

SECTION V DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

The Waterfront Revitalization and Coastal Resources Act places great emphasis on the implementation provisions of the LWRP. This section accomplishes two objectives. It is meant to provide sufficient information for DOS to determine whether the Village of Whitehall has met the State's requirements and, to provide the Village of Whitehall with a clear and complete description of the strategy it will follow to implement those elements of the LWRP for which it is responsible.

The techniques necessary for the implementation of the LWRP are separated into four categories: local laws and regulations, other actions required of both the public and private sectors, local management structure and procedures and, local financial resources.

A. Existing Local Laws and Regulations Necessary to Implement the Village's LWRP

Local laws and regulations are the basic means for enforcing the provisions of the LWRP. They can ensure that, at a minimum, nothing will occur to prevent the long-term advantageous use of the waterfront or to frustrate the achievement of any of the policies or purposes of the LWRP. The balance between development/redevelopment and resource protection that is apparent in the LWRP policies and the proposed land uses and projects has been achieved through the application of many of the Village's existing laws and regulations.

1. Village of Whitehall Local Laws

Zoning Regulations

The Village of Whitehall Zoning Regulations were adopted in 1996. Zoning districts include the following classifications: Residential Class A, Residential Class B, Commercial, Light Industrial, Planned Residential Development, Recreational Park, View Shed, and Wet Lands. The current zoning regulations for the downtown business district encompass a wide variety of uses, none of which conflict with uses compatible with waterfront development. It is likely that the regulations, as written, are flexible enough to accommodate the kind of creative redevelopment needed to revitalize in the downtown area.

Maps [7a](#) & [7b](#), "Zoning Map," illustrate the zoning along the Village's major waterfront areas. In general, the existing Zoning Regulations of the Village are a significant tool in the implementation of the LWRP. The LWRP Committee found that the existing zoning districts and associated uses are compatible with the proposed uses and projects listed in Section II of this LWRP. Specific deficiencies in the Zoning Regulations include the lack of design standards for several development elements.

Historic Preservation Local Law

The Village of Whitehall adopted a Historic Preservation Local Law in 1985. The law designates the Historic District boundary and provides guidelines for the review of applications for minor and major alterations, demolition, new construction and

signage in the district. The regulations for historic preservation should be reviewed so that the best business/residential opportunities can be realized without sacrificing individual buildings.

Urban Cultural Park

In 1980, Whitehall was designated an Urban Cultural Park. An Urban Cultural Park is a State-designated area that has special significance in the State's history. An Urban Cultural Park Management Plan was prepared to guide the revitalization of the area while promoting preservation, education, recreation, and economic development.

The thirteen goals in Whitehall's Urban Cultural Park Management Plan pertain to the:

- Preservation of the Village's nineteenth century character;
- Preservation of the Champlain Barge Canal System and bridges;
- Enrichment and upgrading of the park environment;
- Education of park visitors;
- Development of promotional, public relations, and educational programs;
- Provision of passive recreational pursuits;
- Expansion of active recreational facilities;
- Strengthening of the economic base;
- Encouragement of private sector investment;
- Reduction of business operation costs;
- Expansion of the State and local tax base; and
- Encouragement of rehabilitation of vacant/substandard residential space

Many of the Plan's recommendations have been implemented.

The boundaries of the Historic District coincide with those of the Urban Cultural Park. The themes of defense and transportation are exhibited in this area's development patterns and architecture. Development and redevelopment projects in this area, depending on their nature, may be subject to the Village's Historic Preservation Law.

Canal Harbor Center

The New York State Canal Corporation, the entity that owns and operates the Canal undertook a number of improvements in Whitehall which have established the Village as one of seven designated Canal harbors due, in part, to the fact that Whitehall is the gateway to Lake Champlain and Canada. As a designated harbor, Whitehall has been the subject of a concept plan for the Skenesborough Park vicinity based on months of meetings and public participation efforts. The concept plan and associated development program incorporate four basic elements:

- Canal infrastructure, facilities, site and other improvements which provide or enhance boater services and other recreational activities;
- Canalway Trail improvements and linkages;
- Economic development and community revitalization elements, and private-sector participation; and
- Public open space, visitor information and interpretive components.

