



# VILLAGE OF LOWVILLE

*RESTORE REDISCOVER RECONNECT*

Downtown Revitalization Initiative Round 7 Application

**REDC REGION** NORTH COUNTRY | **MUNICIPALITY NAME** VILLAGE OF LOWVILLE | **COUNTY** LEWIS  
**APPLICATION CONTACT** JOSEPH BEAGLE, MAYOR, [MAYOR@VILLAGEOFLOWVILLE.ORG](mailto:MAYOR@VILLAGEOFLOWVILLE.ORG)



## VILLAGE OF LOWVILLE

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Mr. James McKenna  
Co-Chair, NCREDC  
Dulles State Office Building  
317 Washington Street  
Watertown, NY 13601

### **RE: Village of Lowville Round VII Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

As the Village of Lowville Mayor, I am thrilled and honored to present our Round VII Downtown Revitalization Initiative application to the North Country Regional Economic Development Council. Our vision is firmly rooted in both our historical heritage and forward-looking aspirations. As the intersecting corridor to the Thousand Islands, Tug Hill Plateau, and the Adirondack Mountains, we aspire to shape Downtown Lowville into a dynamic, regional center for business and culture that not only attracts tourists, but provides a safe, nourishing, and supportive community with abundant opportunities for year-round residents who are looking to plant their roots in a rural setting.

Since initiating the pursuit of DRI funding in 2019, our community, including our leaders, residents, businesses, and professional organizations, has come together to showcase the many benefits of revitalizing Downtown Lowville. We have the momentum, drive, and vision to not only transform our downtown, but to reconnect, restore, and rediscover the North Country region both inside and outside of our defined DRI boundaries. Recent private developments and investments have showcased changing economic conditions and highlighted Lowville's potential. We fully grasp the importance of self-investment as a precursor to attracting external investments. Through recent initiatives built upon the solid foundation laid by partnerships between the Village of Lowville, Naturally Lewis, Lewis County, the Lewis County Historical Society, influential community leaders, and the dedicated members of our DRI Steering Committee, we've created an environment that is supportive of entrepreneurs, mindful of our environment, and progressive with impactful policies.

In a post-COVID world, the unwavering resilience displayed by our businesses and organizations, the dedication of our local officials, and the inspirational kindness of our residents have fueled efforts to showcase our community's vibrancy. We embrace the State's "Plan then Act" and after completing dozens of planning initiatives and outreach events, Lowville now has a well-defined, focused vision of its future and the role we play in the North Country Region. One thing is certain, our overwhelming community support and response underscores our community's eagerness to breathe new life into our downtown that will last for generations.

Downtown Lowville is poised and primed for this transformation. We are focused, dedicated, and ready to harness the opportunity that New York State is providing through the Downtown Revitalization Initiative.

Sincerely,

Joseph Beagle  
Mayor, Village of Lowville



# GEOGRAPHIC AREA & JUSTIFICATION

## *Boundaries, Well Defined*

The proposed DRI area is well-defined and compact, concentrating investment along both sides of State Street – the Village’s main commercial corridor – and spilling into one of its most vibrant, cultural areas, the Three Trees Neighborhood. The DRI area is approximately 145 acres and encompasses nearly 25% of the Village’s population and one-third of its 280 businesses.

Downtown Lowville’s DRI Boundaries stretch from both ends of the Village – from a small green pocket park at the northern intersection of West State Street, New York State Route 812, and New York State Route 26, to the junction of the southern section of South State Street, where Utica Boulevard (New York State Route 12) and Turin Road (New York State Route 26) meet nearby. Through this space, four main roads intersect, bringing travelers through the downtown from all outer reaches of the North Country region. The Village envisions this space to become more than a passthrough but a destination in and of itself. Furthermore, New York State Route 177 (Dayan Street) connects Downtown Lowville to New York State Route 81. Together, these transportation hubs, which result in nearly 12,000 average annual daily traffic rates, filter commercial and tourist traffic into and through Downtown Lowville, giving it a unique geographical advantage that rivals larger urban centers in the North Country, such as Watertown, Potsdam, and Ogdensburg.

As the “urban heart” of Lewis County, Lowville provides the only true downtown in the county. The Village strives to be an ideal place for people of all ages and backgrounds to live, work, and visit. The proposed DRI boundaries are, by design, compact to showcase the desire to improve pedestrian experiences, inclusive of those who are migrating through our Downtown.

The defined area is the core of downtown Lowville, and the corridor is studded with private businesses, non-profit services,

public parks and institutions, and workforce hubs. State Street, an important regional connector, acts as the central spine of the DRI area. This heavily traveled roadway is home to Lowville’s historic downtown and provides direct access to regional destinations like Watertown, Fort Drum, Rome, and Utica.

The Village of Lowville is a prime example of an area that already holds all of the characteristics needed for a vibrant community where tomorrow’s workforce will want to live, work, and raise families. DRI funding will be a necessary catalyst to achieve this vision, strengthen downtown’s unique sense of place further, and bolster the amenities and services that Lowville offers residents and visitors.



## VISION STATEMENT

## 2023 DRI AREA MAP

Downtown Lowville is a vibrant, rural community destination for the region. It is committed to maintaining a high quality of life, promoting environmental sustainability, and providing unparalleled access to outdoor recreational opportunities. The Village intends to preserve and enhance its small-town charm while diversifying its economic base and encouraging economic development consistent with its unique character. With the creation of an active and walkable commercial corridor, the opening of new and niche businesses, the expansion of downtown housing options, and the enhancement of recreational and quality-of-life amenities, the Village sees itself transforming into a family-friendly and economically viable place for people of all ages to live, work, and visit.

Downtown Lowville is trending in the right direction. In recent years, the Village has secured millions in public and private investment, attracted businesses and jobs, and made a concerted effort to enhance its public realm. With a proven ability to administer economic development initiatives, a demonstrated need for further improvement, and the pieces in place to effect fundamental transformation, Lowville has positioned itself to leverage investment strategically and effectively from the DRI.

# PAST INVESTMENT & FUTURE POTENTIAL

Lowville's vision involves a combined investment of over \$30 million from both public and private sources through the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI), highlighting the village's need for state funding support. This infusion of funding will not only kickstart additional external investments but will also bring about tangible and transformative changes to the downtown area. With its abundant natural resources, thriving industry clusters, and a high quality of life, Lowville has successfully struck a harmonious balance between its residents, economic prosperity, and environmental sustainability. Nestled in the picturesque Black River Valley, amidst the foothills of the Adirondacks and the Tug Hill Plateau, Lowville boasts rich natural resources and breathtaking scenic vistas. Recent public and private investment, local planning efforts, and capital infrastructure improvements have begun to spur downtown redevelopment and have created a wave of momentum.

Downtown Lowville is a four-season recreation destination and provides activities for all. The Village is located just 55 miles south of the Canadian border and a day's drive from major cities like Montreal, Toronto, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Albany, and New York City. This strategic location widens Lowville's catchment area, gives it access to a larger labor pool, and makes it an attractive place for businesses who want to leverage U.S. and Canadian markets. Interstate 81 and the NYS Thruway make Lowville easily accessible anywhere in the state. State Street (Route 12/26) provides an important regional connector to destinations like Watertown, Fort Drum, Rome, and Utica. Furthermore, Lowville and Lewis County benefit significantly from the region's premier winter sports tourism market. A recent report documenting the economic and fiscal impacts of snowmobiling activity estimates that it generates over \$400,000 in tax revenues for Lewis County per year.

In the last five years alone, over \$170 million has been invested in catalytic projects in and adjacent to the Downtown Lowville DRI Boundary. Lowville has proven that it is a destination for advanced manufacturing, agricultural, natural resources, and renewable energy markets. Kraft Heinz, one of the Village's major employers and critical economic drivers, recently invested \$50 million to expand its capacity and added 140 jobs. Other significant employers include Quibica AMF, the world leader in bowling pin production, and the Lewis County Health System, the largest employer, who has invested \$32 million over the last 12 months in modernizing the healthcare system to support enhanced access to care and drawing people in from the tri-county area. Further support from the Village's major employers and industry sectors and continued workforce development will encourage continued private investment and positively impact the local and regional economy. While manufacturing certainly has a large workforce and economic impact on Downtown Lowville, big box retailers such as Walmart and Marshalls, have made significant investments in Lowville this year; Marshall's has invested approximately \$640,000 in a new location just outside the DRI Boundary in Tops Plaza and Walmart is completing a \$1,126,000 expansion.



## Tug Hill Artisan Roasters

On the smaller scale, Tug Hill Artisan Roasters was able to adaptively reuse the 'Old Jail' building which had sat vacant for years due to environmental barriers to development. This project had been included on previous Downtown Lowville DRI applications each year and, while DRI funding was never attained, they were able to secure the \$1,316,900 needed to restore the historic structure as a multi-use facility with light industrial, commercial, and lodging uses. This is just one example of the successful collaborations between the Village, County, Naturally Lewis, and private project sponsors where they are able to see projects through from the initial concept to their launch.

Lewis County has a robust rural public transit system, with four fixed and accessible routes throughout the County; a Lowville Village Loop, JCC Connector Route (Watertown), Utica Connector Route, Fort Drum Circuit Route, and a seasonal Old Forge Route (summer). The JCC Connector Route, in addition to serving the Community College, also services the Salmon Run Mall, Fort Drum and its surrounding residential communities, Carthage, Watertown International Airport, and rural connections in between. The Utica Connector Route services three Utica colleges as well as the train and bus stations. Furthermore, the County has leveraged grant funding to also implement a vanpool system available to employees who struggle with transportation. Downtown Lowville is considered the main hub of this system and its stops along North and South State Street contribute towards a variety of benefits, including the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, enhanced mobility, economic development, reduced traffic congestion, environmental benefits, social inclusion, costs savings, health benefits, tourism and recreation, emergency accessibility, and quality of life.



LEWIS COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION



QUBICA AMF

TOWN HALL THEATER

LEWIS COUNTY HEALTH SYSTEM SURGICAL UNIT

The Village's recent **\$45 MILLION INVESTMENT IN WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE** — the "Five Streets Project," which replaced water and sewer lines along five main village streets, and upgraded the groundwater supply along with the wastewater treatment plant upgrades — also demonstrates its commitment to modernizing infrastructure and creating a solid foundation for DRI-funded transformative projects. To further their commitment to energy savings and Climate Smart Community initiatives, in 2021, the Village also purchased all of the lighting infrastructure within their municipality and replaced the aged units with LED technology. This **\$536,335** project will not only save taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars, but it will give them the infrastructure they need to move forward with Smart City technologies for flood, traffic, and transit planning. The Village has also completed the Energy Code Enforcement Training as a Climate Smart Community Action Item.

To build on this momentum, the Village has undertaken a variety of planning initiatives to refine its vision for downtown and to identify projects that can effect positive change in Lowville. The Village, in collaboration with Lewis County, Naturally Lewis, and the Lewis County Chamber of Commerce, has invested substantial effort into assembling tangible projects ready for immediate implementation in this year's DRI submission. Special attention has been dedicated to initiatives in the private sector, with a primary focus on endeavors that highlight the unique qualities that define the Village of Lowville: its **ties to the natural environment**, its commitment to **preserving its historical heritage**, and its dedication to **fostering the growth of locally-rooted businesses**. There have been quick transformative investments made through the Facade and Streetscape Program within the Village over the past two years; since the program's inception. Over the two years, \$231,000 worth of projects in the Village of Lowville have been awarded.

With financial support from the Downtown Revitalization Initiative, the Village aims to strategically allocate funds to initiatives that showcase its existing cultural and recreational treasures, breathe new life into vacant properties, and harness the momentum generated in recent times. These endeavors are geared towards fostering economic growth, instigating noticeable transformations, and generating advantages that will be accessible to the entire Lowville community and beyond. With a well-established set of forward-looking economic development strategies already in effect, a track record of effectively managing New York State and federal contracts, and the unwavering support of a dedicated community, the Village of Lowville has positioned itself for an indisputable path to success.

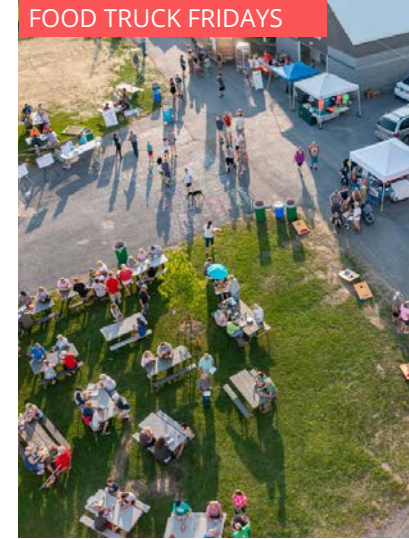


HAND IN HAND

## Investments from Projects in Previous Applications

Hand-in-Hand Childcare Expansion (Round 4 & 5)	<b>\$3,000,000</b>
Cafe Z Storefront Improvements (Round 4)	<b>\$200,000</b>
Tony Harpers Outdoor Seating Enhancement (Round 4)	<b>\$155,000</b>
Bateman Apartments (Round 4, 5 & 6)	<b>\$2,200,000</b>
Judges Quarters B&B Venue & Outdoor Space (Round 6)	<b>\$440,000</b>
National Abstract Commercial Renovations (Round 5 & 6)	<b>\$300,500</b>
Crumbs Bakeshop Facade and Upper Floor Renovations (Round 6)	<b>\$200,000</b>
Tug Hill Artisan Roasters/Old Jail Renovations (Round 4, 5 & 6)	<b>\$1,316,900</b>
Town Hall Theater Facade & Seat Improvements (Round 4, 5 & 6)	<b>\$200,000</b>
Double Play Community Center (Round 4 & 5)	<b>\$600,000</b>

**TOTAL INVESTMENTS \$8,612,400**



## RECENT & IMPENDING JOB GROWTH

### *A Thriving Downtown*

needs job growth within or in close proximity to the area that can attract workers to the downtown, support redevelopment and make growth sustainable. As the service hub for residents and tourists alike, Lowville has multiple job sectors that continue to grow.

