

Village of Palmyra

New York Forward Round 3 + Downtown Revitalization Initiative Round 8 Application

Region: Finger Lakes

Name of Downtown: Historic Downtown Palmyra

County: Wayne

Contact: Mayor David Husk / Clerk-Treasurer Rebecca Wetherby / clerk@palmyravillageny.org / (315) 597-4849

Pro-Housing Status: Letter of Intent Submitted



“Queen of Canal Towns”

Geographic Area and Justification

Originally settled in 1790, 35 years before the completion of the Erie Canal, the Village of Palmyra is not a canal town. It is the *Queen* of canal towns, a bastion of living history. Nowhere else along the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor will you find four churches at a four-corner intersection facing each other, nor will you find a “museum where time stands still” – the Phelps General Store, its infrastructure and retail offerings untouched since its closure in 1940. Yet it isn’t only Palmyra’s historic buildings that hearken to New York’s storied past – the close-knit connections between residents of the community bring to mind a classic small town where neighbors trade goods and services for favors and check up on each other during tough times.

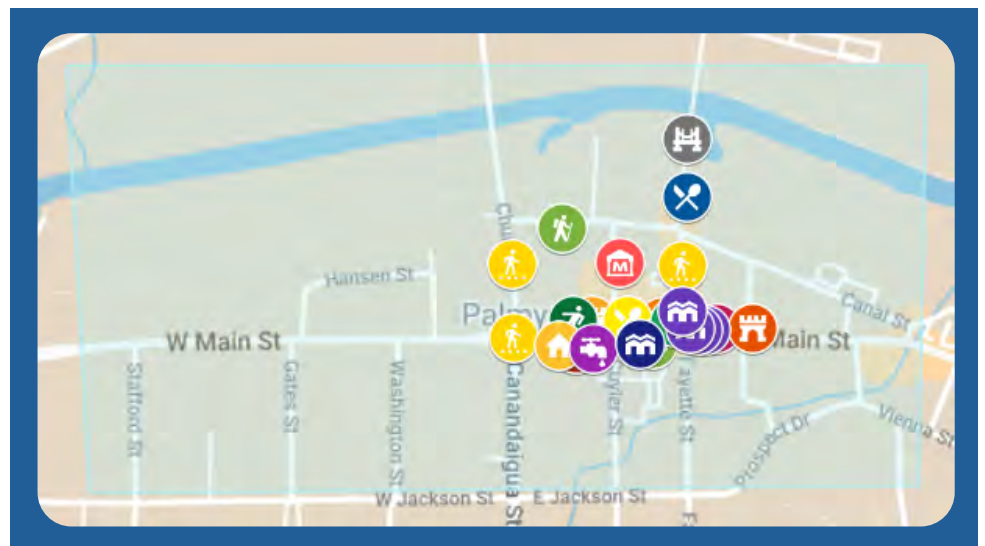
However, Palmyra is by no means stuck in the past. Over the past year, the Village has undergone a remarkable transformation. The bonds between community members and between residents and Village staff have been strengthened thanks to a rigorous, year-long comprehensive planning process involving colorful, passionate discussions about the current struggles and future potential of both the Town and Village of Palmyra punctuated by well-attended public engagement sessions. The joint comprehensive plan will be adopted by the Village and the Town in December 2024, but the passionate Palmyra community has already begun working to achieve the goals the plan sets forward.

More than anything, this application and the targeted area for investment represents a community effort, with the Village’s public projects and community members’ private projects building on each other to create a vision of the Palmyra they want to see – a Palmyra that welcomes innovation and revitalization while maintaining its historic roots. These complementary projects, focused around Palmyra’s bustling, walkable, and bikeable Main Street and its side roads leading to the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail, are borne out of public-private partnerships and a mutual desire to see the Village thrive.

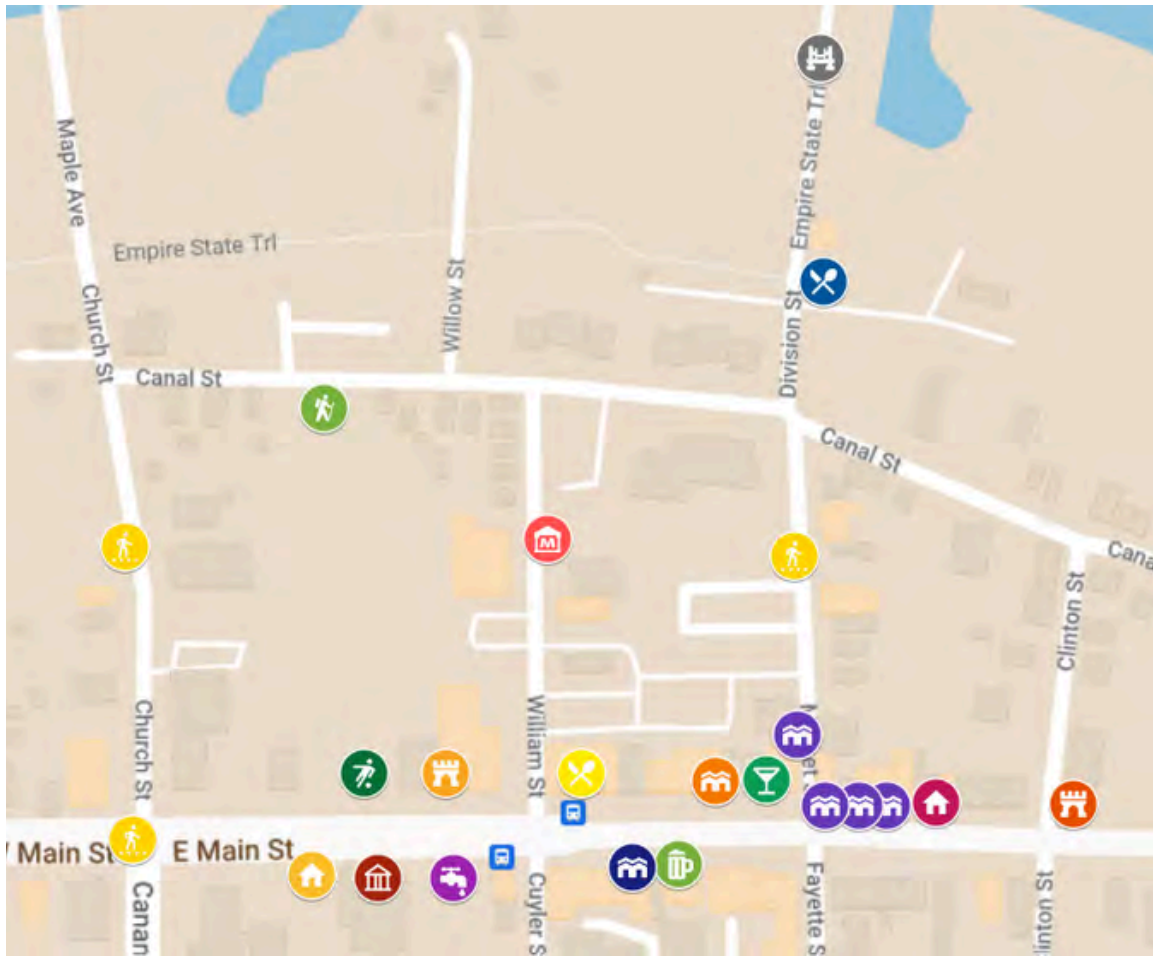
The comprehensive planning process has provided residents and municipal staff with the tools they need to identify areas in need of improvement and work together to achieve their goals. The Village and Town have worked together with area business owners to create an “Area Merchant List,” which is publicly available online and is used by the Village to notify business owners of funding opportunities and to connect complementary projects with each other. For example, a husband-and-wife pair who recently purchased a vacant building on Main Street were able to connect with another local husband-and-wife pair looking to implement a brewery, and the two are now working together to submit a Restore NY application through the Village. They have also been in talks with the husband-and-wife pair who own The Hog & Hen, a popular new Main Street eatery located in a renovated historic building, regarding a drink-sharing partnership. Closer to the canal, a local property owner plans to donate an empty lot to the Palmyra Historic Museum, whose proprietors intend to build a visitor center and resting area for museum visitors coming from the Empire State Trail. All of these ideas have garnered tremendous support from residents, who are thrilled to see the Village returning to the bustling and thriving community they remember from their youths.

This resilient and determined community spirit is not solely limited to the past few months. When the Village’s longtime Canaltown Days festival was cancelled with short notice in fall 2023 due to a lack of funding, staff members from the Palmyra Community Center immediately took charge to plan, advertise, and run a separate “Harvest on the Canal” festival at the Wayne County Fairgrounds, which enjoyed considerable success despite its hasty conception.

The Village of Palmyra, composed of 3,408 dedicated and determined residents, a hardworking and involved staff, and a rich living history, is ready to realize its potential. The transformative projects that compose this application have all the community support they need – the only missing piece is the funding. This application will show just how far the Village has come – and how much more it can still grow.



Project Map



- Village Hall Improvements
- Sexton Building Renovation
- Sidewalk Improvements
- Multi-Use Trail Outlet
- Park Improvements
- Bridge Repair
- 323 E Main Renovation
- Museum Visitor Center
- Historic Garlock Building
- 235 E Main Renovation
- Historic Davis Building
- The Hog & Hen Renovations
- Lock 29 Tavern Renovations
- Drumlins Brewery
- Muddy Waters Cafe Project
- Village Hall Drainage
- Jarvis Block East Restoration
- Adjacent Mixed-Use

Vision Statement

The Village's **Vision Statement** was crafted following input from the public engagement meeting held as a component of this application, taking some inspiration from the previous year's application as well as the Comprehensive Plan vision statement.

“The Village of Palmyra, the Queen of Canal Towns, stays true to its historic roots while boasting an updated and revitalized downtown core. The vibrant and pedestrianized Main Street is lined with lively and inviting businesses that offer all the comforts of modern living while contributing to a charming and classic aesthetic that harkens back to the early 1800s. The easily accessible Empire State Trail and our unique historical museums and monuments draw in visitors from all over, and our residents benefit from plenty of attractive and accessible housing options right in the center of our downtown. Our streets are filled with pedestrians and bikers from both near and far who patronize our unique array of small specialty shops and eateries, and we show our appreciation for our home with longstanding, well-attended annual festivals that represent the authentic and enduring spirit of Palmyra.”

Past Investment and Future Potential

For the past year, the Village of Palmyra has been engaged in a comprehensive planning process with the surrounding Town of Palmyra to update their 2004 Comprehensive Plan, which has incentivized collaboration between both communities and their residents and inspired pride in greater Palmyra. The process has also given the Village staff valuable insight into the best ways to begin planning for and catalyzing investment before the plan is even officially adopted (anticipated to be Winter/Spring 2025) – namely by fostering open communication with area merchants and new potential developers and exploring grant funding options. Additionally, many of the investment initiatives undertaken by the Village in the past mirror the general wants and needs of its residents, as demonstrated by the Comprehensive Plan’s community survey (which showed a great deal of support for infrastructure improvements, promotion of tourism and historical attractions, and upgrading existing parks and facilities).

- The Village will soon become the site of a **regional wastewater treatment plant** that will provide services to both the Village and Town of Palmyra as well as the Towns of Macedon, Walworth, and Marion. The \$110 million project, which has received **\$41 million in grant funding** (from the Water Quality Improvement Program and Water Infrastructure Improvement Act), will improve the environmental health of the region by utilizing a state-of-the-art discharge treatment process, decommission four aging WWTPs, and both create jobs in and relocate jobs to the Village.
- Living up to their status as the “Queen of Canal Towns,” the Village recently (in 2022) completed a comprehensive, multi-phase project to install a **comfort station** at the Port of Palmyra Marina featuring **restrooms, showers, and Wi-Fi**. The comfort station is well-utilized by boaters and bikers during the summer months.
- Around the same time, the Village completed a **canal renovation and improvement initiative** at the end of Park Drive, installing a **floating dock, benches, a concrete sidewalk, new lighting and drainage, and boat pedestals**. This has allowed both boaters and pedestrians to more easily access this area of the canal.
- Aiming to enhance quality of life and community health and connectivity, the Village intends to revitalize the **Palmyra Village Park**, starting with applying for an **EPF Parks Planning grant** during the 2024 CFA round.
- In 2024, taking into account the community’s desire to see support for law enforcement as well as a noted uptick in juvenile crime, the Village secured a **\$125,000 USDOJ COPS Hiring Program grant** to hire a School Resource Officer for the Palmyra-Macedon Central School District.
- To help maintain the Village’s beloved small-town feel and ensure Main Street remains safe and walkable, Palmyra applied for a **2023 Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee grant** to promote an educational program to increase traffic safety for vulnerable road users.
- In 2023, the Village secured a **\$10,000 Clean Energy Communities grant** to study energy efficiency solutions for the historic Village Hall.
- Also in 2023, the Village was awarded **\$50,000** in funding from the **New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation** to study inflow and infiltration issues in the local wastewater system.



