

**For immediate release:**  
9/23/2025

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## **Schoharie Announces Next Local Planning Committee Meeting for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI)**

**[Schoharie, NY]** - The fifth Local Planning Committee (LPC) meeting for the Schoharie Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) will be held on Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 - 6:00 PM at 300 Main Street in Schoharie. The LPC will discuss DRI projects to recommend to New York State as part of the Downtown Schoharie Strategic Investment Plan. The State will select the list of projects that will ultimately receive DRI funding. All LPC meetings are open to public observers.

The community was invited to submit DRI project proposals through an Open Call for Projects between May 9<sup>th</sup> and June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Potential DRI projects were first presented in brief at the LPC meeting on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The projects were presented in more detail to the LPC on August 4<sup>th</sup> and at a public Open House later that same day. Community members who were unable to attend the Open House were able to share their thoughts on the projects via an online survey between August 5<sup>th</sup> and August 18<sup>th</sup>. Since then, the LPC has held working sessions to review project details in depth. At the September 29<sup>th</sup> meeting, the LPC plans to continue its evaluation of the potential projects toward finalizing the slate of projects recommended for funding.

The NYS Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) provides state funding to New York communities to foster vibrant downtowns. The ultimate goal of the DRI is to fund projects that will help transform downtowns into places where New Yorkers want to live, work, and raise families.

As the Round Eight DRI winner for the Mohawk Valley, the Village of Schoharie receives \$10 million in funding from New York State Governor Kathy Hochul to develop and implement a Strategic Investment Plan for the downtown revitalization area. A Local Planning Committee with community representatives is leading the development of the Plan, supported by a team of experts.

To learn more about public engagement opportunities, the Schoharie DRI program, or to subscribe to the mailing list, the public can visit <https://www.villageofschohariedri.com/>.

For any questions regarding meeting accessibility, the LPC, or DRI, please contact New York State Department of State (DOS) Project Manager Stefan Lutter at [Stefan.Lutter@dos.ny.gov](mailto:Stefan.Lutter@dos.ny.gov).

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#### About the Downtown Revitalization Initiative:

*The Downtown Revitalization Initiative was created in 2016 to accelerate and expand the revitalization of downtowns and neighborhoods in all ten regions of the state to serve as centers of activity and catalysts for investment. Led by the Department of State with assistance from Empire State Development, NYS Homes and Community Renewal, NYSERDA, and NYS Department of Transportation, the DRI represents an unprecedented and innovative "plan-then-act" strategy that couples strategic planning with immediate implementation and results in compact, walkable downtowns that are a key ingredient to helping New York State rebuild its economy from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as to achieving the State's bold climate goals by promoting the use of public transit and reducing dependence on private vehicles. Through eight rounds, the DRI will have awarded a total of \$900 million to 89 communities across every region of the State.*

*Participating communities are nominated by the state's 10 Regional Economic Development Councils based on the downtown's potential for transformation. Each community is awarded \$10 million to develop a downtown strategic investment plan and implement key catalytic projects that advance the community's vision for revitalization and leverage additional private and public investments.*

*More information on the DRI is available at [www.ny.gov/programs/downtown-revitalization-initiative](http://www.ny.gov/programs/downtown-revitalization-initiative).*