

**HUDSON VALLEY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**



2014/15 Annual Report

HUDSON VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL

3 Washington Center, Newburgh NY 12550

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REPORT SUMMARY

For the 12-month period ending in December 2014, private sector employment in the Hudson Valley increased by 5,700, or 0.8 percent, to 760,400 jobs. Leisure and hospitality remains the region's leading job generator (+3,500). The region's construction industry reported its strongest December year-to-year growth in eight years, up 5.3 percent or 2,100 jobs. Employment gains were also strong in educational and health services (+2,700), natural resources, and other services (+700). Four sectors posted losses. Losses were centered in financial activities (-1,000), trade, transportation and utilities (-1,000), manufacturing (-800) and professional and business services (-500). The government sector shed 2,800 jobs over the year.

The region's overall unemployment rate fell steadily in the 12-month period ending in December 2014, from 6.4 to 5.4 percent. The Hudson Valley's unemployment rate of 5.4 percent is below the state's rate of 6.2 percent, and the national rate at 5.9 percent.

While unemployment rates have dropped, there are still pockets of economic distress in the region. Like poverty, unemployment tends to be higher in central cities, lower in the suburban ring, and higher again in rural areas. Identifying the communities within the region that exhibit economic distress, as defined by the Economic Development Administration (EDA), is important in determining eligibility for grant funding.

Two significant EDA awards in the region included \$2,922,393 in public works funds to the City of Newburgh and the City of Newburgh Industrial Development Agency to fund construction of public water, sewer, and storm water infrastructure improvements to accommodate the construction of a new manufacturing facility as well as the creation of two new shovel ready sites suitable for additional industrial development site in Newburgh. In addition, \$650,000 in economic adjustment funds were awarded to support Phase II of the "Rivers of Opportunity" program in the City of Newburgh. The "Rivers of Opportunity" program is identifying and prioritizing companies considering re-shoring their production operations, with a primary focus on garment/textile and high tech manufacturing. The program is developing and implementing a strategy to engage these sectors to locate or relocate their operations to vacant, re-developed mill space in the city. The project, being managed by The Solar Energy Consortium (TSEC), is looking to fill vacant commercial buildings and create jobs for city residents.

Regionally, sectors that showed job growth in the last year are leisure and hospitality; educational and health services; trade, transportation and utilities; and professional and business services. Leisure and hospitality was the region's leading job generator, up 4 percent or 3,300 jobs — its second largest year-to-year increase in the last decade. Growth in that sector was evident in the Putnam-Rockland-Westchester area, where the sector grew by 5.4 percent, or 2,700 jobs. With several hotel projects underway in the area, including the recent state approval of a resort casino in Sullivan County and the recent opening of a Cambria Suites Hotel in White Plains, the outlook for the sector remains positive. Educational and health services also grew, up 1.7 percent or 3,200 jobs, although almost all the gains occurred in the Putnam-Rockland-Westchester area. Decreasing sectors are natural resources; mining and construction; government; and manufacturing. The education and healthcare category continues to

drive employment across the region, adding more than 4,700 jobs in the last year. The HVEDC reports that decreases in the labor force are being attributed, in part, to a loss of residents that are moving out of New York.

SECTION 1. INTRODUCTION: ADJUSTMENTS TO THE 2013--2014 COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The CEDS is meant to be a flexible document and may be adjusted to respond to changing economic and environmental conditions.

The CEDS submitted in January 2014 was submitted as a 2013-2014 CEDS and was the first complete CEDS submitted by the new staff of the Hudson Valley Regional Council. The CEDS was approved and accepted by EDA staff in Philadelphia and is now being considered as a five year CEDS for 2013-2017 with the HVRC submitting annual performance reports. This is the first of the annual performance reports.

In addition, the 2013-2014 strategy did not identify specific economic development projects in the region, choosing instead to feature several priority projects identified by the Regional Economic Development Council. Although recent EDA guidance allows for flexibility on the listing of specific projects, for this report HVRC surveyed planners and economic development professionals in the region to identify current economic development projects in their respective counties that may be eligible for EDA funding. These projects are summarized in Section 4 with full responses in Appendix B.

Otherwise, regional issues identified in the CEDs, and the goals and strategies, remain the same. Within this performance report we will seek to explain how HVRC is evaluating progress on the action plan and goals. The HVRC has slightly refined the goals of the CEDS for 2015. The updated goals are outlined in Section 5.

HVRC continues its outreach to expand the composition of the CEDS strategy committee to support the development or implementation of the CEDS. In the brief survey administered for preparation of this report county planners and economic development professionals were asked if they would be interested in serving on the HVRC CEDS Strategy Committee to assist HVRC in developing, revising, and/or replacing the CEDS and to refer other economic development experts in the region, either from the public or private sector for the CEDS Strategy Committee. HVRC will continue its outreach to those interested and those recommended based on this survey.

HVRC also continues its outreach to refine and update the CEDS project list based on input from local economic development professional, county planners, board members and others.

SECTION 2. EXISTING REGIONAL CONDITIONS & REGIONAL TRENDS

A. Observations and Trends

For the 12-month period ending in December 2014, private sector employment in the Hudson Valley increased by 5,700, or 0.8 percent, to 760,400 jobs. Leisure and hospitality remains the region's leading job generator (+3,500). The region's construction industry reported its strongest December year-to-year growth in eight years, up 5.3 percent or 2,100 jobs. Employment gains were also strong in educational and health services (+2,700), natural resources, and other services (+700). Four sectors posted losses. Losses were centered in financial activities (-1,000), trade, transportation and utilities (-1,000), manufacturing (-800) and professional and business services (-500). The government sector shed 2,800 jobs over the year.

Private sector job growth was fastest in the Kingston MSA (+2.2 percent), the Poughkeepsie-Newburgh-Middletown MSA (+0.9 percent), and the Putnam-Rockland-Westchester labor area (+0.6 percent). Sullivan County was the only area in the region that experienced a decline in private sector jobs (-0.5 percent).¹

Table 1 : CHANGE IN NONFARM & PRIVATE SECTOR JOBS, DECEMBER 2013--DECEMBER 2014²

Area	October 2013	October 2014	Change
Kingston/Ulster	60,700	61,500	+800
Newburgh-Poughkeepsie-Middletown	257,700	258,700	+1000
Putnam-Westchester-Rockland	569,500	570,700	+1200
Sullivan	24,100	24,000	-100
Region TOTAL	912,000	915,800	+2900

Despite growth in private sector employment, net jobs gains were lower because of the 2,800 jobs shed by public sector employers. Table 2 compares private sector gains with public sector losses.

