



Regional Economic
Development Councils



Central NY Downtown Revitalization Initiative: Oswego Awards



Office of Planning
and Development



Homes and
Community Renewal

Project Name	Project Description	Award
Create a Multi-Building Mixed Use Development on West First Street	Create a multi-building, mixed-use commercial and residential project to replace existing buildings and a vacant lot on West First Street. Up to 40 new housing units will be created downtown, which will generate more 24/7 downtown activity, improve visual aesthetics and support nearby businesses. A collaborative multi-owner partnership was created to develop these buildings as one unified project.	\$2,000,000
Provide Housing Options in New Harbor View Square Mixed-Use Development	Transform an underutilized industrial brownfield site on the waterfront in downtown Oswego into a mixed-use residential and commercial development that will provide 75 units of new housing and 8,000 sf of ground floor retail and commercial space along the West First Street corridor. The new development will provide much-needed housing options to the downtown and will activate the blocks between the heart of downtown and Lake Ontario, better connecting downtown to the lakefront a creating a more vibrant pedestrian environment.	\$740,000
Transform the Aging Midtown Plaza	Create an attractive, mixed-use gateway development on the east side of the Oswego River with 45,000 sf of commercial space and 95 housing units. The existing structures on the site, which have long been an eyesore for the downtown, will be demolished and a new attractive anchor development will take their place as an anchor and catalyst for additional investment and growth on the east side of the Oswego River.	\$2,000,000
Restore the Historic Buckhout-Jones Building	Stabilize and restore the façade of the historic Buckhout-Jones building located in the center of downtown. The building, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, houses the Children’s Museum of Oswego, and is a centerpiece in downtown Oswego. Renovations will improve the appearance of the building and ensure that it continues to exist intact into the future.	\$180,000
Transform the Historic Cahill Building into Upscale Housing Along the River	Provide riverfront dining, build six housing units in a historic building and build six new townhomes on the same site to create additional housing choices. The Cahill building is the oldest structure in Oswego, serving as a strong symbol of both the City’s past and its new future with the DRI funds. It was recently saved from the wrecking ball and stabilized by a local developer to make the project possible.	\$700,000
Create a Pocket Park on Market Street	Create a pocket park on city property in a key central downtown location—adjacent to a cluster of DRI projects surrounding the site. Design a flexible, creative small public space for community gatherings and public events space, which will provide a much-needed connection between W. First Street to Water Street.	\$80,000
Create an Indoor Water Park as a new Downtown Destination	Construct the new indoor Lake Ontario Water Park to attract visitors and create a four-season family destination downtown, linked to an existing hotel and event/conference center near the waterfront. The facility will build on existing anchor developments and attractions in the downtown to strengthen the appeal as a family destination.	\$500,000
Renovate the Children’s Museum of Oswego	Renovate space and install hands-on educational and cultural exhibits for the Children’s Museum of Oswego, located on the ground floor of the historic Buckout-Jones Building. The museum upgrades will enhance the ability of this local attraction to bring visitors to downtown Oswego.	\$300,000
Add Housing to a Renovated Gateway Building	Redevelop a single-story structure on the corner of West First Street and West Bridge Street into a two-story mixed use building that will activate this key intersection in the core of the downtown. The completely renovated building will provide high quality ground floor retail space and will include a vertical addition to add 12 upper story residential units and a roof-top deck with views of the Oswego River that will be used as outdoor restaurant dining. Parking will be provided for residents in the building’s basement.	\$1,000,000
Support Local Business Growth, Building Renovation and Outdoor Programming	Establish a revolving loan for private improvements to commercial interiors; a combined grant/loan fund for façade improvements; matching grants for renovating upper floors for housing; and a matching grant program for outdoor programming in the downtown. This investment will encourage additional investment in existing downtown buildings and support active programming to attract more visitors.	\$600,000
Perform a Complete Streets Streetscape Make-Over on West Bridge Street	Transform an uninviting section of West Bridge Street at a critical downtown intersection into a pedestrian- and bike-friendly streetscape through Complete Streets streetscape features such as sidewalks that are ADA-compliant; cross-walks and sidewalk bump-outs; street striping; and green infrastructure. This project anchors and supports an important cluster of surrounding DRI projects, and provides a safe, attractive and appealing connection between upper downtown and the waterfront area. This project builds on two other investments from the Governor—a recent \$500,000 grant from NYS DOT’s Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) to make sidewalks ADA-compliant along this corridor; and another previous DOT grant for complete streets improvements along another section of the Rt. 104 corridor.	\$1,000,000
Improve the River Walk	Construct improvements to the riverfront trail network to provide better connections to the downtown and offer more user amenities. Upgrades will include new fencing, landscaping, lighting, seating, and signage as well as new access points and signage. These improvements will encourage greater use of the trail and increase its ability to attract and retain visitors to the downtown.	\$600,000



A Division of Empire State Development