

open call
for
proposals

DRI / NYForward

1st public conversation
Village Hall
Sunday June 29th, 2025

PHOTO MONTAGE OF PROPOSALS SUBMITTED



AGENDA

This 1st community conversation is intended to talk about how we collaboratively build capacity to assemble a DRI / NY Forward application from a bottom-up, community-based, inclusive position. We will take a look at some explanatory NYS/DRI presentation slides mixed in with our own conversation slide topics.

TOPICS

- 1.What is the DRI / NYForward grant program?
- 2.What makes a strong application?
3. What proposals were submitted?
4. 1st steps needed
5. Who-What-When.....our collective talents/skills needed to proceed!



Agenda

1. What is the DRI / NYForward grant program?



WHAT ARE DRI & NYF?

- DRI and NYF strive to create active downtowns with a strong sense of place and a robust mix of uses that support and attract a diverse population of residents, workers and visitors.
 - **DRI communities:**
 - Typically represent larger geographical areas
 - Have a regional draw and are major employment centers
 - Consist of dense urban development with different transportation options
 - **NYF communities:**
 - Generally smaller communities or neighborhoods with a concentrated node or corridor of activity.
 - Usually have less dense development but are still compact, walkable, and have a distinct sense of place.



Downtown
Revitalization
Initiative

NY Forward

GOALS OF THE PROGRAMS



Create an active downtown with a strong sense of place



Attract new and diverse businesses and job opportunities for various skills and salaries



Enhance public spaces and cultural events for residents and visitors



Build a diverse population supported by diverse housing and employment opportunities



Grow the local property tax base



Provide amenities that support and enhance downtown living and quality of life



Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support resilient investments



Downtown Revitalization Initiative

NY Forward

TYPES OF ELIGIBLE PROJECTS



**New Development and/or
Rehabilitation of Existing
Downtown Buildings**

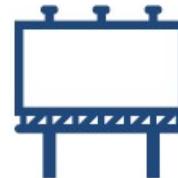


Small Project Grant Fund

- Façade Restoration
- Building Renovation
- Public Art
- Business Assistance



**Public Improvement
Projects**



Branding and Marketing



**Downtown
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NY Forward

Agenda

1. What makes a strong application?

WHAT MAKES A STRONG DRI/ NYF PROJECT

5. Recognizes the historic context of the downtown or project location
6. Involves synergies between different programs and stakeholders
7. Creates a sense of place that is unique to each community
8. Clearly adds activity and foot traffic to downtown
 - a. New housing units
 - b. New businesses and employment opportunities
 - c. New opportunities for visitors
 - d. New entertainment, leisure, arts, and culture activities
9. Does not just address deferred maintenance items



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WHAT MAKES A PROJECT IDEA INTO A VIABLE PROJECT?

How do project ideas become viable projects?

- The project proposer has the legal authority and capacity to implement a project
- Sufficient financing
- Clear project scope and plans and a detailed budget
- Site control



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Building a DRI / NY Forward

11 sections of the application to address

01

Letter from the
Mayor

02

Geographic Area &
Justification

03

Vision
Statement

04

Past Investment
&
Future Potential

05

Recent &
Impending Job
Growth

06

Quality of
Life

07

Supportive
Local Policies

08

Public
Support

09

Transformative
Project
Opportunities

10

Administrative
Capacity

11

Support
Letters

TODAY'S CONVERSATION POINTS

01

Letter from the
Mayor

02

Geographic Area &
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Trending Around Town

open call
for
proposals

DRI / NYForward

[Philmont Is Taking Action for an Exciting Process](#)

What would you do with \$10 million to transform downtown Philmont? Submit a proposal by June 20th. Date of Release: ...