Past Investment and Future Potential (continued)

- Over the past decade, a variety of small, locally owned specialty shops and businesses have opened along Main Street, largely in historic buildings. These include **Twisted Creations**, a crystal and metaphysical supply shop; **Around the Block Quilt Shop**, a family-owned quilting and fabric store that offers online and in-person quilting lessons; **Strings n' Things Yarn & Wool Shoppe** (pictured), a yarn, thread, and fabric supplier that enjoys steady traffic from local craftmakers and often collaborates with Around the Block; **Further 323**, a classic antique and home décor store that is currently in the process of a building renovation; the **Relax Salon**, a small hair and beauty salon that recently moved to a new location on Main Street after renovating a vacant building; and **The Dog-Eared Book** (pictured), a cozy independent bookstore featuring new, used, and rare books, and which was voted the Best Bookstore in the Finger Lakes in 2018 and 2023.



- In addition to these small, locally owned stores, a variety of chains and retailers have also opened in Palmyra over the past decade, such as a **Byrne Dairy**, which partially answered a need for easily accessible fresh and nonperishable groceries within the Village; and **Granny's Rocker Locker**, an indoor self-storage facility located in a historic Ford dealership.
- The area's newest **legal dispensary**, Smoke Shop, opened in 2024 and has brought in significant tax revenue for the Village
- In Fall 2024, **The Hog & Hen bar and restaurant** officially opened at 201 Main Street, a 150-year-old building that served as the former Town Hall. The owners have put in considerable effort to revitalize the exterior and first-floor interior. It employs almost entirely Palmyra residents and has already received rave reviews from both residents and visitors.
- Local brewing enthusiasts Peter and Sarah Wimer plan to open **Drumlins Brewing Company** on Main Street once renovations on a historic Main Street building are complete, and have already been in talks with the owners of the Hog & Hen to discuss drink offering collaborations.

- Following a devastating 2013 fire that destroyed four historic buildings on Main Street, Mark Crane of the well-known local chain **Mark's Pizzeria** built a new outpost of the chain over several of the building sites, increasing consumer traffic and ameliorating the eyesore left by the buildings' demolition while ensuring the new structure aligned with local historic architecture guidelines.
- Starting in 2008, the **Palmyra Community Library** began a massive historic revitalization project, moving into the hundred-year-old former Garlock Packing Company office building. Drop ceilings were removed to reveal the full height of the room; wood floors, staircases, and moldings were retained and touched up; new electric and heating/cooling systems were sensitively incorporated; the second floor was converted to library offices and a children's room; and the third floor was reimagined as an art gallery and large meeting room.

Recent and Impending Job Growth

The most timely and substantive impending development in the Village of Palmyra is the creation of a **regional wastewater treatment plant** on East Main Street in coordination with the Wayne County Water & Sewer Authority. Replacing four ailing WWTPs in need of significant capital improvements, the regional plant will serve both the Town and Village of Palmyra as well as the Towns of Macedon, Walworth, and Marion. In addition to improving the environmental sustainability of the region by utilizing a state-of-the-art treatment process that will improve the effluent water quality discharged, the regional WWTP will create and relocate around **10-15** local jobs.



Garlock Sealing Technologies is both the Village's largest local employer and a vestige of Palmyra's storied history. The fluid sealing company was originally founded by O.J. Garlock in 1887, and today, it is an international company employing 1,887 employees across 14 facilities in 12 countries. Its headquarters remain in the Town of Palmyra just a half mile outside the Village, where approximately 40 Village residents work.

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE
**GRAND OPENING
& RIBBON CUTTING**

Please Join the Western
Wayne Chamber of
Commerce
as we welcome
the Hog & Hen
to Palmyra

Wed. Sept. 25 at 4:00 PM
201 E. Main St

Come Meet Restaurant Owners Joe and Meghan Lorenzetti.
Enjoy Small Bite Samples of Their Desserts & Appetizers.
Then Stay for Dinner! Dinner Service Starts at 5:00.

Palmyra has always been a hub for small, niche businesses, and many of those businesses currently lining Main Street have been established within the past five years and almost exclusively employ Palmyra residents. **The Hog & Hen** bar and restaurant celebrated its official opening to rave reviews in September 2024; **Twisted Creations** metaphysical supply store features unique offerings rarely found elsewhere in the Finger Lakes; **Strings 'n Things Yarn & Wool Shoppe** boasts a charming exterior, universally positive reviews, and popular how-to classes; and the **Relax Salon** recently relocated to Main Street as part of an expansion. Each of these businesses employs between **five and ten** residents and has the capacity and ability to hire more in response to increased traffic or demand. Other newly established employers on Main Street include **Granny's Rocker Locker**, a self-storage facility; and a **Byrne Dairy**, which partially met the Village's unmet need for fresh produce following the closure of their local supermarket. Additionally, **Drumlins Brewing Company** is set to open up shop in Palmyra within the next two years, which will also employ around five residents.

Palmyra's close proximity (amounting to a five-minute drive) to the New York State Thruway also gives residents convenient access to the City of Rochester and its myriad of employment opportunities. Many Palmyra residents also commute to the Towns of Newark, Macedon, Lyons, and Canandaigua. All of these locations are **20 minutes or fewer** from Palmyra by car.

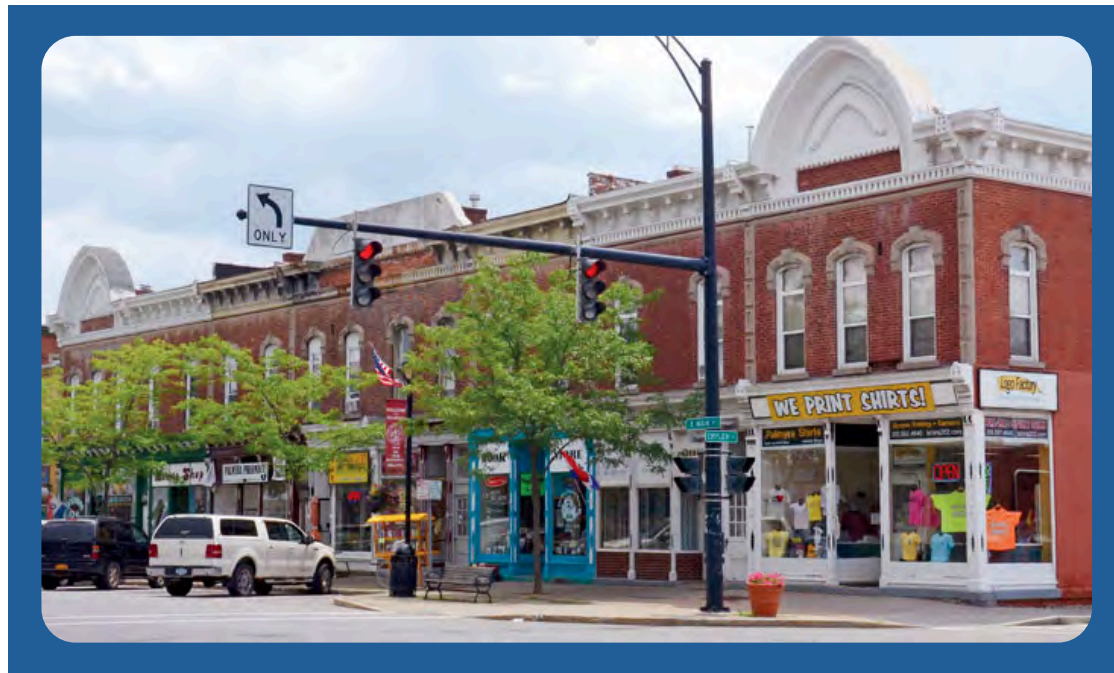
Quality of Life

The Village of Palmyra encapsulates all the most desirable aspects of any small town—easily accessible amenities, a walkable downtown core, and a friendly and close-knit community—while offering additional benefits like its proximity to the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail. Palmyra is also just five minutes from the New York State Thruway, providing residents with a comfortable commute to the City of Rochester, although there is plenty to do in the Village itself without needing to venture out.

Palmyra is best known for its deep historic roots, being home to the five **Historic Palmyra Museums** and the **Book of Mormon Publication Site**, otherwise known as the E.B. Grandin Building. Among the Historic Palmyra Museums, which comprise five buildings in total, is the William Phelps General Store and Family Residence, a unique time capsule that came about when the store’s last owner simply locked its doors in the 1940s, leaving the stock untouched and perfectly preserved (pictured on following page and in “Administrative Capacity” section). Additionally, the Alling Coverlet Museum features the largest collection of American hand-woven coverlets in the United States. History enthusiasts from across New York State and the country flock to this collection and the Village itself to experience this living history.

Historic Palmyra is also one of the few approved historic museums to participate in the **New York Ticket to Ride Program**, where grade schoolers can learn about the history and function of the Erie Canal. The program helps participating schools (including the Palmyra-Macedon Central School District) offset the costs of transportation and participation.

Besides being a bastion of historic tourism, Palmyra also makes a good home for many. The layout of the Village has changed little from its inception before the era of vehicles, meaning that almost every amenity is conveniently clustered along the walkable Main Street, which also features generous bike lanes. The Village Hall, Palmyra Community Library, Palmyra-Macedon Primary School, and Village Park are all located in the center of Main Street less than half a mile away from each other.



The Village’s walkability and dense design are just some of the perks that make Palmyra an excellent home for young families. The **Pal-Mac Central School District** contains four schools serving students in the area and boasts a graduation rate of 90%. The primary school is just around the corner from the Village Park and easily walkable from most residences in the Village. Additionally, a **child care center** is set to open within the year next to the Village Hall, which is a sorely needed asset throughout the Finger Lakes.

In addition to the **Village Park**, which features a playground, picnic facilities, and a bandstand, local outdoor recreational options include the **Pal-Mac County Aqueduct Park** at 2685 NY-31, which includes grilling and picnic facilities, trail access to the Erie Canal Trail, and a public boat launch with fishing access; **Swift’s Landing Park** off Route 31, which includes an open pavilion, grilling and picnic facilities, a playground, a bathroom, and fishing access; and **Prospect Park** at 355 Spring Street, which includes walking trails and a picnic area.

Quality of Life continued

The Village is also a popular stop-off for **Erie Canal** boaters and **Empire State Trail** bikers thanks to its newly updated dock and marina, the former of which features benches, a concrete sidewalk, new lighting and drainage, and boat pedestals; and the latter of which features a comfort station with restrooms, showers, and Wi-Fi.

The **Parks and Club Room**, located in the historic **Sexton Building** across the street from the Village Hall, was donated to the Village to be used “towards the public good.” It acts as a rentable event and community space, an indoor alternative for events at the adjacent Village Park during inclement weather, and the site of a weekday senior lunch program run by the Wayne County Department of Aging and Youth. The **Palmyra Community Center** on Stafford Street contains two full-size gymnasium/basketball courts, a large multi-use indoor sports room, an adult cardio exercise room, and game and meeting rooms. The center also features a variety of youth and adult sports and fitness programs.

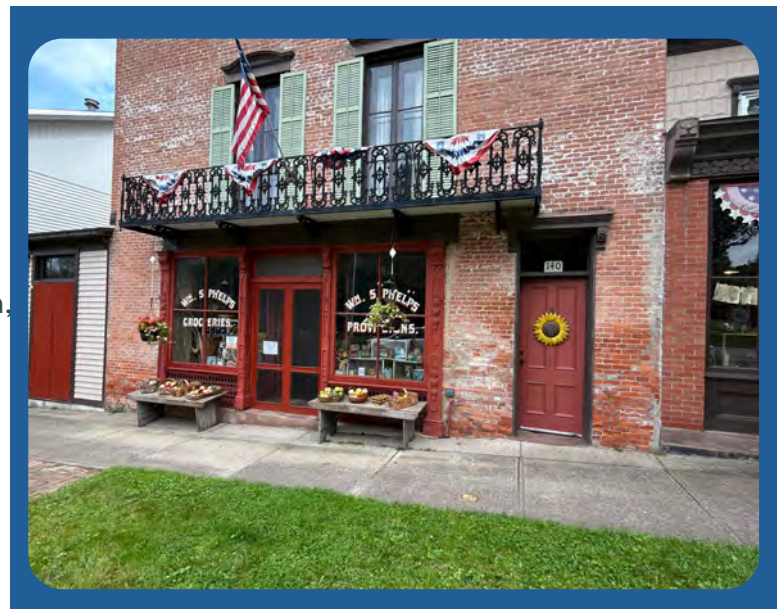
Every year, the **Wayne County Fair** (pictured) is held at the fairgrounds in Palmyra, a county-wide showcase put on by the Union Agricultural Society at Palmyra that dates back to 1849. The Fair Building, built in 1951, is still in use today. The Fair hosts over 100 commercial exhibitors and features rides, games, food stands, and an animal showcase. The fairgrounds are now also used to host the Harvest on the Canal festival.



When the annual Canaltown Days festival was cancelled on short notice in 2023, members of the Union Agricultural Society banded together to create a new festival, organizing the vendors and attractions and overseeing marketing and advertising efforts. **Harvest on the Canal** is now on its way to becoming an annual tradition, with its own page on the Wayne County Fair website and a new slate of sponsors and events.