Employment in the Village is anchored by several prominent institutions in the following job sectors: Healthcare and Social Assistance, Manufacturing, Educational Services, Local Government, Accommodation and Food Services, and Retail Trade.

Multiple anchor employers reside in or are adjacent to the proposed DRI area.

<b>MAJOR EMPLOYERS</b>	<b>550</b>	Kraft-Heinz
	<b>130</b>	Neenah Paper
	<b>200</b>	Walmart
	<b>80</b>	Qubica AMF
	<b>500</b>	Lewis County Health Systems
	<b>300</b>	The County of Lewis
	<b>75</b>	Tops Market
	<b>60</b>	Marshalls
<b>260</b>	Lowville Academy	

These anchor institutions employ a large portion of the region's workforce. They are essential partners in spurring economic development, given their ability to make capital investments, create jobs, procure goods and services locally, and develop real estate.

Recent investments are attracting young professionals and emerging businesses to Lowville, including a \$32 million investment by Lewis County Health Systems to expand and modernize, various downtown façade improvements and vacant property initiatives that are turning blighted buildings into usable spaces for both commercial and housing uses. Downtown vacant spaces are being filled, and vacant second and third stories are being transformed.

### *Dairy & Agribusiness*

Agriculture is also a driving economic force. Lewis County is ranked sixth in the state for milk production, with over 27,000 cows and approximately 200 dairy farms.

Dairy is not only a thriving industry, but it is the backbone of both Lowville and Lewis County. Within the Village, Kraft-Heinz and Lowville Producer's Dairy Cooperative are significant drivers of the local and regional economy. Kraft-Heinz is the largest producer of cream cheese in New York State. In 2017, Kraft-Heinz moved its Polly-O string cheese production from Campbell, N.Y., to Lowville, a move that brought about 140 new employees to the area.

While Kraft-Heinz is the largest purchaser of local milk, Lewis County dairy producers are working to create a new Lowville Dairy Producers Plant to create a value-added product of their own and diversify milk sales. This new plant, located directly outside of the DRI area, is estimated to create more than \$3 million dollars for the local economy and between 40 and 90 jobs. This project is also expected to increase milk production in the County by more than 50%.

### *Tourism Growth*

The local economic impact of tourism cannot be understated. According to the 2023 NYS Tourism Economic Impact Results, Lewis County alone contributed \$12 million in tourism-generated labor income and saw an 11% growth in tourism spending from 2022. Additionally, according to a Tug Hill Regional Snowmobile Economic Impact Study, the industry alone contributes to nearly \$81.6 million in sales. A non-local snowmobile user spends on average \$192 per day.

In total, 866 jobs, over \$28.8 million in wages (earnings), and total tax revenue that results from snowmobile activity is estimated to be nearly \$445,000 in Lewis County each year.



## A Proud Rural Community

The Village of Lowville is located in central Lewis County on the eastern edge of the Tug Hill Plateau. It is approximately 25 miles southeast of the City of Watertown and approximately 50 miles north of the City of Utica. The village of Lowville is composed of 1.9 square miles (1,204 acres) of land. There are 3,329 people living in the Village as per the 2020 Census.

When asked what their reasons for choosing to live in Lowville, residents consistently respond that it is proximity to family and friends, the rural atmosphere, natural beauty, and high quality of life. The residents are resourceful and hardy people who embrace the region's snowy winters and foster a welcoming atmosphere.

The Village is committed to bringing new experiences and programming to the downtown to activate public spaces, attract visitors, and retain residents. State Street, the main corridor of the Village and the DRI area, hosts historic buildings that form a continuous street wall and create an inviting, human-scale environment. The Village hosts a number of local events that contribute to the great quality of life, including "Music in the Park," that brings residents and visitors together, utilizing the great public spaces offered.

### FACADE IMPROVEMENT FUNDING

National Abstract	<b>\$83,250.00</b>
Tug Hill Artisan Roasters	<b>\$23,570.21</b>
Snow Belt Housing Company	<b>\$4,050.00</b>
Crumbs. Bakeshop	<b>\$27,750.00</b>
Cedar Bridge Properties, LLC	<b>\$33,579.33</b>
Judge's Quarters B&B	<b>\$1,019.96</b>

The Village has also undergone multiple facade improvement projects, thanks to the Lewis County Facade and Streetscape Improvement Program, and vacant property revitalization initiatives, thanks to the Naturally Lewis Vacant Property Revitalization Program.

### VACANT PROPERTY REVITALIZATION FUNDING

Crumbs. Bakeshop	<b>\$71,730.00</b>
Stevens Block Building	<b>\$100,000.00</b>
Kellogg Block Building	<b>\$100,000.00</b>



TOWN HALL THEATER

These programs have contributed to the overall look and feel of the downtown and people are noticing change. In a recent survey conducted by Naturally Lewis staff on public perception of economic development efforts, 68% of public responses have noticed an increase in the number of new small businesses, and 53% have noticed an improved visual appeal of downtowns and businesses. Much of this is attributed to the work of our business and property owners located in downtown Lowville.

## RECREATION

Lowville's location in the Black River Valley, with the Adirondacks to the east and Tug Hill to the west, gives it a unique advantage – it is naturally home to four-season recreation offerings. Popular activities include: boating, fishing, kayaking, swimming, ATV riding, hiking, biking, horseback riding, bird watching, hunting, and camping.

Lowville is also a premier destination for snowmobiling, and benefits from a strong winter-sports tourism industry. Tug Hill and the surrounding trail networks bring snowmobilers in the winter and the Adirondacks bring hikers and campers.

## ATTRACTIONS

Lowville also offers an array of year-round attractions and activities. The nationally recognized Lowville Cream Cheese Festival brings food, games, music, and family fun downtown each September, with over 15,000 attendees annually.

During the summer, Lowville features other activities including: Lewis County Fair, St. Peter's Festival, Food Truck Fridays, music festivals, outdoor movie nights, and the Lowville Farmers Market. In the fall, Downtown Lowville transforms into Halloween Towne. These events contribute to quality of life for residents and are a major draw for visitors, residents and past residents.

## HISTORY

Cultural and historic resources are essential components of a healthy local economy and they help strengthen and sustain a community's shared identity.

The Village of Lowville offers a wealth of social, cultural, and historical resources. The Village boasts its own Historic District, as well as nine structures and sites that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

These structures and sites are unique community assets that define the Village of Lowville and give it a unique sense of place. They also draw heritage tourists to downtown.

“ *The Village strives to be a thriving, family-friendly, and economically viable place for families and individuals of all ages to live and work.*

**- 2022 Village of Lowville  
Comprehensive Plan Vision Statement**



VETERAN'S PARK | VILLAGE BAND



HAND IN HAND CHILDHOOD CENTER

LOWVILLE is dedicated to ensuring that all of its residents enjoy a high quality of life and take pride in calling Lowville their home. At the direction of its Comprehensive Plan, the Village has implemented various critical strategies for enhancing livability and quality of life.

In 2022, the Town and Village of Lowville collaborated to update their Comprehensive Plan, which serves as a guiding framework for community development, with a specific focus on making Downtown Lowville a vibrant economic center for the County. This Plan, informed by extensive community engagement, envisions Lowville as a distinctive rural community, striving to be family-friendly, economically prosperous, and embracing sustainable, smart growth while retaining its small-town charm. This updated Plan includes goals for new housing design standards, emphasizing mixed-use and mixed-income development, and cost reduction strategies to encourage housing development. To support these housing initiatives, as the first step towards their Pro-Housing Community designation, the Village passed a Pro-Housing resolution on September 20, 2023 and submitted an official Letter of Intent to NYSHCR. The Village will then submit the required zoning law summary, zoning map, and their last five years of building permit information, which will provide NYS with the information needed to formally designate the Village as a Pro-Housing Community. Furthermore, the Village of Lowville improved its zoning law in 2022, promoting the multi-use and adaptive reuse of existing buildings to further enhance development prospects and promote infill. The zoning text and map amendments created a new zoning district, Neighborhood Commercial 2, which removed the housing and small business barriers previously set by the dated Industrial Zone regulations.

The Village of Lowville works closely with Lewis County on various initiatives and policy development, including actions toward the reduction of greenhouse gases. Lewis County is a leader in planning and implementing renewable energy projects and was the first County in the North Country region to be certified by New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) as a Clean Energy Community. In 2019, Lewis County adopted Local Law No. 7-2019, entitled “Energize NY Open C-PACE Financing.” In December 2020, the County took the Climate Smart Community Pledge and formed a Climate Smart Task Force. Lewis County achieved the distinction of becoming the North Country’s sole NYS Climate Smart Communities Bronze Certified County. Additionally, in accordance with Lewis County’s smart growth commitment, the County revised its Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan in 2019 to promote awareness of and strengthen agricultural practices in and around the Village.

In alignment with Lowville’s strong commitment to sustainability and decarbonization, in 2021, the Village completed the implementation of their power-saving LED lights. Furthermore, the Village has applied for and continues to pursue electric vehicle charging station infrastructure throughout the downtown area. Several Village-owned lots have been identified as possible locations for charging stations for public use with the added benefit of promoting increased economic activity at nearby businesses. Several private property owners have also expressed interest in installing charging stations. Lewis County submitted an application in 2023 to expand EV charging stations county-wide, with several potential sites being located in downtown Lowville to support the Village’s sustainability goals.



Naturally Lewis, the economic development organization for Lewis County, merged with the Lewis County Chamber of Commerce in 2023 to consolidate and streamline services to the business community. The merger will provide significant opportunities to capitalize on in the next 3-5 years, including **developing vacant sites, promoting entrepreneurship, creatively using IDA services to facilitate business expansions, leveraging, and growing the recreation and agricultural industries**, and promoting Lewis County's potential to residents and businesses. Additionally, **workforce development** through entrepreneurship and training programs has been a priority. Naturally Lewis is focused on providing the best education to entrepreneurs to ensure they are ready for business ownership. In partnership with the Lewis County WorkPlace, various programs have been utilized to support workforce development, such as **On the Job Training Programs, Paid Internships and fellowship programs**. The **Lewis County Leadership Academy** is also hosted by Naturally Lewis, which is cultivating a community of leaders who are making active changes for the betterment of Downtown Lowville and the surrounding communities.

The Village's Comprehensive Plan has yielded results and paved the way for other micro-neighborhood plans to ensue, as exemplified by the proactive partnership between the Village of Lowville, Lewis County, and Naturally Lewis to complete a **'Three Trees Neighborhood Plan'**. Initiated in response to a local business considering relocation, the Village engaged residents in envisioning the neighborhood's future, resulting in the official adoption of the Three Trees Neighborhood Plan by the Village Board in the Fall of 2023. This plan aims to revitalize vacant properties for both residential and commercial purposes in the Trinity, Shady, and Forest Avenue Corridors.

aesthetics in villages or hamlets, Lewis County has streetscape improvement funds are available to municipalities. **Streetscape improvements** can include gateway and wayfinding signage, street furniture, landscaping, and public art. This program can support various projects outside of the DRI Boundaries to ensure that the vision is carried through the entire Village.

The Village of Lowville contains public infrastructure for pedestrians in the form of crosswalks, curbing, sidewalks, and street trees. These features significantly add to the Village's character and livability, calming traffic and providing shade in the summer. In the winter, snow removal from sidewalks creates a safer walking environment. Creating a safer pedestrian experience in the Village is additionally supported by the forthcoming **Lewis County Complete Streets Plan**, currently in the development stage that will include shovel-ready project mock-ups for each village and select hamlets. To further this Smart Growth concept, in collaboration with the Tug Hill Commission, the Village of Lowville organized workshops on **Complete Streets and Community Design**, with a focus on promoting economic, environmental, and public health benefits. In August of 2023, the community was once again invited to participate in a Complete Streets Open House that gave the public the ability to weigh in on what is needed to ensure their vision of an inclusive mobility experience is achieved.



**26 HOTSPOTS  
IN LOWVILLE**



**\$3 MILLION NBRC GRANT TO  
EXPAND CHILDCARE SERVICES**



**DEVELOPING MAIN STREET  
DESIGN GUIDELINES**



**2023 COMPLETE STREETS  
OPEN HOUSE**

Additional initiatives that contribute to the economic well-being of the Village include Lewis County's **broadband and childcare** efforts. Lewis County has been actively working to close the digital divide across the county, deploying over 80 **free public Wi-Fi hotspots** county-wide, with 26 of them strategically located in Downtown Lowville. Furthermore, both the County and the Village understand the significance of childcare services and their impact on the local economy. Lewis County secured an NBRC grant to support the **expansion of a local childcare** non-profit, Hand in Hand Early Childhood Center, in the Village of Lowville and the creation of two satellite locations in Lewis County School District facilities. These efforts underscore the commitment to fostering economic growth and supporting the community's needs.

The Village recognizes that maintaining a high-quality pedestrian environment plays a crucial role in attracting new businesses to the area. However, the existing pedestrian infrastructure exhibits varying levels of quality. To address this, the Village is committed to completing the **Lowville Village Center Pedestrian Trail**. To further address the needs and wants for expanded walkability, Lewis County is currently in the process of developing a Master Rail Trail Plan, focusing on optimizing the railroad corridor passing through the Village to enhance pedestrian safety and increase foot traffic for local businesses. While walkability was the focus of many participants, most residents did express their frustration with the lack of parking within the Village. This is a huge deterrent to living, working, and shopping in Downtown Lowville. Embracing **Smart Growth principles**, the Village of Lowville, in collaboration with Lewis County and local property owners, is developing an ADA-accessible pathway that will provide a connection from an existing, underutilized church parking lot to a right-of-way that the Downtown Lowville workforce can utilize during the day, and patrons and residents can use in the evenings.

