



CANASTOTA NY FORWARD PUBLIC MEETING # 1 SUMMARY

May 30, 2024

6:00 – 8:00PM

Canastota Jr/Sr High School,
101 Roberts Street, Canastota

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MEETING OVERVIEW

The first public meeting for Canastota's NY Forward planning process provided an overview of the program. Approximately eighteen people signed in and shared their thoughts about Downtown Canastota.

The consultant team, led by Stantec, presented an overview of the NY Forward program and planning process and described highlights from the Village's application. After the presentation, the consultant team facilitated two engagement exercises. The first was an individual exercise for participants to review and comment on the draft vision statement and goals for the future of downtown on a worksheet. Then, participants talked in small groups to identify strengths, challenges, and opportunities for the NY Forward downtown project area. These discussions concluded with each group sharing their top five (5) priorities with all meeting participants.

ATTENDEES

The consultant team greeted attendees, gave a brief overview of the meeting format and asked them to identify on a map where they lived. The meeting was attended by a mix of people both inside and outside the Downtown area.

NY FORWARD TEAM IN ATTENDANCE

Steve Kearney, Principal, Stantec
Phil Schaeffing AICP, Senior Associate and Planner/Urban Designer, Stantec
Holly Granat, NYS Department of State
Nora Culhane Friedel, Highland Planning
Stephanie Hyde, Highland Planning

DRAFT VISION STATEMENT EXERCISE SUMMARY

The draft vision statement from the Village's NY Forward application was shared with participants. Attendees were asked to write down which parts of the vision resonate with them, what could be better, and to identify anything that might be missing from the vision statement.

Draft Vision: *The Village of Canastota seeks to create a better community for our residents and provide opportunities to ensure the continued growth and prosperity of the village for generations to come.*

Draft Goals:

- *Job Growth*
- *Improved quality of life of Village residents*

- *Housing affordability and availability*

Main themes from the input received include:

- More outdoor recreation space/green space/cycling routes
- Family focused/youth programming
- Boost the Boxing Hall of Fame/other local tourism (canal) – Canastota as a destination
- Support, attract, and maintain downtown small businesses
- Retail locations that keep locals shopping local

Specific suggestions that residents made for improving the vision statement include:

- Highlight canal access
- Play up history of Canastota
- Economic growth opportunities
- Welcoming visitors/tourists

This feedback will be considered as the Local Planning Committee (LPC) revises the vision and goals and works with the consultant team to develop draft strategies that support the vision. It will help tailor the vision and goals to the specific interests and needs of the community.

Full written documentation is included in Attachment B.

THEMES AND PRIORITIES FROM GROUP EXERCISES

Groups of 3-5 participants each had a poster map of the NY Forward area that identified potential projects listed in the Village's application. Those project ideas were provided as examples of potential NYF projects only. Each group discussed four questions and wrote their answers on the posters:

- What features draw people to downtown today?
- What challenges should be addressed?
- What opportunities exist for NY Forward to build on?
- What are the group's Top 5 priorities?

Responses from each of these questions is summarized below:

What features draw people to downtown today?

- Post office
- Bank
- Brew pub

- Pharmacy
- Town/village offices
- Summer bike tours
- Library
- Boxing hall of fame
- Community based feeling
- The canal
- Walkable areas
- Safe areas
- Sports

What challenges should be addressed?

- Better wayfinding
- Business attraction/retention efforts
- Parking at schools and rec areas is too limited and unsafe (emergency services struggle to access locations at peak hours)
- More dining options
- Youth programming
- Need for public comfort amenities

What Opportunities exist for NY Forward to build on?

- Signage
- Connecting green space/trails/recreation space
- Existing rec park needs updates
- Boost boxing hall of fame
- Canal visibility and access
- Bike/ped pathways

Priorities:

- canal access, beautification and clean up
- green space improvements
- downtown as a destination
- multigenerational spaces that support community health
- signage/wayfinding

These general themes are based on the participants' own experiences and observations of the Village and the NY Forward project area. The themes provide a starting point for identifying specific projects and initiatives that could be implemented to improve the area. They will also be used to develop strategies for downtown revitalization.