Table 2 : CHANGE IN NONFARM & PRIVATE SECTOR V. PUBLIC SECTOR JOBS DECEMBER 2013- DECEMBER 2014³

Area	Private Sector Change	Public Sector Change	Change
Hudson Valley	+5600	-2700	+2900

¹ <http://www.labor.ny.gov/stats/pressreleases/prtbjd.pdf>

² <http://www.labor.ny.gov/stats/pressreleases/prtbjd.pdf>

³ Ibid.

B. Hudson Valley Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

In each of the region's seven counties the labor force declined from August 2013 to August 2014. The number of employed and the number of unemployed declined in each county as well. For the region as a whole the unemployment rate fell steadily in the 12-month period ending in September 2014, from 6.4 to 5.4 percent. The Hudson Valley unemployment of 5.4 percent is below the state's rate of 6.2 percent, and the national rate at 5.9 percent.

Table 3: HUDSON VALLEY LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYED, UNEMPLOYED, AND RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT BY COUNTY

COUNTY	Labor Force			EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			UNEMP. RATE		
	Aug 2013	Aug 2014	Change	Aug 2013	Aug 2014	Change	AUG 2013	Aug 2014	Change	Aug 2013	Aug 2014	Change
Cattaraugus	146,302	143,163	3,139↓	136,914	135,612	1,302↓	9,388	7,551	1,837↓	6.6	5.3	1.1↓
Chemung	176,741	172,922	3,819↓	164,204	162,643	1,561↓	12,537	10,279	2,258↓	7.1	5.9	1.2↓
Hamilton	54,486	53,363	1,123↓	51,369	50,811	558↓	3,117	2,552	565↓	5.7	4.8	0.9↓
Warren	160,750	157,729	3,021↓	151,251	149,606	1,645↓	9,499	8,123	1,376↓	5.9	5.1	0.8↓
Delaware	35,474	34,100	1,374↓	32,790	32,006	784↓	2,684	2,094	590↓	7.6	6.1	1.5↓
Seneca	86,839	84,875	1,964↓	80,323	79,585	738↓	6,516	5,290	1,226↓	7.5	6.2	1.3↓
Richmond	484,612	474,813	9,799↓	454,600	449,655	4,945↓	30,012	25,158	4,854↓	6.2	5.3	0.9↓
Region	1,145,204	1,120,965	24,239↓	1,071,451	1,059,918	11,533↓	73,753	61,047	12,706↓	6.4	5.4	1.1↓

C. Hudson Valley Region -- Distress Summary

While unemployment rates have dropped throughout the region, there are still pockets of economic distress. EDA looks carefully at fiscal distress to determine eligibility for grant funding. Economic distress in the Hudson Valley region is summarized by region as well as by individual county.

For this purpose, fiscal distress is defined by any combination of:

- An average 24-month unemployment rate above the national average as calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics – Local Area Unemployment Statistics.⁴
- An average Per Capita Money Income (PCMI) level below the national average as measured by the U.S Census Bureau’s American Communities Survey.⁵
- An average Per Capita Personal Income (PCPI) level below the national average as measured by the U.S Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis.⁶

Table 4: HUDSON VALLEY REGION DISTRESS CRITERIA STATISTICAL REPORT

	Hudson Valley Region	U.S.	Threshold Calculations
24-Month Average Unemployment Rate (BLS) period ending December 2014	6.02%	6.77%	-0.75
2012 Per Capita Money Income (3-year ACS)	\$38,137	\$27,385	139%
2012 Per Capita Money Income (5-year ACS)	\$39,090	\$28,051	139%
2013 Per Capita Personal Income (BEA)	\$62,216	\$44,765	139%
2000 Per Capita Money Income (Decennial Census)	\$29,384	\$21,587	136%

Sources: U.S. Bureaus of Census, Labor Statistics, and Economic Analysis; Calculations generated by StatsAmerica.

While these figures paint an overall positive picture of the economy in the Hudson Valley, the wealth is not distributed evenly. Closer analysis reveals pockets of economic distress in almost every county. Below is an overview of statistics for each county in the Hudson Valley Region. A more detailed report on the economic distress throughout the region’s census tracts is being developed.

⁴ <http://www.bls.gov/lau/#tables>

⁵ http://www.census.gov/acs/www/data_documentation/data_main/

⁶ <http://www.bea.gov/regional/downloadzip.cfm>

Table 6: SIGNIFICANT INDUSTRIES HUDSON VALLEY 2009-2014

Industry Name	Jobs 2009	Jobs 2014	Change	Rate %	Total Wages	Average Quarterly Wage	Significance*
Construction of Buildings	9,393	9,673	280	2.89↑	\$131,770,322	\$13,622	W
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	4,043	3,207	-836	26.07↓	\$73,016,438	\$22,768	G,P,W
Specialty Trade Contractors	29,293	26,063	-3,230	12.3↓	\$373,151,116	\$14,317	J,P,W
Chemical Manufacturing	7,779	5,490	-2,289	41.69↓	\$154,189,789	\$28,086	W
Computer and Electronics Manufacturing	14,223	10,567	-3,656	34.60↓	\$407,201,238	\$38,535	W
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	12,032	11,409	-623	5.46↓	\$408,404,033	\$35,797	W
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	12,338	11,729	-609	5.19↓	\$351,258,008	\$29,948	W
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	41,619	42,715	1,096	2.57↑	\$1,162,335,586	\$27,211	J,W
Management of Companies and Enterprises	12,797	13,788	991	7.19↑	\$744,833,376	\$54,020	W
Administrative and Support Services	35,378	38,773	3,395	8.76↑	\$404,511,657	\$10,433	J,P,W
Educational Services	102,772	31,066	71,706	230.8↓	\$325,085,468	\$10,464	G,J,W
Ambulatory Healthcare Services	48,417	52,841	4,424	8.37↑	\$750,492,915	\$14,203	G,J,P,W
Hospitals	40,243	28,195	12,048	42.73↓	\$451,775,372	\$16,023	G,J,W
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	40,637	36,099	-4,538	12.57↓	\$315,465,352	\$8,739	G,J,P,W
KEY							
G: Industry experienced above-average job growth							
J: Industry employs a significant number of jobs (>8000)							
P: Above-average growth projected for 2006-2016							
W: Industry pays above-average wages							

D. Significant Industries, Hudson Valley

The New York State Department of Labor identifies industries as regionally significant factors such as job counts, wage levels, job growth, and expected job growth based on employment projections. Priority industries that may have been designated by economic development or workforce development officials were also considered. These 14 industries considered significant at the last reporting. For details on each industry, see the state Department of Labor's descriptions in its latest publication.⁷