In alignment with the broader objective of revitalizing downtowns county-wide, Lewis County is working with municipalities to develop **County-wide Main Street Design Guidelines** that will create standards for future development and adaptive reuse. These guidelines aim to ensure that funded projects contribute to the revitalization of historic buildings while fostering a consistent *placemaking* atmosphere across the entire county.

The significance of **enhancing walkability** in the Three Trees Neighborhood has become even more pronounced due to Lowville Academy & Central School's plan to construct a full-sized track on vacant land with frontage on Bostwick Street. However, it's important to note that the walk to this new location lacks sidewalks the entire way from the school, necessitating further attention to pedestrian infrastructure in the area. In addition to these efforts, there are ongoing investments in the neighborhood, including the renovation of the historic Lewis County Agricultural Society Grandstand.

Furthermore, to enhance pedestrian experience and placemaking

# PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & SUPPORT

Although the Village of Lowville has conducted numerous DRI outreach sessions in the last four years, this year, the Village opted to establish a DRI Committee with a specific focus on the Round VII Downtown Lowville Application. This committee, in collaboration with personnel from Naturally Lewis and Lewis County, organized a series of public outreach sessions aimed at gathering extensive and transparent community feedback regarding the projects that residents desire to see implemented in Downtown Lowville. A website, **lowvilledri.com** was created to host information for the public, including information about outreach events and a project proposal submission portal.

## LOCAL DRI COMMITTEE

- BRITT ABBEY, Good Morning Realty
- JOSEPH BEAGLE, Mayor of the Village of Lowville
- JERRY CAYER, CEO of Lewis County Health System
- REBECCA DUNCKEL-KING, Superintendent of Lowville Academy
- LEE HINKLEMAN, President of Lowville Business Association
- JOHN PURVINES, Owner of Mike's Appliance
- TIMOTHY WIDRICK, Village Board Trustee

## NEIGHBORHOOD VISIONING SESSION

On July 26, 2023, the Village, Naturally Lewis and the Lewis County Planning & Community Development hosted a visioning session for the Forest Ave/Trinity Ave/Park Ave Neighborhood Plan, which is located within the DRI boundary. This session brought twenty business owners and residents within the area together to discuss the future of the corridor, given the County's Rail Trail project and a number of vacant buildings in the area. The session provided insight from the community on the types of businesses and amenities they would like to see, as well as zoning recommendations for the Village of Lowville to adopt to support future development. This event emphasized the "plan-then-act" process, which will lead to an overall better outcome for the neighborhood and DRI area.



## FOOD TRUCK FRIDAYS

On August 25, 2023, the Village of Lowville hosted a table at Food Truck Fridays at the Lewis County Fairgrounds to collect public input from event goers. Food Truck Friday is a community event with local food trucks, live music and lawn games held once a month in the summer months. The event exposed nearly 1,000 people from across the County to the DRI opportunity in Downtown Lowville, and much of the public provided their input on what types of projects they would support. Project suggestions included housing, boutique shops, community service space, fine dining, a splash pad, dog park, and, overwhelming, biking and walking trails.



## "DOWNTOWN DAY"

Lastly, the Village of Lowville, in partnership with Naturally Lewis and Lewis County Planning and Community Development, hosted "Downtown DRI Day" on September 14, 2023. This event, advertised two-weeks in advance in the Watertown Daily Times and through local radio, social media, and a press release, planted DRI Committee members and supportive staff in various downtown locations to solicit input from customers of those locations. The locations included: Cafe Z, Crumbs Bake Shop, PB&J Cafe, the Bateman Draft House and jeb's Restaurant. This event allowed the Village of Lowville to receive input from stakeholders that have yet to contribute to the development of the downtown's vision; existing patrons of these locations. Each location included a poster board with the question "What would you do with \$10 million in downtown Lowville?" and post-it notes for the public to post ideas. All locations were ADA-accessible.



# TRANSFORMATIVE PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

**THE OVERARCHING** strategy in the Lowville DRI is to **RESTORE** existing buildings and properties, allow for residents to **REDISCOVER** various assets of the Village through quality of life initiatives, and **RECONNECT** the Downtown DRI area through pedestrian improvements to not only allow for a more walkable downtown, but to connect the downtown to existing employment centers and community assets located outside of the DRI boundary. All of the Village's DRI projects feed into that grand strategy, creating an interlocking necklace of projects that allows its downtown to reach its full potential as a walkable regional destination.

The projects listed in the following pages are transformative opportunities that the Village believes will provide significant returns on investment through economic development and enhance the public realm and quality of life in Downtown Lowville. The projects were selected because they are synergistic and catalytic—that is, they work in concert to create a whole that is greater than the sum of its parts. The focus for Round 7 was to increase private sector projects that allow the Village to “restore and rediscover” unique and historic properties, and become more strategic in how the Village “reconnects” existing assets to the downtown DRI area.

The projects represent the potential for over \$33 million in public and private investment, including a demonstrated need for over \$22 million in DRI funding. The Village has thoughtfully planned and selected each project for inclusion in this application due to its strong potential to transform Downtown Lowville, its ability to catalyze additional investment and development, and its alignment with public feedback collected through multiple outreach events. The tight spatial clustering of these projects creates synergistic effects, allowing these strategic investments to build off and leverage each other's successes.

The projects are diverse in scope, impacting all aspects of life in Downtown Lowville including economic development, tourism, quality of life, housing, and recreation. By reinvesting in downtown, leveraging private sector investment, capitalizing on existing assets, and building off the momentum of recent successes, these projects will help transform Downtown Lowville into a vibrant community where the next generation of New Yorkers will want to live, work, and raise families.

## RESTORE

## REDISCOVER

## RECONNECT

## SUPPORTIVE INVESTMENTS

### DRI PROGRAM GOALS

- ♥ Active downtown with a strong sense of place.
- 🏪 Attract new businesses and create new experiences
- 🎨 Enhance public spaces for arts and cultural events
- 👥 Diverse housing and employment opportunities
- 💰 Grow the local property tax base
- 🏡 Support & enhance quality of life.
- 🌱 Reduce greenhouse gas emissions

## RESTORE

- ① Stevens Block
- ② Kellogg Block
- ③ Good Morning Realty Housing
- ④ Naturally Lewis Office & Coworking
- ⑤ Trinity Terrace
- ⑥ VPJ Lofts
- ⑦ Elm Connection Commons
- ⑧ Lowville Medical Ass. Health Center
- ⑨ Downtown Projects & Programs Fund
- ⑩ Lewis County Historical Society
- ⑪ Jeb's + The Trading Post
- ⑫ American Legion Post 162

## REDISCOVER

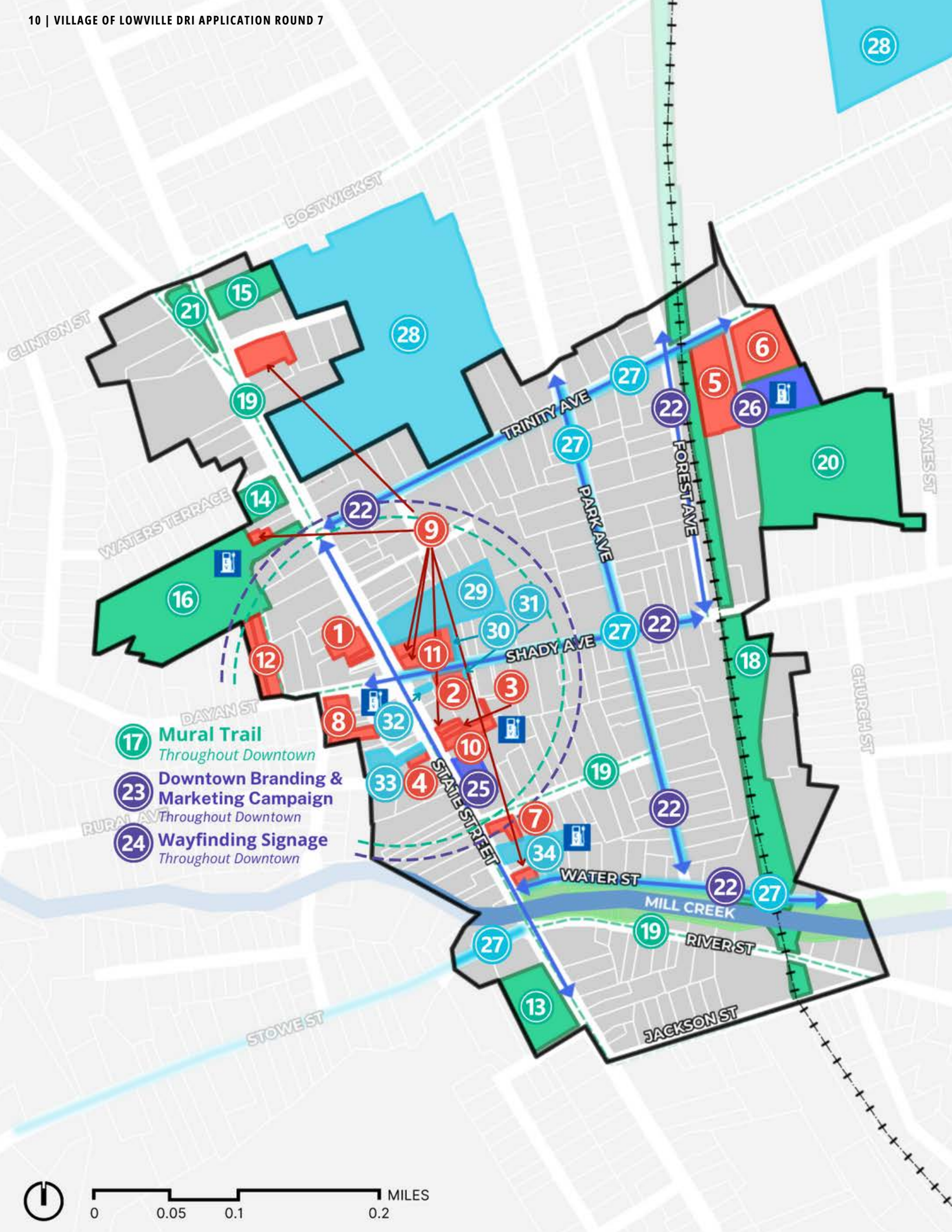
- ⑬ Judge's Quarters Carriage House
- ⑭ 1812 House - Bed & Breakfast
- ⑮ Victorian Lake Cultural Center
- ⑯ Veteran's Park Access + Improvements
- ⑰ Mural Trail
- ⑱ Reimagined Rails with Trails
- ⑲ Memory Lane: Heritage Walking Trail
- ⑳ Double Play Exercise Trail + Dog Park
- ㉑ Village Green Pocket Park

## RECONNECT

- ㉒ Inclusive + Safe Streets
- ㉓ Downtown Branding & Marketing
- ㉔ Wayfinding
- ㉕ Human Services Hub
- ㉖ Ecovillage: Power, Purify & Grow

## SUPPORTIVE INVESTMENTS

- ㉗ Village Infrastructure Projects
- ㉘ LACS Capital Projects
- ㉙ Methodist Church Parking Partnership
- ㉚ Crumbs Bake Shop
- ㉛ Crave Diner
- ㉜ Café Z
- ㉝ National Abstract
- ㉞ Tug Hill Artisan Roasters





**STEVENS BLOCK**  
7623 N State St

Total Cost: \$1,800,000  
 DRI Request: \$1,100,000  
 Sponsor: Private Owner  
 Readiness: Site control, site plan and budget  
 Potential Funding: Private, Vacant Property Revitalization, NYMS, County Facade & Streetscape Funding  
 DRI Goals: ❤️ 👤 💰 🏠 🌱

This project proposes to adaptively reuse the vacant 2nd and 3rd floor of 7623 N State Street into market-rate housing units. This space has been unutilized since the 1970s and has the potential to be truly transformative. By 2025, this project would provide 8 housing units and create 1 job opportunity. The vision is to work with NYSERDA to cohesively strive to be a net zero building but also stay true to the historic nature of the building and restore as much of the historic downtown character and integrity as possible. With the documented housing shortage, specifically for market-rate housing, many employers have problems retaining and recruiting professionals. Lewis County Health Systems could undoubtedly capitalize on this opportunity for their traveling doctors and nurses. Facade improvements are also proposed for this building, which includes the Dollar General retail space, to transform the look and feel of the entire corridor.

This project sponsor received Site Plan Review and Special Use Permit for the project, in its entirety, on September 27, 2023, completed an environmental survey, and received \$100,000 in Naturally Lewis Vacant Property Revitalization funding.



**KELLOGG BLOCK**  
5424 Shady Ave

Total Cost: \$1,500,000  
 DRI Request: \$734,000  
 Sponsor: Private Owner  
 Readiness: Site control, site plan and budget  
 Potential Funding: Private, Vacant Property Revitalization, NYMS, County Facade & Streetscape Funding  
 DRI Goals: ❤️ 👤 💰 🏠 🌱

Built in 1885, the Kellogg Block building is a mixed-use building with five businesses operating on the street level and housing units on the second floor. The proposed project includes interior and exterior renovations to enhance the storefront experience and the addition of 5 new one-bedroom apartments. The project also includes interior improvements to the first floor storefront spaces that allows the tenants to operate more efficiently, saving energy costs through heating and cooling.

This project has completed an environmental survey, is working with the Lewis County Historical Society to revitalize its historic exterior, received local funding through the Naturally Lewis Vacant Property Revitalization Fund (VPR) and is currently undergoing asbestos abatement. This project is expected to be completed in 2025.



