

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 1, 2023**

CONTACT: Megan Krokowski  
Community Development Specialist  
Lewis County Planning & Community Development  
(315) 376-5423 | [megankrokowski@lewiscounty.ny.gov](mailto:megankrokowski@lewiscounty.ny.gov)

**Lewis County to Award \$200,000 for the Next Round of  
Façade and Streetscape Improvement Program Submissions**

LOWVILLE, NY – Lewis County is excited to launch Round 3 of the Façade and Streetscape Improvement Program, an initiative that incentivizes property owners, non-profits, business owners, and municipalities to perform façade improvements and streetscape enhancements in downtown areas across Lewis County. The Façade & Streetscape Improvement Program has been an ongoing investment by the Lewis County Board of Legislators and Round 3 will award up to \$200,000 in project submissions.

Lewis County’s downtown districts and public spaces hold central importance for community gatherings, special events, and the success of small businesses. The Façade & Streetscape Improvement Program aims to revitalize the character and attractiveness of villages and hamlets in Lewis County through public and private investment. To encourage and advance revitalization efforts, this program will provide up to 75/25 matching funds for eligible improvements to mixed-use and commercial buildings and streetscape enhancements in Lewis County’s villages and hamlets. Together, these improvements will help business growth and retention, enhance tourism, increase spending in the local economy, and reduce the number of blighted and vacant properties.

“The continued success of this program has proven the value of placemaking investments in our community. The County needs to remain focused on our downtowns and commercial districts in order to attract new investors, and retain the next generation of Lewis County families,” said Lewis County Manager, Ryan Piche.

Façade improvement funds are available to property owners, non-profits, and businesses with mixed-use and commercial buildings located in a downtown area of a hamlet or village. Projects must align with local zoning regulations and design standards. Façade improvements can include but are not limited to, upgrades to entryways, signage, windows, doors, paint, and exterior lighting.

Municipalities are invited to apply for streetscape improvement funds for projects that improve the walkability and community aesthetics in their village or hamlet. Streetscape improvements can include gateway and wayfinding signage, street furniture, landscaping, and public art.

The Façade & Streetscape Program is a competitive funding application. Applications for Round 3 of funding of this Program will open on September 1, 2023, and are due on November 3, 2023, respectively. Applications will be reviewed by a committee of representatives from the Department of Planning & Community Development, the County Manager, Naturally Lewis, and the Lewis County Historical Society. Award notifications will be made on December 1, 2023.

To learn more about the Lewis County Façade & Streetscape Improvement Program or to apply, visit the Lewis County Planning & Community Development website: <https://lewiscountyny.gov/departments/planning-and-community-development/facade-and-streetscape-improvement-program/>

Lewis County residents are invited to Like and Follow the Lewis County Planning and Community Development Department's Facebook page, @planLC, to receive timely updates on County events, initiatives, and the work of the Lewis County Legislators.

###