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City of Oneonta's Final DRI Plan Released by New York State

The New York State Department of State has released the final City of Oneonta Downtown Revitalization Plan (copy attached). The plan was created during a rigorous six month long local planning process. \$14 million in seed capital spread across 14 projects and downtown initiatives are included in the final report submitted to the Governor's Office in February.

"This plan, developed in partnership with the local business community, not-for-profits, our two fine colleges, AO Fox Hospital, and Otsego Now provides us with a unique opportunity to diversify this city's economy and help more Oneonta families to earn a better living and obtain better quality housing," emphasized Oneonta Mayor Gary Herzig. "Improvements to Main Street including facade and signage upgrades, gateway and streetscape enhancements, and upper floor development will be the first projects to be initiated. In the coming months, we will undertake an update to the City Comprehensive Plan and a new study of housing needs in the City of Oneonta. These initiatives will be publicly driven and will be important components of the City's downtown planning process as we seek to build upon the strengths of our historic downtown."

Otsego Now CEO Alexander "Sandy" Mathes, Jr. added, "The process successfully supported the projects identified by our strategic local food and beverage vision. This investment will drive our goal of more people living in, working in, and visiting the City of Oneonta."

Assemblyman William Magee said, "Otsego County offers unlimited potential for expansion opportunities, and these initiatives will boost the

economy and create good jobs. I commend everyone who participated in this DRI process which has successfully focused on creating and maintaining an inviting, compelling, and livable downtown Oneonta.”

Senator James L. Seward said, “Oneonta won New York State DRI funding thanks to a plan that exhibited a compelling vision for economic development and community growth. These projects, conceived by local stakeholders, will help fulfill that vision and transform the city’s downtown. Oneonta has a storied history and I commend everyone who is working together to ensure a blossoming future.”

Mayor Herzig states, "A public informational meeting will be scheduled this Spring to discuss both the plan and the planning process ahead. Once again, I would like to thank Governor Cuomo for his vision in recognizing the importance of a vibrant downtown and for investing in the future of the City of Oneonta. Our city has also received exceptional support from the NYS Department of State and Homes and Community Renewal for which I am grateful."