Northern Dutchess Hospital, Rhinebeck NY

⁷ <http://www.labor.ny.gov/stats/PDFs/Significant-Industries-Hudson-Valley.pdf>

Table 5: HUDSON VALLEY REGION DISTRESS CRITERIA STATISTICAL REPORT BY COUNTY

Economic Distress Criteria – Primary Elements									
COUNTY	24 Month Average Unemployment Rate (BLS)			2012 Per Capita \$ Income (3 Year ACS)			2012 Per Capita Personal Income (BEA)		
	County	U.S.	Threshold Calculations	Region	U.S.	Threshold Calculations	Region	U.S.	Threshold Calculations
Dutchess	6.12	6.77	-0.65	\$32,785	\$27,385	120%	\$49,627	\$44,765	111%
Orange	6.51	6.77	-0.26	\$29,865	\$27,385	109%	\$43,788	\$44,765	98%
Putnam	5.31	6.77	-1.46	\$39,575	\$27,385	144.5%	\$58,955	\$44,765	132%
Rockland	5.47	6.77	-1.3	\$33,929	\$27,385	124%	\$56,657	\$44,765	127%
Sullivan	7.90	6.77	1.13	\$25,028	\$27,385	91%	\$41,197	\$44,765	92%
Ulster	7.02	6.77	0.25	\$29,462	\$27,385	108%	\$44,527	\$44,765	99%
Westchester	5.77	6.77	-1.0	\$46,985	\$27,385	172%	\$80,363	\$44,765	180%

Table 7: TOP INDUSTRY RANKINGS by JOB COUNT 2014

Industry Name	Reporting Units	Average Employment	Total Quarterly Wages	Average Quarterly Wages
Local Government	993	114,470	\$1,899,278,299	\$16,592
Food Services and Drinking Places	5,131	54,436	\$258,569,202	\$4,750
Ambulatory Health Care Services	5,024	52,841	\$750,492,915	\$14,203
Hospitals	5,024	52,841	\$451,775,372	\$16,023
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	8,103	42,715	\$1,162,335,586	\$27,211
Administrative and Support Services	4,160	36,117	\$368,167,634	\$10,194
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	748	36,099	\$315,465,352	\$8,739
Educational Services	1,226	31,066	\$325,085,468	\$10,464
Food and Beverage Stores	1,803	29,014	\$175,607,572	\$6,053
Specialty Trade Contractors	5,163	26,063	\$373,151,116	\$14,317

SECTION 3. GOALS & OBJECTIVES PERFORMANCE REPORT/2013--2014 CEDS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE REGION

HRVC has identified the following as important regional issues:

- A. Economic Development
- B. Water Resources/Water Quality/Green Infrastructure
- C. Solid Waste/Food Recovery and Composting
- D. Sustainability Planning and Governance

Below are reports on each of these areas.

A. Report on Economic Development

The HVRC worked to advance several economic development projects in the region. These projects are outlined below and in Section 4. The most notable project is the EDA funding awarded recently to the City of Newburgh and the City Industrial Development Agency for necessary infrastructure improvements, energy efficiencies and other cost savings measures that will keep Hudson Valley Lighting, a Newburgh based company, in Newburgh.

Stormwater improvements at the site will include additional capacity to service future development of the adjoining property owned by the City of Newburgh. Storm water improvements also include green infrastructure retrofits. The result will be additional developable land on the city-owned property and less expense associated with the remediation and redevelopment of that property. Additionally, the sewer and water improvements will also

include capacity to serve the existing city-owned property and the DuPont Stauffer property currently being remediated. Redevelopment of this brownfield site will facilitate improvement in traffic flow, improve the view along the I-84 corridor and amplify other regional assets. The end result is that these infrastructure improvements will promote and spur development of additional commercial industrial properties in the area and serve as a signature development for Newburgh to promote redevelopment in one of the few existing areas with the zoning and infrastructure to serve manufacturing and industry in the city.

The HVRC continues to develop new partnerships to strengthen the CEDS with enhanced access to data that can help advance economic development projects in the region. The HVRC also continually looks to broaden the CEDS Strategy Committee, seeking significant input from both the public and private sector.

Hudson Valley EDA awards:

A grant of \$2,922,393 in Public Works funds to the City of Newburgh and the City of Newburgh Industrial Development Agency to fund construction of public water, sewer, and storm water infrastructure improvements to service an existing industrial site in Newburgh. These improvements will support the retention and expansion of one of the region's major employers. The improvements will also accommodate the startup of new businesses and allow the region's businesses to be more competitive. This investment is part of a \$4,174,848 project that the grantees estimate will create 50 jobs, save 180 jobs, and leverage \$8 million in private investment.

A grant of \$650,000 in Economic Adjustment funds was awarded to The Solar Energy Consortium, to support Phase II of the "Rivers of Opportunity" program in the City of Newburgh. The program repurposes vacant manufacturing space and markets it to attract manufacturing firms from outside the area. In addition, it will provide job training to prepare unemployed residents for jobs in these manufacturing sectors. The project will help spur the region's manufacturing clusters, leading to increased job opportunities and private investment. This investment is part of a \$1.38 million project.

Work continues on the EDA funded Red Meat Processing Plant in Sullivan County, which is expected to employ five full-time workers, create 50 new agricultural jobs, and help farmers get their products to market more inexpensively. The project will enable local livestock producers to supply high-end meats to NYC Metro Area markets and restaurants. Additionally state grants are administered through the Consolidated Funding Application, and managed by 10 regional economic development councils. The Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council (MHREDC) comprises the same seven county region of the Hudson Valley Economic Development District. The priorities of the MHREDC are closely aligned with those of the Hudson Valley Regional Council.

The selection of awards reflects both state and regional economic development priorities, and seeks to achieve long-term sustainable economic goals. State funding through the Consolidated Funding Application to the Hudson Valley reached \$59.6 million since the implementation of the

CEDS. Below is a summary of the awards broken down by county. A full list of awards is available at www.hudsonvalleyregionalcouncil.org. Some of these projects have funding gaps and there is potential for federal funding to supplement state and private investment in economic development projects.

Table 8: 2013 CONSOLIDATED FUNDS AWARDS

COUNTY	2013 Consolidated Funding Awards- Hudson Valley	
	Number of Awards	Total Amount Awarded (\$)
Dutchess	10	\$2,399,013
Orange	16	\$5,816,414
Putnam	3	\$1,175,000
Rockland	4	\$1,708,824
Sullivan	4	\$899,834
Ulster	19	\$5,952,383
Westchester	21	\$5,556,131
Region	87	\$59,600,000

*Total figure higher after adding cross-county projects

On December 11, 2014, \$709.2 million in economic and community development funding was awarded through Round IV of the New York State Consolidated Funding Application program administered through the Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) initiative. The Mid-Hudson seven-county region received \$82.8 million for 118 projects.⁸ The 118 projects can be found on pages 90-103 of the [2014 Regional Economic Development Council Award](#) booklet.

