



For immediate release:

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Village of Schoharie Announces First Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) Local Planning Committee Meeting

[Schoharie, NY]- The Village of Schoharie will hold its first Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) Local Planning Committee (LPC) meeting on Tuesday, May 6th, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. The meeting is open to the public and will take place at 300 Main Street, Schoharie, NY. Presenters will provide an overview of the DRI program, Schoharie's winning application, and the Schoharie DRI planning process, including how the public can get involved. The meeting will also review the process for selecting DRI projects, which will begin in May with an Open Call for Projects. The meeting will include a period for public comments.

The Village of Schoharie was named the Round 8 DRI winner for the Mohawk Valley in March 2025. The Village will receive \$10 million in funding from New York State Governor Kathy Hochul to develop and implement a Strategic Investment Plan for the DRI Area. An LPC with community representatives will lead the development of the Plan, supported by a team of experts. The committee is co-chaired by Colleen Henry, Mayor of the Village of Schoharie and Dr. Marion Terenzio, President of the SUNY College of Agriculture and Technology at Cobleskill and Regional Co-Chair of the Mohawk Valley Regional Economic Development Council.

"We're breathing new life into our historic Mohawk Valley downtowns with investments that will make our communities brighter and more affordable," Governor Hochul said at the time of the award. "By bringing ambitious developments to certified Pro-Housing Communities, we're building a better future for residents and for generations to come."

The first LPC meeting will begin the process of developing the Schoharie Strategic Investment Plan. The Plan will examine local assets and opportunities, articulate a community vision for revitalization, and identify a list of signature projects that have the potential to transform the downtown. It will be developed through a community-led planning process over the next several months, with regular opportunities for public input. The community will be invited to

submit their project proposals through an Open Call for Projects (further information forthcoming). Following an in-depth review process, the LPC will select a slate of recommended projects to include in the final Plan. The NYS Department of State will evaluate the projects outlined in the Plan and then choose which projects will receive DRI funding.

For any questions regarding meeting accessibility, the LPC, or DRI, please contact New York State Department of State Revitalization Specialist Stefan Lutter at 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, NYSEDA, 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 [here](#).