

**MADISON COUNTY PLANNING, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL
AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Meeting Agenda - Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Call Meeting to Order

The Board convened at 9:30 a.m. in the Supervisors' Chambers, second floor, County Office Building, Wampsville, NY. All Supervisors were present.

Attendees: Cindy Edick, Mark Scimone, Joseph Wicks, Nick Sidles, Melissa Felton, Loren Corbin, Emily Burns, Kaytlynn Lynch, Kipp Hicks, Pete Walrod, Dana Krueger, Candy Morgan, Charles Schmet, Melissa During, Ellen Bowe, Jocelyn Gavitt, Katie Livingston, Tom Daviau, Larkin Podsiedlik, Matt Roberts, Jim Cunningham, Sam Field, Chelsea Scheuerman, Joanne Miller, Keith Lumis.

Approval of Minutes

1. May 27, 2026 Final Minutes

On motion by Supervisor During, seconded by Supervisor Daviau, the motion was made to Approve. The motion was Passed.

Sales Tax Update - Cindy Edick

1. Sales Tax thru June 15, 2026

Cindy reported the continuing positive trend, well ahead of last year. An extra distribution will be received at the end of the month on June 30th and again on July 1st.

Real Property Update - Ryan Chaires

Ryan was not present today. Cindy went on to say that 51 parcels are currently on the list for September's foreclosure auction.

Career Center Update - Ellen Bowe

Ellen reported continuing work on the Summer Youth Employment Training Programing. They're planning to place between 55–60 youths this summer at various job sites!

Some of the projects the students will be working to complete:

1. Cleaning up Canal Street going into Canastota
2. Lavender Farm: Cazenovia; one day
3. Town of Georgetown: Cemetery clean up
4. Village of Canastota: baseball fields, Canal paths
5. Town of Sullivan: Sullivan Park—clean trails, lay mulch, etc.
6. Brookfield fair
7. Chittenango Boat Museum: assist with beautification

8. Chenango Canal Path in Bouckville; clean up path

Some of the youths will be placed with private employers for the summer; these are students 16 years of age and older.

IDA Update - Kipp Hicks

Kipp Hicks reported an update on activities with the IDA. He is working with a boutique soap manufacturer who is outgrowing home production, and is looking for commercial space. He has introduced the owners to the Microenterprise Grant funding program. Clearpath for Veterans is looking into major changes to help them serve the veteran population and also assist with fundraising opportunities. Potential for URI funding from NYS. Met with SEPAC and the TDO to explore future growth at the Harbor Lights Business Park. He has another prospect who is also exploring land at the business park, and is working with town officials to connect people. The IDA board has terminated the Johnson Brothers Lumber PILOT. An upcoming meeting with ESD representatives exploring funding and opportunities for additional business park sites in the County. Busy planning for a familiarization tour with Camoin & Associates as work continues on the Economic Development Strategic Plan for the County. Stakeholder engagement forums and focus group meetings are being planned for July 20 and 21st. The CNY REDC held a board retreat exploring opportunities for the Achieve grant competition. We are hopeful that a proposal for the redevelopment of Cazenovia College could be in the mix – last year's focus was the Syracuse Regional Market, which failed to win the competition.

CCE Update - Larkin Podsiedlik/Katie Livingston

Katie was happy to report today that Open Farm Day Prep continues. July 25th & 26th will host many options for folks to enjoy around the county, Passports are coming out in early July. May workshops included World of Dahlias and Roadside Stand Success. Roadside Stand Success had 13 attendees, and participants shared that they learned helpful information on ag districts, zoning, processing requirements, social media, marketing, and insurance. CCE had 20 1:1 farmer client contact in May on pests and growing problems, grants, irrigation, business plans, and farmers markets.

CCE also received a Regional Navigator Grant to support farmland viability and will host a full-day workshop this winter on farmland preservation and farmland succession to keep farms in the county active.

The Colgate Intern, Tejas, has been surveying farmers' markets for barriers to buying local foods and is updating the Local Food Guide. Cornell Intern, Anna, is interviewing flower farmers, identifying pests, and will be working on field walks. Many specialty crop farms are adding cut flowers as a crop diversification strategy. In gardening and the environment, May was the completion of the six-week Seed to Supper program, with classes held in Hamilton and Canastota. 24 total graduates gained the skills to grow their own food to stretch food dollars and took home their own flats of vegetables to continue their gardens at home.

A food preservation series runs July—October. This helps people store their own garden crops and also purchase in bulk from local farmers.

A resolution is coming through Solid Waste to the full board in support of a DEC grant application that CCE is putting out to support climate resilience programming in Lincoln, Lenox, Oneida, and Stockbridge – priority communities, according to DEC. This will be focused on stormwater management and composting education in those communities.

Ag Ventures at the Fairgrounds planning is in full swing – it will be on opening day at the fairgrounds, with over 200 kids already registered, along with 10 stations from the Ag career and workforce. CCE is also taking over the old fish exhibit in the youth building, and it is going to be fantastic – please stop and see it at the fair!

PCD/HUB Update - Jocelyn Gavitt/Melissa Davis

Jocelyn reported that some of the Micro Enterprise awardees were not ready on time and were unable to take the awarded funds. Therefore, there are some funds available for last minute applicants to apply for.

PCD has been working with the Tri-County Micron Economic Committee regarding rural counties within the Micron region.

They've also been working with the county communities to find possible obtainable grant funds; Georgetown was awarded a grant to fund points for public access fishing.

Melissa Davis will be hosting a round table for business participation at the small business summit. Trying to collaborate with everyone. She's working to host a contractor class this winter.

