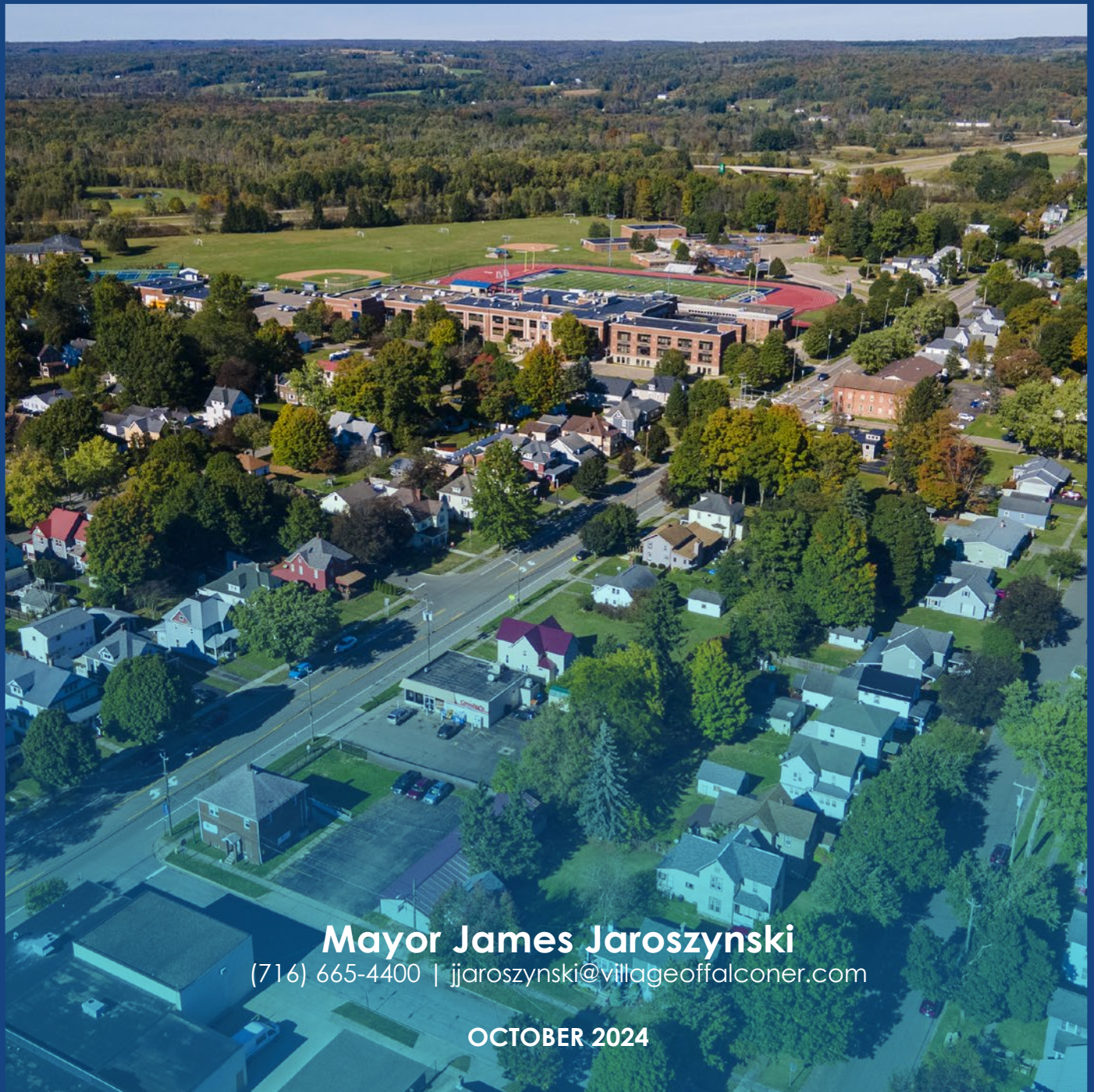


Western New York Regional Economic
Development Council **Chautauqua County**

VILLAGE OF FALCONER

NY Forward Program Round 3



Mayor James Jaroszynski

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OCTOBER 2024

GEOGRAPHIC AREA

GEOGRAPHIC CONTEXT / FOCUS AREA

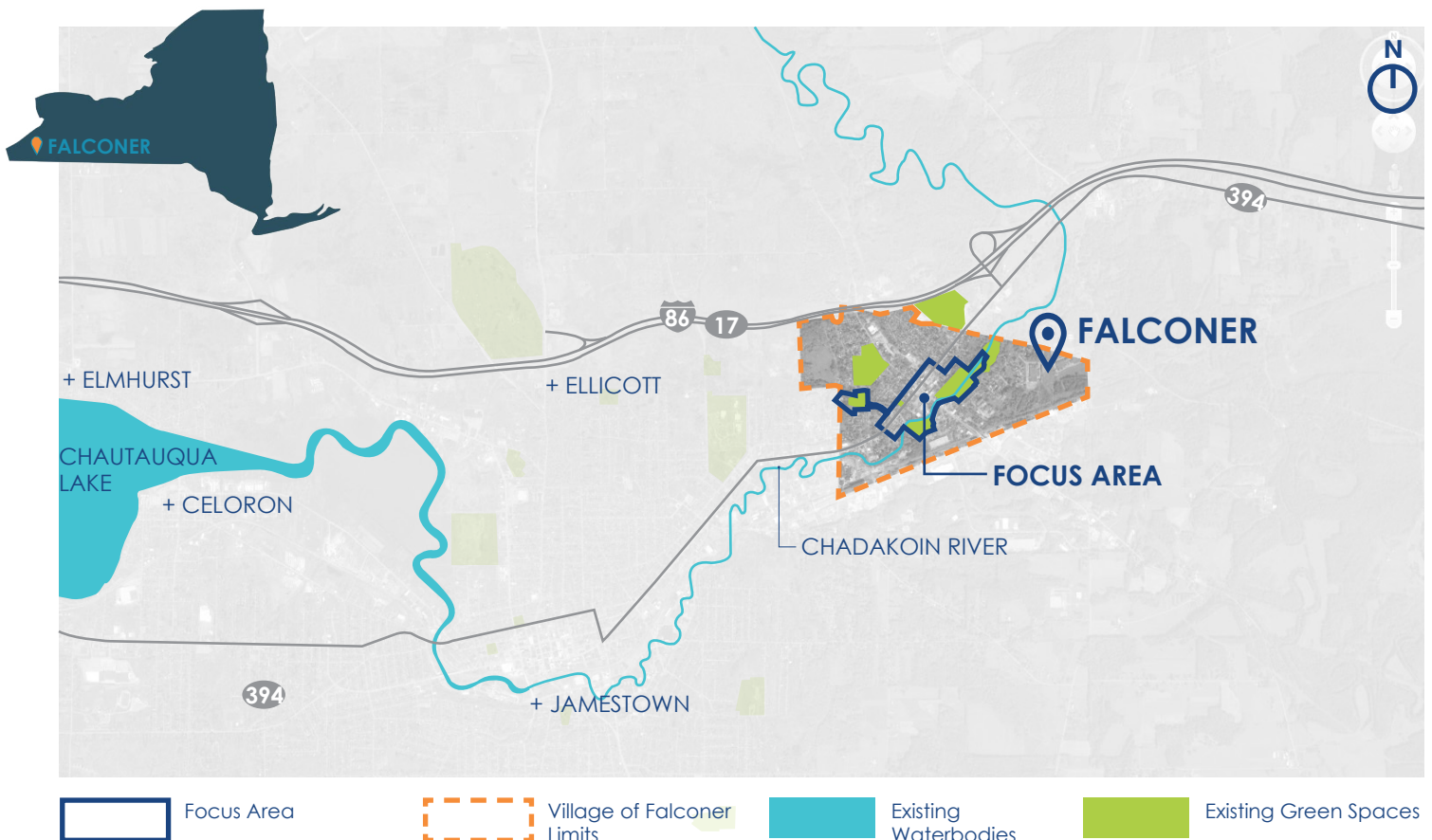
Falconer, a small rural village in Western New York, is located in the southern portion of Chautauqua County. Specifically known for the craftsmanship of furniture and tools, the Falconer community is proud of its historic roots of manufacturing and is making strides to establish its Village identity as a tourist destination and home to new families. Partnered with local business owners and active members of the community, the Village is making strides to rebuild its Main Street corridor by showcasing the Falconer community, creating a sense of place, and strengthening the economic and tourism potential for the Village. The Village of Falconer prioritizes its strong sense of community and is making strides to revitalize the Village as a whole.