Champlain Canal Byway

A four-year corridor management plan for the Champlain Canal Byway was submitted to New York State Department of Transportation's Scenic Byway Advisory Board for official designation of the Champlain Canal Byway. The Champlain Canal Byway is a 64-mile stretch of land that extends from Waterford to Whitehall along Route 4 and the Champlain Canal/Hudson River from Waterford to Whitehall, Routes 22 and 9 and Lake Champlain from Whitehall to Rouses Point. Future plans for this corridor include adding the Lake George region and the Richelieu Valley in Canada to Quebec. Inclusion of these two regions will integrate the shared history and resources and create a byway with an international appeal.

This corridor represents a corridor of change, revolution, movement and travel and transportation through the ages. The Corridor links two and one-half centuries of momentous events, notable people, and landmarks that shaped our nations freedoms and spirits. The corridor has served as a route for migratory birds, Native Americans, explorers, settlers, commerce and development and, now, for recreation. Locks to Lakes Passage serves as a shared waterway to move people from cities in the south through the revitalizing Canal and Lake Region. The corridor provides the visitor with a multi-modal experience along interpreted theme routes that deliver the story of the "Four Ages" of change. Multiple transportation linkages along the corridor include highways, rail, waterways, bikes, and pedestrian routes.

The Champlain Canal Byway program will assist Whitehall in finding a regional identity in terms of tourism and in focusing on the most important elements of their economic development program for the future. The Corridor Management Plan is already providing significant guidance regarding the development of a regional economic development strategy.

2. Common State Agency Regulations

Flood Damage Prevention Law

This law requires permits for construction within flood hazard areas identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. With such a law in place, property owners are eligible for purchase of subsidized flood damage insurance that would not otherwise be available. Projects within the flood hazard area are reviewed to ensure that hazards from flooding are minimized through appropriate standards concerning construction techniques and materials, siting, and protection and maintenance of drainage areas. The law also requires subdivision proposals to be consistent with the need to minimize flood damage. The Village Code Enforcement Officer administers this law. Appeals may be made to the Village Planning Board.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)

The DEC Division of Environmental Permits manages the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). SEQRA is a law that establishes a process that requires the consideration of environmental factors early in the planning stages of actions that are directly undertaken, funded or approved by local, regional and state agencies. The

Village considers all applicable requirements under (SEQRA) during review of all qualifying projects. SEQRA should be incorporated into the review procedures of the Village's Land Use Code.

DEC also issues permits for any discharge into waters, oil or gas drilling, mining, transportation of solid wastes, operation of new solid waste facilities, the storage, transport and disposal of hazardous waste. DEC also authorizes permits for air pollution, the operation of marinas and the construction, dredging or dumping in a freshwater wetland. Implementation of the following projects in the LWRP will likely require Freshwater Wetlands and/or Protection of Waters permits: the Canalway Trail extension; Woodcreek Pedestrian Bridge and Trail; Cooke's Island Pedestrian Bridge and Trail; Dredging at the southwest side of Cooke's Island; bank and erosion control at Wood Creek; new boat launch and fishing access sites; and marinal pump-out facility in the Champlain Canal.

Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE)

All projects proposed along or in the Lake Champlain Canal must be submitted to the U.S.Army Corps of Engineers.

B. Proposed Local Laws and Regulations

Site Plan Review Standards should be added which address waterfront development concerns and encourage new businesses that are consistent with LWRP. These recommendations are found in Section IV under (D) Development Considerations.

Site plan review and design standards that address shoreline development concerns and encourages new businesses that are consistent with the LWRP should be added to the Zoning Ordinance. Within the previous section (V), the various local laws and regulations of the Village were examined to determine how well they implement the policies and proposals of the Village's LWRP. The Village needs to develop an improved set of design standards to address design issues, parking, landscaping and utilities. The LWRP is providing substantial guidance for the preparation of design standards in Section III, Policies (2.2). Design standards should be developed to address the following criteria:

- Overall Design
- Relationship to South Bay and the Champlain Canal
- Architectural Design Standards
- Landscaping, Screening and Buffering
- Lighting
- Signage
- Waterfront Transportation
- Public Access to Waterfront
- Off-Street Parking
- On-Site Utilities and Services
- Building Height and Setback Requirements
- Natural Resource Protection

The Zoning Regulations would also benefit from a review to improve definitions, remove inconsistencies, and take into account the recent amendments to the State planning and zoning statutes that were initiated by the New York State Legislative Commission on Rural Resources.