Other easily accessible amenities located within the NYF/DRI Target Area include:

- **Eateries** such as Nima’s Pizzeria, Happiness Garden, The Hog & Hen, Lock 29 Tavern, Mark’s Pizzeria, Akropolis Restaurant, and Muddy Waters Café
- **Service industries** such as Liberty House Bed & Breakfast, Canaltown Bed & Breakfast, Relax Salon, Blue Heart Massage Therapy, Custom 31 Graphic Design, Gurcan Tailor, Village Hair Salon, Palmyra Family Dentistry, and A Stitch in Time (a tailor)
- **Retailers** such as the Palmyra Flea Mart, Luv To Shop, Twisted Creations, Around the Block Quilt Shop, Further (an antique store), Strings 'n Things Yarn & Wool Shoppe, Byrne Dairy, and The Dog-Eared Book



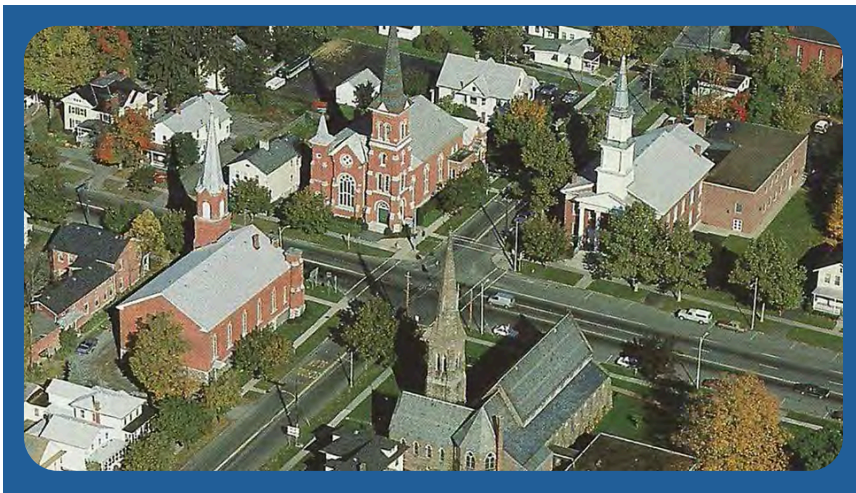
Supportive Local Policies

For the past year, the Village of Palmyra has been working alongside the Town of Palmyra on a joint **Comprehensive Plan update** to replace their outdated 2004 Comprehensive Plan (public engagement session #2 pictured). While the updated plan has yet to be adopted (adoption is anticipated in Spring 2025), the Village has already taken steps towards addressing the goals and priority policy areas determined during the planning process by applying for grants and encouraging community participation in public and private Village events.



The Village has worked with the Town to create an **online business directory** as well as an **area merchant mailing list**, which is used by Town and Village staff to alert local business owners to new funding opportunities. The list is constantly updated and expanded by board members, and business owners can request to be added to the list by contacting the Village Hall.

The Village **Historic Preservation Committee** is one of Palmyra's key committees. Their goal is to support the Historic Preservation Ordinance by protecting and enhancing the landmarks and historic districts that give Palmyra its distinct character. They also provide Architectural Design Guidelines in order to preserve the Village's important architectural and cultural heritage (pictured: Palmyra's "four corners" churches).



Even before the Village was designated as a **Clean Energy Community**, they began implementing environmental conservation and sustainability measures, including replacing all the streetlamps on Main Street with LED lights, saving Palmyra thousands in energy costs. They have since completed several other **High Impact Actions**, including Benchmarking, Energy Code Enforcement Training, and Transportation and Landscaping.

In 2024, the Village applied for and won a **\$125,000 USDOJ COPS Hiring Program Grant**, allowing the Palmyra Police Department to hire a full-time **School Resource Officer** to be stationed at the Palmyra-Macedon Central School District.

Finally, the Village has begun the process of becoming **Pro-Housing Certified**. At the time of application submission, they are filling out the zoning data worksheets to be uploaded to Procurem and hope to have the process completed by the end of 2024.

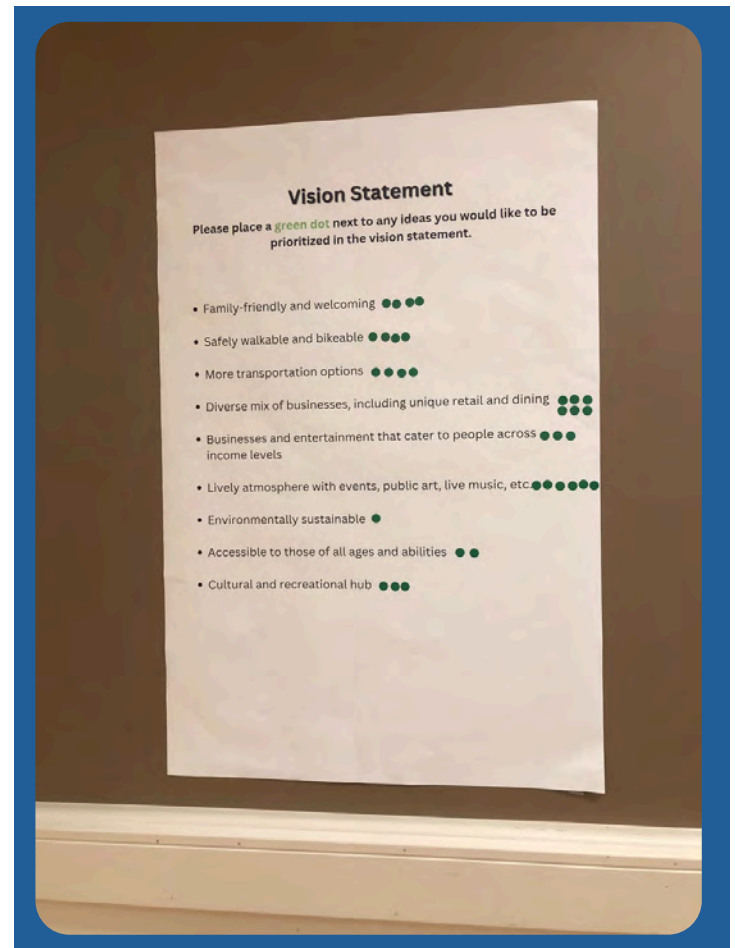
Public Support

Public support for this project has been **overwhelming** since it was announced. Several residents and property owners had already proposed their projects to the Village Board during board meetings or during public engagement sessions for the comprehensive planning process and were eager to further develop their projects in preparation for the application.

The Village held a public engagement meeting at the Palmyra Community Library on October 1, which was advertised on the Village’s website and Facebook page as well as with physical posters at the Village Hall, library, and Historic Palmyra Museum. The meeting was not as well-attended as hoped due to the unfortunate coincidence of a former Mayor’s funeral occurring at the same time, which was attended by over 400 people. However, those in attendance at this event were highly engaged and prepared to give the Village substantial and effective feedback.

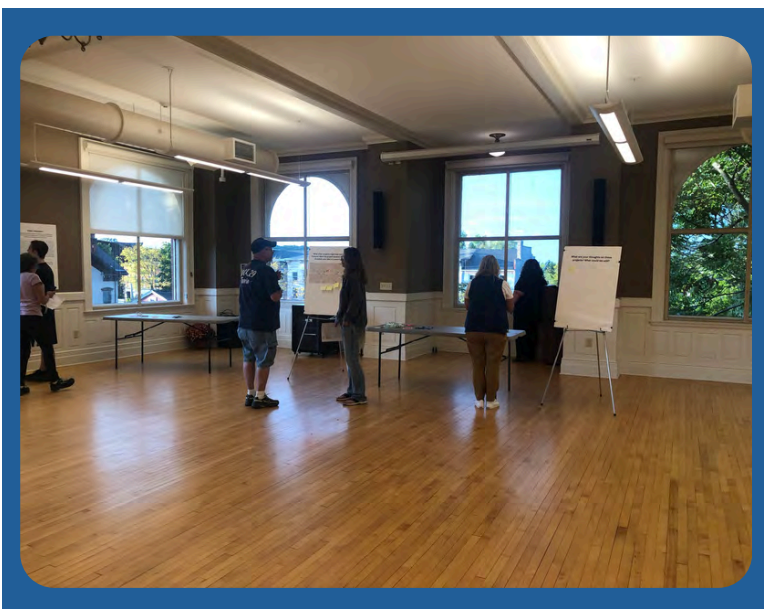
At the meeting, attendees were able to review a draft copy of the application including a map of all the proposed public and private projects, provide feedback on the projects, and suggest new projects of their own. They also helped craft a “Vision Statement” for Palmyra, encapsulating what they most appreciated about the Village and what they would most want to see in the future. The attendees ranged from Village staff, such as the Clerk-Treasurer and Police Chief, to business owners who had submitted their own private projects to ordinary residents who were interested in participating in the application process.

Attendees were asked about their thoughts about the projects and what could be added. Overwhelmingly, the most common sentiment was the desire for a grocery store with fresh produce and a need for Village-wide beautification, renovation, and revitalization efforts, particularly regarding blighted buildings. Several responses mentioned the need for housing, while one explicitly supported the Village Hall restoration project and noted that the bricks needed repointing. Another mentioned renovating the brownstones on East Main Street, a sentiment that was echoed in a “project comment sheet” that suggested a street-wide painting renovation project for blighted Village properties. An idea for a potential bike rental shop was also suggested, which would complement Palmyra’s bike lanes and Empire State Trail access.



The event also featured two “Vision Statement” boards: one suggesting several common revitalization wants and needs and asked attendees to mark the ideas they wanted prioritized and one asking attendees for quotes, phrases, and suggestions of their own to be incorporated into the Vision Statement.

Overall, the residents of the Village who attended the meeting were happy to see that the community was striving to make a change and were excited to see what the application would bring. Additionally, their comments showed a strong and unified desire to see a vibrant and revitalized Palmyra.



Transformative Project Opportunities

Name: Village Hall Restoration/Renovation
Owner/Sponsor: Village of Palmyra
Location: 144 E Main Street
Estimated Total Cost: \$5,369,795
Funding Request: \$3,000,000
Funding Sources: Village of Palmyra General Fund, long-term loan/bond
Timeline: 2 years



Like most buildings in the community, the Palmyra Village Hall, home to the police department, Village court, and Mayor's office, is known not only for its current use as a municipal building but for its historic significance, dating back to the early 1800s. It was also previously used as an opera house and theater. However, this rich history also comes with its downsides, as the infrastructure is severely aged and requires expensive repairs. The building's brick exterior needs to be repointed, there is no reliable central heat or air, the back doors do not lock, and many of the windows do not open. These issues make it difficult for the Village to hold community events at the Village Hall, which is detrimental to community connection and engagement. Additionally, the second-floor theater, which was once a beloved community asset, has fallen into disuse and disrepair. The restoration of the building will require significant environmental remediation as well as extensive consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office.

With the assistance afforded by DRI/NYF funding, the Village plans to undertake a comprehensive renovation of the Village Hall, focusing on both interior and exterior improvements. Central heat and air conditioning will be added, new doors and windows will be installed, and the exterior bricks will be repointed. The second-floor opera house will also undergo renovation and remediation. This will increase the visual appeal of the surrounding area, encourage residents to attend community engagement events at the Village Hall, restore the building's secondary use as an entertainment venue, and help preserve a historic building that is still in use. The Village also already has a set of plans, designs, and recommendations from a past proposal for renovations, which were adjusted for inflation to come up with the current project cost.

Name: Sexton Building Repair/Renovation
Owner/Sponsor: Village of Palmyra
Location: 149 E Main Street
Estimated Total Cost: \$275,000
Funding Request: \$175,000
Funding Sources: Village of Palmyra General/Parks Fund
Timeline: 1 year

The Sexton Building is a historic building that was originally given to the Village "for use by the people, and by the children especially, of the Village of Palmyra and vicinity for the use in ways and by organizations calculated to promote their social unity, mutual improvement general welfare and happiness," meaning that while it is owned and operated by the Village, it is meant to be used by the public. Residents of Palmyra can rent out the building to use as an event space. While this building has been a great asset for the Village and contributes to an improved quality of life and sense of community togetherness, the building's infrastructure is in need of repairs.



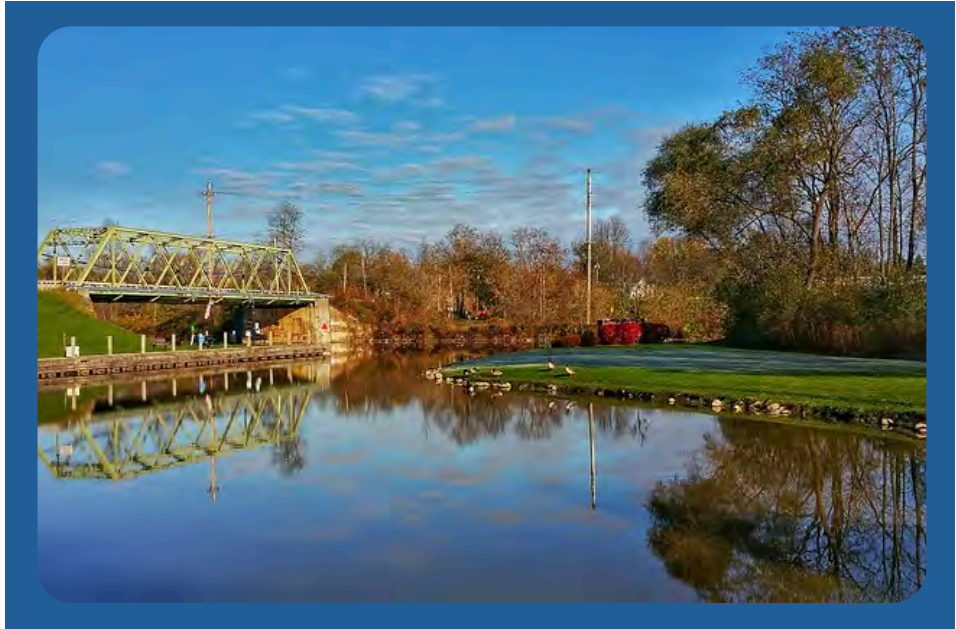
The Village of Palmyra intends to rehabilitate the space, working with the State Historic Preservation Office to negotiate the addition of ADA-accessible infrastructure for second-floor access and the replacement of the aging doors and windows. This will complement the planned park revitalization project, as the Sexton Building is adjacent to the park and could serve as an indoor alternative for outdoor events held there during inclement weather.

