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Schoharie Announces Next Local Planning Committee Meeting and Second Open House for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative

[Schoharie, NY]- The Village of Schoharie and the Local Planning Committee (LPC) will hold the third LPC meeting and the second public open house for the Schoharie Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) on Monday, August 4th. The LPC meeting will take place from 3:00 - 5:00 pm in the Village Office's conference room at 300 Main Street. Directly following that meeting, the open house will take place from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Christ the Shepard Lutheran Church, 289 Main Street.

The LPC meeting will cover the projects received through the Open Call for Projects and discuss the downtown revitalization strategies. The open house will give the public their opportunity to provide feedback on the potential DRI projects as well as the draft revitalization strategies. For those that cannot attend the open house in person, an online survey will be available to comment and provide input on the potential projects and draft revitalization strategies.

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 will receive \$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 will lead the development of the Plan, supported by a team of experts.

To learn more about these 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.

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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.