LWRP Consistency Law

“A Local Law Establishing Consistency Requirements and Review Procedures for Village Actions Involving the Local Waterfront Area” has been adopted to ensure implementation of the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program. This local law requires of each board, department, officer or other body of the city, that its actions to directly undertake or to permit, fund or otherwise approve any project, use or activity within the waterfront be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the applicable State and local policies established in the city’s LWRP.

To this end, the local law establishes procedures for:

- a. Initial review of proposed actions in a manner compatible with SEQRA requirements;
- b. Providing advice and assistance to applicants (if involved) and/or the boards, departments, officers or other bodies of the Village involved, regarding forms, procedures, etc., and;
- c. LWRP compliance and SEQRA review.

To facilitate the consistency review, a Waterfront Program Consistency Assessment Form has been adopted as part of the consistency law. See Appendix B, Waterfront Program Consistency Assessment Form.

Thus, the amended zoning and site plan review regulations together with the local consistency law provide a comprehensive means of implementing all applicable coastal policies by requiring all proposed actions within the waterfront area to be consistent with the policies and purposes of the LWRP.

Floodplain Regulation

A local ordinance to prevent flood damage in the flood zones in Whitehall was adopted in 1980. The general purpose of this local ordinance was to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas by provisions designed:

- a. To protect human life and health;
- b. To minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects;
- c. To minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public;
- d. To minimize prolonged business interruptions;
- e. To minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, telephone and sewer lines, street and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard;

- f. To help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of flood prone areas in such a manner as to minimize future flood blight areas;
- g. To ensure that potential buyers are notified the property is in an area of special flood hazard; and
- h. To ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their activities.

The local ordinance incorporated the Flood Insurance Rate Maps promulgated by the Federal Insurance Administration and satisfied all of the basic floodplain management guidelines established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). In particular, these regulations provided for the administration of Development Permits (by the Director of Buildings and Assessment) for development in all special flood hazard areas, established general and specific construction standards for such development and included provisions for hearing and deciding upon appeals and variances.

This local ordinance enforces the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program by establishing development controls to operate in the flood hazard areas noted in Section II - Inventory and Analysis. Such controls implement floodplain management aspects of Policies 11, 14 and 17 (see Section Three). Erosion provisions of these Policies are not covered by these floodplain regulations.

C. Other Actions Required of Both Public and Private Sectors

In addition to the regulatory measures described in the preceding section, several other public and private actions will be necessary to assure implementation of the LWRP.

Local Government Actions

Officials and staff will need to undertake the following actions and activities in order to implement various elements of the LWRP.

Grant Applications

To make the projects described in Section IV a reality, several State and Federal grant applications will have to be prepared by the Village or its consultant. See the "Financial Resources" discussion below for details on the financing of each proposed project.

Coordination

A significant level of coordination with various Federal, State and local government agencies, community organizations and the private sector will be required to carry out the LWRP in an effective manner. Such coordination involves the following:

- a. Consulting with agency representatives regarding grants, technical assistance, regulatory and permit considerations and general policies. (Involved agencies

and consultation activities are discussed in greater detail in Section Six and Seven, respectively);

- b. Soliciting the cooperation and involvement of service-oriented community groups in promotional activities for waterfront revitalization;
- c. Generating active participation of waterfront business owners to optimize the alignment of public and private revitalization, development and tourism interests.

The LWRP's emphasis on consultation (described in Section Seven) and public/private cooperation illustrates the need for effective coordination. By stressing coordination as a public implementation action, its importance is recognized as essential to the implementation process.

Secure Easements

A property survey and easements, or negotiated arrangements, will need to be secured for properties bordering the Champlain Canal where the trail is proposed to pass through.

Site Remediation

A privately-owned hazardous waste site exists within 500 feet of the Champlain Canal. The Poultney Street Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Site (ID#558019) requires remediation including excavation and removal of contaminated sub-surface soils, groundwater monitoring, and institutional controls before any new development can occur on the site.