Transformative Project Opportunities

Name: Pedestrian Bridge Repair
Owner/Sponsor: Village of Palmyra
Location: North Division Street
Estimated Total Cost: \$400,000
Funding Request: \$250,000
Funding Sources: Village of Palmyra General/Highway Funds, NYSDOT grants
Timeline: 1.5 years

The bridge crossing the Erie Canal at the end of North Division St. by the Muddy Waters café has been out of commission for many years now. At this point, the Village believes that repairing and restoring the bridge to carry vehicular traffic would be both prohibitively expensive and unneeded, as other routes to cross the canal already exist.

The Village plans to refit the bridge to allow only for non-vehicular traffic, which will let pedestrians and bicyclists access both sides of the Empire State Trail and remove a longtime eyesore from an attractive and oft-visited area of the Village. This would serve to bring further attention and access to one of the Village's greatest assets in the Trail and Erie Canal.



Name: Village Park Improvements
Owner/Sponsor: Village of Palmyra
Location: 155 E Main Street
Estimated Total Cost: \$647,000
Funding Request: \$447,000
Funding Sources: Village of Palmyra General/Parks Fund, EPF Parks grant
Timeline: 1 year (following completion of study)

Both Village staff and Village residents agree that the Palmyra Village Park is in need of a comprehensive overhaul. While the park is centrally located just across from the Village Hall and is easily accessible on foot for most residents, it is severely lacking in equipment and infrastructure. To this end, the Village applied for an Environmental Protection Fund for Parks, Preservation, and Heritage earlier in 2024 for funding to conduct a feasibility study including public outreach and concept designs to determine the best options for moving forward with the needed improvements. If this application is successful, the Village plans to apply to the same program for a construction grant to further fund the project.



The Village has already received quotes for a variety of potential improvements to the park, including upgraded playground equipment, a gazebo, a pavilion, a multi-use walking path connecting the area to the canal, and a pickleball court. Although the exact scope of the improvements will vary depending on the outcome of the feasibility study, the Village anticipates a cost of at least \$647,000 for the various needed improvements.

Transformative Project Opportunities

Name: Village-Wide Sidewalk, Lighting, and Streetscape Enhancements

Owner/Sponsor: Village of Palmyra

Location: Main Street, Market Street, William Street, Church Street

Estimated Total Cost: \$850,000

Funding Request: \$500,000

Funding Sources: Village of Palmyra Highway Fund, Pro-Housing Capital Improvement grant

Timeline: 2 years

One of Palmyra's greatest assets is its dense, compact, and walkable downtown area. However, certain areas of the Village core suffer from deteriorating and unsafe sidewalks that are unfit for those who use mobility aids or families with strollers and which detract from the area's overall appearance. Additionally, during the public engagement meeting for the application, attendees repeatedly mentioned the need for Village-wide beautification efforts and infrastructure improvements. In order to ensure that all residents and visitors are able to take advantage of Palmyra's walkability while also improving the Village's overall visuals, the Village plans to undergo a comprehensive sidewalk revitalization project on a variety of side streets. The streetlights and streetlamps will also be updated as part of this process, and architecturally consistent signage and benches will be added.



Name: Small Business Assistance Fund

Owner/Sponsor: Village of Palmyra

Location: Village-wide

Estimated Total Cost: \$600,000

Funding Request: \$300,000

Funding Sources: Village of Palmyra General Fund

Timeline: 2 years

Palmyra is home to a significant number of small, locally owned businesses, many of which are seeking assistance in making minor repairs, renovations, upgrades, and general improvements to their properties. However, these small projects don't have the scope to qualify on their own for a Transformative Project. Instead, with the help of NYF/DRI funding, the Village will create the Palmyra Business Assistance Fund matching grant program, giving these businesses the opportunity to partially fund their desired improvements.



Several local businesses have already submitted project proposal forms that would perfectly fit the parameters of this fund. These include the Dog-Eared Book, a bookstore looking to add a seating area and accessibility improvements; the Relax Salon, a hair care studio looking to make various aesthetic exterior improvements; and the Liberty House Bed & Breakfast (pictured), which plans to repair and reinforce its porch area. Each of these projects have a total cost of under \$30,000, but would contribute significantly to the businesses' continued success.

Transformative Project Opportunities

Name: Drainage, Aesthetic, and Infrastructure Improvements to Shared Lot

Owner/Sponsor: Village of Palmyra/Frank's Wine & Liquor, LLC

Location: 144-170 E Main Street

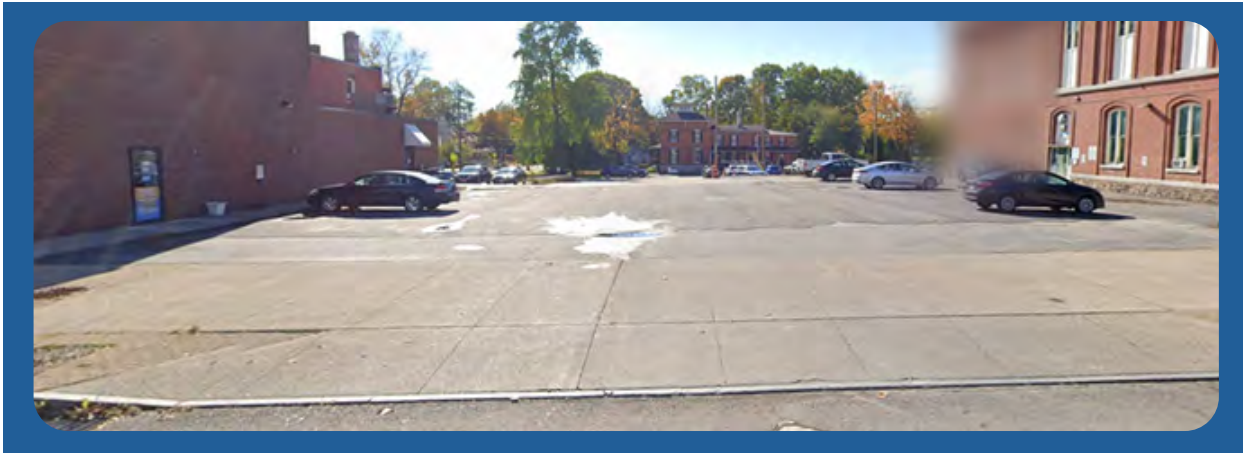
Estimated Total Cost: \$428,780

Funding Request: \$275,000

Funding Sources: ZEV grant funding, Urban & Community Forestry grant funding, private owner equity

Timeline: 1.5 years

The Village Hall and adjacent liquor store share a large parking area located in the center of Main Street. The deteriorated lot is an extremely noticeable eyesore and its drainage infrastructure is severely compromised, leading to constant flooding. The Village and the owners of the liquor store are looking to work together to address the dangerous bulging drain pipes that are causing the drainage issues. Once the disturbed land is repaved, the Village plans to install EV charging stations on the Village Hall side and plant trees on the curb to prevent the longstanding problem of drivers cutting over it. The Village has already obtained detailed cost estimates for the project and plans to apply for several grants to further fund the additional project components.



Name: Muddy Waters Bed, Balcony & Brews Trail Stop-Off

Owner/Sponsor: Donna McPike

Location: 100 Division Street

Estimated Total Cost: \$375,000

Funding Request: \$200,000

Funding Sources: Owner equity, private investor

Timeline: 1 year

The Muddy Waters Café, a longtime mainstay of the Village owned by a longtime Village resident and community member, sits right on the Erie Canal, with a stilted patio area overlooking the waterway. The café, which offers a variety of sandwiches, salads, and breakfast foods, is the perfect stop for Empire Trail travelers and Erie Canal boaters. However, some areas of the café require serious overhauls, and the owner wishes to expand her offerings to better serve Palmyra residents and the many visitors that come through.

The planned renovations to Muddy Waters include improving the overall infrastructure of the outdoor patio and adding a roof, walls, and fireplace to make it usable in multiple seasons; improving the tap system to meet increased demand; and creating a rentable enclosed room underneath the balcony to be available for traveling boaters and bikers. The café is one of the most popular locations in the Village, and there is robust public support for the project, as bikers and travelers on the Canal and Trail are constantly asking for places to eat and rest.



Transformative Project Opportunities

Name: Historic Mixed-Use Building Renovation

Owner/Sponsor: Elwood Studios, LLC

Location: 235 E Main Street

Estimated Total Cost: \$647,000

Funding Request: \$300,000

Funding Sources: Owner equity, Historic Preservation Tax Credits, Restore NY, tenant partnership

Timeline: 2 years

Captivated by the enduring historic charm of the Village of Palmyra and further spurred and supported by personal connections with other local business owners, husband and wife duo Mark & Erin Elwood purchased this vacant historic three-story mixed-use building in 2024. They plan to fully renovate the building, installing HVAC and plumbing, incorporating ADA-accessible infrastructure, creating a habitable apartment in the long-vacant third story, and retrofitting the first floor from an office space to a restaurant and bar to prepare for its future tenants. Currently, they are working with an architecture and engineering firm to obtain detailed schematics and preliminary cost estimates, and have already met with the State Historic Preservation Office to begin the process of applying for historic tax credits. They also plan to pursue funding through the Restore NY program as well as Wayne County tax abatements. Local brewery owners Sarah & Peter Wimer plan to lease the first-floor space when the overall building renovation is complete and further expand the area to create a brewery and outdoor beer garden.

Name: Drumlins Brewing Company

Owner/Sponsor: Peter & Sarah Wimer

Location: 235 E Main Street

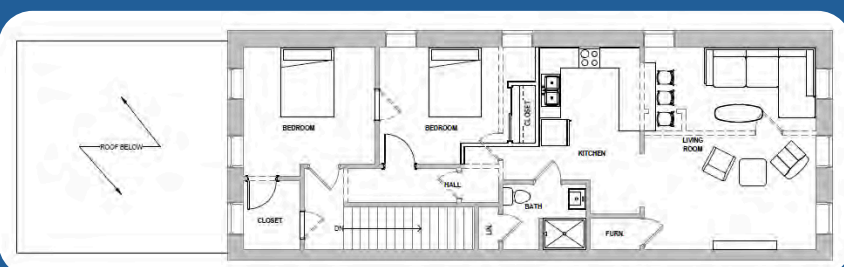
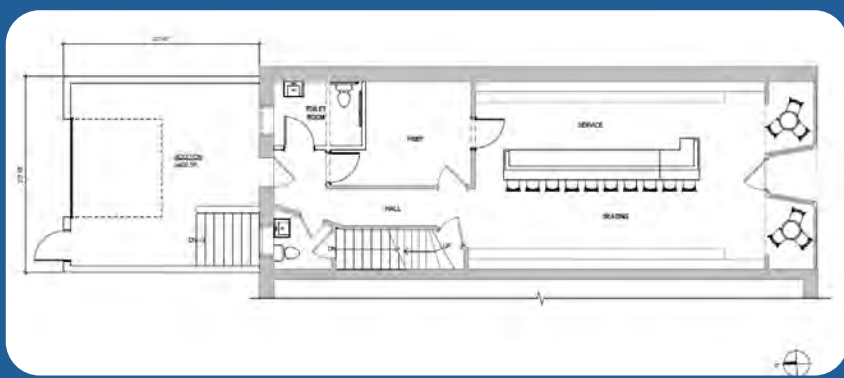
Estimated Total Cost: \$325,000

Funding Request: \$200,000

Funding Sources: Owner equity, Wayne County Kickstarter funds, Main Street Capital Loan

Timeline: 1 year

Working in tandem with the owners of the historic building at 235 E Main Street, husband and wife duo Peter & Sarah Wimer plan to create a brewery and beer garden in and outside the first floor. While they will hold off on making significant progress until after the rest of the building renovation is complete, they have already begun talks with the Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority and NYSEG to discuss the logistics of the brewery's drainage and electrical needs. In addition to outfitting the new space with brewing equipment and replacing the asphalt and sidewalk with a seating area, they plan to remodel the basement to act as cold storage, and may potentially construct either a standalone or partially attached structure for the brewing operations. They already have a full business plan in place for the brewery, as well as the technical expertise to back it up, and have discussed their plans with neighboring restaurant The Hog & Hen to coordinate a possible drink-sharing partnership. They have also applied for a Wayne County Kickstarter grant and plan to apply for the Main Street Capital Loan Fund for small business owners through Empire State Development.