**GOOD MORNING REALTY HOUSING**  
7556 South State Street

Total Cost: \$200,000  
 DRI Request: \$180,000  
 Sponsor: Private Owner  
 Readiness: Site control, site plan and budget  
 Potential Funding: Private, Vacant Property Revitalization, NYMS  
 DRI Goals: ❤️ 👤 💰 🏠 🌱

The project aims to revitalize an underutilized second level into a market-rate, two-bedroom apartment, adding value to Downtown Lowville by providing a much-needed residential unit. Its strategic location ensures convenient access to a plethora of downtown businesses, shops, potential job opportunities, schools, and places of worship. The comprehensive scope of work encompasses the installation of a state-of-the-art fire suppression system, meticulous re-pointing of masonry walls, reinstatement of external fire escapes, and a complete interior overhaul to create a spacious living space spanning approximately 1300 square feet. This transformation will involve reconfiguring the layout, relocating heating and central air ducts, and establishing a full bathroom, kitchen, two bedrooms, utility room, and inviting living area, elevating the space to a modern, functional standard.





**4**

## NATURALLY LEWIS OFFICE & COWORKING

7551 S State St

Total Cost: \$1,500,000  
 DRI Request: \$900,000  
 Sponsor: Lewis County IDA  
 Readiness: Site control, Cost estimates  
 Potential Funding: Private  
 DRI Goals: ❤️🛒🗺️👥💰🏠🌱

This project adaptively reuses 7551 South State Street building to create a mixed office and coworking space development. The existing building will be treated with facade improvements. The second and third stories will be remodeled to accommodate a coworking space and small offices for remote workers or entrepreneurs. The lower floors of the building will house Naturally Lewis, the economic development agency for Lewis County.s. This project creates opportunities for entrepreneurs, remote workers and partner agencies to have a downtown space to connect, learn and grow. Property acquisition is expected in 2024, with construction slated to begin in 2025.



**5**

## TRINITY TERRACE

5502 Trinity Ave

Total Cost: \$5,356,470  
 DRI Request: \$2,946,058  
 Sponsor: CDM CNY  
 Readiness: Property Owner Supports Project  
 Potential Funding: Private  
 DRI Goals: ❤️🛒🗺️👥💰🏠🌱

This project will see the re-purposing of an existing building to create a mixed-use facility with a potential combination of market-rate and workforce housing, as well as a commercial component on the base level. This project will help to increase the local housing stock, by retaining current residents of the Village with limited options for living space within the community, while simultaneously attracting new residents from surrounding areas. In turn, this project will stimulate additional economic activity through new residents patronage throughout businesses in the community. This project will increase pedestrian traffic and improve quality of life. Anticipating a DRI award in the Winter of 2023, we forecast project commencement in the fall of '24. Should there be any historical designation requests, we would allot 8-12 months for nomination, design and construction drawings could run concurrently with an estimated duration of 3-6 months, and construction to follow taking between 18-24 months. This project will serve as a catalyst for future development and be transformational for the community.



**6**

## VPJ LOFTS

5512 Trinity Ave

Total Cost: \$1,750,000  
 DRI Request: \$950,000  
 Sponsor: Private Owner  
 Readiness: Site control  
 Potential Funding: Private  
 DRI Goals: ❤️🛒🗺️👥💰🏠🌱

We propose the transformation of a vacant, historical brick building into a vibrant multi-tenant residential loft space, seamlessly integrated with a community garden area adjacent to the Lowville Food Pantry. Our vision seeks to preserve the building's rich heritage while revitalizing it to serve modern needs. The adaptive reuse project will create sustainable, modern living spaces for the community, fostering a sense of belonging and environmental stewardship. The juxtaposition of the historic architecture with the lush greenery of the community garden will provide residents with a unique urban oasis, promoting a sense of community and well-being. Together, these elements will breathe new life into our neighborhood, offering both a sense of history and a vision for a sustainable, connected future.

### THREE TREES NEIGHBORHOOD VISION





## ELM CONNECTION COMMONS

7518 S State Street

Total Cost: \$350,000

DRI Request: \$325,000

Sponsor: Private Owner

Readiness: Site control

Potential Funding: Private, Facade and Streetscape Improvement Program

DRI Goals: 🏡🛍️👥💰🏠

The building, situated at the intersection of State Street and Elm Street, currently comprises five storefronts for local businesses and six housing units. The proposed project includes a comprehensive transformation, featuring brand-new siding, windows, a revamped entrance for businesses, an upgraded porch, a state-of-the-art handicap-accessible ramp, and striking new signage. With these enhancements, the building is poised to become a true centerpiece in the village, housing multiple small businesses and providing accommodation for six housing units.



## LOWVILLE MEDICAL ASSOCIATES HEALTH CENTER

5402 Dayan St

Total Cost: \$1,000,000

DRI Request: \$600,000

Sponsor: Private Owner

Readiness: Site control, Planning

Potential Funding: Private, Federal Funding

DRI Goals: 🏡🛍️👥💰🏠

Improvements and expansion to existing medical practice in Downtown Lowville to comply with Article 28 facility requirements. This project will prepare the facility for Federally Funded Non-Profit Health Center (FQHC) standards that would expand services to our medically unserved area and populations like Lewis County. Each floor of the medical building will need upgrades to accommodate these FQHC requirements and will result in a 2,000 square foot expansion to the 2nd floor for medical service expansions.



## DOWNTOWN PROJECT & PROGRAMS FUND

Throughout Downtown

Total Cost: \$500,000

DRI Request: \$500,000

Sponsor: Lowville Business Association

Readiness: Ready to implement

Potential Funding: DRI

DRI Goals: 🏡🛍️👥💰🏠

This project establishes a grant fund to support the rehabilitation of buildings near and along State Street – Lowville’s main commercial corridor. Projects eligible for funding through the grant program include facade improvements, residential improvements, public art installations, public realm improvements, community event enhancements and physical improvements to existing and vacant commercial space. By strategically investing in the community in this way, the Village hopes to spur development, catalyze investment, and improve the economic viability of downtown. Projects included, but not limited to, under this fund would include:

- Leonard & Lanpher Blocks (Purvine)
- Gleason Block
- Tony Harpers
- Elements Day Spa
- Turck’s Get It & Go
- The Laundry Room Multi-Purpose Center
- Cream Cheese Festival
- Village Summer Concert Series





10

**LEWIS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY: TEMPLE REIMAGINED**  
7552 S State Street

Total Cost: \$1,440,000  
DRI Request: \$1,377,000  
Sponsor: Historical Society  
Readiness: Site control  
Potential Funding: Private  
DRI Goals: ❤️🏠👤💰🏡🌱

The Temple Reimagined project seeks to rehabilitate the historic and iconic National Register-listed Masonic Temple building in downtown Lowville, with heritage-appropriate improvements and upgrades, to both enhance the facility as an institution for historic preservation, local history education and heritage tourism, while modernizing its capabilities to serve as an art and cultural hub for the community. The Lewis County Historical Society is the County Historian for Lewis County and the manager of the Lewis County Research Center, and the “Temple” is home to the Historical Society’s collections, exhibits, library, museum, and presentation and performance spaces. Implementation of The Temple Reimagined project will preserve the historic character and structural integrity of the building, with a commitment to sustainable, energy efficient, and decarbonizing practices, in order to better serve the local community, promote heritage tourism in the area and attract increasing numbers of visitors to Downtown Lowville.



11

**JEBS + THE TRADING POST**  
5415, 5421 Shady Avenue

Total Cost: \$2,140,000  
DRI Request: \$700,000  
Sponsor: Private Owner  
Readiness: Site control  
Potential Funding: Private, Facade and Streetscape Improvement Program  
DRI Goals: ❤️🏠👤💰🏡🌱

The owners of the Trading Post building are working to restore the historic structure to its original grandeur. The exterior facade will be returned to its historical condition, and the interior of the building will be remodeled to accommodate future occupancy. Work will involve replacing the roof, rebuilding the rear wall, and installing new wiring, plumbing, and an elevator at 5421 Shady Avenue. This project leverages privately funded work already begun at 5415 Shady Avenue in August 2021, including roof repairs, new windows, and updated plumbing and electrical.



12

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 162**  
5383 Dayan St

Total Cost: \$350,000  
DRI Request: \$160,000  
Sponsor: American Legion Post 162  
Readiness: Site control  
Potential Funding: Facade & Streetscape Improvement Program  
DRI Goals: ❤️🏠👤💰🏡🌱

The historic 152 year-old building needs renovations to preserve its architectural character. This project will reconstruct two historic cupolas and include heritage-appropriate treatments to the brick facade. Other improvements include a new roof and windows. The American Legion building is an iconic piece of Downtown Lowville’s streetscape and improvements here will be immediately noticeable as the Legion is the first commercial building as visitors enter the Village from the west. Renovations are expected to be complete within six months.







**JUDGE'S QUARTERS  
CARRIAGE HOUSE**  
7485 S State Street

Total Cost: \$290,000  
 DRI Request: \$144,000  
 Sponsor: Private Owner  
 Readiness: Site control, site plan and budget  
 Potential Funding: Private  
 DRI Goals: ❤️ 👤 💰 🏠

Built in the 1800s, Judge's Quarters Bed and Breakfast is a historic home providing lodging and event space to visitors and residents. The proposed project entails constructing a 30x40 Two Unit Carriage House on the southwest corner of the property. A two-bedroom one bath second story unit and a one bedroom one bath handicap accessible unit on the first floor. Both will be fully functional for short term or long-term lodging with storage for vehicles or snow sleds in the first-floor garage area. This project will benefit the community by providing a vital need for upscale housing opportunities for travelers or longer term traveling workers for example doctor's, nurses etc.



**1812 HOUSE - BED AND  
BREAKFAST**  
7663 N State Street

Total Cost: \$170,500  
 DRI Request: \$170,500  
 Sponsor: Private Owner  
 Readiness: Site control  
 Potential Funding: Private  
 DRI Goals: ❤️ 👤 💰 🏠

Centrally located in Downtown Lowville, this project focuses on renovating the historic 1812 House to attract new visitors, support expanded programming, and celebrate the Village's rich historical heritage. Since opening its doors in 2017, the 1812 House and its grounds have functioned as a quaint bed, breakfast, and event center, hosting weddings, reunions, and parties. This project will preserve the building's historical features and enhance the experience and comfort of all. The proposed renovations include commercial kitchen updates, central air conditioning, and utility upgrades to increase efficiency, the construction of an outdoor kitchen, facade improvements, and new landscaping.



**VICTORIAN LAKE MULTI-  
USE CULTURAL CENTER**  
7696 N State Street

Total Cost: \$2,027,774  
 DRI Request: \$1,216,664  
 Sponsor: Private Owner  
 Readiness: Site control, site plan and budget  
 Potential Funding: Private, Facade and Streetscape Improvement Program  
 DRI Goals: ❤️ 👤 💰 🏠

Expansion of a 7,500 sq ft historical bed and breakfast and carriage house into a multi-use cultural center complete with facade restorations, ADA accessibility (to include a 3 floor LULA elevator), sprinkler system, HVAC system, a one 2-bedroom apartment, four short-term rental unit suites, an art gallery, pottery studio, wellness area, specialty locally-sourced dining venue, and outdoor garden and tiered terrace space. This circa 1865 Victorian home is the essence of Lowville, standing boldly at the entrance of the Downtown Lowville corridor as a staple stop for photo ops. The owners, who have generational connections to the building, are committed to this restoration and have already begun the process of identifying a live-in property manager and art gallery director, securing restoration estimates, and reviewing zoning requirements to ensure compliance.

**FOOD TRUCK FRIDAYS**





## VETERAN'S PARK ACCESS + IMPROVEMENTS

*Parkway Drive*

Total Cost: \$1,696,000  
 DRI Request: \$886,000  
 Sponsor: Village of Lowville  
 Readiness: Site control  
 Potential Funding: Public  
 DRI Goals: ❤️ 🏠 🚶 🚲 🌳

A vital component of this DRI application is significant upgrades to Veteran's Park, a greenspace located in the heart of the Village. As part of the project, accessible, family-friendly open spaces for all abilities and ages will be incorporated. This project enhances recreation facilities and improves pedestrian and vehicular access to Veteran's Memorial Park. New amenities will include a splash pad, upgrades to play equipment, and an accessible walking trail. Outdoor theater equipment will be purchased to allow for new programming, including "Movies in the Park" and other family events. A critical component of this project is upgrades to park access. The Parkway, which connects the park to State Street, will be reorganized to improve circulation and safety and enhance walkability. Green infrastructure features include bio-retention ponds, culvert day-lighting, EV charging stations, porous pavement parking areas, and additional tree planting as part of the project. Improvements include accessible access to the park, added benches and seating areas that include accessible seating, a play area, a parking lot, and an upper promenade. Redesigned open plaza with open and flexible lawn areas, shade trees and native understory plantings, splash pad play area, and play area improvements. The Village envisions consist of a walkway around the Park to promote health and wellness, a small amphitheater for our "Concerts in the Park" weekly events, and a concrete pad in front of the playground with picnic tables and concrete picnic tables throughout the park. Also, drainage work must be completed before the proposed splash pad is installed.

