



DIVISION OF PLANNING, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

ACTIVITY REPORT November 2022

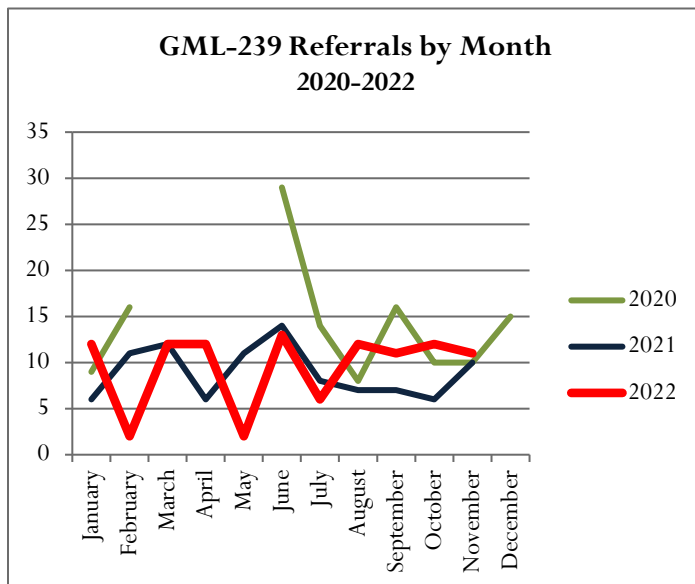
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I. PLANNING ACTIVITY

Land Use Planning & Technical Assistance:

- **GML-239 Referrals**
 - 11 referrals received, with actions in 7 municipalities; the trend seen on the last few months of referrals increasing over the past year continues – 46 v. 30 for the period of August through November



GML-239 Referrals, September 2022					
Date Received	Date Requested	Project Name	Action Type	Referral ID #	Legislator
11/9/2022	12/12/2022	Rock Ridge Ave Lot Improvement	Subdivision Review	MON22-07	Alan Sorensen
11/9/2022	12/12/2022	Fraser BH LLC	Subdivision Review	MON22-06	Alan Sorensen
11/9/2022	12/12/2022	Monticello Community Housing	Subdivision Review	MON22-05	Alan Sorensen
11/3/2022	11/8/2022	Catskill Brewery Annex	Area Variance	ROC22-05	Michael Brooks
11/14/2022	12/14/2022	Congregation Khal Krasna	Site Plan Review	THO22-12	Alan Sorensen
11/9/2022		School Building	Site Plan Review	BLO22-04	Nicholas Salomone
11/7/2022	12/6/2022	Town of Cochection Comprehensive Plan Update 2022	Adoption/Amendment of Comprehensive Plan	COC22-05	Robert Doherty
10/31/2022	11/15/2022	Raed Shami minor subdivision	Subdivision Review	DEL22-01	George Conklin III
11/2/2022	11/10/2022	Westbourne Phase 2 only	Site Plan Review	FAL22-22	Joseph Perrello
11/14/2022	12/14/2022	Rezoning of Hurleyville Parcels	Adoption/Amendment of Zoning Map	FAL22-23	Joseph Perrello

- **Land Use, Strategic and Comprehensive Planning**
 - *Countywide Resiliency Plan:*
 - Ongoing work in the Existing Conditions Inventory phase -- stakeholder interviews, coordination of data transfer/sharing
 - *Housing Plan:*
 - Plan adopted by Legislature
 - Staff presentations on the Plan at the Human Rights Commission's Senior Summit (11/9) and upcoming Sullivan Renaissance virtual event (12/7)
 - Ongoing follow-up to engage partners for implementation
 - *Neversink Watershed Management Plan:*
 - Advisory committee being assembled by project partner Friends of the Upper Delaware (FUDR)
 - Public engagement plan nearing completion, including dates and presenters for public events

Recreation, Quality of Life & Tourism-based Economic Development

- **Sullivan O&W Rail Trail**
 - Trail buildout and improvements: Neversink Crossing
 - Initial Project Proposal (IPP) and Smart Growth Checklist from NYS DOT signed and returned; NYS DOT to proceed with endangered species and other environmental reports
 - Draft design report expected first week of December
 - Ongoing coordination with Coordinated project requirements with consultants, Town, State & Federal funding sources; project bidding now estimated late spring/early summer 2023
 - Trail buildout and improvements: Parksville North
 - Revised project phasing plan, in conjunction with Alta and the Town of Liberty, to allow utilization of anticipated grant funding
 - Trail buildout and improvements:
 - Alta proposed work order for design of on-road connections still pending
 - Outreach and events committee
 - 2023 events placed on website
 - Sullivan Renaissance spearheaded ¼ page ad for the 2023 SCVA guide
- **New County Park Project (Callicoon)**
 - Finalized contract for National Fish and Wildlife Fund grant, which will support:
 - Design and permitting of parking and access area
 - Invasive speciation remediation
 - Signage
 - Received permission from TPL to post the park plan report on the County website
 - Further work on announcement and website pending security gate installation

Highland Access Improvements

- Work commenced and will continue through early December.
- DEC permit extended from 11/30 through 12/15, after which the site will be cordoned off for vehicle access through the winter months until the guiderail, pavement and signage is installed next spring.
- All the disturbed slopes have been seeded and stabilized with erosion control matting.

