



Onondaga County Legislature

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PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES – FEBRUARY 22, 2023 **TIM BURTIS, CHAIR**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Kuhn, Mr. Olson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Garland, Mr. McBride

ALSO ATTENDING: Mr. Knapp, also see attached

Chair Burtis called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. *The minutes of the previous meeting have been distributed. There are no corrections to the minutes, and the minutes are approved.*

1. SYRACUSE ONONDAGA COUNTY PLANNING AGENCY: Dan Kwasnowski, Director, David Knapp, Legislator

a. Amending the 2023 County Budget to Accept Grant Funds From Syracuse Onondaga Food Systems Alliance/Syracuse Grows to Support the Onondaga County Agriculture Council’s “Buy Local – Onondaga Grown” Marketing Campaign (\$149,800)

- Agricultural Council has been around for 11 years
- Past 7 years worked hard on the Buy Local – Onondaga Grown campaign, a lot of media; as part of that started Dan Farm “ON Farm Fest”
 - 10-11 farms throughout the county from dairy, beef, horse, Christmas trees, maple farmers, etc.
 - Get people out of the house in September, during harvest time, to see where food comes from, talk to farmers, dispel some of the myths and try to make a connection between consumers and farmers
 - Has been a successful program
 - Last year partnered with Syracuse Onondaga Food Systems Alliance (SOFSA); applied for federal dollars, looking for other areas but a perfect opportunity to include buy local program
 - Awarded money to be used over two years; \$75,000/year
 - Allows to grow program, to charter buses from city to schools and bring kids/families to farms to see where food comes from
 - Grant awarded and looking forward to move ahead
 - Contract was up and currently preparing an RFP, received a couple of responses; seeing who will help manage the program

Questions/Comments from committee:

- Is it a Marketing program?
 - Yes, as far as buy local program, there are local businesses, restaurants, farms, farm stands who are members of the Agricultural Council who county helps promote, hand out literature, provide “Onondaga Grown” stickers to put on various items to show support for local folks
- Do people have to connect with SOSFA, different farmers or growers?
 - No, it is through the Ag Council, SOSFA is a different entity
 - Addressing things like food deserts in the city, working with the city on zoning to help on the south side, Valley Plaza area and other farm to school, farm to table initiatives, is what SOSFA works on
 - Partnered with this as it made sense

- Is SOSFA responsible for the market in Valley Plaza?
 - Yes
- Is the Brady Farm involved?
 - Yes, Ag Council gave The Brady Farm a \$35,000 grant to get started to buy equipment, hoops, houses, etc.
 - One of the stops on the “ON Farm Fest” tour, six acre farm on south side of Syracuse, it is a great thing
 - Fresh food is provided to Brady Market, formerly Nojaims, and also helped out Jubilee Homes garden
 - Food from Jubilee Homes garden sold at the downtown market on Tuesday’s
 - Good grant, allows expansion of the program and still save money to do great things for community
 - Awarded grant to group of deaf individuals starting farm in Kirkville

A motion was made by Mr. Olson, seconded by Ms. Kuhn, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

b. Amending the 2023 County Budget to Accept Grant Funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Through the New York State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, for Updates to the Onondaga County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (\$190,000)

- Seems like yesterday the Hazard Mitigation Plan was adopted; FEMA reached out and said this is something that should be looked at every 5 years
- Routine update; not anticipating adding anything new like we did in past
- Straight-up kind of update of that plan; plan is of all communities in the county
- Called a multi-jurisdictional planning approach
- Back a long time ago in Planning, each town could do their own Hazard Mitigation Plan; county started doing at the county level
- County is responsible for organizing all towns, villages, and city to participate; all get own section
- Have own individual identifications of what the hazards are and what can be done to mitigate impacts
- There is no expense to the county, except for in kind services, have to have done at least a year before contract is done
- Issue an RFP if choose to accept the federal funding
- Try to bring towns together in one place, now thinking more virtual method; easier for towns and villages to update more quickly and efficiently

Questions/Comments from Committee:

- Is there \$20,000 for multiple planning in kind?
 - \$20,000 is matching, and another \$10,000 for administration of grant
- Period of performance deadline is February 1, 2026?
 - Yes, but plan expires in August, 2024
 - Strongly encouraging us to apply by then