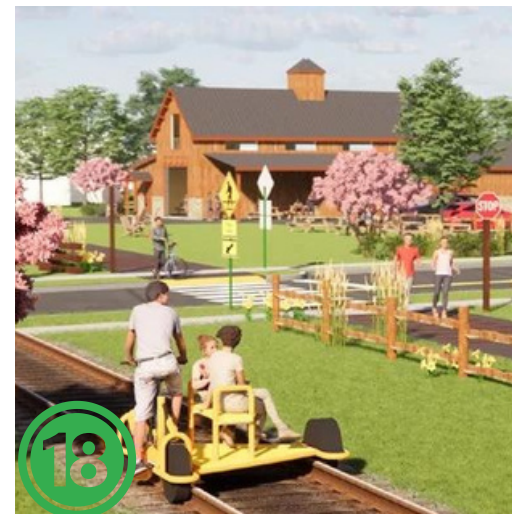


## MURAL TRAIL

*Throughout Downtown Lowville*

Total Cost: \$50,000  
 DRI Request: \$50,000  
 Sponsor: Naturally Lewis  
 Readiness: Locations identified  
 Potential Funding: Public  
 DRI Goals: ❤️ 🏠 🚶 🚲 🌳

This project will commission local artists to design and paint several murals on blank walls throughout Lowville. These murals will enhance placemaking and strengthen Lowville's identity by celebrating its history and future, creating recognizable landmarks on iconic downtown buildings, and beautifying the streetscape. These pieces of public art will elevate the cultural profile of Downtown Lowville with uplifting, educational, and thought-provoking murals and works of public art that help create a sense of place that is attractive to a broad audience of residents, commuters, and visitors. Several buildings have been identified for murals, including the facade between Tony Harper's and Dollar General, the parking lot wall at the corner of Dayan and South State Streets, and the Lowville Commons walkway. Local artists will receive preference for these commissions.



## REIMAGINED RAILS WITH TRAILS

*Trinity Ave to Jackson St*

Total Cost: \$1,100,000  
 DRI Request: \$1,100,000  
 Sponsor: Lewis County  
 Readiness: Site Control in Process  
 Potential Funding: FTA,EDA,RTP,NBRC,CMAQ  
 DRI Goals: ❤️ 🏠 🚶 🚲 🌳

In 2022, Jefferson Community College conducted their Annual Community Survey in which 82% of residents ages 18-36 supported County Government efforts to convert existing railroad beds and tracks into public recreational multi-use trails, both motorized and non-motorized. This survey stimulated the County's eagerness to pursue the railroad acquisition and, in July 2023, the Three Trees Neighborhood Plan Survey further instilled the need when 75% of its residents voiced their support to develop non-motorized trails in the Village. This project creates a trail corridor along inactive portions of the Mohawk, Adirondack, and Northern Railroad and the Lowville Beaver River Railroad. The corridor will feature multi-use trails along both sides of the rail line which can support walking, cycling, running, skating, and other activities. The existing rail ties will also be repurposed to use for rail bikes. This project creates a regional tourism corridor by connecting local destinations, including the Lowville Depot and a farmer's market to be created along the trail, to destinations in nearby Carthage and Croghan. It also involves the restoration of the original Lowville Depot, the construction of a roundhouse and turntable to display a historic steam locomotive, and stabilization of the Mill Creek overpass.



## MEMORY LANE: REDISCOVER LOWVILLE'S HERITAGE

*Downtown History Walking Trail*

Total Cost: \$150,000

DRI Request: \$150,000

Sponsor: Village of Lowville, Lewis County Historical Society

Readiness: Site Control, Final Planning Stages

Potential Funding: Public

DRI Goals: 🏡👤🌳🗺️

This history trail has been implemented by the Lewis County Historical Society over the last few years and has involved guided walks throughout the Village that highlight historically significant properties. The "Memory Lane: Rediscover Lowville's Heritage" is an expansion of the existing efforts and will serve as a captivating history walking trail designed to offer both residents and visitors an immersive experience that celebrates the rich history and cultural heritage of our downtown area. This trail takes participants on a fascinating journey through various historical landmarks, significant sites, and hidden gems, all while telling the story of our downtown's evolution. This project would physically define the history trail through artistic elements within the pathway infrastructure, create a brand for the themed walks, incorporate interactive signage with augmented reality integrations, and will develop and record audio and/or video guides for self-guided tour capabilities.



## DOUBLE PLAY EXERCISE TRAIL + DOG PARK

*Trinity Ave*

Total Cost: \$195,000

DRI Request: \$195,000

Sponsor: Double Play Community Center

Readiness: Site Control, Renderings

Complete

Potential Funding: Public

DRI Goals: 🏡👤🌳🗺️

The project transforms a vacant 6.9-acre parcel of land to an accessible and inclusive outdoor recreational area for residents of all ages. The development will include walking trails, a dog park, expansive green spaces, and strategically placed exercise stations to promote physical activity and community engagement. We have designed ADA-compliant walking trails of varying lengths to accommodate different fitness levels. These trails will include benches, informational signage, and waste disposal units along the trails. This project will also incorporate strategically placed outdoor exercise stations throughout the parcel to encourage physical activity and will provide a range of exercise equipment suitable for various fitness levels. The exercise stations will include signage with exercise instructions and safety guidelines. In coordination with the walking trails, we have conceptual designs for the construction of a highly-demanded dog park with separate areas for small and large dogs. This portion of the project will include the installation of fencing, pet waste stations, water fountains, and shaded seating areas.



## VILLAGE GREEN POCKET PARK

*N State St, W State St, & Monument Ln*

Total Cost: \$80,000

DRI Request: \$80,000

Sponsor: Village of Lowville

Readiness: Site control

Potential Funding:

DRI Goals: 🏡👤🌳🗺️

The proposed grant project aims to transform an underutilized triangular space, strategically located in a highly visible area, into a vibrant and inviting community hub. Currently, the space lacks accessibility and fails to entice pedestrians. Through thoughtful revitalization, we envision an attractive urban oasis that beckons passersby and provides a welcoming environment for gatherings and events. This envisioned space will boast a striking centerpiece—a captivating fountain—surrounded by thoughtfully placed benches, offering residents and visitors a place to relax and connect. This endeavor aligns with our commitment to enhancing public spaces, ensuring they are not only aesthetically pleasing but also functional, fostering a stronger sense of community in our neighborhood.



## TRANSFORMING STREETS FOR INCLUSIVITY & SAFETY

### *Village Streets*

Total Cost: \$3,500,000  
 DRI Request: \$3,000,000  
 Sponsor: Village of Lowville  
 Readiness: Site control, Policy Deployment  
 Potential Funding: Public  
 DRI Goals: ❤️🛒🏠👤💰🏡🌱

This project implements “complete streets” techniques along State Street, Water Street, Shady Avenue, Trinity Avenue, Forest Avenue, and Park Avenue in Downtown Lowville. Improvements on State Street will emphasize streetscaping and safety, with pedestrian amenities, facade enhancements, and signage that create a welcoming, cohesive, and safe environment. Connections to State Street from Water Street, Shady Avenue, Park Avenue, Forest Avenue, and Trinity Avenue will be enhanced through ADA compliant curbs, defined bikeways, strengthened pedestrian crosswalks, streetside amenities, pedestrian lighting, and signage, which will complement the Village’s wayfinding signage project. These enhancements are intended to provide options for safe, multi-modal travel, improve accessibility, and better connect these streets and the proposed rail trail corridor to State Street and Downtown. This project not only showcases the Village’s commitment to creating an inclusive community, but it builds upon the County’s Complete Streets initiative and will incorporate the guidelines and policies adopted by Lewis County in July 2023.



## DOWNTOWN BRANDING + MARKETING CAMPAIGN

Total Cost: \$250,000  
 DRI Request: \$250,000  
 Sponsor: Village of Lowville, Lowville Business Association, Naturally Lewis  
 Potential Funding: Public  
 DRI Goals: ❤️🛒🏠👤💰🏡🌱

The aim of this project is to create a comprehensive branding and marketing strategy for a downtown corridor, with the primary objective of rejuvenating the area. This involves crafting a unique brand identity that pays homage to its historical roots while envisioning its future, utilizing the forthcoming Lewis County Main Street Design Guidelines. The project will encompass the development of branding materials and marketing ideas to promote the downtown space, ultimately drawing in new businesses, visitors, and residents. Additionally, it seeks to foster community involvement and backing for the revitalization endeavor. The project’s deliverables will encompass the Village of Lowville brand identity, encompassing its name, logo, and tagline, along with various branding materials like brochures, banners, and signage. It will also include innovative marketing concepts and campaigns, as well as a style guide for consistent brand representation.



## WAYFINDING

### *Throughout Downtown*

Total Cost: \$60,000  
 DRI Request: \$60,000  
 Sponsor: Village of Lowville  
 Potential Funding: Public  
 DRI Goals: ❤️🛒🏠👤💰🏡🌱

Implementation of wayfinding signage throughout the Village. Clear signage delineates where the Village of Lowville creates robust gateways and transforms civic amenities to drive business attraction, visitors, and residential recruitment. Wayfinding signage can ensure parking availability within the downtown to support a range of users, including businesses, visitors, and residents.

CRUMBS. BAKESHOP





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## HUMAN SERVICES HUB 7550 S State Street

Total Cost: \$4,796,687  
 DRI Request: \$4,796,687  
 Sponsor: North Country Transitional Living Services  
 Readiness: Site Control, Design Phase  
 Potential Funding: DOH  
 DRI Goals: ❤️ 👤 🏠 🌱

Three community health non-profits seek to leverage resources and occupy one large, underutilized building downtown creating a "one stop" service center for persons with mental illness, substance use disorders, or intellectual/ developmental disabilities. Transitional Living Services, along with Credo Community Center, and The Arc Oneida-Lewis, are looking to utilize the existing Lowville Commons facility as a Community Services Hub to serve the public better and streamline care. This project would include interior and exterior renovations necessary to house all agencies under one roof. Interior improvements to offices, clinical space, treatment rooms, and conference areas are needed as well as exterior improvements for the facade and ADA accessibility. This location is ideal for pedestrians and the Lewis County Public Transportation system.



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## ECOVILLAGE: POWER, PURIFY & GROW Throughout Downtown

Total Cost: \$800,000  
 DRI Request: \$350,000  
 Sponsor: Lewis County, Village of Lowville, Food Pantry, and Tug Hill Artisan Roasters  
 Readiness: Site Control, Design Phase  
 Potential Funding: DEC, NYSERDA, USDOT  
 DRI Goals: ❤️ 🛒 🏠 👤 🌱

The project includes the purchase and installation of seven (7) DC fast charging stations for electric vehicles, infiltration basins for sustainable water management in the Lowville Commons Parking Area and along Trinity Avenue, Water Street, and River Street, and community gardens, complete with neighborhood composting capabilities, for green and regenerative practices within the village. It conveys the idea of creating a sustainable and vibrant community that harmonizes with nature. The locations of the DC fast charging stations have been strategically identified within the DRI Boundaries due to the proximity to affordable housing, commercial accessibility, and lodging accommodations. These stations are a mere portion of the EV charging initiative that the Village and County are leading where they've applied for 62 Level 2 charging stations through a USDOT program. Lewis County's recent Bronze Certification (September 2023) will open up opportunities to assist with funding this project.

## 27 VILLAGE LED LIGHTING, WATER, & WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Investment: \$45,000,000  
 Revitalization of water and sewer lines on five main village streets along with wastewater facility upgrades and village-wide LED lighting.

## 28 LOWVILLE ACADEMY CAPITAL PROJECTS

Investment: \$14,900,000  
 Project includes an 8-lane track with lights and a new parking area on Bostwick Street.

## 29 METHODIST CHURCH PARKING PARTNERSHIP

Investment: \$35,000  
 Partnership utilizes an existing underutilized parking area in the Village to support workforce and business patron parking needs.

## 30 CRUMBS BAKE SHOP

Investment: \$200,000  
 New downtown business completed facade improvements and is adding housing units upstairs.

## 31 CRAVE DINER

Investment: \$170,000  
 Transitioned ownership from Gary's Restaurant, renovated the interior and has created new jobs.

## 32 CAFÉ Z

Investment: \$200,000  
 Renovated the storefront and is currently in the process of replacing second and third floor windows that have been boarded up for years.

## 33 NATIONAL ABSTRACT

Investment: \$300,500  
 Facade improvements have restored a historic building and brought new businesses to downtown Lowville.

## 34 TUG HILL ARTISAN ROASTERS

Investment: \$1,316,900  
 Renovations of a vacant building into a multi-use space for commerce and tourism.

# ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY

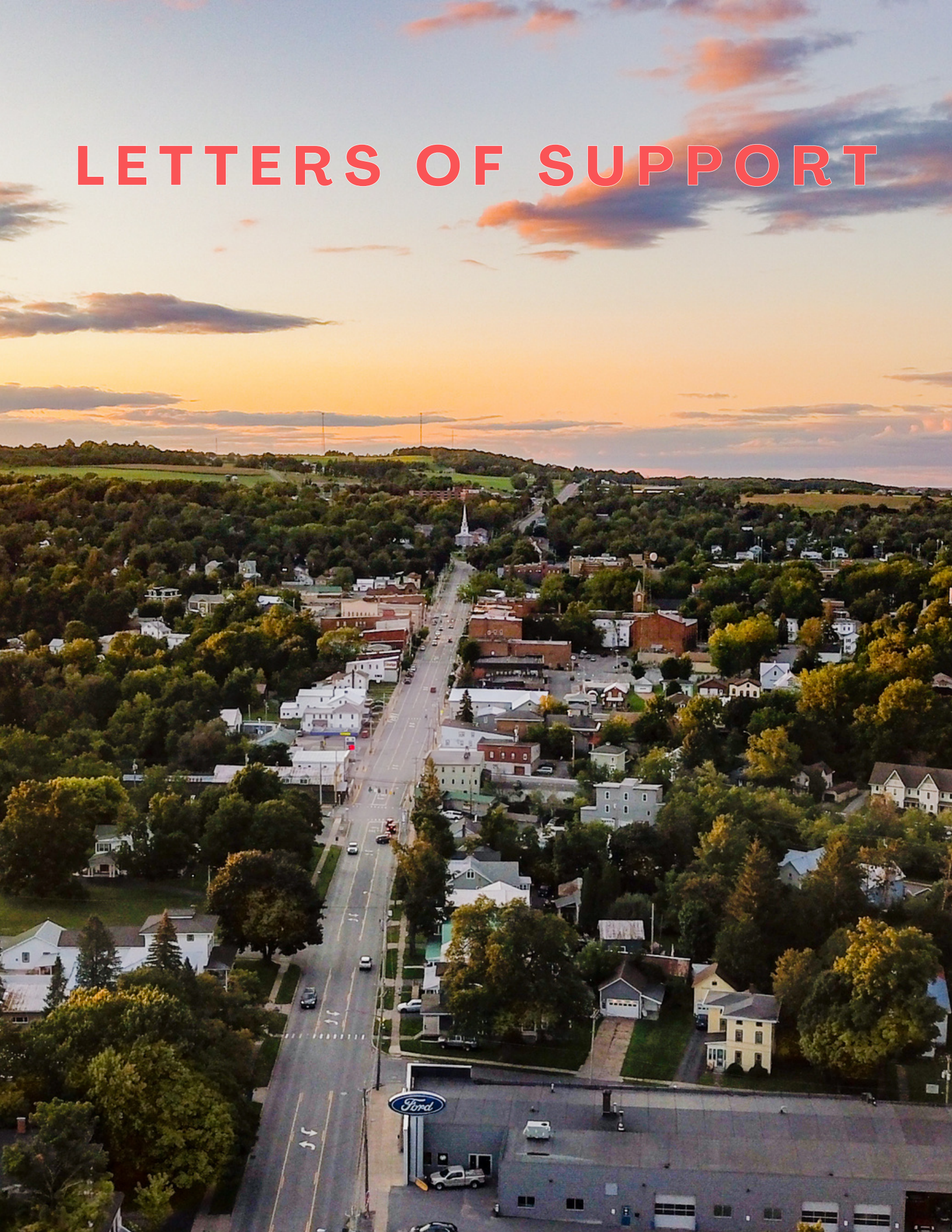
The Village has a proven track record of successfully executing multi-million-dollar State contracts and is committed to continuing this success through the execution of the project in partnership with Lewis County and with participation from various boards, organizations, and other municipalities.

Implementation of the DRI will be led by knowledgeable and experienced Village and County staff. The Village of Lowville recognizes that local capacity is fundamental to the successful implementation and long-term success of DRI projects. In partnership with Lewis County, the Village of Lowville will administer the DRI grant program locally. As the County seat, Lowville has a significant advantage with County staff and resources being easily accessible. Lewis County is committed to supporting the Village throughout the DRI planning process, project development, and implementation. Lewis County's Planning and Community Development Department partnered with the Village of Lowville to develop the Village's DRI application, and, if awarded DRI funding, the County will continue to provide staff time and resources to assist the Village in managing the DRI planning process and the implementation of public improvement and private projects. Furthermore, Naturally Lewis, as the sole economic development agency in Lewis County, will provide the assistance required to connect businesses with gap financing, strategic planning, and programming.

Lewis County successfully administers several grant programs, including NYS DOT State Operating Assistance, NYS DOT Accelerated Transit Capital, FTA 5311 Rural Transportation Funding, CARES Act Funding (all managed by Lewis County Public Transportation), NYS Septic System Replacement Funds, as well as various Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) programs. It also leverages funding from the Northern Border Regional Commission, New York Main Street Program, and NYS Agriculture and Markets. The County's contracts with New York State have been well-managed, delivering results within budget and schedule. This funding has gone to transformative projects throughout Lowville, and the County and Village intend to build on this momentum with an infusion of DRI funding.

The Village realizes that the success of the DRI program does not solely fall on its ability to manage the grant program; it will take a collaboration from key stakeholders to oversee the implementation and ensure the long-term success of the funding. Long-term support will be provided through customized programming, collaborative marketing, and extensive technical services. It truly does, and surely will, "take a Village" to ensure the generational success of this funding. Through collaborations and partnerships, the implementation of NYS DRI Funding will be strategic, successful, and sustainable.

# LETTERS OF SUPPORT





## VILLAGE OF LOWVILLE

5535 Bostwick Street • Lowville, New York 13367  
Telephone (315) 376-2834 • Fax (315) 376-2010 • TDD 1-800-662-1220  
[www.villageoflowville.org](http://www.villageoflowville.org)

Mr. James McKenna  
Co-Chair, NCREDC  
Dulles State Office Building  
317 Washington Street  
Watertown, NY 13601

**RE: Village of Lowville Round VII Downtown Revitalization Initiative Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

I am reaching out to you as a representative of the Village of Lowville Board of Trustees to convey our strong endorsement of the Village of Lowville's application for the seventh round of funding under the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI). The vision is firmly anchored in our rich historical heritage and our forward-looking aspirations. Positioned as the gateway to the Thousand Islands, Tug Hill Plateau, and the Adirondack Mountains, we are dedicated to shaping Downtown Lowville into a thriving regional center for both commerce and culture. Our objective extends beyond attracting tourists; we aspire to cultivate a secure, nurturing, and supportive community that provides ample opportunities for year-round residents who seek to establish themselves in a rural setting.

Since embarking on our journey to secure DRI funding in 2019, our community, including our leadership, residents, businesses, and professional organizations, has united to showcase the numerous advantages of revitalizing Downtown Lowville. We have gained momentum, determination, and a clear vision, not only to rejuvenate our downtown but also to reconnect, restore, and rediscover the North Country region, both within and beyond our defined DRI boundaries. Recent private investments and developments have illustrated changing economic conditions and underscored Lowville's potential. We fully understand the significance of self-investment as a precursor to attracting external funding. Through recent initiatives, which have built upon the strong foundation established by partnerships between the Village of Lowville, Naturally Lewis, Lewis County, the Lewis County Historical Society, influential community leaders, and the dedicated members of our DRI Steering Committee, we have cultivated an environment that nurtures entrepreneurs, cares for the environment, and advances impactful policies.

In the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, the unwavering resilience demonstrated by our businesses and organizations, the commitment of our local officials, and the inspiring kindness of our residents have all fueled our efforts to showcase the vibrancy of our community. We embrace the state's "Plan then Act" approach, and after completing numerous planning initiatives and outreach events, Lowville now possesses a well-defined, focused vision for its future and its role in the North Country Region. One thing is certain—our overwhelming community support and response underscore our community's eagerness to breathe new life into our downtown that will endure for generations.

Through extensive public engagement, our DRI Steering Committee has pinpointed transformative initiatives that are prepared for execution should we be granted this significant funding opportunity. These funds will yield both immediate and enduring revitalization, carrying economic advantages that will extend far beyond the boundaries of Lowville and the North Country region. We sincerely value your thorough and thoughtful evaluation of our application for this year's DRI allocation.

Village of Lowville Board of Trustees

Joseph Beagle, Mayor



ELISE M. STEFANIK  
21ST DISTRICT, NEW YORK  
REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE CHAIR  
2211 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4611  
stefanik.house.gov

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3221**

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES  
COMMITTEE  
HOUSE PERMANENT SELECT  
COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
AND THE WORKFORCE  
HOUSE SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE  
ON THE WEAPONIZATION OF  
THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

September 14, 2023

Mr. James McKenna  
North Country Regional Economic Development Council  
Empire State Development  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

Dear Mr. McKenna,

I wish to express my strong endorsement for the Village of Lowville's Round 7 Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) application.

An interconnected and vibrant downtown is a fundamental asset for attracting a highly skilled and talented workforce, which is indispensable for the continued growth and prosperity of these manufacturers. Investing in this downtown catchment area is of paramount importance as it directly impacts the sustained success of numerous major regional employers situated in Lewis County. These employers are responsible for providing livelihoods to thousands of individuals engaged in dairy farming, forestry, and transportation jobs across our region.

Lowville's DRI application showcases an innovative approach by seamlessly integrating outdoor recreational opportunities with downtown placemaking. This initiative aims to establish a regional focal point for a wide range of outdoor activities, including walking, hiking, biking, hunting, snowmobiling, and many others. In a time when the State is actively investing in initiatives within the Adirondacks and Tug Hill Region, the creation of a dynamic urban center complete with shopping, dining, and hospitality services will enable both residents and visitors to fully capitalize on the diverse recreational offerings available throughout the region.

I fully support and applaud the efforts of the Village of Lowville for their DRI application. It is with this in mind that I respectfully request that their application be afforded your most serious consideration. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mary Jo Richards in my Ogdensburg office at 315-541-2670.

Sincerely,



Elise M. Stefanik  
Member of Congress

EAST GREENBUSH  
99 TROY ROAD  
SUITE 312  
EAST GREENBUSH, NY 12061  
(518) 242-4707

HERKIMER  
108 COURT STREET  
SUITE 102  
HERKIMER, NY 13350  
(315) 219-8005

OGDENSBURG  
330 FORD STREET  
SUITE 88  
OGDENSBURG, NY 13669  
(315) 541-2670

PLATTSBURGH  
137 MARGARET STREET  
SUITE 100  
PLATTSBURGH, NY 12901  
(518) 561-2324

**NEW YORK  
STATE  
SENATE**

ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247



SENATOR MARK C. WALCZYK  
49<sup>th</sup> SENATE DISTRICT

**ALBANY OFFICE**  
302 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BLDG.  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247  
TEL (518) 455-3438  
FAX (518) 426-6740

**DISTRICT OFFICE**  
317 WASHINGTON ST., RM. 418  
WATERTOWN, NEW YORK 13601  
TEL (315) 782-3418  
FAX (315) 782-6357

**FULTON COUNTY SATELLITE OFFICE**  
223 WEST MAIN ST., SUITE B10  
JOHNSTOWN, NY 12095  
TEL (518) 762-3733

**E-MAIL: WALCZYK@NYSENATE.GOV**

September 22, 2023

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

Dear Mr. McKenna:

I am writing to express support for the Village of Lowville's Round 7 Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) application. The Village is seeking funding to enhance its capabilities to attract tourism to its downtown and become a regional focal point for a wide array of outdoor activities.

In a time when the State is actively committing to initiatives that enhance downtown experiences across the state, investing in a village in the heart of Lewis County is a great place to start. The Village is attempting to seamlessly integrate its vast environmental and outdoor recreational opportunities to its charming downtown to create a unique dynamic urban and rural setting. By taking this approach, the Village will be able to cross-promote its downtown shopping, dining, and hospitality industries, with its rural tourism catalysts like hiking, biking, hunting and snowmobiling.

Investing in this downtown catchment area is also of paramount importance as it directly impacts the sustained success of numerous major regional employers situated in Lewis County. These employers are responsible for providing livelihoods to thousands of individuals engaged in dairy farming, forestry, and transportation jobs across our region.

Again, I support the application being submitted by the Village of Lowville. If you have any questions please feel free to give my office a call at any time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Walczyk', written over a white background.

Mark C. Walczyk  
Senator  
New York SD-49

MCW/tac



KEN BLANKENBUSH  
Assemblyman 117<sup>th</sup> District

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

ASSISTANT MINORITY LEADER

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER  
Insurance Committee

COMMITTEES  
Agriculture  
Corporations, Authorities & Commissions  
Energy  
Rules  
Ways and Means

September 15, 2023

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

**Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

I am writing to express my strong endorsement for the Village of Lowville's Round 7 Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) application.

An interconnected and vibrant downtown is a fundamental asset for attracting a highly skilled and talented workforce, which is indispensable for the continued growth and prosperity of these manufacturers. Investing in this downtown catchment area is of paramount importance as it directly impacts the sustained success of numerous major regional employers situated in Lewis County. These employers are responsible for providing livelihoods to thousands of individuals engaged in dairy farming, forestry, and transportation jobs across our region.

Lowville's DRI application showcases an innovative approach by seamlessly integrating outdoor recreational opportunities with downtown placemaking. This initiative aims to establish a regional focal point for a wide range of outdoor activities, including walking, hiking, biking, hunting, snowmobiling, and many others. In a time when the State is actively investing in initiatives within the Adirondacks and Tug Hill Region, the creation of a dynamic urban center complete with shopping, dining, and hospitality services will enable both residents and visitors to fully capitalize on the diverse recreational offerings available throughout the region.

I take great pleasure in offering my full support for Lowville's application and applaud the dedicated efforts to advance the Village of Lowville.

Sincerely,

Ken Blankenbush  
Member of Assembly

September 27, 2023

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

**Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

On behalf of the Lewis County Board of Legislators, this letter is to document our collective support of the Village of Lowville's Round VII Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant application submitted to the Regional Economic Development Council.

The Board fully supports the Village's efforts to spur economic development in the epicenter of our County. The worthwhile initiatives outlined in the application would entice pedestrian traffic and enhance businesses, while attracting further downtown development. We certainly join their efforts to invigorate tourism, inspire economic development, and create walkable experiences for our residents and visitors.

We urge New York State to recognize the significance that the submitted projects will have not only in our County but to the North Country region.

Sincerely,



Lawrence L. Dolhof  
Chairman, Lewis County Board of Legislators



James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901  
**Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

On behalf of Naturally Lewis, we wish to convey our wholehearted support for the Village of Lowville's application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant, which is being submitted to the Regional Economic Development Council.

In my capacity as the executive director for Naturally Lewis, the lead economic development agency for Lewis County, we share a transformative vision for the future of Downtown Lowville and for our businesses. The overarching vision to "Rediscover Downtown Lowville" represents much of what Lewis County, as a whole, has to offer: enhancing existing assets, new and old, to become the ideal place to live, work, build business and play.

Downtown Lowville is on the cusp of transformation; the partnership of New York State and Empire State Development will help to develop Lowville, a cross-roads to many of New York State's most visited locations, as not just a pass-through, but an ideal destination for both residents and tourists, alike. We believe that Lowville is the natural choice for this year's DRI funding, as it will spur economic development, attract residents and tourists, and enhance the Village as the place to "rediscover."