Currently, the Village of Falconer consists of mixed-use development; with a variety of street-level shops, eateries, and small businesses with some residences above. However, as with any small community over time, the

existing buildings and infrastructure need improvements in order to reinvigorate and enliven it. Falconer's busy Main Street corridor offers an opportunity for the Village to entice new development and spur private investment. Its close proximity to two major transit routes makes the Village an ideal location to attract visitors traveling through Chautauqua County.

The Focus Area for the Village of Falconer's NY Forward Application starts within the Village's Center on Main Street and expands to include Falconer Street, Everett Street, and the Village/County-owned parks within walking distance of the Main Street corridor with the intention of strengthening the connection from Falconer's Main Street to its many open green spaces and the Chadakoin River waterfront. Re-establishing Falconer as a walkable destination with many shops, local businesses, and access to parks and recreation opportunities will improve the quality of life of its residents, attract new investment and draw visitors from the I-86 corridor.

Context Map: Village of Falconer



QUALITY OF LIFE

QUALITY OF LIFE

The quality of life in Falconer has and will continue to improve as a result of the dedication and collective efforts of Village residents and leadership, as well as the capital and private investments made over the last several years in the community. Strategic investments from both public and private sectors have transformed Falconer into a vibrant community filled with opportunities. Local business owners are enhancing Main Street with building renovations and improved storefronts. Additionally, the community offers diverse housing options, from affordable apartments to single-family homes, alongside public projects that enhance residents' access to green spaces and recreational amenities. These transformative projects will encourage new visitors seeking a weekend getaway and draw new residents to a community bursting with new energy.



PersNikkity Pies Storefront, 2024



West Main Mercantile Grand Opening, 2024

We support local businesses & are accommodating to future industry. The Village of Falconer is actively supporting local businesses by encouraging small business owners to renovate buildings along Main Street. These efforts not only enhance the aesthetic appeal of the area but also create a more inviting environment for customers. By fostering a revitalized business district, Falconer is positioning itself to attract future industries while simultaneously boosting the local economy and creating job opportunities for residents.

We enhance our parks and improve access to our waterfront. In alignment with the Village's vision to provide a variety of amenities for its residents, the Village has invested in the improvement of its parks. Partnered with the Falconer Rotary Club and active members of the community, the Village has dedicated much time and investment to improve the Village's many parks. The Village's annual Beautification Day in the spring focuses on the Chadakoin River and Moon Brook, two natural resources that flow through the Village.



Concerts in Davis Park



28th Annual Spring Clean-Up Day, 2024

QUALITY OF LIFE



Moon Brook in Falconer Park

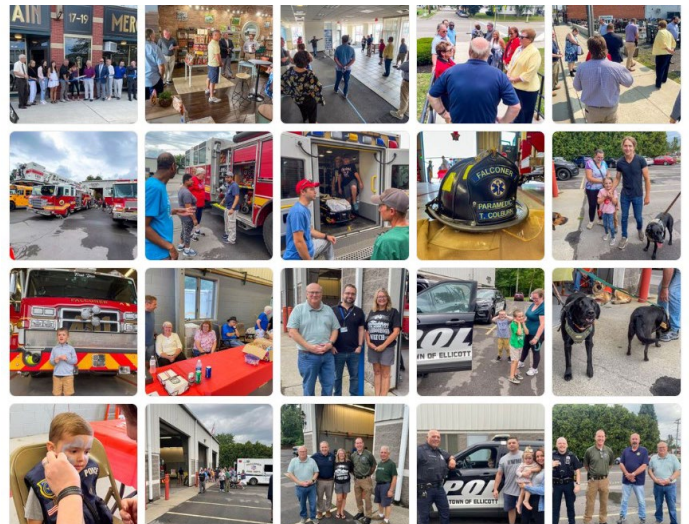
The Village offers approximately 52 acres of greenspace located close to the Village’s central business district and nearby neighborhoods; all fall within walking distance from Falconer’s Downtown area and Falconer Middle / High School and Harvey C. Fenner Elementary School. The Village and Falconer Rotary club have made significant efforts to improve the amenities within their parks to include greater diversification of recreation, protection of natural resources, and circulation linkages for possible new development. Such initiatives encourage public health through outdoor physical activity and attract/retain residents and visitors while providing access to the Chadakoin River and Moon Brook.