D. Local Management Structure and Procedures for Reviewing Proposed Projects

1. Roles of Involved Parties

The Mayor and the Village Board shall be, respectively, the local official and the lead agency responsible for this waterfront program. The Village shares a code enforcement officer with the Town of Whitehall. All proposals are forwarded to Washington County Planner for County Review. More specifically, the roles of these and other parties are as follows:

Mayor

Provide overall program supervision and management.

Village Board Members

Execute program responsibilities, in coordination with Mayor, for such items as coordination with volunteer and private organizations, and local government cooperation.

Village Clerk

Handle correspondence, communications and record keeping for city government actions pertaining to the waterfront.

Village Comptroller

Serve as chief fiscal officer in providing fiscal management for city government actions pertaining to the waterfront.

Director of Community Development

Work with Mayor, village departments and boards, and the public in providing direction in the executive of program policies, uses and projects. Execute community development and housing rehabilitation programs pertaining to the waterfront.

Planning Board

Provide advice and assistance to the Village Board and the public in prioritizing program projects and activities; provide input to the Village Board on the compatibility of waterfront activities with program policies and objectives; review and approve site plans for new development within the waterfront; participate in consistency reviews in conjunction with lead agency reviews.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Hear and render decisions on variances, special permits, and appeals from any requirement or determination made by the Code Enforcement Officer pertaining to the waterfront.

Village Consulting Engineer

Provide technical coordination and assistance as needed on program uses and projects.

Code Enforcement Officer

Provide initial review of proposed coastal area development proposals to determine compliance with the city zoning ordinance; work with City Planning Board and lead agency in expediting all necessary reviews; issue permits; and enforce zoning ordinance.

Director of Public Works

Manage, maintain and operate all public works and physical properties pertaining to the waterfront.

Recreation Commission

Provide assistance to the Mayor and Village Board in planning and executing recreational programs and development of recreational facilities pertaining to the waterfront.

Whitehall Chamber of Commerce

Coordinate merchant and private sector involvement in the LWRP, assist in soliciting donations for smaller waterfront projects, and promote public and private interest and support for revitalization activities.

2. Compliance Procedures

In general, the Village's procedures for assuring compliance with the coastal policies of its LWRP consist of the administration and enforcement of zoning, the consistency

law, and other local laws applicable to its waterfront, in conjunction with the environmental reviews required by the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) and its implementing regulations (6 NYCRR, Park 617). The basic premise of compliance is that legally, the Village should be no less consistent with its LWRP than State and Federal agencies are already required to be by their respective laws.

The amendments to the zoning ordinance for site plan review will provide consistency with the LWRP for local approvals of private actions. Each action by the city to fund, undertake, permit or otherwise approve a project or activity in its waterfront will be processed as follows:

Initial Review

Following regulations listed in 6 NYCRR, Part 617.5, the Code Enforcement Officer will review each project or activity in consultation with the applicant and/or other involved parties. This review will identify:

- All village actions required (permits, funding or approvals) and the board, department, officer or other body responsible for the actions;
- Whether the actions are Type I or Unlisted Actions and therefore subject to the provisions of SEQRA;
- Whether the actions might conflict with the LWRP; and
- Any other agencies that may be involved.

Advice and Assistance

The Code Enforcement Officer will advise the applicant and/or other involved parties regarding the initial review, required forms and further procedures to be followed and will provide assistance in the preparation of:

- Village application forms (if applicable);
- Environmental Assessment Forms (EAF's) for all Type I and Unlisted Actions; and
- Coastal Assessment Forms (CAF's) for actions subject to SEQR involving permits, funding or approvals from State or Federal agencies.

2. SEQR and LWRP Compliance Review

Upon receipt of completed EAF's (and CAF's, if applicable) and, if appropriate, village application forms, the Code Enforcement Officer will immediately initiate procedures pertaining to lead agency designation and determination of significance in accordance with 6 NYCRR Parts 617.6 and 617.7. In the majority of cases, where the impact of the project is primarily local, the Village Board will serve as lead agency. At the same time, if any actions are determined in the initial review to involve potential conflicts with the policies and proposes of the LWRP, they will be referred to the Planning Board for compliance review as follows:

- The Planning Board will, within thirty (30) days from the date of referral, prepare a written report to the lead agency describing specific conflicts involved, if any, and recommend approval, approval with modifications (to mitigate the conflicts) or denial (to avoid the conflicts).