**Do you have a proposal
for a capital
improvement project?**

**Visit the Village of
Philmont website to
engage with this
opportunity.**

Philmont.org

Agenda

3. What proposals were submitted?

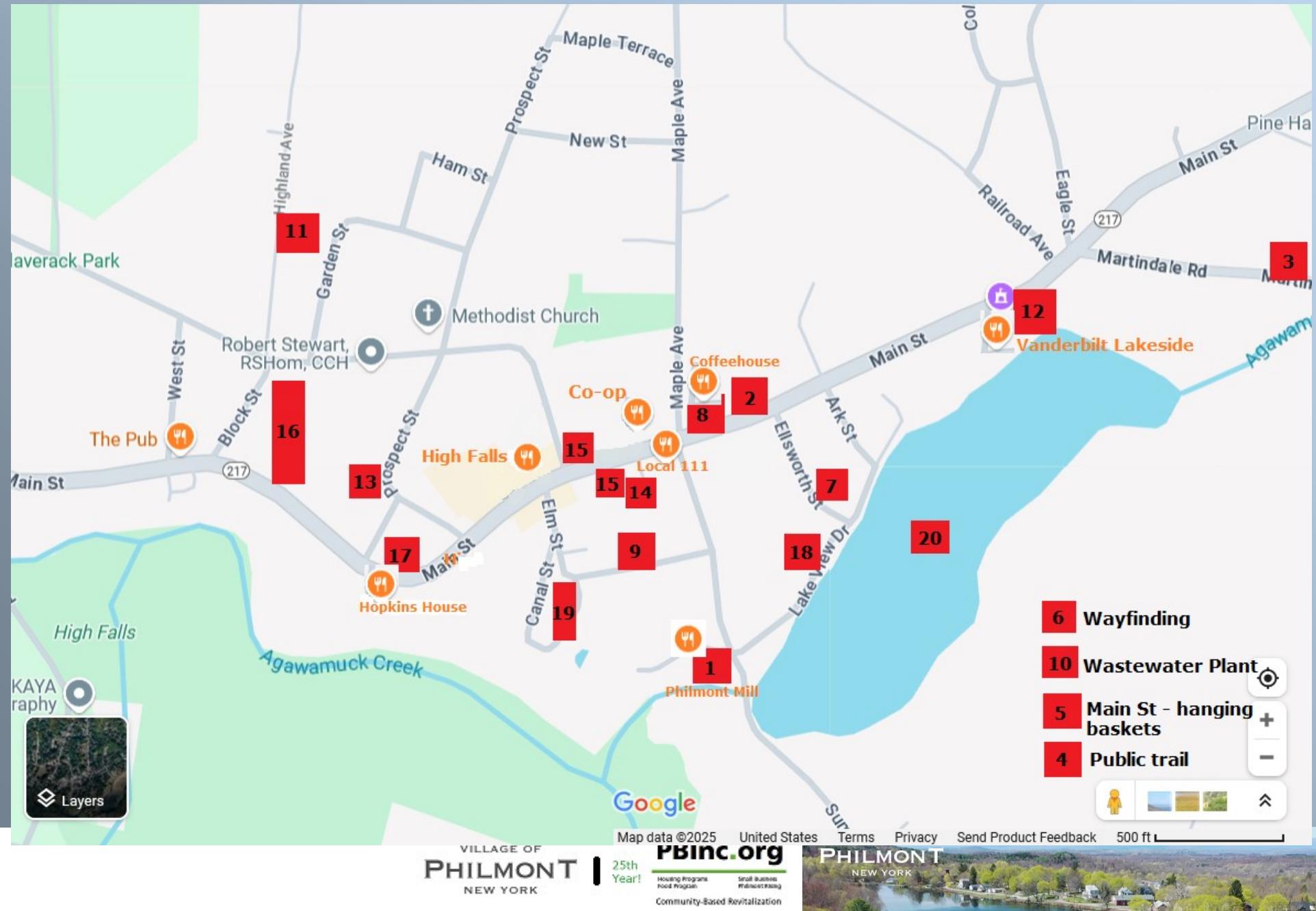
**So what came in by
June 20th, 2025?**



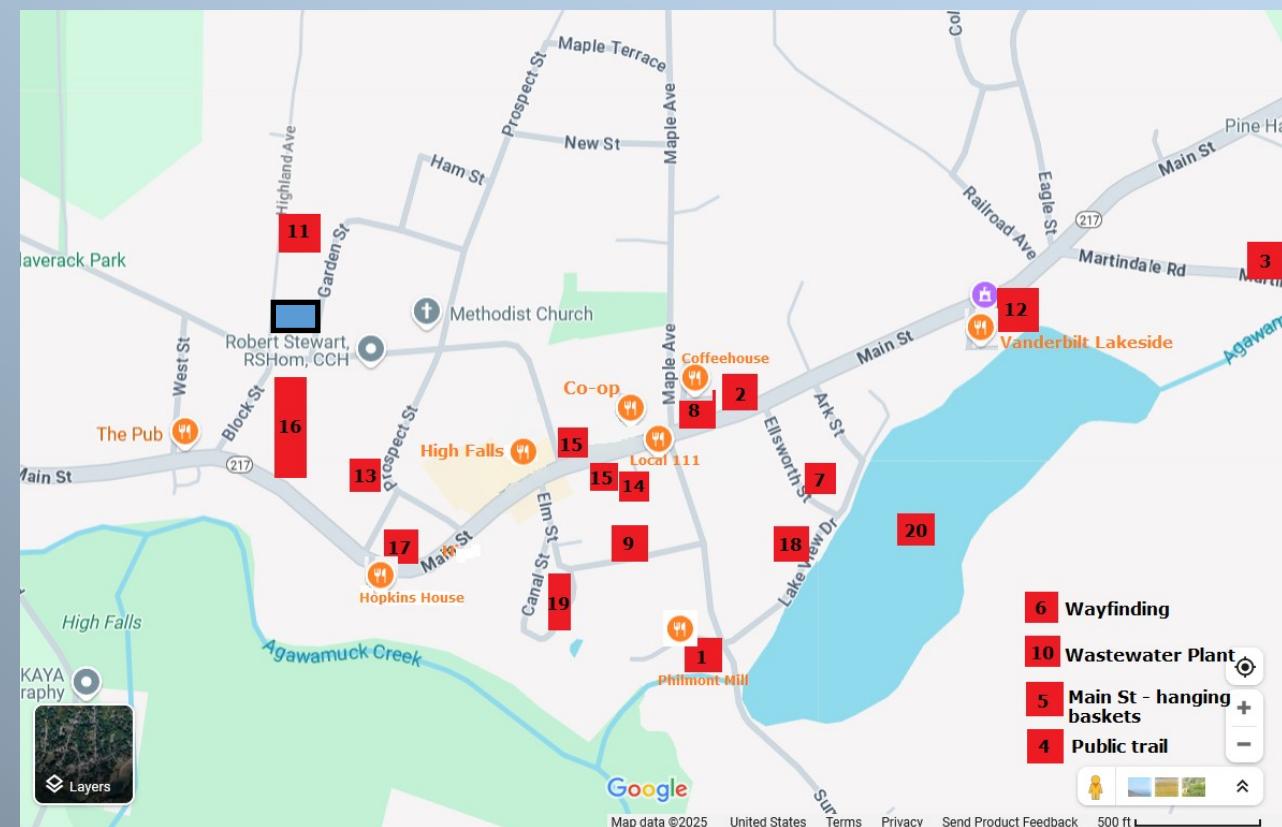
A total of 20 proposals



VERY rough hand drawn map to talk about what proposals came in.We will need professional map making as we proceed!



1. Philmont Mill
2. Village Office /Hall
3. Creek Houses (housing)
4. Public Nature Trail
5. Main St.—hanging baskets
6. Wayfinding
7. Guild House—artisan studios & housing
8. Coffeehouse & Roaster
9. Veteran housing & program (housing)
10. Village Wastewater Plant
11. Habitat for Humanity / potentially (housing)
12. Vanderbilt Lakeside (outdoor venue)
13. Artisan textile live/work (worker housing)
14. Philmont Public Library (new building)
15. TechHub—co-working + (worker housing)
16. Memorial Ballpark
17. Hopkins House (restaurant + housing)
18. Lakeside park, playground Community Center
19. History park, parking lot, public trail
20. Summit Lake restoration



REVIEW OF PROJECT INVENTORY

- **Public Improvement Projects**

2. Village Office /Hall
4. Public Nature Trail
5. Main St.—hanging baskets
6. Wayfinding
10. Village Wastewater Plant
14. Philmont Public Library (new building)
16. Memorial Ballpark
18. Lakeside park, playground Community Center
19. Canal St lots - History park, parking lot, public trail
20. Summit Lake restoration

REVIEW OF PROJECT INVENTORY

Private Projects (For Profit or Not-for-Profit)

- Rehabilitation and re-use of Existing Buildings

1. Philmont Mill

3. Creek Houses (housing)

8. Coffeehouse & Roaster

9. Veteran housing & program (housing)

12. Vanderbilt Lakeside (outdoor venue)

13. Artisan textile live/work (worker housing)

15. TechHub—co-working + (worker housing)

17. Hopkins House (restaurant + housing)

REVIEW OF PROJECT INVENTORY

Private Projects (For Profit or Not-for-Profit)

