

MID-HUDSON DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION INITIATIVE TEMPLATE

BASIC INFORMATION

Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) Region: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Municipality Name: Village of Washingtonville

Downtown Name: Village of Washingtonville

County: Orange

Downtown Description - Provide an overview of the downtown and summarize the rationale behind nominating this downtown for a Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) award):

First settled in 1731, the Village of Washingtonville was named in honor of President George Washington and contains America’s oldest winery. The Village has numerous other commercial enterprises, including several smaller malls with local and chain retailers, and provides cultural and commercial offerings for the surrounding area. The Village contains a healthy set of additional assets that support local businesses and can be leveraged for future economic growth, including:

High quality of life, local character, and charm, Waterfront access, Access to open space and outdoor recreation, Proximity to large market and labor force of New York City, Highly skilled labor force, Active community members and organizations

DOWNTOWN IDENTIFICATION

This section should be filled out with reference to the criteria set forth in the DRI Guidelines. **Answers to each question are limited to one page each.**

1) Boundaries of the Downtown Neighborhood. Detail the boundaries of the targeted neighborhood, keeping in mind that there is no minimum or maximum size, but that the neighborhood should be compact and well-defined. Core neighborhoods beyond a traditional downtown or central business district are eligible, if they can meet other criteria making them ripe for investment.

Office buildings, business and industrial parks, manufacturing, warehouses, storage facilities, groceries, restaurants, banks, lodging, storefronts, downtown center, and seasonal/tourism destinations

2) Size. Outline why the downtown, or its catchment area, is of a size sufficient to support a vibrant, year-round downtown, with consideration of whether there is a sizeable existing, or increasing, population within easy reach for whom this would be the primary downtown. Our community is in the crossroads of the thruway, RT84 and Rt17 90 minutes from NYC Our area support B&B’s, Food establishments & the Oldest Winery in American – Brotherhood Winery. We have approximately 7,000 residents in a 2.5 Square mile area.

3) Past Investments & Future Investment Potential. Describe how this downtown will be able to capitalize on prior, and catalyze future, private and public investment in the neighborhood and its surrounding areas.

About 15 years ago DOT reconstructed our major state intersection of Rt208 and 94 where they invested a lot in sidewalks, trees etc. It’s time for us to refresh and add to the existing street scape with old fashion pole lamps, plantings, trees, brick cross walks and funds to help our local business enhance their building facades.

- 4) **Job Growth.** Describe how recent or impending job growth within, or in close proximity to, the downtown will attract professionals to an active life in the downtown, support redevelopment, and make growth sustainable in the long-term.

We have a vibrant downtown area with new owners making positive changes to their businesses. We also have a zoning area for office/residential area of medical professional and other businesses. The Village is considering expanding the OR zone along 94 and 208 to bring in more businesses.

- 5) **Attractiveness of the Downtown.** Identify the properties or characteristics the downtown possesses that contribute or could contribute, if enhanced, to the attractiveness and livability of the downtown. Consider, for example, the presence of developable mixed-use spaces, housing at different levels of affordability and type, healthy and affordable food markets, walkability and bikeability, and public parks and gathering spaces.

Moffat Library, Brotherhood Winery, Our constable police booth, Police station was the original firehouse, Stafford building, there are many original buildings dating back to late 1800's. Our downtown area is mixed use of apartment's usually second floor and businesses on the first floor. Our downtime area is walkable and bikeable from any area. Our three senior centers are located close enough to walk for food shopping, banking and post office.

- 6) **Policies to Enhance Quality of Life.** Articulate the policies in place that increase the livability and quality of life of the downtown. Examples include the use of local land banks, modern zoning codes, complete streets plans, or transit-oriented development. If policies achieving this goal are not currently in place, describe the ability of the municipality to create and implement such policies.

Our Village is currently in discussions to review the master plan and all zoning codes to see if any changes are necessary to enhance the quality of life for all businesses and residents. We hope to include a committee of residents and businesses for the vital input.

- 7) **Local Support.** Set forth the local and community support that exists for the revitalization of this downtown and the commitment among local leaders and stakeholders to building and implementing a strategic investment plan. Identify an initial local lead for the program that will work with outside experts to convene a local DRI Planning Committee to oversee the plan.

For now I will be the conduit for the information - Tom DeVinko 845-849-4523

- 8) **Other.** Provide any other information that informed the nomination of this downtown for a DRI award.

Our Community Vision - To create a resilient and vibrant environment in the Village of Washingtonville that embraces the community's history, charm, and character while providing for future economic stability. Through stake holder driven action the Village will focus its efforts to foster economic vitality.