Should our community be selected to receive the funding required to breathe new life into our downtown area, it would be a monumental boon for our organization, our businesses, and our community as a whole. We are sincerely grateful for your thoughtful consideration of the Village of Lowville's application for Round 7 of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative, recognizing the tremendous potential it holds for the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brittany Davis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brittany Davis  
Executive Director



# Historically Lewis

Home of the Lewis County Historical Society

7552 S. State Street  
Lowville, NY 13367  
(315) 376-8957  
hello@historicallylewis.org  
historicallylewis.org

## Staff

Inga Davey  
*Operations Manager*

## Officers

Jonathan Miller  
*President*

Lydia Miller  
*Vice-President*

Linda Dening  
*Treasurer*

Susan Merrell  
*Secretary*

## Board of Directors

Kelly Adsit  
Debra Barnard  
Jill Bush  
Hamish Davey  
Linda Dening  
Arlene Hall  
Peter Hayes  
Linda Hornig  
Mary Kelley  
Robert Meekins  
Susan Merrell  
Jonathan Miller  
Lydia Miller  
Cole Mullin  
Dan Root  
Jake Steria  
Kae Young

September 19, 2023

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville's  
"Rediscover Downtown Lowville" DRI Application

Dear Mr. McKenna:

On behalf of the Lewis County Historical Society, of which I am the President, we write to voice our full support for the Village of Lowville in its "Rediscover Downtown Lowville" application for funding through the 7<sup>th</sup> Round of New York State's Downtown Revitalization Initiative, which is being submitted to the Regional Economic Development Council.

We are not only the project sponsor of "The Temple Reimagined" project, which in itself would contribute significantly to the revitalization of downtown Lowville, but we are the County Historian for Lewis County. Our mission is to preserve, present and promote the stories, creations and history of Lewis County and its environs – including those of the Tug Hill plateau, the Black River valley and the western Adirondacks – and to use our collections, programming and partnerships to be one of the North Country's premier institutions for historical preservation, educational programming and heritage tourism.

Lowville has a rich history dating back to the late 1790s, when the first settlers put down roots at a time pre-dating Lewis County's formation. Since those early days, Lowville has been the prominent point in Lewis County due largely to its early focus on education, the entrepreneurial and spirited efforts of its merchants and businesses, the quality of life afforded its residents, its central location in the Black River valley between

the western slopes of the Adirondacks, the Tug Hill plateau and the Thousand Islands, and its status as the business, municipal, transportation and cultural hub of Lewis County. Lowville is also home to the only National Historic Landmark building in Lewis, Jefferson or St. Lawrence counties (and one of the few anywhere in northern New York) – the Franklin B. Hough House. Hough, of course, was not only the North Country’s preeminent historian, but the “Father of American Forestry.”

Not surprisingly, the Lewis County Historical Society is located in downtown Lowville. We own and operate the former Lowville Masonic Temple, a beautiful and imposing 1928 brick Colonial Revival building listed on the National Register of Historic Places, which we are in the process of restoring. We are an essential presence in the downtown Lowville streetscape, an active participant in downtown activities and our building is a community treasure. But lest there be any doubt, the Village of Lowville’s downtown is in serious need of revitalization. And the Rediscover Downtown Lowville DRI application, if granted, stands to work economic and cultural miracles for our little village.

Not only would the funding of this program greatly improve Lowville’s historic streetscape, but it would promote and stimulate heritage tourism, enhance pedestrian accessibility, stimulate business activity, draw more people to the downtown core, provide an economic stimulus to the community as a whole and, perhaps most importantly, continue to allow Village institutions to attract further investment.

It’s also worth noting that DRI funding for Lowville stands to have a broad reach beyond the Village’s borders. Lowville’s place in Lewis County is quite unique among the communities in other counties that constitute our North Country neighbors in that it is truly the only real downtown that exists in all of Lewis County. And no county in the State can well survive unless there is a strong central municipal core someplace – and in Lewis County, the only place for that is Lowville. As a result, we believe that strengthening Lowville’s downtown core not only strengthens the Village itself, but it strengthens Lewis County as a whole.

From the Historical Society’s point of view, granting the Rediscover Downtown Lowville DRI application would be major step in the right direction – and we strongly support doing so.

Thank you for taking the time to read our letter and hear our views.

Sincerely,



Jonathan W. Miller  
President, Board of Directors



# Lewis County Health System

Your Health Partner

September 28, 2023

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

**Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

On behalf of the Lewis County Health System, we express our wholehearted support for the Village of Lowville's application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant, which is being submitted to the Regional Economic Development Council.

As the Chief Executive Officer of the health system, I can personally attest to the invaluable support and collaborative spirit exhibited by the Village of Lowville. We share their transformative vision for our downtown's future, the downtown district's businesses, and our local healthcare system. A thriving downtown is critical in retaining and recruiting the next generation of healthcare physicians and nurses, which is of great concern to my organization.

The Village of Lowville's strategic geographical location, serving as a vital connecting corridor to the Tug Hill Region, the Adirondack Park, the Thousand Islands Region, and Canada, positions us to thrive. The positive impacts of investments in downtown Lowville will resonate far beyond our immediate boundaries, extending throughout the North Country, Central New York, the Southern Tier, the Capital District, and the Hudson Valley!

The projects included in this application are entwined with existing businesses, future development, year-round community needs, and tourism advancement. While the health system is not submitting a project for this application, we are connected to the Village's proposal because businesses, the health system and the community will benefit through our neighboring entrepreneur's successes, expansions, and establishments. The success of this application will have a catalytic effect that will ripple for decades!

Should our community be selected to receive the funding required to breathe new life into our downtown area, it would be a monumental boon for the local businesses, the health system and the larger community.

I am grateful for your thoughtful consideration of the Village of Lowville's application for Round 7 of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative and for recognizing the tremendous potential it holds for the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Gerald R. Cayer", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Gerald R. Cayer, MPH  
Chief Executive Officer



LOWVILLE ACADEMY and CENTRAL SCHOOL

7668 NORTH STATE STREET  
LOWVILLE, NEW YORK 13367-1328

Fax: 315-376-1933 Net: [www.lowvilleacademy.org](http://www.lowvilleacademy.org)

REBECCA DUNCKEL-KING  
Superintendent of Schools  
Telephone: 315-376-9000

SCOTT D. EXFORD  
Middle School Principal  
Telephone: 315-376-9010

BRIAN E. FINN  
High School Principal  
Telephone: 315-376-9015

PHILOMENA B. GOSS  
Elementary School Principal  
Telephone: 315-376-9005



September 26, 2023

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

**Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

On behalf of Lowville Central School District we wish to convey our wholehearted support for the Village of Lowville's application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant, which is being submitted to the Regional Economic Development Council.

In my capacity as Superintendent of Lowville Central School, I can personally attest to the invaluable support and collaborative spirit exhibited by the Village. We share their transformative vision for the future of our Downtown and our business. Our strategic geographical location, serving as a vital connecting corridor to the Tug Hill Region, Adirondack Park, Thousand Islands Region, and even Canada, positions us to thrive, and the positive impacts of investments in Downtown Lowville will resonate far beyond our immediate boundaries, extending throughout New York State.

The projects included in this application are entwined with existing businesses, future development, year-round community needs, and tourism advancement. While we are not submitting a project for this application, we are connected to the Village's proposal in that through our neighboring entrepreneur's successes, expansions, and establishments, our community will benefit. The success of this application will have a catalytic effect that will ripple for generations to come.

Should our community be selected to receive the funding required to breathe new life into our downtown area, it would be a monumental boon for our businesses and our community as a whole. We are sincerely grateful for your thoughtful consideration of the Village of Lowville's application for Round 7 of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative, recognizing the tremendous potential it holds for the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Rebecca Dunckel-King'.

Rebecca Dunckel-King  
Superintendent of Schools

# SNOW BELT HOUSING COMPANY, INC.

7500 SOUTH STATE STREET  
LOWVILLE, NY 13367



PH: (315) 376-2639  
FAX: (315) 376-2518  
NYS RELAY SERVICE NO. TTD (800) 662-1220

September 12, 2023

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

## **Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. James McKenna:

Snow Belt Housing Company, Inc. enthusiastically supports the Village of Lowville's Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant application submitted to the Regional Economic Development Council. As you know, we have supported several housing and community development initiatives in the village, including two New York Main Street grants and a Community Development Block Grant which provided a total downtown investment of over \$1 million.

Lowville's DRI application will support these investments as well as integrate outdoor recreation opportunities with downtown placemaking to create a regional hub for snowmobiling, hiking, biking, hunting, and many other outdoor activities. As the State continues to invest in environmental preservation initiatives in the Adirondacks and Tug Hill Region, the creation of an urban core with shopping, dining, housing, and hospitality services will allow residents and visitors to take advantage of the recreational opportunities available in state-protected lands.

I am confident the State will find success in the investment of the Village of Lowville, and I am excited to see how this funding will transform this wonderful community.

Sincerely,

Jaylyn Heames, Executive Director  
[jaylyn@snowbelt.org](mailto:jaylyn@snowbelt.org)

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*





## Lewis County Agricultural Society

P.O. Box 51 • Lowville, NY 13367

[www.lewiscountyfair.org](http://www.lewiscountyfair.org)

9/20/23

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

### **Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

On behalf of Lewis County Agricultural Society, host of the annual Lewis County Fair, we wish to convey our wholehearted support for the Village of Lowville's application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant, which is being submitted to the Regional Economic Development Council.

In my capacity as the Board President of The Lewis County Agricultural Society, I can personally attest to the invaluable support and collaborative spirit exhibited by the Village. We share their transformative vision for the future of our Downtown and our business. Our strategic geographical location, serving as a vital connecting corridor to the Tug Hill Region, Adirondack Park, Thousand Islands Region, and even Canada, positions us to thrive, and the positive impacts of investments in Downtown Lowville will resonate far beyond our immediate boundaries, extending throughout New York State.

The projects included in this application are entwined with existing businesses, future development, year-round community needs, and tourism advancement. While we are not submitting a project for this application, we are connected to the Village's proposal in that through our neighboring entrepreneur's successes, expansions, and establishments, our business and community will benefit. The success of this application will have a catalytic effect that will ripple for generations to come.

Should our community be selected to receive the funding required to breathe new life into our downtown area, it would be a monumental boon for our organization and our community as a whole. We are sincerely grateful for your thoughtful consideration of the Village of Lowville's application for Round 7 of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative, recognizing the tremendous potential it holds for the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,

MATTHEW O'CONNOR  
LEWIS COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY BOARD PRESIDENT

Lowville Business Association  
5383 Dayan Street  
Lowville, NY 13367

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

**Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

On behalf of the Lowville Business Association, we express our wholehearted support for the Village of Lowville's application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant, which is being submitted to the Regional Economic Development Council.

In my capacity as the board president for the Lowville Business Association, we share their transformative vision for the future of our Downtown and our business. While the project, in isolation, promises to contribute significantly to the revitalization of Downtown Lowville, when combined with other synergistic initiatives led by neighboring sponsors, it holds the potential to catalyze regional growth and foster a shared community vision right here in Downtown Lowville. Our strategic geographical location, serving as a vital connecting corridor to the Tug Hill Region, Adirondack Park, Thousand Islands Region, and even Canada, positions us to thrive, and the positive impacts of investments in Downtown Lowville will resonate far beyond our immediate boundaries, extending throughout New York State.

The overarching vision to Rediscover Downtown Lowville represents a remarkable opportunity to enhance pedestrian accessibility, stimulate business activity, create job opportunities, and make our region more appealing to tourists. Lowville has found its true north by increasing the local economy and enhancing the quality of life for those who live and work within the region to encompass the initiative's goals.

Should our community be selected to receive the funding required to breathe new life into our downtown area, it would be a monumental boon for our organization, our businesses, and our community. We are sincerely grateful for your thoughtful consideration of the Village of Lowville's application for Round 7 of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative, recognizing the tremendous potential it holds for the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,



Lee Hinkleman  
President  
Lowville Business Association



**QUBICAAMF**

7412 Utica Blvd, Lowville New York 13367

September 26, 2023

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

**Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

On behalf of QubicaAMF Pins Division, we wish to convey our wholehearted support for the Village of Lowville's application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant, which is being submitted to the Regional Economic Development Council.

In my capacity as a business Manager of QubicaAMF, I can personally attest to the invaluable support and collaborative spirit exhibited by the Village. We share their transformative vision for the future of our Downtown and our business. Our strategic geographical location, serving as a vital connecting corridor to the Tug Hill Region, Adirondack Park, Thousand Islands Region, and even Canada, positions us to thrive, and the positive impacts of investments in Downtown Lowville will resonate far beyond our immediate boundaries, extending throughout New York State.

The projects included in this application are entwined with existing businesses, future development, year-round community needs, and tourism advancement. While we are not submitting a project for this application, we are connected to the Village's proposal in that through our neighboring entrepreneur's successes, expansions, and establishments, our business and community will benefit. The success of this application will have a catalytic effect that will ripple for generations to come.

Should our community be selected to receive the funding required to breathe new life into our downtown area, it would be a monumental boon for our organization, our businesses, and our community as a whole. We are sincerely grateful for your thoughtful consideration of the Village of Lowville's application for Round 7 of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative, recognizing the tremendous potential it holds for the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,

WAYNE WHITE  
VP – GENERAL MANAGER

# Sherburne DG, LLC

**Commercial Real Estate**

**Construction & Development**

September 19, 2023

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

**Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

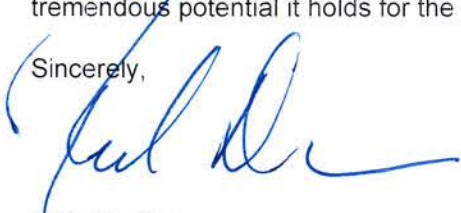
I, Rick Damico, of Sherburne DG LLC, wish to convey my wholehearted support for the Village of Lowville's application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant, which is being submitted to the Regional Economic Development Council.

