WARREN COUNTY
2040

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS WORKSHOP
February 10, 2025

AGENDA

1. Introduction/Overview

2. Plan Vision, Goals, Objectives, & Priority Actions

3. Implementing the Plan

4. Questions

THE PLANNING PROCESS

First Board Workshop

Public Workshop #1

We are here!

Public Workshops #2 &3

Scoping

Existing Conditions Review

Issues & Opportunities

Vision & Goals

Priority Actions

Draft & Final Plan

WE HEARD FROM OVER 1,000 STAKEHOLDERS

9 Project Advisory Group meetings

> 900 Survey Responses

3 Public Workshops

> 25 Stakeholder Interviews

4 Focus Group Meetings

> 40 Department Interviews

WHAT'S IN THE PLAN?

WARREN COUNTY 2040

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A VISION FOR THE FUTURE & PATH FORWARD

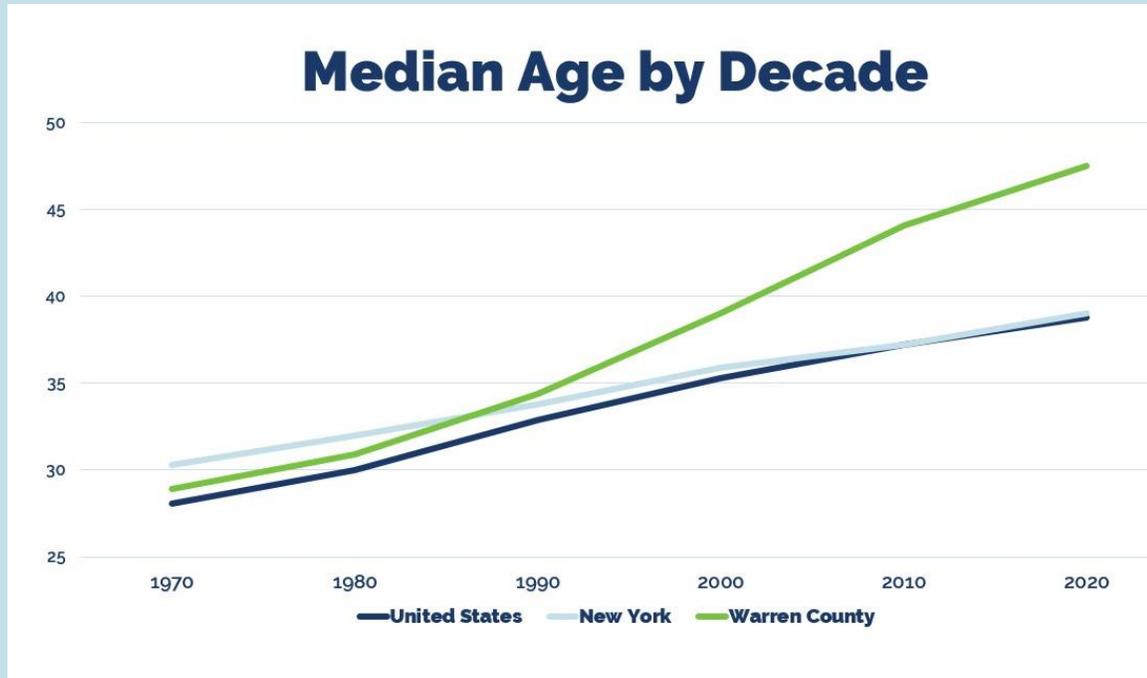|	
VISION STATEMENT	The guiding principle, desired future state, and inspiration
GOALS	Major outcomes or results needed to achieve the vision
OBJECTIVES	Specific, measurable steps/actionable targets taken to achieve each goal
PRIORITY ACTIONS	Key tasks or initiatives to ensure objectives are met

THE VISION

Warren County is home to vibrant communities and a high quality of life, achieved through proactive planning and collaboration. The County leverages its natural, cultural, and human resources, fosters economic innovation, and ensures environmental stewardship to create a resilient, sustainable, and inclusive community. With enhanced infrastructure, a thriving economy, a collaborative and considerate civic culture, and strong supportive services, Warren County addresses demographic, economic, and environmental challenges while providing a prosperous future for all residents.

TO ACHIEVE THAT VISION, 7 GOALS WERE IDENTIFED:

1. Attract and retain younger residents while accommodating an aging population

2. Improve housing access and quality

3. Support thriving communities, hamlets, and downtowns

4. Strengthen and support existing and emerging economic sectors

5. Maintain and enhance environmental quality

6. Develop and maintain a long-term plan for County infrastructure/assets

7. Improve government communication and transparency

GOAL: ATTRACT AND RETAIN YOUNGER RESIDENTS WHILE ACCOMMODATING AN AGING POPULATION

Median Age by Decade

United States — New York — Warren County

41% of survey respondents cited the **aging population** as the greatest challenge facing Warren County today

Objectives:
- Adapt and develop **services and infrastructure** to support an aging population
- Explore strategies to **attract and retain younger residents and families**
- **Capitalize on regional and local growth** to attract new residents and retain existing residents
- Address aging workforce and declining volunteerism to **maximize human capital**

GOAL: IMPROVE HOUSING ACCESS AND QUALITY

Objectives:
- Increase the availability of **affordable and diverse housing options** consistent with local needs
- **Improve housing quality** to address aging housing stock and changing demographics
- **Address the impact of tourism** on the local housing market (i.e., STRs, seasonal workforce housing)
- Encourage **new housing construction and renovation** to meet current and future demands.