We have a unique manufacturing & farming history. The Falconer community is proud of its historic roots of manufacturing and is specifically known for the craftsmanship of furniture and tools. The W.T. Falconer Manufacturing Company was started in 1888. It was the area’s first industry and one of the oldest furniture makers in U.S. history. Today, it is known as Fancher Chair and is still a successful industry in Falconer with approximately 125 employees. Fancher Chair was recognized by New York State and was added into the state’s Historic Business Preservation Registry for having contributed to the state’s history. Fancher Chair and Ellison Bronze Inc. are two manufacturing companies that have significantly contributed to Falconer’s growth as a Village. These companies’ locations in town preserve the historic character of Falconer’s Main Street buildings.

The Village of Falconer is committed to evolving while retaining its unique, community-centric charm. This year the Village offered its first ‘Made in Falconer’ event, giving residents and visitors an opportunity to tour local manufacturers, shop, and dine in celebration with local businesses. A Falconer History Trolley Tour is also offered by Falconer’s local historian to educate residents and tourists on Falconer’s rich historic past.



We attract visitors from the greater Chautauqua area. The Village of Falconer hosts many community events and festivals throughout the year attracting residents from nearby villages and visitors from the greater Chautauqua area. These events showcase the Falconer community, create a sense of place, and strengthen the economic and tourism potential for the Village by encouraging culturally and socially diverse groups to connect to the larger community. These community-wide events encourage all people to interact and strengthen the bonds between residents while improving the well-being and quality of life throughout the Village. The Village of Falconer prioritizes its strong sense of community and is making strides to reestablish its Village identity.



Village of Falconer Events, 2024

RENEWAL + INVESTMENT

RENEWAL + INVESTMENT



The Village of Falconer experienced two devastating fires along the western side of its Main Street corridor that severely destroyed four mixed-use commercial properties and six businesses. While some businesses were able to find commercial space elsewhere in the downtown, others were forced to relocate to other parts of the village or neighboring communities, or they closed entirely. More than two dozen residents were also displaced following the fires.

Falconer's downtown core was severely impacted by these events. Due to lack of insurance, abatement costs, and legal proceedings from the first fire, a multi-year cleanup delay left huge debris piles visible for residents and visitors alike. Today, several voids where buildings once stood can be found within the Village streetscape, greatly reducing the amount of foot traffic, housing, and economic activity.

In September 2022, the Village surveyed the remaining commercial buildings located within the downtown corridor and determined that 46% of these buildings were working at full capacity, 33% were deemed vacant, and the remaining 21% were underutilized.

Over the past six years, several private investors have stepped forward to renovate many of the remaining buildings along Main Street in efforts to reinvigorate the downtown core with new shops, eateries, and housing opportunities. These new building renovations by private investors support the Village's vision for revitalization and have created further economic opportunities within downtown.



Photo By: Andy Palermo; WRFA Radio News Article

Fire on W. Main Street, March 2017



Fire on W. Main Street, 2018

PAST INVESTMENT

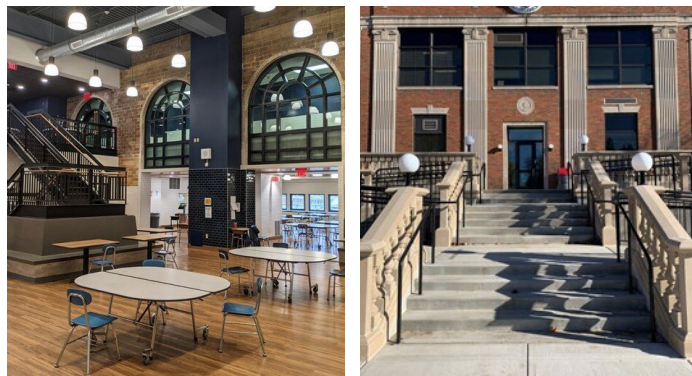
These new businesses will continue to thrive with the implementation of the proposed projects included in the Village's Downtown Revitalization Master Plan and through funding awarded through the NY Forward Program.

