

# Village of Lancaster NY Forward

1st LPC Meeting | May 30, 2023





# Agenda

- I. Welcome & Introductions
- II. Overview of the NY Forward (NYF) Program
- III. Lancaster NYF Application
- IV. NYF Schedule
- V. Community Engagement
- VI. LPC Feedback on Next Steps
- VII. Public Comments



#### **Local Planning Committee**

Lynne Ruda Village of Lancaster, Co-Chair

Paul Brown

Buffalo Niagara Building & Construction Trades Council, Co-

Chair, REDC Rep.

Kimberly Beaty Resident

Luke Borkowski Resident

Joseph Crumlish WNY Mountain Biking Association

Jennifer Eichenseer Resident

Matthew Fischione Town and Village of Lancaster Building Department

**Deborah** Glowny Bank on Buffalo

Nicole Gunsher Town of Lancaster Youth Bureau

Alan Kurtzman The New York Store

Paul Leone Lancaster Industrial Development Agency

Michael Meyer Village of Lancaster Historic Preservation Commission

Kristen Shelly Village of Lancaster Climate Smart Task Force

Daniel Sundell Dark Forest Chocolate

Thomas Van Nortwick Resident

#### New York State Partners

**Ginger Ursitti** - NYS Department of State

**Ben Bidell - NYS Department of State** 

**Erin Corraro** - Empire State Development Corporation

**Leonard Skrill -** NYS Homes & Community Renewal





#### **Consultant Team**

Multi-disciplinary team of four consultants that can address all project needs



#### **Lead Consultant**

Planning, architecture, engineering, landscape architecture







(WBE)
Graphic Design &
Website Development

(SDVOB)
Cost Estimating

(MBE/DBE)
Architecture &
Civil Engineering

#### **NYF Code of Conduct**

- Members of the NYF Local Planning Committee must always serve and act in the public interest, regardless of their affiliation with, or relationship to, any business, municipality, not-for-profit, agency, program, entity, or interest group.
- Code of Conduct addresses potential conflicts of interest between Local Planning Committee members and their interests that do not serve the public.
- All Members must read and sign the Code of Conduct.







#### **NYF Code of Conduct**

Members should use the Code of Conduct to guide service and actions while on the Local Planning Committee

- Remember **DAD**:
  - ✓ Disclose conflicts of interest
  - ✓ Act in the public interest
  - ✓ Disqualify if necessary



#### **Conflict of Interest**

- A Member shall exercise his or her duties and responsibilities for the primary benefit of the public and in such a manner where any benefit to the Member, or a Family Member or Relative of the Member, is incidental only.
- For purposes of this Code of Conduct, a conflict
   of interest arises if such an exercise results in
   any benefit to the Member, or a Family
   Member or Relative of the Member, that is
   more than incidental.
- A conflict of interest may occur when the personal interests, financial or otherwise, of a member has the potential to interfere with, or appear to interfere with, the member's independent advice.



#### **Disclosure**

- Any potential conflict of interest must be disclosed at the earliest possible time, which should be prior to the meeting in which the matter will be discussed or as soon as the conflict is noted.
- Even an appearance of impropriety or an appearance of improper conduct should be avoided.
- If unsure of conflict, please request an opinion from NYS DOS Ethics Counsel



#### Recusal

- A member may not vote, or attempt to influence a discussion or vote, where potential conflict exists.
- Members may provide factual information in a public forum about a project from which they have recused.



#### **Documenting Conflicts**

- Members must identify a potential conflict at the first meeting in which the matter giving rise to the conflict is discussed.
- A list of recusals together with the recusal form completed by each recused Member will be maintained for each project for the duration of the DRI planning process.
- The recusal list will be updated at each meeting.
- The LPC Co-chairs will remind members of their obligation to recuse at each meeting of the committee.



### **Questions?**

Contact the NYS DOS Ethics Officer:
Acting General Counsel David Gonzalez
(518) 474-6740



"Creating healthy, vibrant, walkable downtowns that catalyze sustainable economic development and accrue numerous economic, social, and environmental benefits to the locality, the region, and the State as a whole."