Community Development & Revitalization

- **2022 Plans & Progress Program**
 - Ongoing work processing project vouchers and reimbursements
- **Sullivan County Land Bank Corporation (SCLBC)**
 - SCLB Board received presentation for proposed use of the Broadway Theater as a qualified film production facility, with community uses such as indoor sports, supported during down times. Applicant to provide detailed proposal.

- The Cheap Old Houses website team toured 91 Chestnut Street and promoted the building's availability on its website and social media. Many inquiries were received as a result, causing the Board to extend the RFP deadline several weeks.
- Ongoing work to evaluate and respond to applications for vacant lot purchases
- Completed submission of EPA Brownfield Assessment grant application
- Work on the strategic plan RFP deferred as disposition activity took priority
- **CDBG Housing**
 - RUPCO screening applicants; will proceed with subrecipient awards once contract modification is completed
- **Other**
 - Submitted County application to EPA Brownfield program for funding to establish a revolving loan fund for remediation
 - Preparing a detailed monitoring report on the recently completed NYS Main Street project.
 - Responded to inquiries and provided technical assistance to property owners seeking funding for redevelopment

Economic Development

- **CDGB grants**
 - Ongoing work to process existing grants.
 - Ongoing working with special needs education center on resubmission. Public hearing scheduled for 12/15.
- **Revolving Loan Fund**
 - Received two new applications from farm operations seeking to expand

II. OFFICE OF SUSTAINABLE ENERGY (OSE)

Projects

- **Facilities Master Plan**
 - An initial draft of the Facilities Master Plan has been reviewed internally by staff
 - Presentation of the final draft report to the Legislature and public anticipated for January.
- **"Clean Path"**
 - Ongoing work to review documentation on the planned "Clean Path" high voltage transmission line. Monitoring opportunities and process for obtaining community benefits.

- Climate Smart Recertification
 - Work continues on the County's recertification of its status as a Bronze-certified Climate Smart Community. This includes generating concise descriptions of qualifying climate actions, assembling key data and supporting documents, and updating information about ongoing County initiatives.
- SUNY Sullivan Energy Project
 - Construction phase of the SUNY Sullivan energy project remains on track for completion by 12/31/2022, with the exception of window replacements (likely to take place in the late Spring of 2023). There is no change to the final cost of the project to the County.

Public, Agency, and NYS Engagement

- Received documentation from Hughes Energy for use in OSE's review of the company's autoclave technology as a solid waste solution. Staff continues its review of the documentation but notes that there are still several outstanding items that must be addressed in order to satisfy and answer the questions posed by members of the community, as well as to be fully responsive to the NYS DEC's scoping document developed for a similar project in Delaware County.
- Met with DPW Buildings Engineer to discuss the upcoming housing gateway project. We will be looking for opportunities to maximize energy efficiency and improve sustainability and comfort of the facility while identifying grant opportunities to offset those costs.
- Participated in an interview with WJFF outlining new role/responsibilities involved with the recent appointment as chair of the NYSAC Climate Action Committee.
- Investigating and preparing materials to present information on Extended Producer Responsibility laws as well as legislation to reduce packaging. It is anticipated that a webinar will be hosted in January and available to NYSAC members. Work being conducted in partnership with NYSAC and representatives from Niagara County.

Administrative

- Participated in reviewed of responses to the RFP for design and engineering services for County Parks. See more below, under Parks.
- OSE Staff completed corporate compliance training.
- Internal data being compiled for use in implementation of grants management software.

III. PARKS, RECREATION & BEAUTIFICATION

Park Planning and Management

- RFP for Design, Engineering and Permitting Services
 - Nine responses received and reviewed

- Four firms selected for interviews, which have been scheduled for early December
- Trails and other improvements
 - Received confirmation from the NYS Parks Department Snowmobile Unit that grant funding has once again been approved for 14 of the 39 miles of trails in northern Sullivan County that are maintained by the Sullivan County Snowmobile Trail Association.
 - Park staff have been working on completing the hiking trail Beach Loop at Lake Superior State Park.
 - Have been meeting with staff from NYS Parks and PIPC regarding receiving approval for the building of the trails on the backside of Lake Superior.
 - Eagle Scout completed installation of two benches along the D&H Canal for his Eagle Scout project. The benches look great.

Parks & Rec Events

- The Sullivan County Historical Society is sponsoring their annual Open House and Theme Tree Exhibition on Saturday, December 3rd.

IV. GRANTS

- Participating in group working on Amplifund set up.
- Ongoing grant monitoring and administration.

V. AGRICULTURE & FARMLAND PROTECTION

- CCE October Ag and Food systems report attached.