The Village of Falconer and various property owners have focused considerable attention and public and private investment on revitalization efforts to date. These past efforts include:

Over the past ten years the Village has made several **infrastructure improvements** including the implementation of a walking path in the Village Park, **adoption of a Complete Streets resolution** in 2016, the **conversion of their existing street lights to LED power in 2017**, and the **remodeling of buildings along Main Street through private development**.

From 2016 to 2021, the Falconer Central School District completed a three-phase capital improvement project throughout the school district. These renovations included building improvements to K-12 education buildings, main entrance and secure entry additions, cafeteria renovations, a new synthetic turf field with an athletic track, new parking and site improvements, Falconer Middle and High School gymnasium updates, science room improvements, and more.

The Village of Falconer Comprehensive Plan, completed by Ingalls Planning & Design in December 2019, is being used to guide the community, both private and public sectors, to make improvements and to determine actions that affect the future of the Village. In October 2020, the



Falconer Central School Renovations, 2021

Village **updated its zoning code** to advance the property values and property potentials within the Village.

The Village recently received funds from CCPEG through the Partnership for Economic Growth Grant in March 2023 to develop a **Downtown Revitalization Master Plan**. Development of this Master Plan was identified as an action item in the Village's Comprehensive Plan. The Village partnered with CREDC, CCPEG, and members of the community to identify priority projects focused on the transformation of the Village's downtown core into a walkable, livable community with access to many amenities.

The Village of Falconer is proudly establishing its identity as a hub of manufacturing and community engagement, highlighted by the upcoming 'Made in Falconer' event. This celebration will spotlight local employers like Fancher Chair, Dahlstrom Roll Form, Ellison Bronze, Falconer Printing, Hanson Sign, and Stuart Tool & Die, showcasing the rich industrial heritage of the village. In addition to its manufacturing roots, Falconer is experiencing a vibrant growth of new businesses, such as PersNikkity Pies, Jamestown Auto Supply, The Hearing Place, This & That, West Main Mercantile, and Lady T's Meraki Motif, revitalizing the downtown core and fostering a spirit of entrepreneurship. Recent park improvements, including the addition of a disc golf course and a permanent cornhole court, invite both residents and visitors to enjoy outdoor activities and participate in tournaments, enhancing community cohesion, and promoting the unique charm of Falconer. Together, these initiatives reflect a village in full bloom, embracing its manufacturing legacy while welcoming new opportunities for growth and recreation.



Mercantile, 17-19 W. Main Street

FUTURE POTENTIAL

FUTURE POTENTIAL

Enhancing the downtown corridor through the development of Main Street Design Guidelines and Standards.

The development of guidelines to improve the streetscape and existing building infrastructure was identified as a high-priority project by the community in the 2019 Comprehensive Plan that would enhance the public realm and draw more people to the Village's downtown corridor. Developing a plan for future development will build an attractive, consistent Main Street character, create a sense of place for the community, and increase future investment along the Main Street corridor. In addition to providing an inviting gateway with streetscape improvements, the proposed project will provide an excellent example of how the Village is working to improve the quality of life for its existing residents, supporting local businesses, and attracting future industry. This transformative project will be a showcase project for neighboring communities.

Implementation of streetscape improvements to reinvigorate the downtown corridor and establish the Village as a destination for tourists and a home for residents.

The implementation of the Main Street design guidelines and streetscape improvements would result in a more attractive, walkable downtown with new businesses, increased foot traffic, and employment opportunities that provide necessary goods/services to residents and visitors. These improvements will also facilitate opportunities that attract Southern Tier Expressway (I-86) commuters to the Village, retain existing residents and businesses, and provide a greater economic benefit and quality of life to the Village and its residents. Revitalizing the community with a more attractive downtown will draw visitors throughout the region, attract people to reside within the Village, and retain residents who already reside in Falconer. The proposed improvements will be a tremendous asset to the State, County, and Village by offering improved accessibility and circulation and building redevelopment.

Incorporation of multi-modal and complete street techniques to create a safer, more walkable downtown for all ages and abilities.

It was identified in the Village's Comprehensive Plan that the community was in need of enhancing its Main Street to be safer and accessible for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists of all ages and abilities. With the revitalization of the Village, it is essential to consider the needs of all people and to further enhance the streetscape with a complete streets approach, including the incorporation of bike lanes on Falconer Street and Everett Street, high visibility crosswalks, curb extensions, and other streetscape amenities. These projects will strengthen the Village of Falconer as an accessible destination for visitors and contribute to its recreational core.