WARREN COUNTY'S THREE BIGGEST CHALLENGES TODAY

Housing Availability   Jobs   Aging Population

GOAL: SUPPORT THRIVING COMMUNITIES, HAMLETS, AND DOWNTOWNS

Objectives:
- Support **placemaking and downtown beautification** for local communities and hamlets
- Encourage **infill development** within the County's downtowns, Main Streets, and hamlet areas
- Enhance transportation, mobility, and walkability to support **compact, efficient growth**
- **Think holistically** when making decisions related to housing, infrastructure, and transportation
- Ensure **transit access** in the County is maintained and improved
- Enhance **community well-being**
- Celebrate Warren County's **history and culture**

GOAL: STRENGTHEN AND SUPPORT EXISTING AND EMERGING ECONOMIC SECTORS
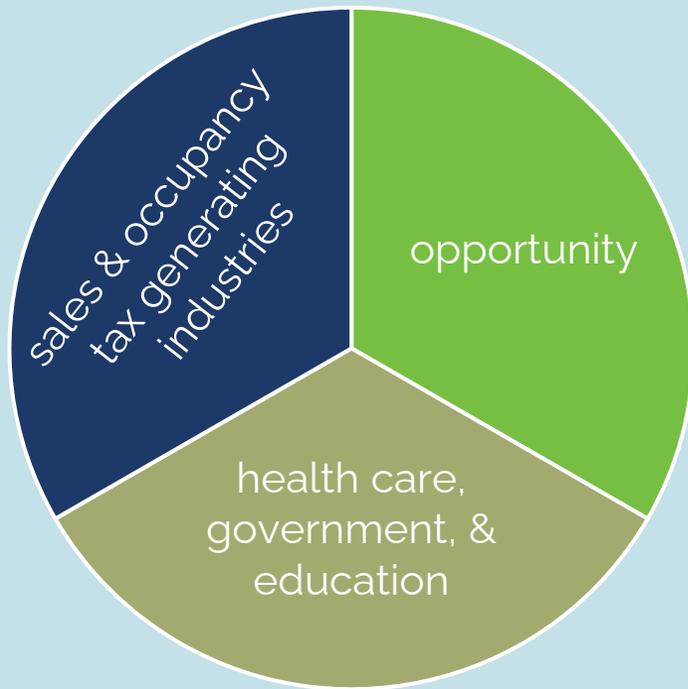
Objectives:
- Create a **more productive tourism economy** with greater revenue, wage growth, and year-round operating potential
- Identify and **mitigate the negative impacts** of tourism (i.e., traffic, overuse, rental costs, etc.)
- **Align County-wide economic development efforts** to maximize public investment and economic benefits
- Ensure a **consistent and coordinated approach** to workforce education and training

sales & occupancy tax generating industries

opportunity

health care, government, & education

GOAL: MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Objectives:

- **Adapt to climate change** impacts and strengthen resiliency
- **Mitigate development impacts** on natural resources
- **Support and partner** in natural resource management and research initiatives
- **Collaborate** with local and regional environmental agencies to strengthen efforts
- Integrate **circular economy** principles and **reduce waste generation**

GOAL: DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN A LONG-TERM PLAN FOR COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE/ASSETS

Objectives:

- **Achieve a clear view** of the County's capital assets, current conditions, and operational and funding needs
- **Develop a clear understanding** of the County's property
- **Maximize County's existing physical and cultural assets**, before developing new assets

GOAL: IMPROVE GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPARENCY

Objectives:

- Improve **alignment of community priorities with the budget process**
- Foster a **sense of community and belonging** for all age groups and backgrounds
- Foster **community involvement** through inclusive initiatives
- Cultivate communication strategies that prioritize **responsiveness to community needs**
- Encourage **collaboration between local government and the community** for shared goals and progress

TO MEET THESE GOALS, SOME ACTIONS ARE TO CONTINUE WHAT THE COUNTY IS ALREADY DOING...

GOAL: Support thriving communities, hamlets, and downtowns

OBJECTIVE: Ensure transit access in the County is maintained and improved

PRIORITY ACTION: Establish regular communication with CDTA to coordinate local transit access challenges and opportunities

OTHER EXAMPLES

Provide opportunities for centralized services for municipalities and districts where appropriate

Continue supporting local law enforcement, fire, and EMS to maintain the high standard of public safety within the County

Continue to support mental and public health services for all residents throughout the County

Continue to engage in regional efforts to improve internet coverage throughout the County

Continue to leverage funding and support efforts to remove employment barriers

OTHERS ARE BUILDING ON RECENT INITIATIVES OR FUNDING THE COUNTY HAS SECURED...