In my capacity as a project sponsor for The Stevens Block Project, I can personally attest to the invaluable support and collaborative spirit exhibited by the Village. I share their transformative vision for the future of our Downtown and business. While this project, in isolation, promises to contribute significantly to the revitalization of Downtown Lowville, when combined with other synergistic initiatives led by neighboring sponsors, it holds the potential to catalyze regional growth and foster a shared community vision right here in Downtown Lowville. The strategic geographical location, serving as a vital connecting corridor to the Tug Hill Region, Adirondack Park, Thousand Islands Region, and even Canada, positions the community to thrive, and the positive impacts of investments in Downtown Lowville will resonate far beyond our immediate boundaries, extending throughout New York State.

The overarching vision to Rediscover Downtown Lowville represents a remarkable opportunity to enhance pedestrian accessibility, stimulate business activity, create job opportunities, and make the region more appealing to tourists. Lowville has found its true north by increasing the local economy and enhancing the quality of life for those who live and work within the region to encompass the goals of the initiative.

Should our community be selected to receive the funding required to breathe new life into our downtown area, it would be a monumental boon for our organization, our businesses, and our community as a whole. I am sincerely grateful for your thoughtful consideration of the Village of Lowville's application for Round 7 of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative, recognizing the tremendous potential it holds for the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,



Rick Damico  
PROPERTY OWNER/ PROJECT SPONSOR

**Commercial Leasing, Management & Development**

4500 Pewter Lane \* Building 4 \* Manlius, NY 13104 \* Phone 315.682.3380 \* Fax 315.692.2196

# North Search, Inc. / National Abstract

September 26, 2023

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

## **Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

On behalf of North Search, Inc. / National Abstract, we wish to convey our wholehearted support for the Village of Lowville's application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant, which is being submitted to the Regional Economic Development Council.

In my capacity as a business owner of North Search, Inc. / National Abstract, I can personally attest to the invaluable support and collaborative spirit exhibited by the Village. We share their transformative vision for the future of our Downtown and our business. Our strategic geographical location, serving as a vital connecting corridor to the Tug Hill Region, Adirondack Park, Thousand Islands Region, and even Canada, positions us to thrive, and the positive impacts of investments in Downtown Lowville will resonate far beyond our immediate boundaries, extending throughout New York State.

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Should our community be selected to receive the funding required to breathe new life into our downtown area, it would be a monumental boon for our organization, our businesses, and our community as a whole. We are sincerely grateful for your thoughtful consideration of the Village of Lowville's application for Round 7 of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative, recognizing the tremendous potential it holds for the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,



Dennis Mastascusa  
President



# Transitional Living Services of Northern New York

482 Black River Parkway • Watertown, New York 13601 • Tel: (315) 782-1777 • Fax: (315) 785-8628

September 20, 2023

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

## Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application

Dear Mr. McKenna:

On behalf of Transitional Living Services of Northern New York (TLSNNY), we would like to convey our endorsement of the Village of Lowville's grant application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI), which is being submitted to the North Country Regional Economic Development Council.

The proposed initiative seeks to streamline and consolidate essential human service agencies, such as Transitional Living Services, Credo Community Center and The Arc, Oneida-Lewis Chapter, into a single facility. This strategic move not only promises significant cost savings but also offers a one-stop destination for the community to access vital services conveniently. Currently, these service providers are spread across multiple locations, spanning several miles, characterized by challenging terrain, poorly maintained sidewalks, limited lighting, and heavy vehicular traffic, all of which pose obstacles for those seeking assistance. By centralizing community services in the heart of Downtown Lowville, pedestrian accessibility would vastly improve, and the location could potentially serve as a hub for the Lewis County Public Transportation system.

The revitalization of Downtown Lowville, as envisioned, will not only enhance the delivery of services, but will also stimulate economic activity, generate job opportunities, and make the region more appealing to tourists. These objectives align seamlessly with the overarching goals of the DRI, which seek to boost the local economy and enhance the overall quality of life for residents and workers within the region.

If our community is fortunate enough to secure funding for the rejuvenation and revitalization of our downtown area, it would have a profoundly positive impact on our organization, our clients, and the broader community. We sincerely appreciate your consideration of the Village of Lowville's application for Round 7 of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative, recognizing the potential for substantial benefits it holds for both our community and organization.

Sincerely,

Maureen Cean  
Executive Director



In Partnership with United Way

*Maximizing Independence Through Wellness*

[www.tlsnny.com](http://www.tlsnny.com)





***Credo Community Center  
for the Treatment of Addictions, Inc.***

[www.credocc.com](http://www.credocc.com)  
[credo@credocc.com](mailto:credo@credocc.com)

September 20, 2023

**WE CELEBRATE LIFE**

**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES:**

595 West Main Street  
Watertown, New York 13601  
Phone: (315) 788-1530  
Fax: (315) 755-2538

**OPIOID TREATMENT:**

595 West Main Street  
Watertown, New York 13601  
Phone: (315) 755-2033  
Fax: (315) 755-2037

**OUTPATIENT SERVICES:**

595 West Main Street  
Watertown, New York 13601  
Phone: (315) 788-1530  
Fax: (315) 788-3794

7714 Number Three Road  
Lowville, New York 13367  
Phone: (315) 376-5958  
Fax: (315) 376-5953

**RESIDENTIAL SERVICES:**

*Rehabilitation Services for Youth*  
 24180 County Route 16  
Evans Mills, New York 13637  
Phone: (315) 629-4441  
Fax: (315) 629-5473

**COMMUNITY RESIDENCES:**

*Mens*  
 417 Washington Street  
Watertown, New York 13601  
Phone: (315) 788-3833  
Fax: (315) 788-9155

*Aftercare*

138 Winthrop Street  
Watertown, New York 13601  
Phone: (315) 788-6881  
Fax: (315) 785-8410

*Womens*

1130 State Street  
Watertown, New York 13601  
Phone: (315) 779-1772

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

**Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

On behalf of Credo Community Services for Treatment of Addictions, Inc., we would like to convey our endorsement of the Village of Lowville's grant application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI), which is being submitted to the North Country Regional Economic Development Council.

The proposed initiative seeks to streamline and consolidate essential human service agencies, such as Transitional Living Services, Credo Community Center and The Arc, Oneida-Lewis Chapter, into a single facility. This strategic move not only promises significant cost savings but also offers a one-stop destination for the community to access vital services conveniently. Currently, these service providers are spread across multiple locations, spanning several miles, characterized by challenging terrain, poorly maintained sidewalks, limited lighting, and heavy vehicular traffic, all of which pose obstacles for those seeking assistance. By centralizing community services in the heart of Downtown Lowville, pedestrian accessibility would vastly improve, and the location could potentially serve as a hub for the Lewis County Public Transportation system.

The revitalization of Downtown Lowville, as envisioned, will not only enhance the delivery of services, but will also stimulate economic activity, generate job opportunities, and make the region more appealing to tourists. These objectives align seamlessly with the overarching goals of the DRI, which seek to boost the local economy and enhance the overall quality of life for residents and workers within the region.

If our community is fortunate enough to secure funding for the rejuvenation and revitalization of our downtown area, it would have a profoundly positive impact on our organization, our clients, and the broader community. We sincerely appreciate your consideration of the Village of Lowville's application for Round 7 of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative, recognizing the potential for substantial benefits it holds for both our community and organization.

Sincerely,

John C. Wilson  
Executive Director

September 22, 2023

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

**Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

On behalf of The Arc, Oneida-Lewis Chapter, we would like to convey our endorsement of the Village of Lowville's grant application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI), which is being submitted to the North Country Regional Economic Development Council.

The proposed initiative seeks to streamline and consolidate essential human service agencies, such as Transitional Living Services, Credo Community Center and The Arc, Oneida-Lewis Chapter, into a single facility. This strategic move not only promises significant cost savings but also offers a one-stop destination for the community to access vital services conveniently. Currently, these service providers are spread across multiple locations, spanning several miles, characterized by challenging terrain, poorly maintained sidewalks, limited lighting, and heavy vehicular traffic, all of which pose obstacles for those seeking assistance. By centralizing community services in the heart of Downtown Lowville, pedestrian accessibility would vastly improve, and the location could potentially serve as a hub for the Lewis County Public Transportation system.

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Sincerely,



Karen Korotzer  
CEO

**MAIN OFFICES**

ONEIDA COUNTY | 245 Genesee Street • Utica, NY 13501  
LEWIS COUNTY | 7550 S. State Street • Lowville, NY 13367

KAREN KOROTZER • CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
[WWW.THEARCOLC.ORG](http://WWW.THEARCOLC.ORG) | (315) 735-6477



7541 S State St. Lowville, NY 13367

9/20/2023

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

**Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

On behalf of Tug Hill Artisan Roasters, we wish to convey our wholehearted support for the Village of Lowville's application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant, which is being submitted to the Regional Economic Development Council.

In my capacity as a co-project sponsor for the EcoVillage: Power, Purify, and Grow project, I can personally attest to the invaluable support and collaborative spirit exhibited by the Village. We share their transformative vision for the future of our Downtown and our business. While our project, in isolation, promises to contribute significantly to the revitalization of Downtown Lowville, when combined with other synergistic initiatives led by neighboring sponsors, it holds the potential to catalyze regional growth and foster a shared community vision right here in Downtown Lowville. Our strategic geographical location, serving as a vital connecting corridor to the Tug Hill Region, Adirondack Park, Thousand Islands Region, and even Canada, positions us to thrive, and the positive impacts of investments in Downtown Lowville will resonate far beyond our immediate boundaries, extending throughout New York State.

The overarching vision to Rediscover Downtown Lowville represents a remarkable opportunity to enhance pedestrian accessibility, stimulate business activity, create job opportunities, and make our region more appealing to tourists. Lowville has found its true north by increasing the local economy and enhancing the quality of life for those who live and work within the region to encompass the goals of the initiative.

Should our community be selected to receive the funding required to breathe new life into our downtown area, it would be a monumental boon for our organization, our businesses, and our community as a whole. We are sincerely grateful for your thoughtful consideration of the Village of Lowville's application for Round 7 of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative, recognizing the tremendous potential it holds for the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Gilbert", written over a horizontal line.

Scott Gilbert  
Owner/Member

Lowville Food Pantry LLC  
5502 Trinity Ave  
Lowville, N.Y. 13367

September 21, 2023

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

**Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

On behalf of the Lowville Food Pantry, we wish to convey our wholehearted support for the Village of Lowville's application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant, which is being submitted to the Regional Economic Development Council.

In my capacity as a co-project sponsor for the EcoVillage: Power, Purify, and Grow project, I can personally attest to the invaluable support and collaborative spirit exhibited by the Village. We share their transformative vision for the future of our Downtown and our business. While our project, in isolation, promises to contribute significantly to the revitalization of Downtown Lowville, when combined with other synergistic initiatives led by neighboring sponsors, it holds the potential to catalyze regional growth and foster a shared community vision right here in Downtown Lowville. Our strategic geographical location, serving as a vital connecting corridor to the Tug Hill Region, Adirondack Park, Thousand Islands Region, and even Canada, positions us to thrive, and the positive impacts of investments in Downtown Lowville will resonate far beyond our immediate boundaries, extending throughout New York State.

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Sincerely,  
Michael Hanno President



Keller Red, LLC  
7551 South State Street  
Lowville, NY 13367

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

**Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

On behalf of Keller Red, LLC, owners of the Naturally Lewis office building at 7551 South State Street, we wish to convey our wholehearted support for the Village of Lowville's application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant, which is being submitted to the Regional Economic Development Council.

In my capacity as the building owner for the Naturally Lewis Office and Co-Working Space project, we are in full support of the Lewis County IDA purchasing our building to embark on this project. As the downtown building owner, we share their transformative vision for the future of our Downtown and our business. While the project, in isolation, promises to contribute significantly to the revitalization of Downtown Lowville, when combined with other synergistic initiatives led by neighboring sponsors, it holds the potential to catalyze regional growth and foster a shared community vision right here in Downtown Lowville. Our strategic geographical location, serving as a vital connecting corridor to the Tug Hill Region, Adirondack Park, Thousand Islands Region, and even Canada, positions us to thrive, and the positive impacts of investments in Downtown Lowville will resonate far beyond our immediate boundaries, extending throughout New York State.

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Sincerely,



MIKE HANNO  
~~OWNER~~, KELLER RED, LLC BUILDING

Partner

Judge's Quarters B&B  
7485 S. State St.  
Lowville NY 13367

9/15/23

James McKenna, Co-Chair  
North Country REDC Plattsburgh Office  
61 Area Development Drive  
Plattsburgh, New York 12901

**Re: Letter of Support for the Village of Lowville DRI Application**

Dear Mr. McKenna:

On behalf of Judge's Quarters Bed and Breakfast we wish to convey our wholehearted support for the Village of Lowville's application for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant, which is being submitted to the Regional Economic Development Council.

In my capacity as a business owner of Judge's Quarters Bed and Breakfast I can personally attest to the invaluable support and collaborative spirit exhibited by the Village. We share their transformative vision for the future of our Downtown and our business. Our strategic geographical location, serving as a vital connecting corridor to the Tug Hill Region, Adirondack Park, Thousand Islands Region, and even Canada, positions us to thrive, and the positive impacts of investments in Downtown Lowville will resonate far beyond our immediate boundaries, extending throughout New York State.

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Sincerely,

TIMOTHY WIDRICK  
OWNER