New Disc Golf Grand Opening, August 2023



Cornhole Grand Opening in Falconer Park, 2024



FUTURE POTENTIAL

Improving amenities within Falconer's existing parks to increase use and establish programming. Falconer houses four neighborhood parks: Falconer Park, Lions Memorial Park, Davis Park, and Abe Mattison Millrace Park, which act as important recreational resources within the Village and County overall.

The existing amenities, both passive and active, of Abe Mattison Millrace Park, include picnic tables, grills, walking paths, a canoe launch, and access to the Chadakoin River. Falconer Park, the largest and most utilized park of the four, is located on the western side of the Village and consists of tennis and basketball courts, a playground, walking paths, three pavilions, picnic areas with grills, and access to Moon Brook creek. Davis Park, located near the Village Hall, is mostly used for passive recreation and small gatherings such as summer music performances. Lions Memorial Park has two baseball fields and an additional basketball court. However, as with any public park over time, the existing park facilities are in need of improvements. The Village's parks create many opportunities for physical activity but also help to keep residents connected and engaged. By pursuing park improvements that provide a wider array of recreational activities, including upgrades to existing amenities, providing new site features, and establishing programming, the Village can continue to retain residents and attract visitors from across the region.

The Village has begun to expand on the amenities within its Parks. In 2022, the Village of Falconer was awarded matching funds through a Rotary Foundation grant to install a disc golf course within the Park. With its installation in Spring 2023 and grand opening in August 2023, Falconer's new Disc Golf Course has already begun to attract players from across Chautauqua County. In July 2023, the Village of Falconer was awarded grant funds from the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation to install two (2) concrete corn hole sets for daily use and Village tournaments. Their installation was completed in 2024 and is a highly used feature within the Park.

Utilization of the Chadakoin River waterfront to expand recreational opportunities, improve public access, and establish the Village of Falconer as a destination for those boating along the Chadakoin.

The Chadakoin River is located within walking distance of Falconer's downtown corridor. It runs through the Village offering users access to a beautiful natural feature from Abe Mattison Millrace Park. Currently, there are walking paths along the water's edge as well as an existing bridge that allows park users to cross from one bank to the other. This river is a great asset to the Village offering passive recreation and educational signage opportunities. By updating the existing walking paths, public access points, and seating opportunities along the river the Village can begin to utilize the Chadakoin River waterfront and increase the interactions between park users and this natural feature.



Chadakoin River, 2023



Existing Foot Bridge Across the Chadakoin River, 2023

RECENT + IMPENDING JOB GROWTH

RECENT + IMPENDING JOB GROWTH

The Western New York Strategies for Prosperity highlight the importance of investing in downtowns, villages, and neighborhoods, especially implementing plans for smaller villages that create an attractive downtown corridor that help to retain existing residents and promote extended stays and higher visitor spending. The Village of Falconer, with support from its community, is making strides towards implementing the action items listed within its Comprehensive Plan to create a village that will improve residents' quality of life and foster regional employment through existing and new local businesses. *By revitalizing its Main Street, enhancing park amenities, reusing underutilized buildings, implementing complete streets methods, and utilizing the Chadakoin River waterfront, Falconer will continue to reestablish itself as a destination within the greater Chautauqua County area.*



Little Santa House Free Library, 2024

There are a number of employers within the Falconer area including: Bush Industries, Monofrax LLC, SKF USA Inc, Jamestown Container, Serta Simmons Bedding, Acu-Rite, Fancher Chair Co., Dahlstrom Roll Form, Ellison Bronze, Falconer Printing, Hanson Sign, and Stuart Tool & Die, to list just a few; however, many employees live outside of Falconer. The Village recognizes the importance of creating a more livable downtown that caters to those living and working within the Village boundary and is planning to make considerable efforts to improve the Village housing market to successfully compete for new residents and new businesses.

As described in the Economic Recovery Strategy for Western New York, smaller downtowns should strive to implement a plan to create a more vibrant downtown with ideal conditions for economic growth and innovation. The Village of Falconer is working to create a neighborhood that will attract talent, foster new business development, and retain existing employers/residents by revitalizing its Main Street, providing additional recreational opportunities, and reusing underutilized buildings.



