

**For immediate release:**  
5/12/2025

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## **Village of Schoharie Announces Open Call for Projects as part of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative**

**[Schoharie, NY]-** The Village of Schoharie Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) Local Planning Committee is seeking transformative project proposals for potential inclusion in the Village of Schoharie DRI Strategic Investment Plan. Investment Plan. Proposals for public, private, and not-for-profit projects can be submitted through an **Open Call for Projects from May 9th to June 11th, 2025.**

For those interested, please go to [www.villageofschohariedri.com](http://www.villageofschohariedri.com) to download the Open Call Form. An informational webinar on the Open Call is scheduled for May 20th from 12:30 - 1:30 pm and one-on-one support is available for potential project sponsors starting today. Prospective project sponsors are encourage to reach out the consultants via email — [villageschohariedri@gmail.com](mailto:villageschohariedri@gmail.com) — to set up a pre-application meeting to talk through their project and ask any questions they may have. Projects received through the Open Call will be reviewed by the Local Planning Committee, with input from the public. Successful submissions will be recommended for funding to the state.

The NYS Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) provides state funding to New York communities to foster vibrant downtowns across the state. The ultimate goal of the DRI is to fund projects that will help transform downtowns into vibrant communities where New Yorkers want to live, work, and raise families.

As the Round Eight DRI winner for the Mohawk Valley, the Village of Schoharie will receive \$10 million in funding from New York State Governor Kathy Hochul to develop and implement a Strategic Investment Plan for the DRI area. A Local Planning Committee made up of representatives of local businesses, institutions, and community groups is leading the effort, supported by a team of state planners and private sector experts.

The Open Call for Projects provides the community with an opportunity to propose transformative projects within the Village of Schoharie. Submissions may include projects such as new capital/construction projects, public improvements, and renovation of existing buildings. Projects should have a visible and functional impact on the downtown area, for example, by serving as an anchor or catalytic project that will

provide employment opportunities, housing choices, and/or services for the community. Projects must also align with the DRI goals and eligibility criteria. They should be shovel-ready and implementable within two years. Inclusion of a project in the Village of Schoharie DRI Strategic Investment Plan does not guarantee funding through the DRI Program. New York State will make the final determination of which projects will receive a DRI award.

Information on the open call including useful resources for project sponsors can be found online at [www.villageofschohariedri.com/opencall](http://www.villageofschohariedri.com/opencall)

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#### **About the Downtown Revitalization Initiative:**

*The Downtown Revitalization Initiative was created in 2016 to accelerate and expand the revitalization of downtowns and neighborhoods in all ten regions of the state to serve as centers of activity and catalysts for investment. Led by the Department of State with assistance from Empire State Development, NYS Homes and Community Renewal, NYSEDA, and NYS Department of Transportation, the DRI represents an unprecedented and innovative "plan-then-act" strategy that couples strategic planning with immediate implementation and results in compact, walkable downtowns that are a key ingredient to helping New York State rebuild its economy from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as to achieving the State's bold climate goals by promoting the use of public transit and reducing dependence on private vehicles. Through eight rounds, the DRI will have awarded a total of \$900 million to 89 communities across every region of the State.*

*Participating communities are nominated by the state's 10 Regional Economic Development Councils based on the downtown's potential for transformation. Each community is awarded \$10 million to develop a downtown strategic investment plan and implement key catalytic projects that advance the community's vision for revitalization and leverage additional private and public investments.*

*More information on the DRI is available [here](#).*