- In making such recommendations, the Planning Board will consult, as needed with the applicant, the lead agency, and/or other involved agencies.
- If the action would be subject to site plan approval by the Planning Board, then that board shall integrate the compliance review with the site plan review procedures to the maximum extent possible, provided that the provisions of SEQRA have been satisfied before taking action on such site plans.
- All other boards, departments, officers or other bodies shall include the Planning Board's LWRP compliance review recommendations as well as SEQR determinations in rendering decisions, whether taking actions as lead agencies or as involved agencies.

3. Federal and State Consistency

The process for local review of State and Federal actions for consistency with the LWRP will generally follow the process for compliance review, except that in all cases the City Council will make the final decision in judging the consistency of such actions. Specifically, the following procedures will be followed.

Initial Review

The Director of Buildings and Assessment reviews the proposed actions in comparison to the LWRP. Based on such review, the Director of Buildings and Assessment will:

- Advise the City Council as to whether the proposed actions are consistent, inconsistent or of uncertain consistency.
- Refer actions that are or may be inconsistent to the Planning Board for its review and comment.

Consistency Review

Within thirty (30) days of such referrals, the Planning Board will prepare a written report for the City Council describing specific reasons for inconsistency, if any.

Consistency Advisement

The City Council, with due consideration given to the Planning Board's written report, will advise the Secretary of State and the particular State or Federal agency involved of any actions it deems inconsistent with the LWRP and the reasons therefore.

Specific guidelines on how consistency reviews will be coordinated for State and Federal agency actions are listed in detail in Appendix C, "Guidelines for Notification and Review of State Agency Actions Where Local Waterfront Revitalization Programs Are in Effect," and Appendix D, "Procedural Guidelines for Coordinating NYS Department of State and Local Waterfront Revitalization Program Consistency Review of Federal Agency Actions."

E. Financial Resources

There are three main funding implications associated with implementation of the Village's LWRP. These are the administrative costs involved in the continued local

management of the LWRP, the capital and revenue costs involved in project implementation, and the costs related to maintenance and upkeep of projects.

Management costs associated with the administration of the LWRP must be budgeted by the Village and financed out of general revenues. This involves creating a separate budget item for the administration of the LWRP by the Planning Board to cover the costs of consistency reviews, production of an annual report, and general administrative and clerical needs.

The second funding implication is the capital and revenue costs involved in project implementation. The Village of Whitehall has identified a number of LWRP projects designed to address and implement many of the LWRP Policies identified in Section III. These projects are discussed in detail in Section IV.

Although the Village will need to take the lead in achieving the implementation of these projects, it is unlikely that the Village will be able to provide the necessary financial resources to implement any of these projects without seeking financial assistance from other entities or as part of a public/private partnership.

A key element in the building of successful implementation partnerships is the availability of a local match from the Village. This match is essential in leveraging public or private sector money. The local match generally can take a number of forms, including funding by the Village, the provision of materials or Village public works labor, and the use of volunteers and staff time to provide a monetary equivalent. It is also advantageous to try to link LWRP project implementation to other capital improvement work that is going on within the Village, such as a development proposal or public water supply project, stretching the benefits of limited public funds and achieving multiple objectives. In terms of providing a monetary match, the Village Board should consider setting up a budget item that would dedicate funds for the implementation of LWRP projects. This item could be used to fund small-scale projects or parts of projects.

The Village should evaluate the requirements necessary to obtain monies from a variety of existing environmental response and economic development programs. Some of the available grant programs to address contaminated properties require a percentage contribution from the Village or private donors. Government funding programs include:

DOS Waterfront Program

The Coastal Resources Division works with local governments, businesses, community organizations, and citizens to improve their waterfronts. Technical, planning, and financial assistance are available on an annual basis for both the planning and project elements of an individual program.

The New York State Clean Water/Clean Air Bond

Environmental Conservation Law Article 56. Project eligibility should be evaluated under different Bond Act funds, including the Safe Drinking Water Fund (Title 2), the Clean Water Fund (Title 3), and the Municipal Environmental Restoration Project Fund (Title 5).

The New York State Environmental Protection Fund

Environmental Conservation Law Article 54. This fund provides assistance for park, recreation and historic preservation projects.