Lady T's Meraki Motif

Combined with the Village's other initiatives to create a more livable, attractive streetscape, the Village continues to invest in its downtown to retain/expand local businesses, attract new residents and investors to the Village, and create a strong sense of place. Improvements to its downtown buildings and streets further contribute to Falconer's economic potential. It is the vision of the Village and greater Falconer community to showcase Falconer's spirit through its history, culture, recreation activities, and the design of its community.

RECENT + IMPENDING JOB GROWTH

New property owners along Main Street are in the process of renovating or have recently renovated existing buildings for new shops, eateries, and housing opportunities. PersNikkity Pies, a new bakery located on the northeast portion of Main Street opened its doors in May 2023. As current employers expand and new small businesses multiply, Falconer is expanding the available diversified job opportunities within its downtown core with the expectation of more to become available.



Grand Opening of PersNikkity Pies, 2023



Grand Re-Opening of Crosby's, 2024



The Hearing Place Grand Opening, 2024



Jamestown Auto Supply

The Village of Falconer, NY, has experienced promising job growth over the past year, with new businesses enhancing the vibrancy of the Main Street business core.

Notable additions include Jamestown Auto Supply, The Hearing Place, This & That, West Main Mercantile, and Lady T's Meraki Motif, each contributing to a diverse commercial landscape. Additionally, an existing bank building has been earmarked for repurposing into a new Dunkin' Donuts, further bolstering local employment opportunities and attracting visitors. This wave of new businesses reflects Falconer's commitment to economic development and community revitalization.

The Village of Falconer's many events bring vibrancy and excitement to its downtown core. Various events, such as National Night Out, Made in Falconer, the Summer Band Concert Series, the Annual Santa Parade and Craft Bazaar, and the Annual Beautification Day, strengthen Falconer's community connections and emphasize the significance of arts and culture. These activities attract tourism and strengthen community pride.

The Village of Falconer utilizes its strategic location, cultural richness, and a variety of employment and housing options to foster a resilient and flourishing community.

SUPPORTIVE LOCAL POLICIES

SUPPORTIVE LOCAL POLICIES

The Western New York Strategies for Prosperity also highlight the importance of investing in downtowns, villages, and neighborhoods, especially implementing plans for smaller villages that create an attractive downtown corridor to help retain existing residents and promote extended stays and higher visitor spending.

Village of Falconer Comprehensive Plan

The Village of Falconer, with support from its community, is making strides towards implementing the action items listed within its Comprehensive Plan to create a village that will improve residents' quality of life and foster regional employment through existing and new local businesses. Development of a Downtown Revitalization Master Plan was identified as an action item in the Village's Comprehensive Plan. By revitalizing its main street, enhancing park amenities, reusing underutilized buildings, implementing complete streets methods, and activating the Chadakoin River waterfront, Falconer will begin to reestablish itself as a destination within the greater Chautauqua County area.

Updated Zoning Code

The Village is making an effort to plan for the future, improve the Village's attractiveness, and address changing demographics with projects such as updating the Village's zoning code, adopting a Complete Streets resolution, and participating in the development of a Downtown Revitalization Master Plan. By making recent updates to their zoning code the Village can regulate the use of land and buildings to protect and promote the quality of life for residents within those boundaries.

Downtown Revitalization Master Plan

With the development of a Downtown Revitalization Master Plan, the Village can create a community-driven plan for future development and improvements within its downtown core. The plan highlights projects prioritized by a Steering Committee and the Falconer community to determine a path for future funding and implementation.

Pro-Housing Community

The Village has recently completed a resolution to become Pro-Housing Community Certified. This resolution stated the commitment to "pro-housing" principles along with submitting the required housing and zoning data. The Pro-Housing Communities Program supports housing growth to address the housing shortage in New York State. The program aims to support communities in growing their housing stock to provide a variety of housing options to potential future residents.



Abe Mattison Park



Village of Falconer Bird's Eye View

PUBLIC SUPPORT

PUBLIC SUPPORT

A critical part of the planning process is facilitating methods to gather public input. *The Village of Falconer has offered many public engagement opportunities to date to actively involve residents and stakeholders in the planning, funding, and implementation of its revitalization efforts.* The Village leaders recognize the importance of community participation and together they designed a planning process to actively involve the community.

