

Economic Growth & Development Committee
Planning & Community Development Agenda
January 21, 2026

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Supervisors **Wild**, Crocitto, Bruno, Patchett, Diamond, Beaty and Niles - *Chair of the Board shall serve as an Ex-Officio member when needed in accordance with the Section C(4) of the Rules of the Board*

- I. Committee meeting called to order by Chair
- II. Approval of minutes of prior Committee Meeting
- III. Action Agenda/New Business Items:

No action items
- IV. Discussion Items:
 1. Departmental Updates
- V. Referrals/Pending Items:

None
- VI. Privilege of the floor and public comment (please allow for 15 second delay on live stream meetings)
- VII. Motion to adjourn

Attachments

- 1.

Economic Growth and Development Committee Update

JANUARY 2026

**WARREN
COUNTY**



**PLANNING
AND
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT**

Planning & Community Development: Our Role

- Establish the planning and policy foundation
- Support municipalities and County departments
 - Develop and advance fundable projects
- Coordinate across jurisdictions and partners
 - Technical assistance and training

Planning connects County goals to on-the-ground outcomes

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From Planning to Action Warren County 2040

Warren County adopted Warren County 2040 in 2025

- Represents a major investment in long-range planning
- Establishes shared County goals and priorities
- Guides project selection, funding decisions, and coordination
- Marks a shift from corridor-based planning efforts to a whole-County approach

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Why Planning Matters Now

- Federal and state policies and funding programs continue to shift
- Resources are limited; demands are increasing
- Hard choices are unavoidable

Warren County 2040 provides the framework to evaluate tradeoffs and stay aligned with County goals

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Active Projects (2026)

Planning & Policy

Comprehensive Plan implementation

Housing Strategy implementation (Housing Task Force, grant funding)

Municipal zoning and policy assistance (STR management, staff training, etc.)

Infrastructure & Capital Projects

Multi-use trails and active transportation (WC Bikeway, Mill Creek, Feeder Canal support)

Water access and outdoor recreation infrastructure (Fish Hatchery, Rail station, Schroon River)

Municipal facilities and resiliency projects (Railway study, culvert assessment, grants)

Community & Economic Development

Downtowns, hamlets, and corridors (Thriving Hamlets)

Multi-municipal coordination (Brownfield Inventory)

Project development and technical assistance (planning and grant support)

WARREN COUNTY



PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Planning connects community priorities to implementable projects.

Funding Secured

- Supports both County-led and municipal projects
- Focused on infrastructure, housing, community development, and recreation
- Demonstrates return on planning and project development capacity

Grant Awards by Year 2016-2025



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Funding Secured in 2025

• North Creek Sewer District	\$975,000
• Countywide Solid Waste & Recycling	\$422,668
• Schroon River Access Site Improvements	\$535,401
• Warren County Fish Hatchery	\$231,680
• Climate Resilient Rural Stormwater Management	\$74,927
• Mill Creek Recreational Area Trails Project	\$262,500
• Gore Mountain to Downtown North Creek Connection Phase 2	\$221,958
• Hudson River Recreational Rail Corridor Future Use Feasibility Study	\$50,000
• MultiUse Trail Wayfinding and Trailhead Improvements	<u>\$299,780</u>
	\$3,073,914

Over \$3 million awarded through competitive state and federal programs – most ever in department history

How Planning Turns into Investment

Funding Sources Include

NYS Department of State
NYS Department of
Environmental Conservation
Empire State Development
Federal programs

Impact

Reduces local tax burden
Advances priority projects
Strengthens municipal capacity
Positions the County for future
funding rounds

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Challenges we're Managing

- Increased demand for planning and grant support
- Limited staff capacity
- Local match and cash-flow constraints
- Increasing grant complexity and compliance
- Coordination across multiple jurisdictions
- Additional compliance requirements
- Technology updates

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Looking Ahead

- Continued implementation of adopted plans
- Moving projects from concept to construction
- Strategic, plan-aligned investment decisions
- Ongoing coordination with municipalities and partners

Detailed program activity and outcomes will be documented in the Department's 2025 Annual Report, to be released ahead of the February Committee meeting.

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