Matt Roberts says Micron's impact is very underestimated, with 10,000 incoming jobs that could eventually turn into 50,000 jobs essentially replacing all the lost jobs over the last 20 years. He went on to say that the communities around the site are not interested in further developing the area, leaving the eastern area for development of housing in the Madison County area. Matt has some information to share with Melissa and the PCD from the government, GSA, and the Department of War. These contacts could help local folks get involved in the coming contracts to restore USA manufacturing. Matt thinks this is a once in a generation opportunity.

Tourism Update - Kaytlynn Lynch

Kaytlynn was happy to report that last week, New York became home to its first state-designated Underground Railroad byway, a 176-mile route from Auburn to Niagara Falls honoring Harriet Tubman and Freedom Seekers– the first phase of a planned 550-mile border-to-border heritage corridor connecting Maryland to Canada.

Many of you may recall the work in 2025 to get 10 resolutions completed with the County, the City of Oneida, and several of our Towns and Villages, toward this Tubman

Byway project. Without your support and the hard work and dedication of Dot Willsey and Tourism's Board President, Nell Ziegler, this would not have been possible. However, due to several resolutions still needed in both Onondaga and Oneida counties, we unfortunately were not able to be a part of this first phase of the state-designated byway. We are hopeful for phase two. Phase two will extend the byway from Auburn east through 14 additional counties to Manhattan and the New Jersey border, creating a contiguous 550-mile border-to-border corridor. Phase two designation legislation is proposed for the 2027 legislative session. Cultural heritage travelers, the byway's core audience, spend an average of \$1,182 per trip in local communities.

This year Tourism has been working in partnership with Matt Urtz on some special America250 projects. The Tourism office is the partner organization with Madison County Government for America250 funding via the New York State Department of Education. So far, we've received a \$13,500 installment of the \$15,000 allocation provided to us by NYS. Going into this celebratory year and time, Matt and Kaytlynn agreed very early on that this was Oneida Nation's story to tell. Being an Oneida woman herself, Kaytlynn through her Turtle Clan grandmother and father, she appreciates the opportunity to partner with the Nation in a new way this year. Matt and staff from the Tourism office, along with Madison-Oneida BOCES, are planning a teacher training, focusing on 4th, 7th, and 11th grades, at Oneida Nation's Mary C. Winder Community Center on August 7. This full-day training will include onsite teacher training at the Community Center, Fort Stanwix, and the Oriskany Battlefield State Historic Site. A screening of the Nation's film: People of the Standing Stone: The Oneida Nation, The War of Independence, and The Making of America will be shown, followed by discussion and a sampling of traditional Haudenosaunee foods. Then this fall across 16 days, participating teachers will have an opportunity to bring their classes on a special field trip experience to Oneida Nation's Shako:wi Cultural Center, Fort Stanwix, and Oriskany Battlefield.

Visitor Insights

When diving into some high level visitor insights, in the first 6 months of 2026, we've seen a 10% increase overall in out-of-state visitors as compared to the first half of 2025. We're currently sitting at 48% of visitors traveling to us from out-of-state.

And when looking across our 3 key spending categories for the year so far:

Overnight accommodations see 85% of spending coming from visitors from over 50+ miles away.

Restaurants see 59% of spending coming from Madison County residents and 41% coming from a mix of visitors from both within and outside a 50-mile radius.

And retail sees 72% of spending from our residents, with the other 28% coming from that mix of visitors mentioned before.

BUY Madison - Samantha Field

Sam shared the first Women Farmers showcase for the year, featuring The Corner Lot Farm Store. Sam thanked Brandon, an intern, for helping to create the video. It was posted live just today.

MCPLUS - Update

Work is ongoing with this project, no new updates to share at this point. Milestone 1 invoices will be submitted for reimbursement to the consultant ECC this month.

Planning Update - Scott Ingmire

Scott and Jamie were unable to attend today's meeting. Therefore, Nick read Scott's notes for today:

Nick and Charles continue working with the Town of Sullivan on updating their comprehensive plan.

The Old Erie Canal Boat Float was held on June 13th, 2026. With great weather and over 300

Paddlers registered for the event ending with a "Folk Fest" at the Chittenango Landing Canal Boat Museum!

Planning is working together with the IDA and PCD to re-examine and reinvigorate space in the various business parks in Madison County with plans to work with NYS Empire State Development (ESD) on

Strategies and possible funding opportunities to retool our offerings and potentially look at new development sites in the County.

Finally, we received the Grant Disbursement Agreement (GDA) from Empire State Development for the MIP Broadband project. A team at the County has reviewed the document and are preparing all the necessary paperwork items to complete the process and send it to ESD for final approval.

Resolutions

1. Adopting the Inclusion of Certain Parcels of Predominately Agricultural Land in Certified Agricultural Districts

On motion by Supervisor Daviau, seconded by Supervisor Roberts, the motion was made to Approve. The motion was Passed.

2. Adopting the Recertification of Agricultural District 1C in the Towns of Cazenovia, Nelson, Eaton, Madison and DeRuyter

On motion by Supervisor During, seconded by Supervisor Krueger, the motion was made to Approve. The motion was Passed.

3. Resolution Calling for a Second Public Hearing for Pewter Spoon Cafe, Community Development Block Grant

On motion by Supervisor During, seconded by Supervisor Roberts, the motion was made to Approve. The motion was Passed.

4. Authorizing an Economic Development Loan

Add-on resolution: Melissa brought about this resolution to authorize the agreement between Madison County and Empire Long Distance corporation to include the Madison County Connect-All project.

On motion by Supervisor Krueger, seconded by Supervisor During, the motion was

made to Approve. The motion was Passed.

Other Committee Business

Preferred Agenda

Next Meeting

1. July 29, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. in the Supervisors Chambers

Adjourn

On motion by Supervisor During, seconded by Supervisor Daviau, the motion was made to Approve. The motion was Passed.