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Schoharie Announces Second Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) Local Planning Committee Meeting 2

[Herkimer, NY]- The Village of Schoharie will hold its second Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) Local Planning Committee (LPC) meeting on Wednesday, July 1st, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. The meeting is open to the public and will take place at Village Hall at 300 Main Street. The meeting will discuss the DRI vision and goals, outcomes of recent DRI public engagement activities, findings from the Downtown Profile and Assessment, and will provide an update on the projects that were received through the Open Call for Projects.

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 (SIP) for the DRI Area. An LPC with representatives of local businesses, institutions, and community groups will lead the development of the SIP, 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 second LPC meeting will continue the process of developing the Schoharie SIP. The SIP 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 bottom-up, community-based planning process over the next several months, with regular opportunities for public input. The community was invited to submit their project proposals through an Open Call for Projects between May 9th and June 23rd. Following an in-depth review

process, the LPC will determine a final slate of projects to include in the SIP and recommend to the State for evaluation and final funding determination.

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.

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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, Homes and Community Renewal and NYSEERDA, 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.

In the first six years of the program, the state committed \$700 million investing in 69 downtowns ripe for revitalization and that have the potential to become magnets for redevelopment, business, job creation, greater economic and housing diversity and opportunity. 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](#).