

# Mohawk Valley Regional Economic Development Council

## Five-Year Strategic Plan

### FINAL

#### Vision Statement:

***The Mohawk Valley Region will create a vibrant future by promoting and sustaining a diverse, integrated, and dynamic economy that capitalizes on technology and innovation to drive collaboration, inclusiveness, and efficiency in all endeavors; that is regionally networked and globally connected; that will cultivate, attract, and empower skilled workers; and that will foster an entrepreneurial spirit and the renewal of our communities, while preserving and building upon our abundant natural, cultural, and geographical resources to secure a rewarding and affordable quality of life for all.***

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#### Explanation (application of key phrases incorporating feedback on the vision):

- **Vibrant future** – a vibrant future is an active opening phrase that symbolizes movement toward a preferred state of being.
- **Diverse, integrated, and dynamic economy** – Our diversity can be a strength. Integration represents the need to have complimentary synergies across our regional economic drivers. These two elements create dynamism and limit regional exposure to boom and bust cycles and develop a sense of economic resiliency.
- **Capitalizes on technology and innovation** – new ideas could be old ideas somewhere else, but technology in all its forms and innovation represent the building blocks for enduring growth in every sector and part of the region.
- **Drives efficiency, collaboration, and inclusiveness** – these three guiding principles should not only apply to business but also local government throughout the region and are inherently tied together (and will require technology and innovation) – in sum, the whole is greater than the sum of the parts.
- **Regionally networked and globally connected** – these are absolutes for true regional success in the new economy.
- **Cultivate, attract, and empower skilled workers** – a regional economy is only as strong as the level of skilled workforce present and the ability to attract and retain workers is essential to a vision of merit.
- **Foster an entrepreneurial spirit and the renewal of our communities** – entrepreneurship conveys a sense of creativity and continuous change that can align with and influence that important sense of community renewal.
- **Preserves and builds upon our abundant natural, cultural, and geographical resources** – we need to build our place in the new economy off of what is already here. These resources are unique to our region and represent our most valuable attributes.
- **Secure a rewarding and affordable quality of life for all** – this is the end for all other means.

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