Transformative Project Opportunities

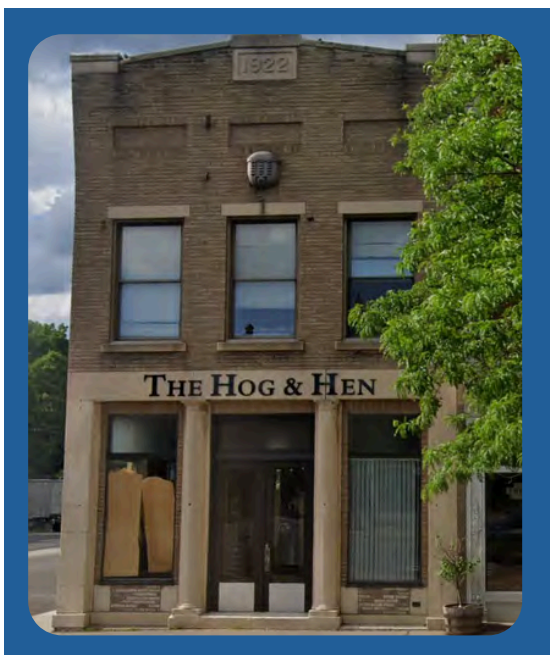
Name: The Hog & Hen Improvements
Owner/Sponsor: Joe & Meghan Lorenzetti
Location: 201 E Main Street
Estimated Total Cost: \$175,000
Funding Request: \$100,000
Funding Sources: Owner equity, Bank Loan, Wayne County Economic Development funding assistance
Timeline: 1 year

Husband and wife duo Joe & Meghan Lorenzetti celebrated the grand opening of their bar and restaurant The Hog & Hen during the drafting of this application, on September 25, 2024—an event directly advertised on the Village of Palmyra’s website. However, the restaurant had been open and operating for several weeks prior and was already a popular topic among community members and a subject of rave reviews. The restaurant is located in a 150-year-old building on the corner of Main Street and William Street, the former location of the Village Hall, and the pair have spent the better part of the last year renovating the first floor to create an elegant and modern eatery without compromising the building’s historic nature, working closely with the Western Wayne Chamber of Commerce. However, the upper story of the building, which the owners plan to rent out the upstairs rooms to interested locals looking for office space, is still largely unfinished, lacking proper flooring, HVAC, and furnishings. The owners also need to replace the lower-story and upper-story windows, an expensive and time-consuming process due to historic building renovation requirements. They hope that a DRI/NYF investment can help ease and expedite the remaining required renovations so that they can focus on running the restaurant and provide additional workspace options to residents.

Name: Palmyra Historic Museum Visitor Center
Owner/Sponsor: Tracy Murphy, Historic Palmyra Museums
Location: 124 William Street
Estimated Total Cost: \$550,000
Funding Request: \$425,000
Funding Sources: Owner equity, NYSCA Capital Improvement Program, property donation
Timeline: 2 years

The Historic Palmyra Museums, a nonprofit organization comprised of five separate historic buildings along a one-block radius, represent the heart of Palmyra, drawing in history enthusiasts from all over and providing a unique look into the Village’s storied past. One of the buildings, the Phelps General Store, has remained completely untouched since the previous owner locked the door in the 1940’s, creating a perfectly preserved image of the store as it appeared decades ago, complete with all its products. While these pockets of history act as one of the, if not the primary, driving forces that bring visitors to the Village, these visitors unfortunately have nowhere to go to rest, as the historic buildings have no space for a visitor center.

Museum Director Tracy Murphy has been in talks with the owner of an empty plot of land adjacent to the Phelps General Store, and is currently in the process of purchasing the lot, which the owner has been trying to sell for some time. She plans to work with local contractors to build a combination all-seasons visitor center, overnight stay area for paranormal tour “ghosts,” and rentable community gathering space for Village residents. Her primary concern is environmental remediation of the underground area, which will likely be costly due to the building’s previous use as a laundromat. For this reason, she is seeking NYF/DRI funding to kickstart the project and provide a cushion for the anticipated remediation costs.

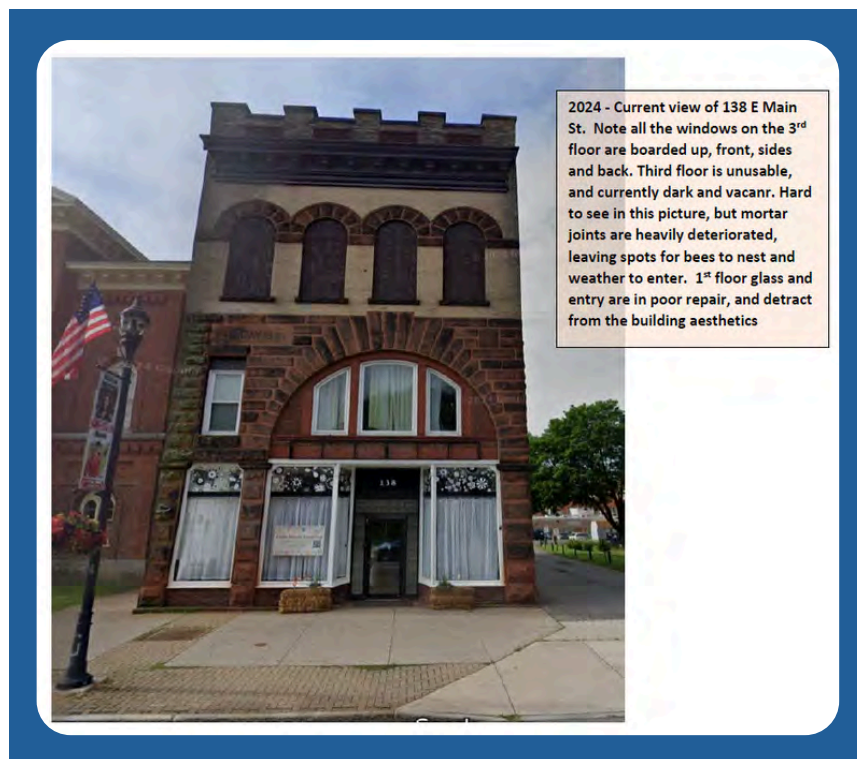


Transformative Project Opportunities

Name: Historic Davis Building Renovation
Owner/Sponsor: JTS Greenhouse, LLC/Thomas Salvinski
Location: 138 E Main Street
Estimated Total Cost: \$410,000
Funding Request: \$250,000
Funding Sources: Owner equity, credit financing through real estate
Timeline: 1 year

The unique Davis Building, constructed in 1893, is a cornerstone of downtown Palmyra's historical charm and architectural character, nestled between the Village Hall and the Village's famous "Four Corners" church intersection. It has served many functions over the years, with its first floor currently used as a daycare and its second floor as a residential unit. The third floor is vacant and unusable due to lack of secondary fire egress. However, after decades of exposure to the elements and deferred maintenance, the building has suffered significant deterioration. All windows on the third floor are broken and boarded up, windows on the first floor are past their useful life and inoperable, the side entry door is unsightly and deteriorated, and its masonry is crumbling, all of which greatly detracts from the vibrancy of Palmyra's historic downtown area.

The current owner of the building plans to replace the old windows with modern, energy-efficient ones, repoint the building's weathered masonry, and bring the third floor up to fire code, adding 2,500 square feet of living and professional space. The renovations will not only preserve a key piece of Palmyra's history but also enhance the overall appearance of Main Street and add additional residential units to the housing stock. Restoring the structure will also make it safer and more functional, ensuring that it continues to serve the community for many years to come.



2024 - Current view of 138 E Main St. Note all the windows on the 3rd floor are boarded up, front, sides and back. Third floor is unusable, and currently dark and vacanr. Hard to see in this picture, but mortar joints are heavily deteriorated, leaving spots for bees to nest and weather to enter. 1st-floor glass and entry are in poor repair, and detract from the building aesthetics

Name: Lock 29 Renovation
Owner/Sponsor: Graham Enterprises of New York/Franklin and John Graham
Location: 222 E Main Street
Estimated Total Cost: \$150,000
Funding Request: \$100,000
Funding Sources: Owner equity, bank loan
Timeline: 1 year

The Lock 29 Tavern, named for the famous Erie Canal lock, has been a Village mainstay since 1992 and is a popular gathering place for residents, offering drinks and classic pub fare. The owners are looking to renovate and revitalize the space, both to better serve their loyal customers and to increase the curb appeal of the Village's main street. Their plans include repairing and replacing the dated and damaged exterior lighting and tile, repairing and insulating the floor, replacing the beer keg and bottle coolers as well as the ice machine with energy-efficient models, repainting the inside of the bar, and potentially adding an outdoor area in the back of the bar. The owners are still talking through possible avenues for expansion with the Village code enforcement, but their more minor interior and exterior renovations have been planned for a long time. With NYF/DRI funding, the owners hope to make all the improvements at once rather than piecemeal, which they believe will have a greater impact on the prosperity of the business and the overall appeal of the Village downtown.



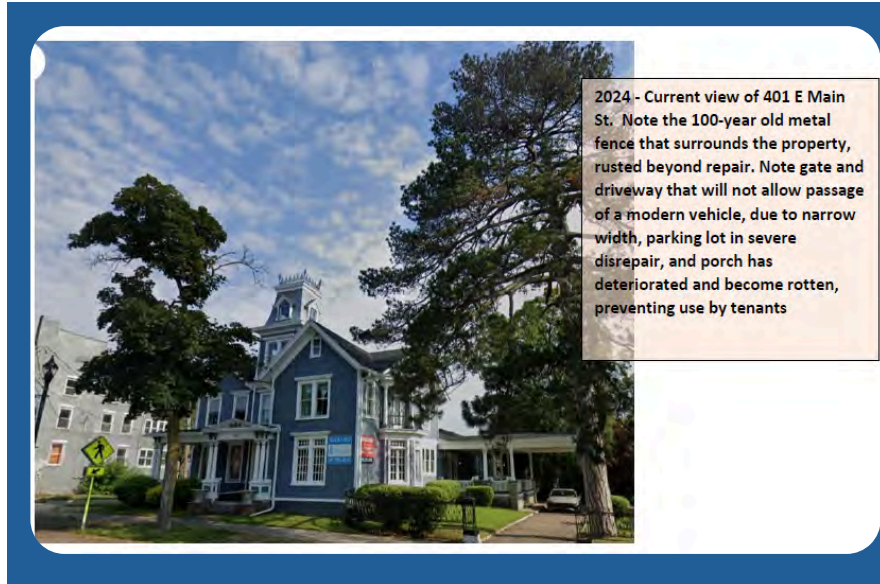
Transformative Project Opportunities

Name: Historic Garlock Building Renovations
Owner/Sponsor: JTS Greenhouse, LLC/Thomas Salvinski
Location: 401 E Main Street
Estimated Total Cost: \$397,400
Funding Request: \$238,400
Funding Sources: Owner equity, credit financing through real estate
Timeline: 2 years

The Garlock House is one of the greatest encapsulations of the Village of Palmyra's rich history and original entrepreneurial spirit. Built in 1812 by O.J. Garlock, whose local gasket-manufacturing company still serves as an employer for many Village residents, the house has served as both a restaurant and community gathering space over the years.

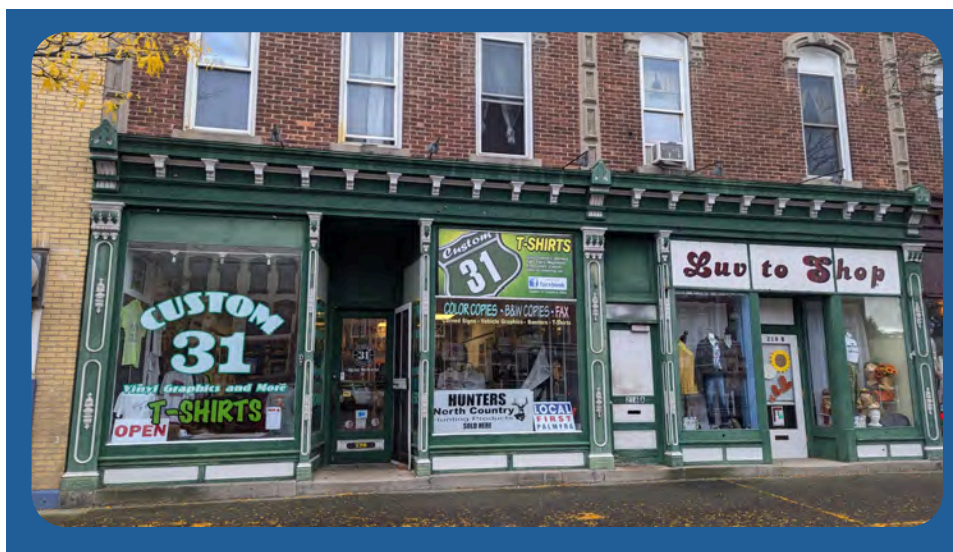
However, for the past decade, this historic gem has remained vacant, its grandeur fading and its potential untapped, leaving a blighted void on Main Street. Additionally, the property's current condition and the amount of renovation it will require has deterred potential tenants.