Regional Economic Environment Changes: 2014

In its Fall 2014 quarterly economic report, the Hudson Valley Economic Development Corporation (HVEDS) reported that the regional economy remains relatively stable. The total labor force in the third quarter of 2014 is down just 29,900 jobs from a year ago, and remains at about 1.1 million for the seven-county region.

Leisure and hospitality, the region's leading job generator, up 4 percent or 3,300 jobs showed its second largest October over the year increase in the last 10 years. Growth in the leisure and hospitality sector was evident in the Putnam-Rockland-Westchester area, where the sector grew by 5.4 percent or 2,700 jobs. With several hotel projects underway in the area, in addition to the recent opening of a Cambria Suites Hotel in White Plains, the outlook for the sector remains positive. The recent awarding of a resort casino license in Sullivan County is expected to have a significant impact on job growth in that portion of the region. Educational and health services also grew, up 1.7 percent, or 3,200 jobs, although almost all the gains occurred in the Putnam-Rockland-Westchester area. Decreasing sectors are natural resources;

⁸ <https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/REDCAwardsBooklet2014.pdf>

mining and construction; government; and manufacturing. The education and healthcare category continues to drive employment across the region, adding more than 4,700 jobs in the last year.

HVEDC reports that decreases in the labor force are being attributed, in part, to residents moving out of New York.

As reported above, the unemployment rate for the third quarter of 2014 was just 5.4 percent, down from 6.4 percent in the quarter last year.

With regards to office vacancy, HVEDC⁹ also reported:

- Year-over-year vacancy rate in the Hudson Valley decreased slightly overall.
- Orange-Rockland has displayed the largest year-over-year change in vacancy.
- Westchester's vacancy rate has continued to tick upward because of continued consolidation in the area.
- The vast majority of users of office space in the region are in the 5,000- to 10,000-square-foot-range.
- The vacancy rate in Sullivan-Ulster has now remained relatively similar over the last 24 months.

Things to watch:

- New Rochelle is preparing for a large construction project that is expected to add approximately 1 million square feet of medical and office space.
- The government sector jobs reduction is expected to continue.
- Orange-Rockland is the only area in the Hudson Valley with higher asking rents in 2014 than 2013

Changes in the economic environment:

HVRC surveyed counties and other organizations in the region regarding changes in the economic environment:

Dutchess County

- Growth in agribusinesses and stability with IBM's workforce.

Orange County

- Overall rise from recent years in economic development activity including projects in the food production, healthcare, education, and recreation destination sectors.
- Robust expansion activities, with many existing companies in Orange County considering or in the midst of expansion projects.

⁹ <http://www.hvedc.com/admin/latest/1941userfile1418665513.pdf>

- Increased emphasis on agricultural tourism and agricultural sectors.
- A constrained inventory of “shovel-ready” development sites.
- Overall Improved access to health care by developing inner-city clinics for low-income residents (GHVFHC clinic in Newburgh, O&W clinic in Middletown).
- Expanded and better coordinated efforts for economic development in the arts sector.
- With continued economic recovery, local governments are striving to be more “open for business” by: streamlining their approval processes, employing a more user-friendly approach, and remaining open to potential collaborations with other municipalities and businesses.

Putnam County

- An uptick in leads, and a steady improvement in companies’ and individual’s perception and outlook on the economic environment. Financial institutions are lending money to qualified companies and businesses are not as timid to pull the trigger as they were in 2013.

Rockland County

- The primary change reported is increased inquiries and site-selection requirements from real estate brokers, relocation consultants and end-users. Over last 36 months more than 20 firms were attracted or retained/expanded in Rockland totaling more than 2 million square feet of office/industrial/flex space. Rockland expects this activity to continue through 2015.

Sullivan County

- The state’s announcement of a casino license for Sullivan County has set off excitement about the economic future there. The casino is expected to stimulate the economy, although it may also inflate property prices to unrealistic levels.
- The county has seen an increasing amount of chain store development in the past year, in areas where there has been none at all. These have been stores catering to the low end of the market, including three “Dollar General” stores built in the past year, and applications for more are pending; Dunkin Donuts is expanding its presence in the county.
- The county’s largest downtown areas of Monticello and Liberty continue to see development of businesses owned by, and catering to, the Latino community.

Ulster County

- Overall trends are positive with the longest period of economic growth since 2000. The county unemployment rate is lower than the state average. The county has also led the region in job growth during the year.

- Significant energy in the tourism sector with most business reporting stronger sales and room rentals. Investment in tourism properties also supports a bright future with hotel and resort projects.
- Average wages are stagnant and housing remains generally unaffordable for a significant number of workers who hold full time jobs. New housing starts are beginning to increase and average time on market has decreased for units for sale (MLS).
- Renewable energy is gaining a greater foothold –on a per capita basis the county is a leader in installed residential solar facilities.
- Increased recognition by niche businesses related to arts and culture, including dining and entertainment as well as expansion of life style businesses that feed second home market, expand tourism base, and create new synergies between manufacturers and designers.
- Increased recognition around the agricultural sector and its potential for both economic development and environmental conservation.

Westchester County

- A significant increase in efforts to repurpose and/or rezone existing “corporate/office” space for a variety of purposes including medical space, housing, education and other mixed use opportunities.
- The continued and increased investment and development in the biotech sector, including development of a Biotech Incubator at New York Medical College.
- Significant introduction of major hospital entities to the Westchester region partnering with community hospitals, with potential results including significant infrastructure investment by those entities and significant job opportunities.
- Significant efforts by communities/cities to review and consider mixed-use urban destinations and transit oriented development.
- Requests for assistance and partnering in updating of municipal comprehensive plans to prepare for development opportunities and trends.
- Increased interest in supporting and partnering for enhanced transit services, including establishment of a new regional Bus Rapid Transit network.

Private Sector Investment in the Region

The CEDS Summary of Requirements outlines performance measures that must be contained in a CEDS Annual Report to evaluate a planning organization's successful development and implementation of the CEDS.

One of the performance measures identified in this CEDS guidance is the:

Amount of private sector investment in the region after implementation of the CEDS;

The HVRC surveyed each of its planning organization county partners. Some were able to estimate private investment, but none of the county planning departments or county economic development agencies currently tracks private investment.

For example, Dutchess County’s Economic Development Director estimates private investment at about \$2 billion at this time in projects in various stages of development in the county. Again the county does not specifically track private investment.

