

Greene Planning



Greene County Planning and Economic Development 411 Main St. Catskill, NY 12414

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Hudson River Corridor Study

Greene County Hudson River Corridor Study

The Greene County Legislature received New York State Quality Communities grant funding and initiated a planning process to explore regional opportunities for growth and development of the Hudson River corridor. This corridor study will include the municipalities in Greene County that border the Hudson River.



What is a corridor study?

A corridor study extends beyond the boundaries of local municipalities. It can consider local and inter-municipal issues such as nodal development, gateways, traffic demands, and growth and development. The Hudson River Corridor Study will articulate a collective vision for the Hudson River corridor and identify specific actions that can be voluntarily undertaken to implement the vision and assist the county in its policies for planning and economic development.

The goal of this study is to integrate local plans and form a shared regional vision for appropriate growth and development of the Hudson River corridor. A collective regional vision based on shared goals and principles for growth will add value to local plans, creating a whole that is greater than the sum of its individual parts.

What is the goal of the study?

With a centralized location that links the Capital District, the Northern Catskills, and the Hudson River Valley, the Hudson River corridor of Greene County presents an ideal growth corridor. Local plans, goals and development strategies recognize the many opportunities and assets within the corridor.

Who will be involved?

The vision will be developed locally, with input from local leaders, community groups, residents, and other stakeholders. The planning process is sponsored by Greene County Planning & Economic Development Department. Our project partners include Greene County Soil & Water Conservation District, Greene County Industrial Development Agency and Cornell-Cooperative Extension.

It will be facilitated by Behan Planning Associates, a consulting firm with expertise in community and regional planning. An advisory committee consisting of leaders from the corridor municipalities will guide the process. Meetings and workshops will be set up to involve community groups, residents, businesses, and other stakeholders.





What is the role of the advisory committee?

The advisory committee will provide guidance to the project and ensure that it meets the goal of creating a shared regional vision for the corridor. Committee members will also serve as liaisons for their local communities, ensuring that their comprehensive plans and other local initiatives are integrated into the regional vision.

Why do we need a regional vision?

Local plans end at town or village borders, but resources and opportunities often continue beyond local borders. The Hudson River communities share:

- Transportation corridors such as I-87, Route 9W and Route 385;
- The Hudson River shoreline and other environmental features;
- Historic settlement patterns of main streets and hamlets; and
- Employment and real estate markets.

A regional vision helps to coordinate these resources and opportunities and provides ways for communities to work together towards shared projects and goals, while still maintaining local control.

What will be the outcomes of the planning process?

Local leaders and the public will help guide the process and outcomes. The goal of the planning process is to identify a unified vision for growth and development of the Hudson River community and develop policies and standards based on the shared vision and principles established through the planning process. The policies and standards would be adopted on a voluntary basis by the towns and villages within the Hudson River corridor. Greene County's policies and standards and the *Greene County Planning and Zoning Referral Guide* will be updated to be consistent with the regional vision.

In summary, the products of this process will be as follows:

- A **strategic vision plan for the Hudson River towns**, identifying shared goals for growth and development.
- An **update of Greene County's policies and standards**, including the *Planning and Zoning Referral Guide*.
- A **graphic brochure** illustrating the vision and principles for growth and development of the Hudson River towns, to be used for marketing purposes.

How can the regional vision help my town or village?

The power of a strong regional vision can not be underestimated. Many corporations invest in a "sense of place" that is tied to a strong regional vision.

The Napa Valley in California is one example of a place with a clear regional vision—a "sense of place" that becomes a regional marketing brand—resulting in an improved economic climate and enhanced quality of life for each resident.

A cohesive vision for Greene County's river towns can be compelling to community members, as well as potential investors and funding partners, and helps to make the region more marketable. Implementing common goals and joint projects through a regional vision can also be more cost effective for local governments.

The Hudson River Corridor study will provide a vision for the Hudson River towns and the strategies will capitalize on the emerging "sense of place" in the broader Hudson River Valley.

Where can we get more information?

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Project Partners Include:



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension

