



Mohawk Valley Regional Economic Development Council

May 2, 2016

Dear Municipal Leader,

The Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) will invest \$10 million in each of 10 communities ripe for development to transform them into vibrant communities where tomorrow's workforce will want to live, work and raise families. This year, Governor Cuomo has tasked the Regional Economic Development Councils with nominating a single downtown in their regions to become the focus of strategic planning and investment for their rejuvenation.

Your municipality may wish to submit a downtown for consideration in this initiative. Accompanying this letter you will find a document describing the selection criteria, including a fillable template in which to describe your submission. **The deadline for the submission of Downtown Revitalization Initiative templates to the Mohawk Valley Regional Economic Development Council is 4 p.m. May 23, 2016.** Completed templates should be submitted via electronic attachment to: Kenneth.Tompkins@esd.ny.gov.

The Mohawk Valley REDC has designated a DRI Committee which will work with New York State in determining which submissions meet the criteria for further consideration. After its review, the Committee will score the submissions and recommend the finalist(s) to the full Regional Council which will select the final nominee by June 30.

While one community will ultimately be nominated for the DRI from each region, it is important to understand that this year's Regional Council competition and accompanying Consolidated Funding Application process are expected to place more emphasis on projects that align well with the revitalization of downtowns. Therefore, whether or not your municipality chooses to participate in the DRI, you are strongly encouraged to develop detailed plans and shovel-ready projects consistent with downtown revitalization and the Region's strategic plan.

The materials included with this mailing are also available for your review at <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/content/mohawk-valley>. In addition, a new CFA round will begin soon and will include in-person workshops that will be listed on the same website.

Of course, you can also direct questions to Regional Council Executive Director Kenneth Tompkins, (315) 793-2366, or via email at Kenneth.Tompkins@esd.ny.gov. He will be pleased to assist.

We welcome and encourage your participation in this process and offer our best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

Lawrence T. Gilroy III
Co-Chair

Dr. Robert Geer
Co-Chair

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