In 2014 the Westchester County Industrial Development Agency (WCIDA) induced 14 projects with estimated private sector project costs of over \$400 million and estimated to account for over 3,400 permanent, construction and/or retained jobs. (See listing below)

Westchester County Industrial Development Agency (WCIDA)

Projects	Project Costs (In Millions)
MillionAir	\$40
Harbor Square	\$65
Mountco-Washington House	\$47.5
Unicorn-101 East Post Road	\$6
Saber Dobbs Ferry	\$53.5
Bilwin-Tuckahoe Marriott	\$24
Wilder Balter-Mamaroneck Towers	\$15.8
SME Development	\$27
GHP	\$11.9
Gateway Kensington	\$60
Mamaroneck Self Storage	\$3
OSG Mamaroneck	\$3.99
Dobbs Ferry Hotel LLC	\$17.00
Saw Mill Lofts	<u>\$34.90</u>
Total Costs	\$409.53

Since its creation in 2013, the Westchester County Local Development Corporation, established to provide tax exempt financing to not-for-profit organizations, induced nine projects with estimated financing of over \$250 million and estimated to account for over 1,900 permanent, construction and/or retained jobs. (See Table below)

Westchester County Local Development Corporation Projects

Projects	Tax Exempt Bonds (in Millions)
Kendal on Hudson I	\$64.33
Phelps Memorial Hospital	\$14
Northern Westchester Hospital	\$33.14
Purchase College	\$15.10
White Plains Medical Center	\$175
PACE University	\$98
Kendal on Hudson II	\$18
White Plains Housing Company	\$6.5
YWCA	\$5.5
Total Project Cost	\$255

With regards to two EDA funded projects in the region, the EDA investment in the City of Newburgh’s infrastructure to retain and expand one of the region’s major employers is expected to leverage \$8 million in private investment. EDA’s \$650,000 award to The Solar Energy Consortium to repurpose vacant manufacturing space and market it to expanding manufacturing firms from outside the area is part of a \$1.38 million project.

B. Report on Water Resources/Water Quality/Green Infrastructure

HVRC receives funding from the Environmental Protection Agency through the Clean Water Act to provide regional education and outreach on water quality issues that include green infrastructure, Municipal Separate Stormwater and Sewer Systems (MS4’s), stormwater management, and watershed planning. HVRC provides direct outreach to County Water Quality Coordinating Committees. The HVRC provides pass through planning funding to the Lower Hudson Coalition of Conservation Districts (LHCCD) for green infrastructure projects throughout the Hudson River watershed. In 2014, HVRC financially supported and sponsored education programming and training seminars such as the Cornell Highway Institute class for highway superintendents and personnel, the LHCCD’s Annual Stormwater Conference, and several seminars on green infrastructure topics including legal issues associated with long-term maintenance.

The HVRC also recently participated in a full day brainstorming session for a new EPA Region 2 initiative called “Trash Free Waters.” This program provides a nexus between HVRC water quality work and its materials management work. Five separate work groups have been created to address trash in waters – plastic bottles, bags, boxes, beads (micro beads), butts (cigarette butts).

HVRC is a member of the New York State Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association. The council sponsored a bus tour for NYS stormwater professionals that included a tour of a large multi-faceted municipal green infrastructure project in Wappingers Falls as well as the Kingston

Waterfront planning initiative regarding sea level rise and flood mitigation and resiliency for its downtown waterfront commercial area.

Due to the intensity and frequency of storms and the energy and expense associated with cleaning up disaster debris, in 2014 the HVRC created a Disaster Debris Subcommittee through its materials management work group. In 2014 HVRC submitted a Consolidated Funding Application to New York State requesting funding to prepare a Regional Disaster Debris Management Plan as called for in the Mid Hudson Regional Sustainability Plan. Despite widespread support for the project throughout the Hudson Valley region, the New York State Energy, Research and Development Authority choose not to fund this project.

The HVRC moved forward with the Developing Sustainable Tributaries Strategy Project. Three sub-contractors were acquired for project coordination, development of education materials and legal review. Meetings were held with the Moodna Creek Watershed Intermunicipal Council, the Quassaick Creek Watershed Alliance, the Orange County Planning Department and City of Newburgh to gather input on the project. The project scheduled to be completed by September 2015 will provide educational opportunities and materials for non-attorneys on specific water resources management laws and regulations.

C. Report on Solid Waste/Food Recovery and Composting

HVRC has a Regional Material Management Working Group (RMMWG) consisting of solid waste management professionals from six of the seven counties and New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) Region 3. With the surge of interest in and the growing importance of reducing waste and better managing materials in the waste stream, this group has been very active in developing programs, sharing concepts, ideas and resources to address solid waste management and recycling on a regional basis. The committee meets six times a year (every other month) at different locations throughout the region.

Key issues in the region continue to be management and disposal of e-scrap (computers, mobile phones etc), organics diversion and management and advancing medication take-back programs.

HVRC has worked closely with New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse and Recycling to develop a survey to collect information from waste haulers regarding organics collection – primarily the collection of food scraps and yard waste such as leaves and branches. The survey information will be used to better understand the current state of organics collection across New York and identify barriers to organics collection. This information will be used to identify infrastructure gaps and issues and propose effective policy and program solutions to promote organics recovery. HVRC is also an active participant in the Organics Councils Education and Events Working Group.

In April HVRC co-sponsored the two-day Southeastern NY Compost Workshop and Facility Tour hosted by Cornell University Cooperative Extension and Cornell Waste Management Institute. The tour included the Department of Transportation's deer carcass composting facility in Highland; Continental Organics Aquaponics and Hydroponics in New Windsor; Brey's Egg Farm

Poultry manure composting in Jeffersonville; and Stone Wall Farms horse manure composting in Jeffersonville.

In July HVRC participated in the Westchester County Food Recovery forum. In August HVRC joined members of the Regional Materials Management group from Ulster, Dutchess and Putnam County to tour Rainbow's End in Pawling, a vermicomposting operation and the New Milford Farms compost facility in New Milford, Connecticut.

HVRC also participated in a regional conversation held in August 2014 to discuss opportunities in the Mid-Hudson region to create and expand re-use centers and the potential to create Mid-Hudson Re-use Alliance or Mid Hudson ReUse Network. Additionally, in November HVRC participated in a New York State Assembly Roundtable on Waste Reduction, Food Donation, and Materials Recovery at State and Local Government Food Service Operations held in Albany.

HVRC also participated in the Hudson Valley Food Manufacturing Industry Roundtable hosted by the Hudson Valley Technology Development Center (HVTDC) and the New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP2I). The roundtable themes focused on environmentally and economically sustainable business practices for the growing food and beverage industry in New York.

Diane Cohen of the [Finger Lakes Re-use](#) (FLR) Center made a presentation to the HVRC regional working group and indicated she has funding to provide training throughout NY on the business model created by FLR to start a reuse center. FLR offers a job training program called [ReSET](#) (Skills and Employment Training) for individuals seeking new career opportunities. Through the ReSET program, training is provided to underserved individuals in the community in the areas of construction and technology. Finger Lakes ReUse also has an eCenter that provides a computer reuse and refurbishing program.

D. [Report on Sustainability Planning and Governance](#)

The Hudson Valley Regional Council participated in the 2013 Mid-Hudson Regional Sustainability Plan, which developed a strategy for sustainable development based on regional strengths, and tied economic development to environmental sustainability through five priority areas: water, materials management, energy, land use, livable communities and transportation, and agriculture and open space. The overarching themes in the plan are reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and climate change which are addressed in the five priority areas. The plan stressed regional collaboration, encouraged the implementation of regional forums, and supported the tracking of progress on a local and regional level.

HVRC has assumed a governance role for the region with respect to the sustainability plan and has created a sustainability working group representing the seven counties as well as many of the not-for-profits and development organizations in the region. At the present time the working group, in cooperation with Center for Research, Regional Education, and Outreach (CRREO), is creating a database of sustainability-related projects funded through the state CFA. The database will include measurable goals and objectives from the sustainability plan and provide a mechanism to track the progress of projects.

HVRC's work will provide the counties with the tools needed to comply with the state mandate that all counties report to the state on an annual basis measuring progress on implementing the goals and objectives of the plan.

SECTION 4. REPORT ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES/PRIORITY PROJECTS FOR THE REGION

The Hudson Valley Regional Council, in pursuit of the development goals stated in Section 3, targets certain projects as likely to succeed in receiving EDA grants. Looking forward, the following projects have been designated as potential economic development opportunities.

A. Potential Economic Development Opportunities

Women's Enterprise Development Center

The Women's Enterprise Development Center (WEDC) submitted an application for renewal of their previous EDA grant, which is utilized to foster entrepreneurship, training and small business incubation in economically distressed communities. WEDC has demonstrated success in its expansion into the Poughkeepsie/Dutchess County area and is expanding its programming to include projects in Ulster, Sullivan, Orange and Rockland counties. This project meets the stated national EDA priorities of job creation, entrepreneurship and small business incubation and developing opportunities in economically distressed communities.

Village of Wappingers Falls

The Village of Wappingers Falls has submitted a preliminary application for review under the EDA Public Works funding program. The project is centered on infrastructure expansion and improvement as a means to encourage and support economic development. Wappingers Falls has engaged in an aggressive campaign to provide economic development opportunities by removing environmental obstacles and developing the municipal infrastructure necessary to accommodate smart growth.

The Empowerment Center

The Empowerment Center in the City of Mount Vernon has submitted a preliminary application to the EDA under its Economic Adjustment Program. The project is geared toward the expansion of a business incubator in Mount Vernon, a city that displays economic distress. The project, if funded, will allow the center to build out the necessary space in its downtown Mount Vernon location so it can expand its programming, which focuses on entrepreneurial training and advising, startup guidance, and community outreach. The Empowerment Center seeks to be a driving force in the revitalization of the significantly distressed city.

Preliminary Applications in Planning

Hudson Valley Regional Council is working with potential applications in Sullivan, Orange, Ulster and Dutchess counties. The projects involve infrastructure improvements that will allow economic development in either economically distressed areas or allow for extensive job retention or creation.

B. Economic Development Projects: Survey Responses

The region's county planners, economic development professionals, and other related organizations were asked to provide a list of current economic development projects that may be eligible for EDA funding. Below is a summary of the responses received. The full responses to this question can be found in Appendix B.

Dutchess County

- Central Dutchess Water Line Extension

Orange County

- CPV Valley Energy – natural gas-powered combined-cycle electric generating facility, 650MW (\$900M investment,), Town of Wawayanda.
- Mid Orange Correctional Facility – repurposing the facility for private use including a dormitory style sports complex and 10 shovel ready industrial pads for commercial use.

Putnam County

- Bull & Barrel Brew Pub – 35 New Jobs, \$1 Million in Capital Investment
- Putnam Hospital Center – 23 new highly skilled jobs; \$3.5 Million in capital investment; Build out of three brand new surgical suites, including implementation of a state-of-the-art device robotics system.
- Fryer Machine Systems – 8,000-square-foot expansion to its manufacturing facility, and creation of an advanced manufacturing lab at Westchester Community College.

Rockland County

- The New York Innovation Accelerator (NYIA), to be located at the Pfizer Pearl River Campus. NYIA would be a partnership between the State University of New York, not-for-profits and private business to help technologically innovative companies scale up by providing access to state-of-art facilities, expertise, resources, and networking needed for next stage development and growth. NYIA comes at a critical time for Rockland County as the 535-acre Pfizer, Inc. campus in Pearl River undergoes repurposing, making NYIA a necessary and critical driver of economic growth in the county and the region.

Sullivan County

- Emerald Corporate Center (ECC) Business Park build out and Rock Hill hamlet revitalization – The ECC was created by Sullivan County in 2002 with EDA funding and now hosts a Crystal Run Healthcare Facility. Full build-out of the park has been hampered by changes in the market for office space, the post 2008 recession, and local zoning restrictions prohibiting light industrial uses. However, zoning amendments that would expand the permitted range of uses are anticipated to be adopted by the Town in early 2015, paving the way for reinvigorated marketing of the site. Funding is needed for site improvements, such as clearing, to facilitate marketing of ECC's remaining parcels, and to plan for and implement infrastructure improvements that would allow the adjacent hamlet center to capitalize on the presence of the business park. These include extending water company lines to serve the

hamlet business district and facilitate infill development, and streetscape improvements that would provide pedestrian links between the business park and the hamlet business district.

Ulster County

- Belleayre Resort at Catskill Park Shandaken –739 acres located in the Central Catskill region near the intersection of the boundaries of Delaware County, Ulster County and Greene County.
- SUNY New Paltz 3D Printing research center
- Catskill Park Visitors Center and Interpretative Center – currently under construction, the interpretive center will be a hub for tourists who visit the Catskill Park and its more than 400,000 scenic, preserved acres of forestland and waters.
- Strategic Taxpayer Relief through Innovative Visions in Education (S.T.R.I.V.E) – a cooperative project between the county, the City of Kingston and SUNY Ulster to reuse a closed elementary school building as a satellite campus for SUNY Ulster. The urban satellite will create a center for education in the heart of Kingston, providing educational and job opportunities for an urban center that was previously underserved.
- Williams Lake Project aka Hudson River Valley Resort
- Wine Village Project Highland – connect two water supply districts and improve systems
- Winston Farm – Saugerties – identified by HVEDC as a premier site for an industrial park – along the New York State Thruway and close to Metro Albany area.

Westchester County:

- The Westchester-Putnam Workforce Investment Board Health Care Connection, Ready to Work Grant-funded by the United States Department of Labor for the period of November 1, 2014 to October 30, 2018. Administered by Westchester/Putnam WIB, received in partnership with Workforce Investment Boards of the City of Yonkers, Rockland, Orange and Dutchess Counties, along with local college and universities and healthcare providers in the region. Goals include the training and retraining of 500 long-term unemployed individuals to fill positions specifically in the growing healthcare industry and need to fill positions and jobs.

