, and enhancing quality of life. I am committed to working alongside fellow business owners and community leaders to ensure that this opportunity leads to meaningful, long-term revitalization.

Thank you for your consideration of Weedsport's application. I hope you will see the same promise in our community that I do every day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel DiSano".

Daniel DiSano, Owner of Village Ace Hardware



*Now More Than Ever.*  
**Help Build It!**

October 9, 2025

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,

On behalf of Cayuga County Habitat for Humanity, I am pleased to offer our strong support for the Village of Weedsport's application to the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI).

Habitat for Humanity is dedicated to building strength, stability, and self-reliance through affordable housing and community partnerships. We recognize that vibrant, accessible, and economically resilient downtowns are critical to improving quality of life for residents across Cayuga County. The Village of Weedsport's vision for revitalization—enhancing walkability, supporting local businesses, expanding housing opportunities, and creating inclusive community spaces—aligns closely with our mission and will directly benefit the families and communities we serve.

Investing in Weedsport's downtown will not only strengthen the local economy, but will also foster opportunities for affordable, sustainable housing, improve access to essential services, and encourage community engagement. We are committed to collaborating with the Village and other local partners to ensure the success of this effort and the long-term vitality of the region.

We respectfully urge the CNY REDC to give full consideration to the Village of Weedsport's DRI application. This investment has the potential to transform the community, create lasting opportunities for residents, and serve as a model for revitalization in rural villages across New York State.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued leadership in advancing economic and community development across our region.

Sincerely,  


Mary Pidgeon, Executive Director

Cayuga County Habitat for Humanity



October 20, 2025



**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 Village of Weedsport's application to the Downtown Revitalization Initiative. As the Vice-President of Housing Visions I know how Pro Housing grants like the DRI can help support high quality, affordable housing development.

A DRI award has the potential to fundamentally transform the Village of Weedsport into a more complete and walkable community with a thriving and vibrant downtown core. These improvements are vital for creating an environment where affordable housing can thrive.

Walkable dense communities give residents easy access to jobs, educational opportunities, and support services. Affordable housing projects thrive in communities where residents have easy access to the goods and services they need, and the opportunities they deserve. The Village of Weedsport's proposed DRI projects will help create an inclusive development environment where housing for residents at all income levels and stages of life can be built.

I strongly endorse the Village of Weedsport in their Downtown Revitalization Initiative application and urge you to provide the necessary support to realize their vision.

Sincerely,

Christopher Trevisani  
Vice President Business Development



October 20, 2025  
Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken  
Regional Co-Chairs  
Central New York REDC  
620 Erie BLVD, Suite 112  
Syracuse, NY 13204

**Re: Weedsport Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application**

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing to extend my full support for the Village of Weedsport's Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant application. As the Site Director of Homsite, I have seen firsthand the transformative impact of thoughtful community development, and I am enthusiastic about the potential this initiative holds for the village and the greater region.

Weedsport stands at a pivotal moment—an opportunity to reimagine its downtown as a vibrant, connected hub for residents and visitors alike. DRI funding will catalyze critical improvements to public spaces, support small and local businesses, and enhance commercial corridors, all of which are essential to creating a livable and sustainable community. Of particular importance is the intersection of this revitalization effort with the development of affordable housing.

Walkable, well-planned communities are essential for successful affordable housing projects. When residents have convenient access to essential services, employment opportunities, and community amenities without the added burden of transportation costs, their overall quality of life improves significantly.

Investments in public infrastructure, connectivity, and local commerce not only support economic growth, but also foster the social capital and community cohesion that make neighborhoods strong. These elements are vital to the success of both current and future affordable housing residents.

The positive impact of this project on the community and potential future residents cannot be overstated. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Erica M. Ryan*

Erica Ryan,  
Executive Director





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October 16, 2025

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

Re: Weedsport Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

On behalf of the Preservation League of New York State, I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for the Village of Weedsport's Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant application.

The Preservation League is the statewide nonprofit working to empower all New Yorkers to use historic preservation to enrich their communities, protect their heritage, and build a sustainable future, since 1974. We encourage communities to prioritize preserving existing building stock through sensitive adaptive reuse and rehabilitation to meet today's housing and downtown commercial needs. The proposed renovations and enhancements to public spaces reflect deep respect for Weedsport's past while thoughtfully envisioning its future.