Warren County Department of Planning and Community Development
2024 Grant Awards

Project Name	Project Purpose	Total Project Cost	Funding Program	Local Share	State/Fed Share	Percentage State/Fed Share	Comprehensive Plan Goal Alignment
Thriving Hamlets	Conduct buildout and engineering analysis in hamlets to identify opportunities for new development and revitalization	$135,592	NYSDEC Smart Growth Implementation Program	$30,303 in-kind and county	$105,288	78%	Goals 1, 2 and 3
NYSDEC Septic Replacement Program	Improve water quality by replacing deficient septic systems along sensitive waterways	$400,000	Environmental Facilities Corporation	$0	$400,000	100%	Goals 2 and 5
CDBG	Septic and Water Well Replacement Program	$400,000	HCR	$0	$400,000	100%	Goals 2 and 5
Make the Connection	Support Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety	$492,000	Adirondack Glens Falls Transportation Council	$0	$492,000	100%	Goals 1, 3, and 6
Organics Composting Pilot Program	Establish a county operated composting facility in Queensbury	$200,000	NYSDEC Climate Smart Communities Program	$100,000	$100,000	50%	Goal 5
City of Glens Falls Salt Storage	Protect water quality	$215,000	NYSDEC Water Quality Improvement Program	$43,000 (City of GF)	$172,000	80%	Goal 5
North Creek Rail Station Improvements	Replace roof of county owned rail station and restore building exterior	$308,401	NYS Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation	$77,101	$231,300	75%	Goals 3 and 6
Warren County Brownfield Inventory	Create an inventory of vacant and underutilized properties across Warren County	$111,236	NYSDOS Brownfield Opportunity Area Program	$11,124	$100,112	90%	Goals 2, 3, and 5
Total Project Costs		**$2,262,229**	**Non-Local Funds**		**$2,000,700**		

Warren County Comprehensive Plan Goals

Goal 1 Attract and retain younger residents while accommodating an aging population

Goal 2 Improve housing access and quality

Goal 3 Support thriving communities, hamlets and downtowns

Goal 4 Strengthen and support existing and emerging economic sectors

Goal 5 Maintain and enhance environmental quality

Goal 6 Develop and maintain a long-term plan for county infrastructure/assets

Goal 7 Improve government communication and transparency

OTHERS ARE NEW INITIATIVES THAT WERE DEVELOPED WITH DEPARTMENT INPUT..

GOAL: Improve housing access and quality

OBJECTIVE: Encourage new housing construction and renovation to meet current and future demands

PRIORITY ACTION: Leverage County-owned and foreclosed land to increase the housing supply

WHAT NOW?

IMPLEMENTATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

| Department specific action plans (Appendix 3!) | Inter-departmental coordination | Metrics to assess progress & effectiveness | Annual progress reports | Routine public meetings |

Warren County Departmental Action Assignments

Office of the Aging

The Office for the Aging (OFA) is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for older adults in Warren County. This department focuses on providing essential services, supporting transportation solutions, and ensuring access to mental and public health services. Key initiatives include exploring alternative service delivery models for rural areas, collaborating on innovative transportation solutions, and addressing emerging needs related to aging populations. By working closely with other departments and community partners, OFA aims to support the well-being and independence of older adults in the community.

Action	Description	Department Roles	Coordinating Departments	Community Partners
1.1	Explore alternative models to deliver services to rural portions of the County	Work with County departments and community partners do identify novel approaches to service delivery; participate in regional and Statewide initiatives to identify best practice and advocate for resources	DSS, Planning	
1.4	Explore innovative transportation solutions for the County's communities and aging and vulnerable populations	Collaborate on innovative transportation solutions for communities and vulnerable populations, enhancing mobility and access to services	Planning, DSS, Workforce	CDTA, A/GFTC
3.7	Continue to support mental and public health services for all residents throughout the County	Work with County departments and community partners do identify novel approaches to service delivery; participate in regional and Statewide initiatives to identify best practice and advocate for resources.	DSS, Public Health	
6.3	Continue to identify and explore opportunities to address emerging needs that are consistent with the County's asset management/capital improvement plan (e.g., composting facility, recyclables facility, EMS training facility, emergency response center, regional morgue)	Identify and address emerging social service needs aligned with the asset management/capital improvement plan.	All	
6.4	Fund multi-year capital improvement plan as part of annual budget	Identify departmental capital needs; support cost estimate and budgeting process	All	

IMPLEMENTATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

| Department specific action plans (Appendix 3!) | Inter-departmental coordination | Metrics to assess progress & effectiveness | Annual progress reports | Routine public meetings |

PLAN ADOPTION

- **SEQR & 239-D Review**
  - County declares **Lead Agency** & completes environmental review
  - Plan referred to municipalities & planning boards (**30-day review**)
- **Public Hearing**
  - Official notice published (**10+ days in advance**)
  - Public input & feedback considered
- **Board of Supervisors Adoption**
  - Vote to adopt the plan

QUESTIONS?