Mid Hudson Regional Economic Development Council Four General Areas

In addition to projects being pursued through the Hudson Valley Regional Council, the Mid Hudson Regional Economic Development Council's economic strategies span four general areas, detailed in their annual reports. In 2013, the propriety areas were:

1. Invest in Technology. This implementation strategy attempts to keep New York's key industries current and thriving in the face of rapid technological advance. Specifically, the goal is to invest in biotech, biomedical and healthcare, advanced manufacturing, and information technology. The target investments include state of the art healthcare facilities, petrochemical production facilities, and forward thinking manufacturing hubs.
2. Attract and Retain Mature Industries. This strategy seeks to preserve the integrity of well-established regional industries such as Financial and Professional Services, and Food and

Beverage Distribution. Priority Projects include plans to help small breweries and cider companies to expand into regional entities, as well as introduce a major bottling plant in the region. In 2013, there were no priority projects related to mature industry retention.

3. **Grow Natural Resources.** Agriculture, Waterfront Development, Tourism, and Arts and Culture are prioritized within this implementation strategy. The REDC seeks to capitalize on the natural environmental quality on the region with projects such as the proposed Sing-Sing Museum, Ossining village waterfront development, and revitalization of historic properties for tourism. The only priority project in this area is on track.
4. **Revitalize the region's infrastructure.** With this implementation strategy, the REDC focuses on housing, Urban Centers, and the vital conduits that link communities together. Priority projects include daylighting efforts in the urban center of Yonkers, regional business incubators, and mixed use thoroughfare development. All six priority projects in this area are on track.

Of the 87 total (non-priority included) projects funded through the REDC in 2013, 42 are moving more slowly than anticipated, and only one has been officially terminated. Two projects, both wastewater engineering studies, have been completed.

For details on CFA awards and their progress:

[2012 CFA Awards](#)

[2013 CFA Awards](#)

[2014 CFA Awards](#)

SECTION 5 SCHEDULE OF THE GOALS FOR THE NEXT YEAR

Goal I: Support projects in the region that promote sustainable economic development, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create and retain jobs.

Goal II: Support regional alliances and initiatives that promote sustainable economic development, job creation and job retention. Enhance the climate for economic development activities and initiatives through outreach and partnerships.

Goal III: Promote inter-county cooperation and efficiencies in the key environmental areas of materials management, green infrastructure and water quality.

Goal IV: Encourage regional dialogue on disaster preparedness and economic resilience.

APPENDICES

A. CEDS Annual Performance Update Survey¹⁰

The Hudson Valley Regional Council is in the process of preparing an annual performance report for the [2013-2014 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy \(CEDS\)](#) for our seven county region – the Hudson Valley Economic Development District (HVEDD). A CEDS is required to qualify for U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) financial assistance under its public works, economic adjustment and most planning programs, and is a prerequisite for designation as an EDD. The CEDS is designed to bring together the public and private sectors in creation of an economic roadmap to diversify and strengthen the regional economy. The CEDS opens the door to federal funding that can be used to jumpstart economic development projects that are listed as priorities in the strategy document.

In preparing this report for the EDA we would like your input on the following questions:

- 1 Please provide a list of economic development projects you would like identified in the Performance Report that you are currently working on and may be eligible for EDA funding. <http://www.eda.gov/funding-opportunities/>
- 2 What changes have you seen in the economic environment of the region in 2014?
- 3 a. Would you be interested in serving on the HVRC CEDS Strategy Committee to assist HVRC in developing, revising, and/or replacing the CEDS?

Yes

No

b. Are there any economic development experts of the region, either from the public or private sector that you would recommend for the CEDS Strategy Committee?

¹⁰ This survey was sent to county economic development professionals, county planners and HVRC Board members throughout our seven county region. Only two of our seven counties and one non-profit responded.

B. Survey Responses: Economic Development Projects ¹¹

Dutchess County

- Central Dutchess Water Line Extension

Orange County

- CPV Valley Energy: natural gas-powered combined-cycle electric generating facility, 650MW (\$900M investment), Town of Wawayanda.
- Redevelopment of various brownfield sites , City of Newburgh (including on Scobie Dr.) – infrastructure upgrades associated with these sites.
- Repurposing the Mid Orange Correctional Facility for private use including a dormitory style sports complex and 10 shovel ready industrial pads for commercial use.
- Metro North Railroad / NJ Transit passenger rail service infrastructure needs essential to maintain and enhance critical service, including on-going resiliency and repair work post-storms, construction of a double track in certain reaches, and construction of mid county railyard.
- Newburgh Area water supply intermunicipal interconnections, addressing infrastructure supply links to share water and to build redundancy and access to back up supplies in the most urbanized area of the County.
- Support for growing the inventory of shovel ready commercial sites, including the provision of essential infrastructure accessible to these sites.

Putnam County

- Bull & Barrel Brew Pub --- 35 New Jobs, \$1 Million in Capital Investment; The first craft brewery in Putnam County
- Putnam Hospital Center --- 23 new highly skilled jobs; \$3.5 Million in capital investment; Build out of three brand new surgical suites, including implementation of a state-of-the-art device robotics system.
- Fryer Machine Systems --- 8,000 SF Expansion to their manufacturing facility, and creation of an Advanced manufacturing lab at Westchester Community College

Rockland County

- A major project that REDC and Rockland County is focusing on is the creation of The New York Innovation Accelerator, a public/private partnership with SUNY Rockland, SUNY Stony Brook,

¹¹ This section represents the complete unedited responses to the question asking for current economic development projects you would that may be eligible for EDA funding. Many responses were not 'Project' specific, instead identifying general economic goals and challenges within the region.

SUNY Research Foundation, and REDC—to be located at the Pfizer Pearl River Campus. A detailed project description including a location map was also provide for this project.