#### **NYF Goals**

- Create an active downtown with a strong sense of place.
- Attract new businesses that create a robust mix of shopping, entertainment, and service options for residents and visitors, and that provide job opportunities for a variety of skills and salaries.
- Enhance public spaces for arts and cultural events that serve the existing members of the community but also draw in visitors from around the region.
- Build a diverse population, with residents and workers supported by complementary diverse housing and employment opportunities.
- Grow the local property tax base.
- Provide amenities that support and enhance downtown living and quality of life.



- 1. Downtown Profile & Assessment
- 2. Vision, Goals & Strategies
- 3. Public Involvement
- 4. Proposed Projects



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## Eligible Project Types





# Ineligible Use of NYF Funds

- Property acquisition
- Standalone planning activities
- Operation & maintenance
- Training
- Pre-award costs
- Expenses for existing programs



## \$6-8 Million Slate of Projects

- Final Slate Goal: Projects totaling at least \$6 million
- Award: \$4.5m
- Why \$6-8m???
  - Before award:
    - Selected projects may drop out or be disqualified
    - Projects may advance on their own before awards are announced
  - After award: Projects can drop out when financing or other business agreements fall through





#### **Vision Statement**

Lancaster's 21<sup>st</sup> Century Downtown will be equitable, resilient, and sustainable, with a vibrant Village center that retains its traditional historic character and walkability, while encouraging and supporting enhanced economic development, health and wellness for residents and visitors, environmentally friendly infrastructure and practices, multimodal transportation options, and affordable housing options.