A motion was made by Mr. Olson, seconded by Ms. Kuhn, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

c. 2022 Transfer Resolution

- \$1M from surplus budget funds
- Have new kind of plan coming very soon; April at the latest
 - Combined with semi-conductor facility up north
 - Have 5 requests for assistance of comprehensive planning at local level
 - Working with County Executive to identify the needs
 - Trying to bring (especially in the Northern communities) as many resources as possible to prepare for facility being there, housing, making sure in line with plan creating, plan currently have
 - Million dollars, a lot of it requested for local communities to update comprehensive planning, most are in the north, communities in south, Manlius, Fayetteville, are already updated

- Money given to Marcellus to update plan, southern communities are all set; VanBuren, North Syracuse, Cicero, Baldwinsville, Liverpool have already made requests to update plans; a lot of the plans are in pretty good shape

Questions/Comments from Committee:

- Does this plan include Governor Hochul's request for 1% for the current plans?
 - No, it does not
 - Mr. Hammer issued an RFP written for county wide housing study; looking forward to getting proposals on that, getting it contracted
- Zoning report from CNY Fair Housing is comprehensive
 - Seen parts of it
- Would assume it would help when updating plans
- Manlius requested help rewriting plan to match what new requirements are
- Appreciate added input from professionals
 - i.e. county's approach of asking Supervisor's and Mayor's what they want their community to look like, how can county help, bottom up approach allows input from communities

A motion was made by Mr. Olson, seconded by Ms. Kuhn, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.

Questions/Comments from committee:

- What are Multi-Modal Corridors?
 - Corridors used to have multiple modes of travel, current roadways have one mode – vehicle (car, bus, truck)
 - Future is incorporating transit lanes for BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) for travel over distances, get places more quickly
 - Mobility Exchange Centers - in future, when there are corridors, people might order a car and pick them up and take them someplace or they get on a bus; trying to prepare for that kind of future
 - Getting back to choosing corridors that are wide enough to have the commercial capacity to improve travel to move along easier
 - Nodes - an intersection where the town would see growth to have a mobility center
 - Walkable center like a village; i.e. Minoa, Fayetteville
 - (i.e.) Town hall that serves the surrounding places and creates gravitational center for the community
- What would the modes be, and who would promote that in suburban areas?
- Long term, when will the plan come to suburban towns?
 - Cicero/Clay will be sooner than later; mostly from 81 Corridor across Baldwinsville (Rt. 31), enough space there for bus/car transit
 - (i.e.) Visited Ontario, had a dedicated BRT lane, bike trail, center development, and commercial buildings; used as a model for this
- County and Centro are stepping up for on demand; smaller buses, scooters that turn off when someone leaves the city
- Going to do something different than a car/bus, all other modes; how does that work in a suburban place, towns/villages, do you have to build that?
 - Infrastructure comes first; connective corridor would be a reason to relocate
 - There are sidewalks, not one traffic back up, no parking issue, not any different walking/driving through there now rather than 10 years ago
 - Building infrastructure does work; infrastructure will build housing; does drive the opportunity
 - Stacking people, one thing with affordable housing is to get housing cost below 30% of income
 - Onondaga County shows a problem with that
 - People are spending far more, build affordable housing, transportation is up, maintaining a car is high
 - The idea is to provide opportunity for places to build housing where people have resources
 - What happens when household saves 5% of income?
 - Spend locally; having walkable retail districts or restaurants, stores to get to, more likely to go
 - This is the way modern communities look, things people are looking for; if county does not have these things, may not choose this area
 - County can help with what communities do; bring resources, have a traditional center, a new center, etc.

- Due to traffic issues, Cicero Town Board recently did not approve an application for a project that would look similar to mixed use stacking development with retail on the bottom, residential on top
- How would projects like this get marketed to towns and villages?
 - Question unanswered

The meeting was adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



DEBBIE KAMINSKI, Assistant Clerk
Onondaga County Legislature

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE: PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

DATE: FEBRUARY 22, 2023

NAME (Please Print)	DEPARTMENT/AGENCY
Dan Kwasnowski	SocPA
Ivana Cartrell	SocPA
Jason Dean	Finance
Ben Yans	Law
Darcie Lesniak	Leg
Jim Beebe	Leg
Steve Morgan	Finance