- **New Construction Projects on Developable Properties, Creating New Spaces**

7. **Guild House—artisan studios & housing**

11. **Habitat for Humanity (housing)**

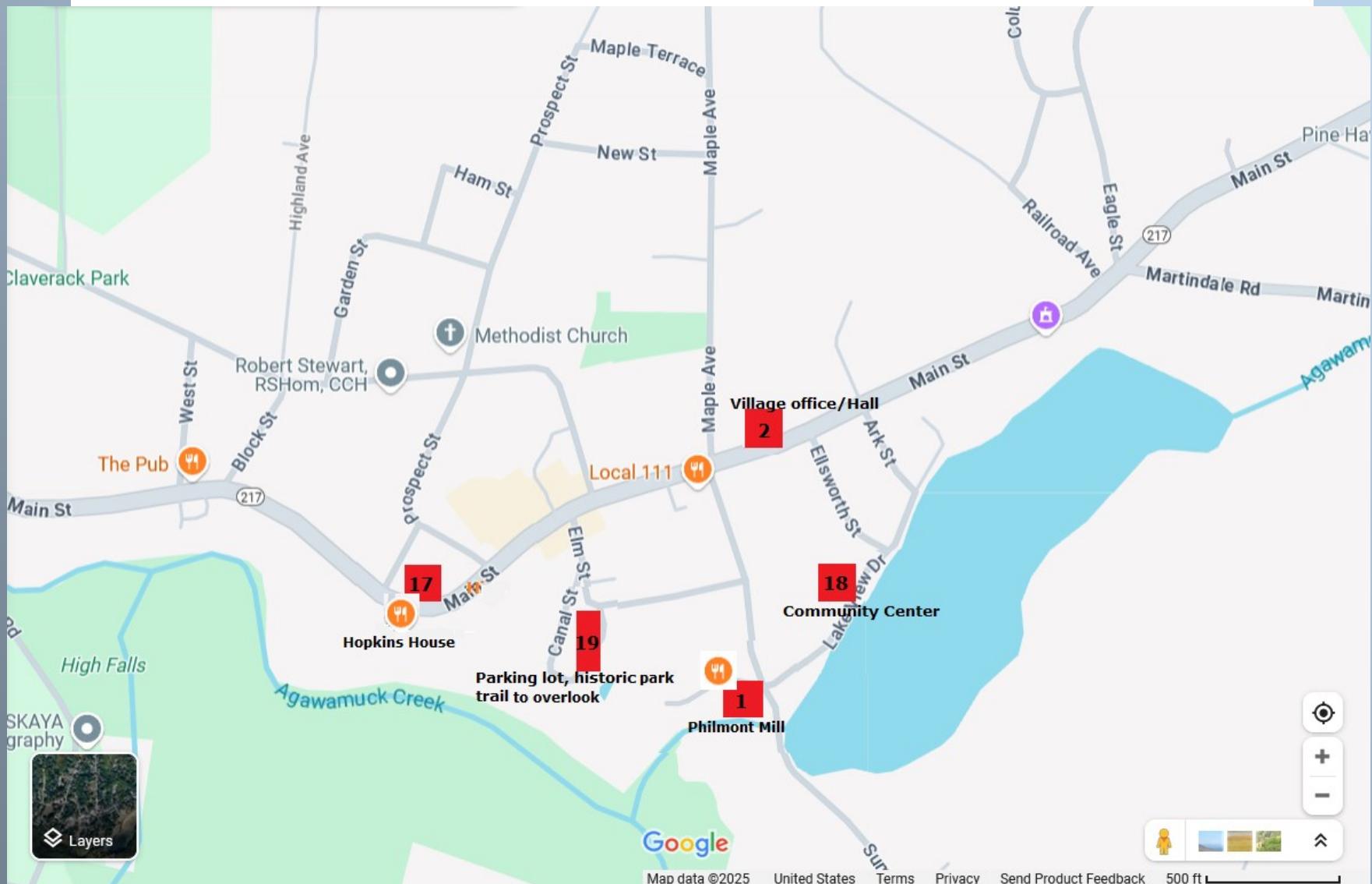


REVIEW OF PROJECT INVENTORY

- **Small Project Grant Fund**

Philmont's DRI / NYForward Area proposal can include a locally managed small project grant-based fund aimed at smaller downtown projects such as façade enhancements, building renovation improvements to commercial and mixed-use spaces, business assistance, and public art. These types of DRI / NYForward projects are intended to fund complementary and integral projects to municipal planning that would enhance the regional draw of Philmont's DRI / NYForward Area. In past DRI/NYForward rounds, the Small Project Grant Fund allocations have been up to a total of \$600,000 for the fund with up to 10% available for administration. The funds are generally managed by a municipality or nonprofit.