The current owner of the property is seeking to undertake a comprehensive restoration and modernization of the Garlock House, ensuring its accessibility, functionality, and appeal to contemporary users while preserving its historical integrity. These improvements will include removing and replacing the deteriorated wrought-iron fence, expanding the driveway to improve accessibility, adding EV charging stations, installing an ADA-accessible ramp and front door, replacing the rotten siding, painting the exterior, installing additional windows, and repairing the east and west porch areas. The owner has already received quotes for the project and is in talks with potential architecture and engineering firms to create schematics and designs.



Name: Restoration of Jarvis Block East
Owner/Sponsor: Graham Enterprises Inc./Franklin Graham
Location: 216-220 E Main Street
Estimated Total Cost: \$122,500
Funding Request: \$80,000
Funding Sources: Owner and company equity
Timeline: 1.5 years

This set of mixed-use buildings exemplifies many of the common issues seen in buildings along Palmyra's main street—dated aesthetics, peeling paint, and aging infrastructure. Both the first-story storefronts (Custom 31, a graphic designer, and Luv To Shop, a clothing store) and the four second-story apartments suffer from these longstanding problems. The owner of these buildings plans to upgrade the electrical connections in both the residential units and commercial units, paint the storefronts, repair and restore the historic tin ceiling, and replace the roof. These practical and much-needed improvements will serve to preserve the building's historic nature, make the indoor spaces more comfortable and habitable, and massively improve curb appeal.



Transformative Project Opportunities

Name: Historic Mixed-Use Renovation

Owner/Sponsor: Alicia Vercruyse

Location: 323 E Main Street

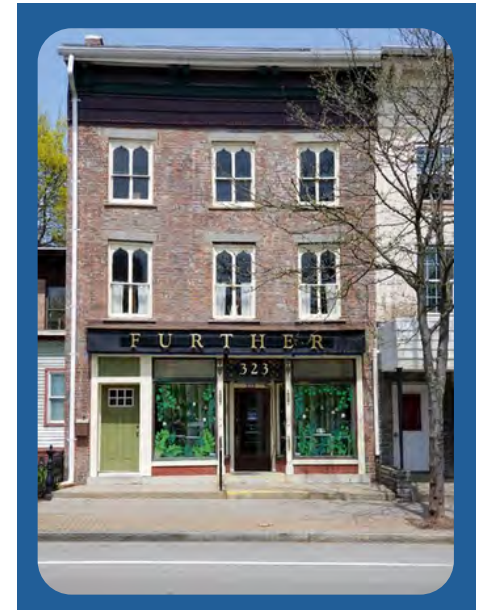
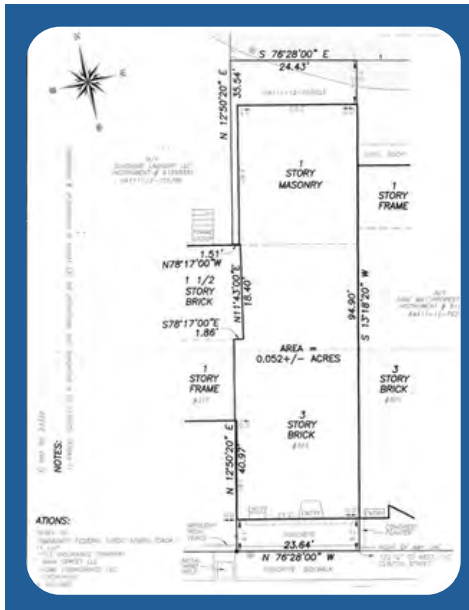
Estimated Total Cost: \$175,000

Funding Request: \$100,000

Funding Sources: Owner equity, bank loan

Timeline: 10 months

The owner of this prominent, historic mixed-use building on Main Street is looking to renovate the exterior of the building by repointing the bricks and updating/restoring the siding. She also plans to renovate the interior of the third-story apartment at the property, which has been untouched since the 1930's. This will both improve the visuals of the building and provide much-needed housing stock in the Village. The owner has also already met with a contractor and obtained schematics and cost estimates.



Name: Multiple Adjacent Mixed-Use Renovation

Owner/Sponsor: Nineway Properties LLC, SKK9 Holdings LLC, JRN Holdings LLC

Location: 301, 305, 307-313 E Main Street; 107-111 Market Street

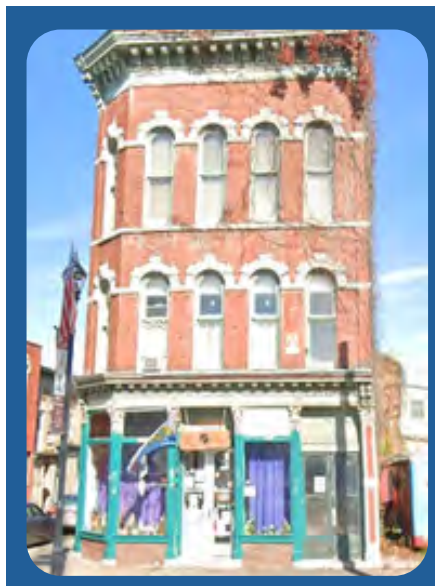
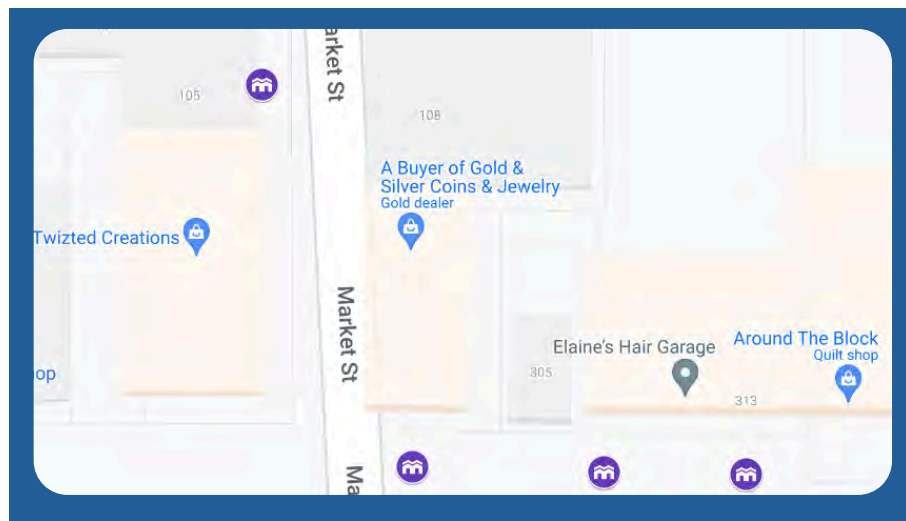
Estimated Total Cost: \$140,500

Funding Request: \$100,000

Funding Sources: Owner equity, bank loan

Timeline: 6 months

The collective owners of several adjacent mixed-use properties on Main Street and Market Street, one of which houses the popular spiritual store Twisted Creations, are planning to make a comprehensive series of improvements to these buildings' exteriors. The remodeling will include the replacement of doors, windows, gutters, siding, and soffit/fascia, in addition to repainting. These repairs will improve energy efficiency and safety, reduce future maintenance costs, and significantly enhance the overall look of the Village. Additionally, they will serve to attract commercial and residential tenants to the buildings. The scope of renovations will be the same for each property and the work will likely be performed by the same contractor, which, combined with their adjacent and kitty-corner locations, makes for a single cohesive project. This project already has preliminary designs and cost estimates from a local contractor, zoning and code approval from the Village, and robust public support, as many residents have expressed a desire to see exterior renovations made to the prominent buildings.



Administrative Capacity

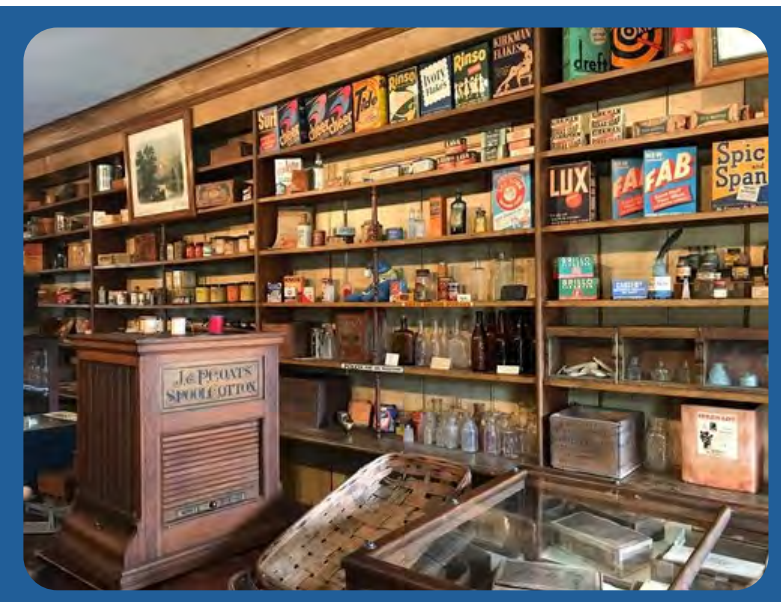
While the Village of Palmyra's core municipal staff is small, consisting of less than a dozen full-time workers, this is more of a benefit than a hindrance, as staff are able to communicate and pass along vital information to each other easily, and everyone has a full understanding of each other's job duties, capabilities, and areas of expertise. This open communication and general familiarity has proven to be a boon during the grant application process. For example, during the development of the Village's 2024 applications for an EPF Parks Planning grant and a USDOJ COPS Hiring Program grant (the latter of which was awarded in September 2024), Clerk-Treasurer Rebecca Wetherby was able to easily contact Police Chief Kyle DiNardo and Parks/Cemetery Department Head Gary Hopkins for their input whenever it was needed, even when they were physically away from the office. The Chief and Parks Director were also closely involved in the development of these applications and made a point to assist however they could, speaking from personal experience and providing additional information whenever possible, sometimes without provocation.

As previously mentioned, the Village is also no stranger to the grant application and administration processes, and have become increasingly familiar with these processes over the past two years. The Clerk-Treasurer and Deputy Clerks Mary Piccola and Margaret Tracy are extremely capable at locating old records, tracking down the appropriate staff and/or officials for necessary signatures, and organizing and scheduling public hearings and engagement sessions. The Village staff is even prepared to knock on people's doors to promote programs, events, and applications, as they did while promoting the submission of private projects for this application. They also frequently promote local businesses and privately sponsored events on the Village's website and social media so as to raise awareness of community events.

Additionally, the Village has consistently been able to maintain ongoing projects through changes in administration, such as with the Marina Comfort Station project, which was started during the previous Mayor's administration and completed during the current Mayor's administration with no significant delays to timeline nor changes to scope of work. Careful record-keeping by all department heads ensures that new staff members and officials are able to pick right up where their predecessors left off.



Interior of the Palmyra Print Shop Museum, which contains relics of John M. Jones' 1850-1920-era printing industry



Interior of the Phelps General Store, a perfectly preserved time capsule of retail offerings from 1865-1940

Letters of Support

Thank you for your consideration of our Village!

Attached please find letters in support of this application from the following:

- Claudia Tenney, U.S. Congressmember, NY-24
- Brian Manktelow, NYS Assemblymember, District 130
- Pamela Helming, NYS Senator, District 54
- Brian Pincelli, Executive Director, Wayne County IDA
- Diana Lagenor, President, Wayne County Business Council
- Kaleigh Flynn, Executive Director, Wayne County Regional Land Bank
- Robert Milby, Wayne County Sheriff
- Martin Aman, Executive Director, Wayne County Water & Sewer Authority
- Jane Milem, Wayne County Historian
- Diane Devlin, Director, Wayne County Public Health
- Lisa Graf, Commissioner, Wayne County Department of Social Services
- Christine Worth, Director, Wayne County Tourism
- Peter & Sarah Wimer, Co-Owners, Drummlins Brewing Company, LLC
- Tracy Murphy, Executive Director, Historic Palmyra
- Donna McPike, Owner, Muddy Waters Café
- Kathleen Catchman, Resident, Village of Palmyra
- Sheila Koeberle, Director, Palmyra Community Library
- Robert Ike, Superintendent, Palmyra-Macedon Central School District
- Kyle DiNardo, Chief of Police, Palmyra Police Department
- Gary Rose, Town Supervisor, Town of Palmyra



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

October 2, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street
Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

Re: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

Dear Mr. Duffy and Dr. Battles,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to express my support for the Village of Palmyra's application to the NY Forward (NYF) and Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant programs. Both the NYF and DRI programs aim to reinvigorate and transform the main streets and central business districts of various communities across New York State, and the Village is prepared to utilize this funding to further their goal of ensuring the community maintains its close-knit historic roots while acting as a destination for New Yorkers to live, work, and play.

To be recognized as a residential and tourism destination in the Finger Lakes region, the Village of Palmyra's application focuses on leveraging recent and forthcoming investments in their downtown, alongside the soon-to-be adopted Village and Town Joint Comprehensive Plan. The Village will use the program funding to create a more seamless relationship between state assets such as the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and the local area's historic and most-visited locations, including the Book of Mormon Publication Site and its five museums. With additional resources, the Village's Main Street corridor will continue to grow as a destination that draws boaters and recreational tourists from the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and visitors seeking living history while also serving residents with much-needed modern amenities.

The Village of Palmyra is a charming and community orientated village that has experienced some difficult times like many in New York. This project is expected to bring more job creation, extended stays by visitors, and overall, more efficient and effective downtown for residents, business owners, and visitors alike.

