

Projects Undertaken by OCFC in 2018:

In order to strengthen economic development in Orange County, in 2018 the OCFC undertook the following:

- The OCFC extended its 2015 authorization of \$50,000 to the CCE for architectural and engineering services to directly support the development of the education and job training center at the CCE's Education Center and 4-H Park. Construction began in 2018 and CCE has fully utilized the granted funds.
- The Village of Goshen, the County Seat, undertook a community visioning process to identify the future path for the Village which has resulted in the "Goshen 2020 Vision." The Village has undertaken over \$150,000 in projects to make its downtown business district more walkable, more community-centric and more business-friendly. The Village requested the OCFC to assist in its "Vision" through a project expenditure for repairs to a bus shelter, installation of new street and directional signs and the purchase and placement of street furniture and landscaping features. The OCFC determined that it would support this project in the amount of \$20,000 as a means of fostering economic development, enhancing tourism and recreation opportunities in the County Seat. Funds were extended to 2019 as the project was not completed as initially intended in 2018.
- The Village of Florida has undertaken the lengthy and expensive task of restoring the historical landmarks of the William Seward Homestead and The Mapes House. This is one of many efforts to restore the Village Main Street corridor, renovate a blighted property and encourage economic development and tourism. The Mapes House is proposed to be an educational center for students within Orange County and the completed project will function as a learning center and meeting house. The Village requested the OCFC to assist with restoration of the Mapes House porch and to repair and/or replace windows. The OCFC determined that it would support this project in the amount of \$50,000 as a means to create educational opportunities, preserve historically significant landmarks and enhance tourism. Funds were extended to 2019 as the project was not completed as initially intended in 2018.
- The Village of Highland Falls received a \$500,000 Restore NY Grant to remove paint and restore exteriors of eight brick buildings in the Main Street corridor and to create an attractive downtown for residents, visitors, current and prospective businesses. The grant requires a mandatory expenditure for engineering costs that are not covered by the grant. The Village has a limited tax base with vast expanses of tax-exempt Federal and State lands putting a heavy tax burden on taxpayers. The Village requested the OCFC to assist with \$60,000 engineering costs. The OCFC determined that it would support this project in the amount of \$45,000 as a means of fostering economic development and enhancing tourism. It is anticipated the restoration project will be completed in the fourth quarter of 2019, with the engineering portion taking place in the winter of 2018-2019.