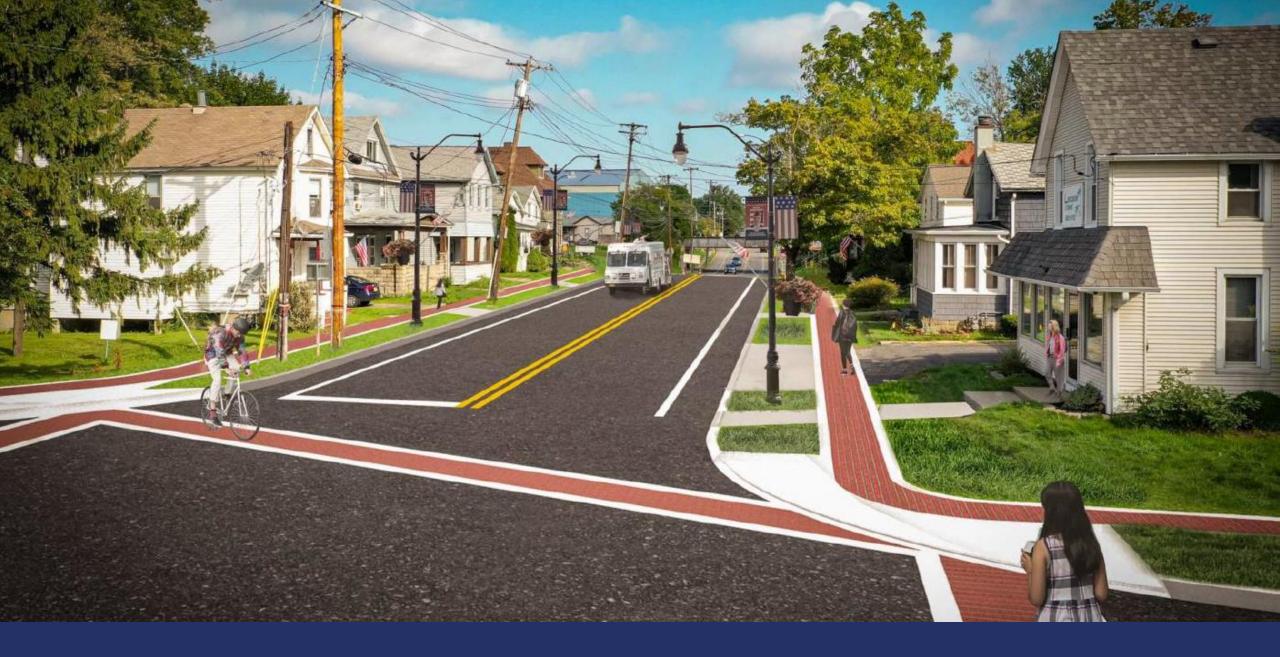




REHABILITATE 1 WEST MAIN



UPGRADE THE LANCASTER BOYS & GIRLS CLUB



EXTEND CENTRAL AVE STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS



RESTORE THE LANCASTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM



UPDATE THE LANCASTER OPERA HOUSE



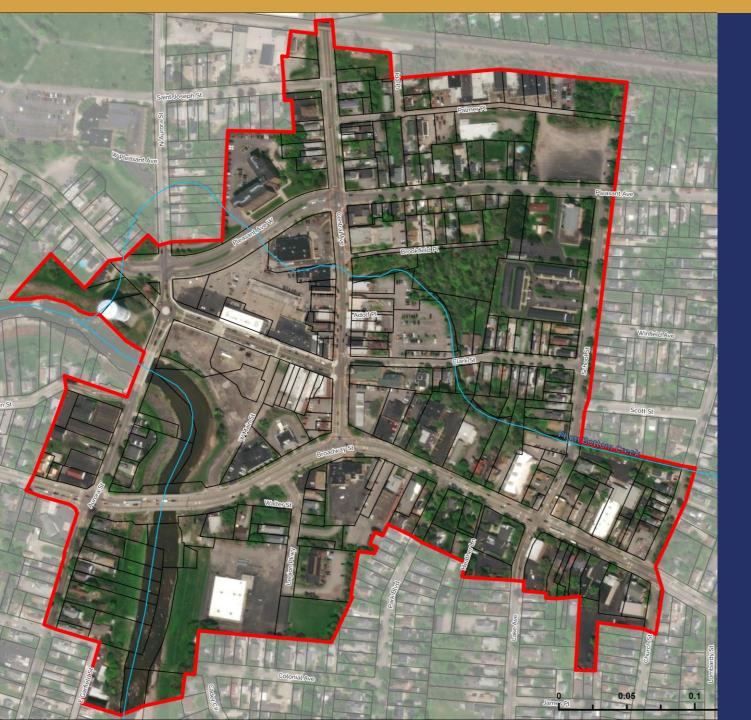
TRANSFORM THE FORMER MASONIC TEMPLE INTO A WELLNESS CENTER



CREATE A MOBILITY HUB



IMPLEMENT WAYFINDING & GATEWAY TREATMENTS



## Updated NYF Boundary & LPC Feedback

- What are your thoughts on the updated study area boundary?
- What do you see as the key issues & opportunities for the study area?
- Do you have any ideas for strategies to advance revitalization?





#### Community Engagement Plan

#### LPC Meetings

- Open To Public in-person
- Meetings Regularly Scheduled and Announced
- 5-6 Meetings (approx. 1 per month)

#### **Public Meetings**

- Workshop format in-person
- Regularly Scheduled & Announced
- 2-3 Meetings (Visioning & Project Identification; Review of Proposed Projects; Final list of projects)

## Stakeholder Participation

- Individual and Small Group settings
- Partners / Agencies
- Business and Property Owners

#### Online Engagement

- Project Website
- Online & Social Media Updates & Engagement
- Survey

## Local Outreach Activities

- Pop-Ups at Local Event(s)
- Presentations at standing community meetings

# **Engaging Hard-to-Reach Populations**

- Youth & senior engagement
  - Schools & senior centers
- Local & tourist/visitor feedback
  - Events that are regional draws
  - Working with the Chamber and regional organizations





## **Request For Projects**

- Applicant & Property Info.
- NYF \$ Request
- Narrative, Cost, Benefits, Plan Consistency
- Optional: renderings, documentation of project readiness
- Release 5/31; due 7/14
- Virtual Info. Meeting on 6/5 at 6 PM
- Virtual one-on-one meetings with consultant team staff



## **Public Survey**

- Online & Paper
- LPC Subcommittee meeting on 6/5 to inform survey content
- Target Release date of 6/15 (Public Workshop); due 7/14
- Results will inform evaluation of projects
- Targeted outreach to school and tourists



## Meetings

- LPC
  - Next LPC: 6/22
  - All future LPC meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at the Municipal Building
  - 6 PM?
- 1st Public Meeting/Workshop: 6/15 at the Lancaster Opera House



#### Other

- Website launched!: www.lancasterNYforward.com
- Contacts/questions
  - Norabelle Greenberger, ngreenberger@labellapc.com
  - Hartley Bonisteel Schweitzer, <u>hbonisteelschweitzer@labellapc.com</u>