Full written responses and poster from the small groups are in Attachment C.

ONLINE SURVEY

The Village's NY Forward project webpage (<https://canastota.com/nyforward/>) hosted an online survey with the same questions that were asked at the May 30 meeting. The survey gave people who could not attend the meeting a chance to share their ideas and feedback. It was open until June 21 and received eight responses.

NEXT STEPS

The second Local Planning Committee (LPC) meeting will be held June 6, 2024. Committee members will review feedback from the first public meeting and refine the draft vision and goals. LPC meetings are open to the public to observe, and a public comment period is provided at the end.

The Open Call for Projects opens in mid-June. Interested project sponsors must submit a completed form by July 21 for consideration by the Local Planning Committee (LPC) and consultant team. Forms will be available on the Village's NY Forward webpage.

The second public meeting will be held Thursday, September 19. Attendees will have a chance to review the projects submitted during the Open Call and share their feedback.

ATTACHMENT A: PRESENTATION

Available at:

canastota.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Canastota-NYF_public_meeting_1_5-30-24.pdf

NY Forward - Village of Canastota Individual Vision Statement Exercise



Please help develop the Canastota NYF Vision. Read the draft vision statement that was included in the application and let us know what resonates with you, and what could be better.

DRAFT VISION STATEMENT:

The Village of Canastota seeks to create a better community for our residents and provide opportunities to ensure the continued growth and prosperity of the village for generations to come.

The vision statement is forward-looking and should:

- Be specific to Canastota
- Highlight unique aspects
- Include key characteristics and aspirations

WHAT RESONATES WITH YOU:

WHAT COULD BE BETTER / WHAT IS MISSING FROM THE VISION STATEMENT:

NY Forward - Village of Canastota Individual Goals Exercise

Help us develop the 4-6 goals which will be part of the Strategic Investment Plan. Projects that are recommended for NYF funding at the end of the planning process should help achieve one or more of the goals.

DRAFT GOALS (FROM THE VILLAGE'S APPLICATION):

- Job growth
- Improved quality of life for Village residents
- Housing affordability and availability

WHAT WOULD YOU CHANGE ABOUT THESE 3 INITIAL DRAFT GOALS?

WHAT OTHER GOALS SHOULD THE LOCAL PLANNING COMMITTEE (LPC) CONSIDER?

ATTACHMENT C: GROUP DISCUSSION POSTER & FEEDBACK

VILLAGE OF CANASTOTA, NY
NY FORWARD PROGRAM

VISIONING SESSION



PROJECT STUDY AREA MAP



DOWNTOWN AREA



- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>LEGEND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Study Region ● Beach ● Park ● Area with Open Space ● School ● Park and Recreation ● Historic ● Library ● Potential Site Private ● Potential Site Public | <p>Potential Sites-Private*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Canastota Dairy Products Bldg 2 International Booking-Hall of Fame 3 ZEMA Ice Cream 4 Eric Canal Craft Brewery (Proposed #1) 5 Eric Canal Craft Brewery (Proposed #2) 6 Karl's Custom Framing Building Renovation 7 Renovation of Redburn High Station 8 Renovation of The Majestic Music 9 Renovation of 113 S. Patterson Street for Mixed Use Development | <p>Potential Sites-Public**</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 North Canal Street Enhancements 11 Canastota Fire House Enhancements 12 Canastota Recreation Park 13 Eric Canal History Station at Canastota 14 Marketing, Branding and Signage <p><small>*These sites were identified in the original application for development but are not currently being developed. These sites will not necessarily be an option for building development or other uses during the visioning session and subject to Open Call for Private Sites in the community for all zoning, applications and they were included in the original application.</small></p> |
|---|--|--|

TOP FIVE PRIORITIES

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

What features draw people to downtown today?

LOVE

What challenges should be addressed?

CONCERN

What opportunities exist for NY Forward to build on?

OPPORTUNITY