Once again, I fully support the Village's grant application and commitment to improving the community.

Sincerely,


CLAUDIA TENNEY
Member of Congress



BRIAN D. MANKTELOW
Assemblyman 130th District

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
Veterans' Affairs
COMMITTEES
Environmental Conservation
Energy
Local Governments
Ways and Means

September 30, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street, Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

RE: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

Dear Mr. Duffy and Dr. Battles:

As the Member of the New York State Assembly representing the 130th District, I am pleased to lend my full support to the Village of Palmyra's application to the NY Forward (NYF) and Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant programs.

If awarded, these grants will help the Village of Palmyra with its efforts to be recognized as a residential and tourism destination in the Finger Lakes Region. The Village's application focuses on leveraging recent and forthcoming investments in their downtown, alongside the soon to be adopted Village and Town Joint Comprehensive Plan. The Village plans on using the program funding to create a more seamless relationship between state assets such as the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and the local area's historic and most visited locations, including the Book of Mormon Publication Site and five museums located on its Main Street and along the heavily trafficked New York State Route 31.

These additional resources will contribute to the Village's Main Street corridor's continued growth and ability to draw boats and recreational tourists from the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and visitors seeking living history while also serving residents with much-needed modern amenities.

I applaud the Village on this endeavor which is critical to the ongoing transformation of its historic downtown and community which originated along the Erie Canal and to the advancement of its vision for economic vitality and municipal growth.

Again, I am pleased to lend my full support to this application which will build upon the Village of Palmyra's past and present initiatives for revitalization and have a positive impact on the community, region, and state. It is my hope that favorable consideration will be given to this most worthy request for funding.

If I can be of any further assistance with this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

BRIAN D. MANKTELOW
Member of Assembly, 130th District

BDM:mlb

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



SENATOR
PAMELA A. HELMING
54TH DISTRICT

**CHAIR OF THE
MINORITY CONFERENCE**

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

INSURANCE

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON
RURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEES

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND SMALL BUSINESS

CULTURAL AFFAIRS, TOURISM, PARKS
AND RECREATION

RACING, GAMING AND WAGERING

RULES

MEMBER

LEGISLATIVE WOMEN'S CAUCUS

September 18, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street, Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

Dear Mr. Duffy and Dr. Battles,

As the New York State Senator representing Wayne County, I am pleased to offer my support for the Village of Palmyra's application to the NY Forward (NYF) and Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant programs.

Both the NYF and DRI programs aim to transform the main streets and central business districts of various communities across New York State. The Village is prepared to utilize this funding to further their goal of ensuring the community maintains its close-knit historic roots while acting as a destination for New Yorkers to live, work, and play.

To be recognized as a residential and tourism destination in the Finger Lakes region, the Village of Palmyra's application focuses on leveraging recent and forthcoming investments in their downtown, alongside the soon-to-be adopted Village and Town Joint Comprehensive Plan. The Village will use the program funding to create a more seamless relationship between state assets such as the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and the local area's historic and most-visited locations, including the Book of Mormon Publication Site and its five museums.

District Office: 25 North St., Canandaigua, NY 14424 • (315) 568-9816 • FAX: (585) 393-0825
Albany Office: Room 711B Legislative Office Building, Albany, NY 12247 • (518) 455-2366 • FAX: (518) 426-6953
www.helming.nysenate.gov • helming@nysenate.gov



With this funding, the Village's Main Street corridor will continue to grow as a destination that draws boaters and recreational tourists from the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and visitors seeking living history while also serving residents with much-needed modern amenities.

Again, I am pleased to offer my support for the Village's grant application. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or my office at (315) 568-9816.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Pam", is positioned above the printed name.

Pamela A. Helming
Senator, 54th District



September 17, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC

Re: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

I am providing this letter to express my support for the Village of Palmyra's application to the NY Forward (NYF) and Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant programs. The Village's application focuses on leveraging recent and planned investments in their downtown, alongside the soon-to-be adopted Village and Town Joint Comprehensive Plan.

The Village will use the program funding to create a more seamless relationship between state assets such as the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and the local area's historic and most-visited locations. With additional resources, the Village's Main Street corridor will continue to grow as a destination that draws boaters and recreational tourists from the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and visitors seeking living history while also serving residents with much-needed modern amenities.

The Town and Villages cooperative approach to their comprehensive plan illustrated their cooperative efforts to revitalization and improving their community. The historic architecture, sense of place, and main street corridor provide significant opportunities for investment and improved sense of place.

I fully support the Village's grant applications and whole-heartedly recommend funding.

Sincerely,

Brian Pincelli
Executive Director
Wayne County Economic Development & Planning
WCIDA/WEDC

WAYNE COUNTY BUSINESS COUNCIL, INC.

1180 Canandaigua Road • Palmyra, NY 14522 • (315) 597-4468

Email: waynecountybusinesscouncil@gmail.com • Web address: www.waynecountybusinesscouncil.com

September 24, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street
Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

Re: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

Dear Mr. Duffy and Dr. Battles,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to express my support for the Village of Palmyra's application to the NY Forward (NYF) and Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant programs. Both the NYF and DRI programs aim to reinvigorate and transform the main streets and central business districts of various communities across New York State, and the Village is prepared to utilize this funding to further their goal of ensuring the community maintains its close-knit historic roots while acting as a destination for New Yorkers to live, work, and play.

To be recognized as a residential and tourism destination in the Finger Lakes region, the Village of Palmyra's application focuses on leveraging recent and forthcoming investments in their downtown, alongside the soon-to-be adopted Village and Town Joint Comprehensive Plan. The Village will use the program funding to create a more seamless relationship between state assets such as the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and the local area's historic and most-visited locations, including the Book of Mormon Publication Site and its five museums. With additional resources, the Village's Main Street corridor will continue to grow as a destination that draws boaters and recreational tourists from the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and visitors seeking living history while also serving residents with much-needed modern amenities.

The Wayne County Business Council recognizes how important Palmyra's Main Street is to their community. NYS Route 31 runs right through their Main Street and so it is important to have it looking great and the stores all full and operating.

Once again, I fully support the Village's grant application and commitment to improving the community. I look forward to seeing this application come to fruition.

Sincerely,



Diana Lagenor

President

Wayne County Business Council

Wayne County Regional Land Bank Corporation

September 25, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street
Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

Re: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

Dear Mr. Duffy and Dr. Battles,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to express my support for the Village of Palmyra's application to the NY Forward (NYF) and Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant programs. Both the NYF and DRI programs aim to reinvigorate and transform the main streets and central business districts of various communities across New York State, and the Village is prepared to utilize this funding to further their goal of ensuring the community maintains its close-knit historic roots while acting as a destination for New Yorkers to live, work, and play.

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These investments will bolster visitors to the area and tourism in the Village, creating strong economic impacts and long-term sustainability for businesses, which in turn benefit all community residents. Making these improvements at this critical time is a proactive strategy to preventing disinvestment and vacancy by developing a robust and vibrant Main Street corridor.

Once again, I fully support the Village's grant application and commitment to improving the community. I look forward to seeing this application come to fruition.

Sincerely,



Kaleigh Flynn
Executive Director
Wayne County Regional Land Bank

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
WAYNE COUNTY
7376 Route 31, Suite 1000
Lyons, NY 14489
Phone 315.946.9711
Fax 315.946.5811
www.waynecosherriff.org



Sheriff Robert E. Milby
RMilby@waynecountyny.gov

Undersheriff Tammy S. Ryndock
TRyndock@waynecountyny.gov

October 9, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street, Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

Re: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

Dear Mr. Duffy and Dr. Battles,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to express my support for the Village of Palmyra's application to the NY Forward (NYF) and Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant programs. Both the NYF and DRI programs aim to reinvigorate and transform the main streets and central business districts of various communities across New York State, and the Village is prepared to utilize this funding to further their goal of ensuring the community maintains its close-knit historic roots while acting as a destination for New Yorkers to live, work, and play.

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Once again, I fully support the Village's grant application and commitment to improving the community. Being a resident of Palmyra myself, I look forward to seeing this application come to fruition.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert E. Milby", written over a white background.

Robert Milby
Wayne County Sheriff



September 20, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street
Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

Re: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

Dear Mr. Duffy and Dr. Battles,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to express my support for the Village of Palmyra's application to the NY Forward (NYF) and Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant programs. Both the NYF and DRI programs aim to reinvigorate and transform the main streets and central business districts of various communities across New York State, and the Village is prepared to utilize this funding to further their goal of ensuring that the community maintains its close-knit historic roots while acting as a destination for New Yorkers to live, work, and play.

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The Village of Palmyra is currently participating in a Regional Wastewater Treatment Project along with four other Wayne County Towns and The Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority. This noteworthy project will provide for both current and future wastewater treatment needs within this region of Wayne County and will be instrumental in maintaining the overall water quality of the Erie Canal. The commitment to a revitalized Village is very important to all of the involved Project participants.

Once again, I fully support the Village's grant application and commitment to improving the community. I look forward to seeing this application come to fruition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin J. Arpan", is written over a light blue circular background.

Martin J. Arpan
Executive Director
Wayne County Water & Sewer Authority



Office of the County Historian Wayne County NY
Jane Milem, Historian Phone 315-946-5470
Wayne County NY Public Safety Building
7376 State Route 31, STE 100, Lyons NY 14489-9172
Historian@WayneCountyNY.gov
<https://WayneCountyNY.gov/398/Historian>

October 10, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs Finger Lakes REDC – Regional Economic Development Council
400 ANDREW ST STE 300
ROCHESTER NY 14604

Re: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

Dear Mr. Duffy and Dr. Battles,

Village of Palmyra is one of the Historic and Tourism gems of Wayne County, and I gladly support the Village of Palmyra's application to the NY Forward (NYF) and Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant programs.

Both the NYF and DRI programs aim to reinvigorate and transform the main streets and central business districts of various communities across New York State, and the Village is prepared to utilize this funding to further their goal of ensuring the community maintains its close-knit historic roots while acting as a destination for New Yorkers to live, work, and play.

To be recognized as a residential and tourism destination in the Finger Lakes region, the Village of Palmyra's application focuses on leveraging recent and forthcoming investments in their downtown, alongside the soon-to-be adopted Village and Town Joint Comprehensive Plan. The Village will use the program funding to create a more seamless relationship between state assets such as the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and the local area's historic and most-visited locations, including the 5 Historic Palmyra Museums <https://www.historicpalmyrany.com/>, and the Grandin Printshop Book of Mormon Publication Site <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/learn/locations/grandin-printshop-book-of-mormon-publication-site?lang=eng>. With additional resources, the Village's Main Street corridor will continue to grow as a destination that draws boaters and recreational tourists from the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and visitors seeking living history, while also serving residents with much-needed modern amenities.

A vibrant Village is appealing to visit and to live in. People pleased with their location will support and maintain what makes it appealing. Village of Palmyra is using NYF and DRI programs to continue as a Historic and Tourism gem of Wayne County. I look forward to seeing this application come to fruition.

Sincerely, *Jane Milem* Historian



Wayne County Public Health

1519 Nye Road, Suite 200, Lyons, New York 14489
Tel: (315) 946-5749 • Fax: (315) 946-5762
Email: WCPH@co.wayne.ny.us
Diane Devlin, Director of Public Health



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Wayne County, NY



September 18, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street
Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

Re: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

Dear Mr. Duffy and Dr. Battles,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to express my support for the Village of Palmyra’s application to the NY Forward (NYF) and Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant programs. Both the NYF and DRI programs aim to reinvigorate and transform the main streets and central business districts of various communities across New York State, and the Village is prepared to utilize this funding to further their goal of ensuring the community maintains its close-knit historic roots while acting as a destination for New Yorkers to live, work, and play.

To be recognized as a residential and tourism destination in the Finger Lakes region, the Village of Palmyra’s application focuses on leveraging recent and forthcoming investments in their downtown, alongside the soon-to-be adopted Village and Town Joint Comprehensive Plan. The Village will use the program funding to create a more seamless relationship between state assets such as the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and the local area’s historic and most-visited locations, including the Book of Mormon Publication Site and its five museums. With additional resources, the Village’s Main Street corridor will continue to grow as a destination that draws boaters and recreational tourists from the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and visitors seeking living history while also serving residents with much-needed modern amenities.

Once again, I fully support the Village’s grant application and commitment to improving the community. I look forward to seeing this application come to fruition.

Sincerely,

Diane M. Devlin RN, MS, BSN
Director of Public Health

Your Health Matters to Us!

•Adult & Children’s Immunization • TB Program • Lead Poisoning Prevention • Communicable Disease • Rabies • Maternal & Child Health Education • Public Health Emergency Planning & Coordination • Public Health Education • Child Safety Seat • Bicycle Helmet • Tobacco Prevention & Cessation • Early Intervention • Pre-K Program • Child Find (ICHAP) Infant/Child Health Assessment Program•



Wayne County Department of Social Services

77 Water Street, PO Box 10, Lyons, NY 14489-0010 • Phone: (315) 946-4881 • Fax: (315) 946-7626

September 19, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street
Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

Re: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

Dear Mr. Duffy and Dr. Battles,

My name is Lisa Graf and I am Commissioner of the Wayne County Department of Social Services. My Department serves all of Wayne County, including the Village of Palmyra. It is with great enthusiasm that I write to express my support for the Village of Palmyra's application to the NY Forward (NYF) and Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant programs. Both the NYF and DRI programs aim to reinvigorate and transform the main streets and central business districts of various communities across New York State, and the Village is prepared to utilize this funding to further their goal of ensuring the community maintains its close-knit historic roots while acting as a destination for New Yorkers to live, work, and play.