Projects that are shovel ready with PLANS, BUDGETS, & FINANCING



Agenda

4. 1st steps needed

These projects need further development to move them onto the DRI / NY Forward Shovel Ready map. Sponsors will need to develop next phases as below:

- 3. Creek Houses (housing) - **develop construction rehab estimates**
- 4. Public Nature Trail - **develop concept drawing & cost estimates**
- 5. Main St.—hanging baskets - **develop cost estimate**

- 7. Guild House—artisan studios + (housing) - **develop concept drawings, cost estimates**
- 8. Coffeehouse & Roaster - **develop business plan, pro-forma budgets, & rehab estimates**
- 9. Veteran housing (housing) - **develop business plan, feasibility study, & rehab estimates**

- 11. Habitat for Humanity / potentially / (housing) - **develop site control**
- 12. Vanderbilt Lakeside (outdoor venue) - **develop concept drawings & cost estimates**
- 13. Artisan textile live/work (worker housing) - **develop concept plans, & rehab estimates**
- 14. Philmont Public Library (new building) - **cost estimates & financing**
- 15. TechHub—co-working + (worker housing) - **develop site control, and rehab cost estimates**

Agenda

4. 1st steps needed - a) boundary map

DRI Round 7
2023 winner

Village of Waterloo

Finger Lakes
12 projects

Downtown
connected to canal
waterfront

Several years of
revitalization
efforts



Agenda

4. 1st steps needed - a) boundary map

Finger Lakes

Waterloo

The Village of Waterloo put forward a very strong application for DRI demonstrating thoughtful planning and ample administrative capacity with a variety of projects being put forth from engaged private investors and proactive municipal leadership. The Village of Waterloo's application and presentation illustrated that this investment would help to catalyze the transformation currently underway in this community while aligning with feedback from the public engagement activities.



Agenda

4. 1st steps needed b) A vision statement for the boundary

EXAMPLES:

DRI Vision

The Village of Waterloo will capitalize on its ideal location as a primary gateway to the Finger Lakes region along the Cayuga-Seneca Canal and the Route 5, 20 & 96 corridors, to propel the catalytic revitalization of its historic and walkable Downtown into a vital, vibrant urban center that attracts residents, businesses, and visitors by leveraging robust public-private partnerships and a passionate and productive spirit of collaboration.

NY Forward Vision

The Village of Kinderhook will be a gateway to the natural, cultural, and historic assets of Columbia County. We are committed to future-facing, sustainable development that respects and builds on our community's unique character and diversity, enhances the community's quality of life, and empowers the local economy.

Philmont's Designated BOA Plan Vision:

Summit Lake and its Watercourse is an area of historic innovation that connects natural beauty, diversity and an entrepreneurial spirit. It is a place that fosters collaboration and partnerships for people to pursue healthy and active lives; a place that celebrates history, personal growth, and connection to our land and water resources, all with an eye to the future.



Agenda

4. 1st steps needed **c) Working Group to be formed**

IMMEDIATE TASKS!

- Create

02
Geographic Area &
Justification

Boundary map

- Write

03
Vision
Statement

No more than
425 characters
with spaces



DRI / NY Forward RESOURCES

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:

WWW.NY.GOV/PROGRAMS/NY-FORWARD

WWW.NY.GOV/PROGRAMS/DOWNTOWN-REVITALIZATION-INITIATIVE

CHECK OUT DRI CASE STUDIES:

WWW.NY.GOV/DOWNTOWN-REVITALIZATION-INITIATIVE/DRI-FOCUS-CASE-STUDIES-SUCCESSFUL-DRI-COMMUNITIES-PROJECTS#BROWNFIELD RE DEVELOPMENT

OTHER WEBINARS:

WWW.NY.GOV/NY-FORWARD/CAPACITY-BUILDING-WEINARS



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