The integration of historic preservation into the revitalization plan demonstrates the Village's strong commitment to maintaining its unique character as a historic commercial hub. By investing in the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of its historic structures, Weedsport is not only preserving its architectural legacy but also creating vibrant, functional spaces that serve today's community needs.

This project aligns closely with the Preservation League's mission to protect and promote New York's historic resources. Of note is the way this project embraces and elevates the Village's rich Erie Canal and railroad history. It strikes an essential balance of celebrating Weedsport's heritage while ensuring relevance for future generations. We believe this initiative will have a lasting and transformative impact, strengthening both the cultural identity and economic vitality of the Village.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jenna M. Rudler'.

Jenna M. Rudler,  
Grants and Technical Services Manager

October 27, 2025

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,

On behalf of Lyons National Bank, I am writing to express our support for the Village of Weedsport's Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant application.

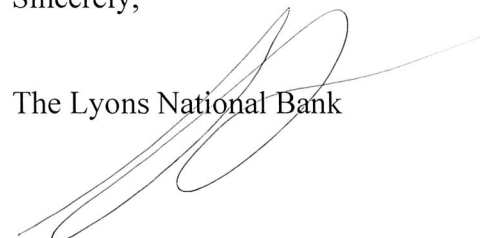
As a local bank with a long history of working with residents in the Village of Weedsport, we recognize the vital role this funding will play in supporting the Village's economy and attracting new investment into the Central New York Region. The proposed projects to revitalize historic buildings and improve public spaces will create a vibrant, walkable, and welcoming downtown district along Weedsport's main commercial corridor.

These improvements are more than aesthetic, they are essential to fostering a dynamic environment that supports local businesses, attracts new investment, and enhances the quality of life for local residents. A more attractive and accessible downtown encourages foot traffic, boosts local commerce, and reinforces a sense of community pride.

At Lyons National Bank, we are committed to supporting initiatives that stimulate economic development and support community well-being. We are confident that Weedsport's vision aligns with these goals, and we are enthusiastic about the long-term benefits these projects will bring to our region.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important proposal. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



The Lyons National Bank

Stephen DeRaddo

Executive Vice President



# United Way of Cayuga County



October 10, 2025

Dr. Linda LeMura and Randy Wolken

Regional Co-Chairs

Central New York REDC

620 Erie BLVD, Suite 112

Syracuse, NY 13204

## **Re: Weedsport Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application**

Dear Dr. LeMura and Mr. Wolken,

I am writing on behalf of United Way of Cayuga County to share our strong support for the Village of Weedsport's Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant application. Our organization is dedicated to supporting county residents who are financially vulnerable, lack healthcare, or are food insecure, and we believe this initiative is crucial for fostering a more supportive and cohesive community.

As a non-profit committed to addressing the needs of disadvantaged residents, we know the importance of communities offering walkable, vibrant spaces that provide essential amenities and services. These are foundational to building a community where all residents, especially those facing financial hardships, can thrive.

The proposed renovations and improvements will create a more accessible and inviting downtown area where residents can reach vital resources and participate in the community by engaging in local services. Well-designed public spaces and accessible services significantly enhance the quality of life for our clients and residents.

In addition, the proposed improvements help United Way improve the effectiveness of our own outreach programs. Upgraded public spaces and facilities will enable us to better host community events, workshops, and resource distribution efforts. This will amplify our ability to connect those in need with support.

We wholeheartedly support Weedsport's application and vision and believe it will benefit the community at large. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*Lisa A. Kaminski*

Lisa Kaminski

Executive Director of United Way of Cayuga County



October 6, 2025

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

Re: Weedsport – Downtown Revitalization Initiative 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 Downtown Revitalization Initiative 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. This funding represents a unique opportunity to further revitalize a community that has deep historical ties to the Erie Canal and to foster sustainable growth in the region. We are confident that this grant will catalyze lasting benefits for Weedsport and the wider region.

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.

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

Sincerely,



Bob Radliff  
Executive Director