The Federal "Superfund"

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). This fund provides the Federal government with monies to implement short term "removal" actions, or longer term remedial investigation and remediation of hazardous waste sites listed on the National Priorities List (NPL). The NYSDEC must request that a site be listed on the NPL. This fund was used to implement limited clean-up activities at the former Diamond International site;

Federal Environmental Response and Spill Compensation Fund

Navigation Law Article 12. This fund is available to States to implement investigation and clean-up of petroleum discharges and removal of underground storage tanks. The fund is also available to compensate injured parties, including municipalities which have lost revenue as a result of the discharge of petroleum;

New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation ("EFC")

There are several State Revolving Fund ("SRF") programs which may be available to Ogdensburg or interested private sector investors for development of the contaminated properties.

Clean Water State Revolving Fund for Water Pollution Control

Financing is available to respond to non-point source pollution projects. Non-point source refers to water pollution from diffuse sources that are not directly related to a piped discharge. Examples include remediation of contamination from leaking underground storage tanks or collection and treatment of road runoff, and water body restoration such as stream bank stabilization, drainage erosion and sediment control.

Industrial Finance Program

Provides low interest loans to private businesses for environmental improvement capital projects, including brownfield site remediation and solid waste management.

The State Revolving Fund Program

This is one of the largest environmental infrastructure financing programs in the nation. Three primary loans are available through EFC: Bond-Funded Loans, Financial Hardship Loans, (including interest-free long-term), and Interest-Free Short-Term (up to two years).

Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

This program provides direct funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for activities that support the reuse of industrial sites. CDBG funds are used for grants, loans, loan guarantees and technical assistance activities. Since 2002, New York State has administered the project.

Section 108 Federal Loan Guarantees

This HUD program may also be applicable to the industrial site reuse effort. Eligible projects include rehabilitation of obsolete structures, property acquisition and site preparation activities that could include removal of contamination from a property.

New York State and U.S. Departments of Transportation

Grants and loans may be available pursuant to the DOT Transportation Enhancement Program/Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA). (Industrial Access Program Chap 54 of Laws of 1985 - appropriations bill.)

New York State Empire State Development Corporation (EDC)

Program grants and loans are available as incentives to attract commercial development and may be applicable to Brownfield development.

U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration

Grants are available to assist economic development projects.

New York State Nonpoint Source Implementation Grants Program

The NYSDEC has a grant program under its Nonpoint Source Implementation Grants Program. The Program provides grants for up to fifty percent (50%) of the cost of eligible nonpoint source water pollution assessment, planning and abatement projects.

Private Foundation Grants

The Environmental Grantmakers Association, 1290 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 3450 New York, New York, 10104 compiles a listing of hundreds of potential foundations and trusts which may provide funding assistance to creative environmental/economic development initiatives.

NYS Council on Arts

The New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) is a state funding agency that provides support for activities of nonprofit arts and cultural organizations in New York State and helps to bring artistic programs of high quality to the citizens of the state. NYSCA achieves its goals primarily through its grant making activity. It offers grants and support services to the field through a number of discipline and field related programs.

Adirondack Economic Development Corporation

Provides access to capital for start-up and existing businesses located in and around the Adirondack Park. Programs combine financing and investments, entrepreneurial training and small business development, and assistance to communities to create multi-level economic opportunities within the region.

Friends of the North Country

Provides financing and loans and other business assistance throughout the Adirondack/North Country Region. Also raises funds for community programs and projects for planned development, resource protection and grassroots community advocacy.

Small Business Development Center

Provides advice and training for business start-ups and existing businesses, including the preparation of business plans and associated financial documents. This center is partnership program between the U.S. Small Business Administration and Plattsburgh State University.

AmeriCorps Program

This domestic Peace Corps engages more than 50,000 Americans in intensive, results-driven service each year. We're teaching children to read, making neighborhoods safer, building affordable homes, and responding to natural disasters through more than 1000 projects. Most AmeriCorps members are selected by and serve with projects like Habitat for Humanity, the American Red Cross, and Boys and Girls Clubs, and many more local and national organizations. Others serve in AmeriCorps*VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) and AmeriCorps*NCCC (the National Civilian Community Corps).

Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board

Provides advice and low-interest loans for qualifying business start-ups and existing businesses, including the preparation of business plans and associated financial documents. This center is partnership program between the U.S.EDA.