To be recognized as a residential and tourism destination in the Finger Lakes region, the Village of Palmyra's application focuses on leveraging recent and forthcoming investments in their downtown, alongside the soon-to-be adopted Village and Town Joint Comprehensive Plan. The Village will use the program funding to create a more seamless relationship between state assets such as the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and the local area's historic and most-visited locations, including the Book of Mormon Publication Site and its' five museums. With additional resources, the Village's Main Street corridor will continue to grow as a destination that draws boaters and recreational tourists from the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and visitors seeking living history while also serving residents with much-needed modern amenities.

Not only am I Commissioner of Wayne County DSS and value strong and vibrant communities for our clients and residents of Wayne County, but I live in the Town of Palmyra. I can tell you from my own personal experience what a vital resource the Downtown of Palmyra is to its' residents - the restaurants, the historic sites, the retail stores and the Village Park all contribute to

COMMISSIONER: Lisa P. Graf



Wayne County Department of Social Services

77 Water Street, PO Box 10, Lyons, NY 14489-0010 • Phone: (315) 946-4881 • Fax: (315) 946-7626

the Downtown. My family and I also appreciate, and frequently use, the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail.

In conclusion, I fully support the Village of Palmyra's application to the NY Forward (NYF) and Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant programs both as a County employee and a Palmyra resident.

Thank you in advance for your funding consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me at Lisa.Graf@dfa.state.ny.us or at 315-946-7600 if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Lisa P. Graf
Commissioner
Wayne County Department of Social Services



October 3, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street, Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

Re: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

Dear Mr. Duffy and Dr. Battles,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to express my support for the Village of Palmyra's application to the NY Forward and Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant programs. Both programs aim to reinvigorate and transform the main streets and central business districts of various communities across New York State, and the Village is prepared to utilize this funding to further their goal of ensuring the community maintains its close-knit historic roots while acting as a destination to live, work, and play.

To be recognized as a residential and tourism destination in the Finger Lakes region, the Village of Palmyra's application focuses on leveraging recent and forthcoming investments in their downtown, alongside the soon-to-be adopted Village and Town Joint Comprehensive Plan. The Village will use the program funding to create a more seamless relationship between state assets such as the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and the local area's historic and most-visited locations.

I fully support the Village's grant application and commitment to improving the community. The historic gems such as the Alling Coverlet Museum (the largest collection of hand-woven coverlets in America), the William Phelps General Store (the museum "where time stands still," an authentic 19th century general store), the Grandin Building (the Book of Mormon Publication Site) are just a sampling of Palmyra's rich historic sites that will flourish. I look forward to seeing this application come to fruition.

Sincerely,

Christine Worth
Director of Tourism

October 7, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street
Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

Re: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

Dear Mr. Duffy and Dr. Battles,


It is with great enthusiasm that we write to express our support for the Village of Palmyra's application to the NY Forward (NYF) and Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant programs. Both the NYF and DRI programs aim to reinvigorate and transform main streets and central business districts in communities across New York State. The Village is prepared to utilize this funding to further their goal of ensuring the community maintains its close-knit historic roots while acting as a destination for New Yorkers to live, work, and play.

To be recognized as a residential and tourism destination in the Finger Lakes region, the Village of Palmyra's application focuses on leveraging recent and forthcoming investments in their downtown, alongside the soon-to-be adopted Village and Town Joint Comprehensive Plan. The Village will use the program funding to create a more seamless relationship between state assets such as the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and the local area's historic and most-visited locations, including the Book of Mormon Publication Site and its five museums. As local business owners, NYF funding will allow us to pursue opportunities to grow the Village's Main Street corridor into a destination that draws boaters and recreational tourists from the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and visitors seeking living history while also serving residents with much-needed modern amenities.

We have lived in Palmyra for almost 20 years, and we love our little village. Over the years we have watched the small businesses in Palmyra close only to have the building remain vacant or be replaced by unregistered smoke shops, junk shops, and the like. We want to see Palmyra regain the vibrancy it once had where residents and visitors could walk down Main Street and meet for a sit-down meal or drink, and shop locally. That is one of the many reasons we have committed to opening our brewery in the Village of Palmyra. With Drumlins Brewing Company, soon to be opening at 235 E. Main Street, drawing both locals and visitors to visit Palmyra, paired with the recent opening of the Hog and Hen restaurant, with its farm to table quality focus, we are laying a strong foundation. With the assistance this grant opportunity gives Palmyra, there is a chance for a major shift in its downtown, revitalizing the village and creating an economically strong destination for locals and tourists alike.

Once again, we fully support the Village's grant application and commitment to improving the community. We look forward to seeing this application come to fruition.

Sincerely,



Peter Wimer
Co-Owner & Brewer
Drumlins Brewing Company, LLC.



Sarah Wimer
Co-Owner & Flavor Maven
Drumlins Brewing Company, LLC.

October 9, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street
Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

Re: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

Dear Mr. Duffy and Dr. Battles,

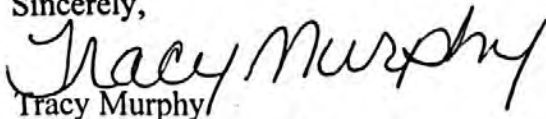
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Having a vibrant village as historic as Palmyra is important to our organization. Historic Palmyra is responsible for 90% of the tourism that our museums bring. By improving our Main streets and our side streets, we are able to highlight much of the hidden gems our Village has to offer. While our museums continue to preserve the past, we look forward to what the future holds.

Once again, I fully support the Village's grant application and commitment to improving the community. I look forward to seeing this application come to fruition.

Sincerely,



Tracy Murphy
Executive Director, Historic Palmyra

October 1, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street
Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

Re: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

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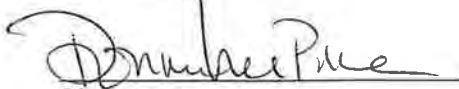
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Palmyra is long overdue for funding on community improvements
We are sandwiched between 2 other communities that have moved forward.

Once again, I fully support the Village's grant application and commitment to improving the community. I look forward to seeing this application come to fruition.

Sincerely,


Signature
DONNA McPike
Print Name

October 1, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street
Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

Re: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

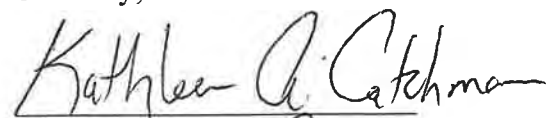
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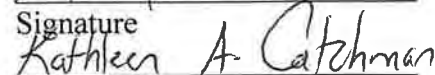
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Once again, I fully support the Village's grant application and commitment to improving the community. I look forward to seeing this application come to fruition.

Sincerely,



Signature



Print Name



402 E. Main St., Palmyra, NY 14522
Phone: 315-597-5276 Fax: 315-597-1375
www.palmyracommunitylibrary.org

September 17, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street
Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

Re: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

Dear Mr. Duffy and Dr. Battles,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to express my support for the Village of Palmyra's application to the NY Forward (NYF) and Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant programs. Both the NYF and DRI programs aim to reinvigorate and transform the main streets and central business districts of various communities across New York State, and the Village is prepared to utilize this funding to further their goal of ensuring the community maintains its close-knit historic roots while acting as a destination for New Yorkers to live, work, and play.

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A vibrant village is ideal for our library because it fosters a strong sense of community and shared purpose, which can significantly enhance the library's role and impact. In a lively and engaged village, residents are more likely to see the library as a central hub for knowledge, culture, and social interaction. Additionally, the close-knit nature of a vibrant village often means that the library can better tailor its services and resources to meet local needs and preferences, creating a more personalized and impactful experience for all residents.

Once again, I fully support the Village's grant application and commitment to improving the community. I look forward to seeing this application come to fruition.

Sincerely,

Sheila Koeberle
Library Director



September 19, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street, Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

Re: Village of Palmyra NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

Dear Mr. Duffy and Dr. Battles:

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to express my support for the Village of Palmyra's application to the NY Forward (NYF) and Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant programs. Both the NYF and DRI programs aim to reinvigorate and transform the main streets and central business districts of various communities across New York State, and the Village of Palmyra is prepared to utilize this funding to further their goal of ensuring the community maintains its close-knit historic roots while acting as a destination for New Yorkers to live, work, and play.

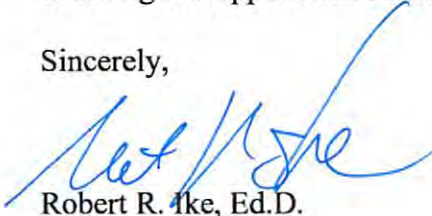
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Our Primary School (National Historic Registry at 120 Canandaigua Street) and historic administrative offices (127 Cuyler Street) are located on a parcel connected with the Village Offices and Main Street. Three of our four school buildings are within the Village of Palmyra, seeing many of its students walking to and from school each day. When researching photos of Palmyra's past, there is evidence to show the Village's vibrancy with a multitude of shops, services, and eateries. Today, many buildings show signs of deterioration; windows are boarded or covered as if there is no hope of a resurgence. To the contrary, continued revitalization on historic Main Street can boost a family friendly row of businesses. These businesses, in turn, can be vital partners with the Palmyra-Macedon Central School District to expand opportunities for

students to learn, grow, and contribute as citizens. Through our shadows and internships, students can be "boots on the ground," creating integral partnerships between taxpayers and public education, ultimately giving Pal-Mac students real-life and hands-on learning experiences that have the potential of dramatically changing the future for our children. A New York Forward investment would help to make all of this a reality.

To be sure, I fully support the Village of Palmyra's grant application and commitment to improving the lives of people who live in, work in, and travel to our community. I look forward to seeing this application come to fruition.

Sincerely,



Robert R. Ike, Ed.D.
Superintendent

C: Board of Education



VILLAGE OF PALMYRA POLICE DEPARTMENT

144 E Main St, Palmyra, NY 14522

(315) 597-9211

10/9/2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street
Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

Re: Village of Palmyra, NY 2024 NY Forward/Downtown Revitalization Initiative Grant Application

Dear Mr. Duffy and Dr. Battles,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write to express my support for the Village of Palmyra's application to the NY Forward (NYF) and Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant programs. Both the NYF and DRI programs aim to reinvigorate and transform the main streets and central business districts of various communities across New York State, and the Village is prepared to utilize this funding to further their goal of ensuring the community maintains its close-knit historic roots while acting as a destination for New Yorkers to live, work, and play.

To be recognized as a residential and tourism destination in the Finger Lakes region, the Village of Palmyra's application focuses on leveraging recent and forthcoming investments in their downtown, alongside the soon-to-be adopted Village and Town Joint Comprehensive Plan. The Village will use the program funding to create a more seamless relationship between state assets such as the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and the local area's historic and most-visited locations, including the Book of Mormon Publication Site and its five museums. With additional resources, the Village's Main Street corridor will continue to grow as a destination that draws boaters and recreational tourists from the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and visitors seeking living history while also serving residents with much-needed modern amenities.

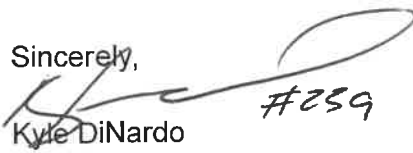
As the Chief of Police for the Village of Palmyra, I can't reiterate enough the impact this funding would have on our community. Our community is one of the few remaining "bedroom" communities that is in desperate need of completing many overdue enhancements. One of my goals would be the design and building of an inclusive playground / park area that would bring people into the community to play and then enjoy the rest of our Village and everything it has to offer.

Once again, I fully support the Village's grant application and commitment to improving the community. I look forward to seeing this application come to fruition.

Sincerely,

Should you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me using the information below.

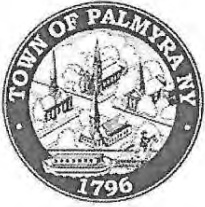
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. DiNardo", with a large, stylized loop at the end. To the right of the signature, the number "#239" is handwritten in black ink.

#239

Kyle DiNardo

Palmyra Police Department
Chief of Police



Town of Palmyra



1180 Canandaigua Road
Palmyra, NY 14522

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townclerk@palmyrany.com
www.palmyrany.com

October 9, 2024

Mr. Robert Duffy and Dr. Denise Battles
Regional Co-Chairs
Finger Lakes REDC
400 Andrew Street Suite 300
Rochester, NY 14604

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With additional resources, the Village's Main Street corridor will continue to grow as a destination that draws boaters and recreational tourists from the Erie Canal and Empire State Trail and visitors seeking living history while also serving residents with much-needed modern amenities.

We will be excited to see the revitalization of what is historically known in New York State as the "Queen of Canal Towns"!

Once again, we fully support the Village's grant application and commitment to improving the community, and look forward to seeing this application come to fruition. Please contact us if there is any additional information needed from the Town of Palmyra.

Sincerely,

Gary Rose

and

Irene Unterborn

Palmyra Town Supervisor

Palmyra Town Clerk