Sullivan County

- Shovel Ready Sites – The County’s Partnership for Economic Development is vetting sites within a three mile radius of a highway interchange in the County for development and marketing as shovel ready sites. Three to five sites will be targeted, based on a set of criteria including property owner commitment. Funding will be sought for site improvements to bring them to full shovel-ready status, and for marketing.
- Emerald Corporate Center (ECC) Business Park build out and Rock Hill hamlet revitalization – The ECC was created by Sullivan County in 2002 with EDA funding and now hosts a Crystal Run Healthcare Facility. Full build-out of the park has been hampered by changes in the market for office space, the post 2008 recession, and local zoning restrictions prohibiting light industrial uses. However, zoning amendments that would expand the permitted range of uses are anticipated to be adopted by the Town in early 2015, paving the way for reinvigorated marketing of the site. Funding is needed for site improvements, such as clearing, to facilitate marketing of ECC’s remaining parcels, and to plan for and implement infrastructure improvements that would allow the adjacent hamlet center to capitalize on the presence of the business park. These include extending water company lines to serve the hamlet business district and facilitate infill development, and streetscape improvements that would provide pedestrian links between the business park and the hamlet business district.
- Expanded Broadband and Cellular Service Coverage – The County is pursuing funding to expand internet connectivity and cellphone coverage in unserved areas, in order to support small business development, allow existing business to conduct e-commerce, increase tourism and second home stays, enable second home owners to conduct their business from the County, and facilitate the relocation into the County of people who use the internet to conduct business from home.
- Agricultural Economic Development – Sullivan County’s recent update of its Agriculture and Farmland Preservation Plan focuses on Agricultural Economic Development. Funding is being sought to bring the model of Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) programs to agriculture, via staff to conduct farm visits and assist with business planning, succession planning, operational efficiency, new market opportunities, direct consumer sales, the development of value added product lines and agritourism ventures. Funding is also being sought to support the development of agricultural businesses projects including dairy processing and poultry slaughter and processing facilities.
- Sullivan County Greyfields/Brownfields – The devastation of Sullivan County’s resort-based economy has left the region riddled with dozens of obsolete and abandoned developments – not only former resort hotels and guesthouses, but smaller motels, diners and steam laundries. The derelict appearance of these properties is both a constraint to growing the County’s remaining tourism sector, and deters general business and property investment. The County is seeking funding to create a vacant and abandoned property registry, and to work with owners on

property assessments, stabilization or demolition, and plans for adaptive reuse where appropriate.

Ulster County

- Belleayre Resort at Catskill Park Shandaken –739 acres located in the Central Catskill region near the intersection of the boundaries of Delaware County, Ulster County and Greene County --- recreation/housing/tourism around ski resort could need funding
- The Farm Hub --- Regionally significant – local economies project w/ HVADC – Farm Hub – sited in Ulster Co. includes Columbia and Sullivan County The project is fully funded however it “sets the table” for value added agricultural projects within the county such as Farm to Table or Hudson Valley Harvest.
- SUNY New Paltz – 3D Printing --- 10 million dollar grant – research center – advanced manufacturing – a marriage of the engineering and Art divisions at the University. Funding to create a truly unique research component within the University would be welcome. In addition, creating a model public private interface between the business community and the 3D process which is ideal for prototypes, medical devices, etc. would be excellent way to leverage the lead that New Paltz has in this arena.
- Catskill Park Visitors Center and Interpretative Center --- under construction
- Strategic Taxpayer Relief through Innovative Visions in Education S.T.R.I.V.E project --- Cooperative project with County/ City of Kingston /SUNY Ulster --- reuse of closed Elementary school building partner with SUNY Ulster – creating a center for education adjacent to Kingston High School provides for opportunities for inner city youth for advanced education and job training. Project is under construction offers opportunities for replication in the region and perhaps within the County.
- SUNY Ulster building a technology center on Old Pier I property in Town of Ulster partner with TSEC for job training Expanding access to this program once complete would be nice included in the is the current Guaranteed Jobs Program and /or the recently announced Career Ladder program.
- Williams Lake Project aka Hudson River Valley Resort – funding welcome
- Wine Village Project in Highland 800 housing units and 400,000 sq. ft. of industrial space. All approvals in place needs funding for what could be a regionally significant water supply extension from Highland.9. “Ready to Go” project in Saugerties. County / IDA/ Saugerties created 100,000 sq. ft. for commercial industrial. Project included cooperative process w/ all parties using single engineer all environmental and approvals achieved in less than 5 months at reasonable cost. Process has been replicated in adjoining county. Funding is 50% from the property owner and 50% public funds. Public funding is returned upon sale of the property.
- Two hotel projects in Town of Ulster –Marriott Extended Stay and Holiday Inn. Funding is not needed.

- Ellenville Initiative – Ulster Co. allocated 1 million to assist Ellenville with ED projects that can include needed infrastructure. A local committee has been formed and will drive the discussion and decisions on what is funded. The initiative is indicative of the challenges the community faces. It embraced the Nevele casino but now needs to rethink its future economic development advantages. Longer term this may mean finding a way to create investment in the Nevele, work to create an industrial park at the former Schrade Property. Funding for these studies would be welcome
- Job Training – Office of Employment Training existing guaranteed jobs program that matches training to business needs will be expanded to others who receive public assistance and who may be chronically unemployed by implementing a new pilot program called The Career Ladder. This is a greatly expanded program supported by the Legislature to fill in the gaps between State and Federal dollars, with the ultimate goal of helping our neighbors in need into the workforce and out of the system. This program will be overseen by our Office of Employment & Training and is scheduled to begin later this summer (2015). Additional EDA funding here would be very helpful
- Infrastructure:
 - Kingston Sewage treatment – currently seeking additional FEMA funds to cover critical repairs
 - New Paltz – expansion of sewage capacity to serve housing and industrial growth
 - Ellenville – Infrastructure debt water supply system
 - Highland 9 W – connect two water supply districts and improve systems – could be EDA project impacts Wine Village project and other commercial properties – regional significance
 - County allocated 10 million to fix county roads and bridges in 2015 budget 3 million used to leverage and additional 7 million in capital investment
 - City of Kingston – potential EDA application – major water and wastewater infrastructure needs
 - Esopus – water supply system is literally in the Hudson River filled land plant sits on timber piles and is routinely damaged in storms.
- Winston Farm – Saugerties – identified by HVEDC as a premier site for Industrial park – along thruway close to Metro Albany area – possible nano-technology interest – possible EDA application to develop industrial park – very engaged community.
- Tech City – funding to implement the Tech City campus master plan would be welcome.

Westchester County

From the perspective of “County” projects or countywide initiatives or trends that we are seeing that may lead to projects be eligible for EDA funding:

- The Westchester-Putnam Workforce Investment Board Health Care Connection, Ready to Work Grant-funded by the United States Dept. of Labor for the period -November 1 2014- October 30, 2018.
- Administered by Westchester/Putnam WIB, received in partnership with Workforce Investment Boards of the City of Yonkers, Rockland, Orange and Dutchess Counties, along with local college

and universities and healthcare providers in the region. Goals include the training and retraining of 500 long term unemployed individuals to fill positions specifically in the growing healthcare industry and need to fill positions and jobs.

- Increased involvement with communities and cities in coordinating planning options to identify and maximize downtown economic development opportunities including a focus on increased and improved transportation opportunities for the attraction of businesses seeking downtown mixed use urban settings.
- Increased requests for partnerships and collaboration to improve and enhance infrastructure, particularly in areas such as flood mitigation, water distribution and systems in order to enhance economic development initiatives for commercial, retail and residential opportunities.
- Support for development of additional affordable housing to retain and to attract the diversified workforce needed by employers