



Village of Sidney – NY Forward Planning Process

New York State’s NY Forward Program – Application Due September 23, 2022

Sidney is applying to the NY Forward Program, which has the goal of creating vibrant places where the next generation of New Yorkers will live, raise families, work, visit, and play. NY Forward offers an easier path for small communities and will fund a combination of \$4.5 M and \$2.25 M winners. We expect there will be many competing proposals. We need to explain how Sidney meets the program’s characteristics:

- Small, walkable, dense area with amenities.
- Multi-modal and walkable.
- Service-oriented community center.
- Small town charm with heritage.
- Low density, tight commercial strip.
- 2 to 4 story buildings or higher new construction.

Letters of Support

The 2022 funding round limits applications to 20 pages, but unlimited letters of support are allowed.

WE NEED YOUR LETTERS OF SUPPORT TO PAINT SIDNEY’S VISION AND EXPLAIN WHY WE ARE WORTHY OF THIS INVESTMENT.

Impactful letters are from the heart, reflecting your aspirations for downtown’s future. ADDRESS YOUR LETTER TO:
Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Council
Robert Sweet, Regional Director
State Office Building - 44 Hawley Street - Suite 1508, Binghamton, NY 13901

BUT EMAIL THE LETTER AS A PDF to sidneyNYforward@gmail.com by **September 19, 2022**, so it can be included in the proposal. You do not need to mail the letter to Mr. Sweet.

Preliminary Vision Statement

The vision reflects the unique nature of the downtown and the aspirations of the community for the future: *Sidney is a small community with **big plans: a close-knit, equitable and just Village devoted to family that’s progressive and resilient, where all voices are welcome.** Everyone, young and old, enjoys our **revitalized downtown, safe neighborhoods, and social supports.** We offer entertainment, culture, arts, and recreation that **enhance our health and share our heritage.** We embrace the Susquehanna River and make sustainable choices that conserve its habitats and **adapt to climate change.** Our waterfront GreenPlain works with nature to **turn challenges into opportunities** as stewards of the river.*

PLEASE TAKE THE SURVEY TO SHARE YOUR COMMENTS ON THE VISION STATEMENT.

Project Identification

The REDC will nominate downtowns that are ripe for revitalization that can become a magnet for redevelopment, business, job creation, greater economic and housing diversity. The project website at www.resilient-sidney.com/nyforward hosts a community survey and an “open call for projects” where sponsors may propose projects in four eligible categories:

1. Public Improvements
2. New development and rehabilitation or adaptive reuse of existing structures
3. A grant fund for projects like façade improvements
4. Marketing and branding

WE NEED PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENTS IN DOWNTOWN BUILDINGS.

Next Steps

- Read more about NYS downtown programs at www.ny.gov/programs/downtown-revitalization-initiative
- Visit the project website at www.resilient-sidney.com/nyforward
- Email questions to sidneyNYforward@gmail.com