The Village of Falconer hosted two public workshops, one of which included a presentation by the Small Business Development Center (SBDC), to ensure the community's needs, aspirations, and projects were reflected in this NY Forward application. Information regarding the NY Forward Public workshops was advertised by various methods including the Back-to-School Event held on August 29, 2024 at Falconer High School to get input and involvement from the youth of the community. The workshops offered in September helped shape Falconer's vision for the future and the projects submitted for this application.

“Creating a safe place for our children to grow, learn, love, support, and community”



Public Workshop #1, September 2024

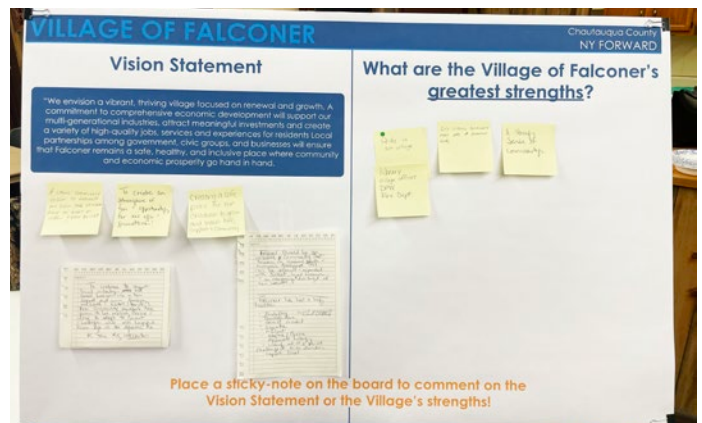
Attendees provided input and feedback through discussions on projects shown on presentation boards. This allowed for further development of ideas to guide the application moving forward to leverage prior planning initiatives and to solidify the desired projects that will

transform Falconer's downtown. Many public and private projects were discussed and included topics such as: placemaking, the importance of attracting visitors off I-86, providing affordable housing, new business opportunities along Main Street, park improvements, building facade improvements, and the development of the Village into a destination for tourists.



Public Workshop #2, September 2024

There were a number of attendees consisting of Village officials, current property owners, prospective property owners, residents, and local stakeholders to discuss potential private investment projects. The Village actively advertised these workshops on various platforms, including social media, the Village's website, and flyers posted in local businesses and at school events, to ensure that everyone was included in the NYF process.



Public Workshop Vision Board, September 2024

VISION

We envision a vibrant, thriving village focused on renewal and growth. A commitment to comprehensive economic development will support our multi-generational industries, attract meaningful investments, and create a variety of high-quality jobs, services, and experiences for residents. Local partnerships among government, civic groups, and businesses will ensure that Falconer remains a safe, healthy, and inclusive place where community and economic prosperity go hand in hand.

NY FORWARD FOCUS AREA & PROJECTS



PUBLIC REALM PROJECTS

- 1 Main Street Streetscape Improvements
- 2 Building Facade Enhancements
- 3 Placemaking & Wayfinding Signage
- 4 Park Improvements
- 5 Community Building Improvements

TRANSFORMATIONAL PROJECTS

- 6 PEAK Development (21-37 West Main Street)
- 7 1 East Main Street Redevelopment
- 8 27-29 East Main Street

SMALL BUSINESS PROJECTS

- 9 Mercantile (17-19 West Main Street)
- 10 9 & 11 East Main Street

SMALL HOUSING PROJECTS

- 11 106 N Work Street
- 12 22 E Elmwood Avenue

TRANSFORMATIVE PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

Project 1 Main Street Streetscape Improvements

Through the redevelopment of its downtown corridor, the Village plans to transform its Main Street into an eclectic mix of spaces for local and regional entrepreneurs to showcase and sell their products. These improvements will, in turn, facilitate opportunities that attract I-86 commuters to the Village, retain existing businesses, and help to provide a higher level of economic benefit to the Village and its residents. Planning for streetscape improvements including site furnishings and green infrastructure bump-outs will provide a more pedestrian-friendly corridor, create gateways at the Village limits, and will help market and facilitate the private investment the Village would like to attract. Incorporating new site furnishings will further enhance the Village's identity and create a sense of place for its surrounding community.

Project Sponsors: Village of Falconer

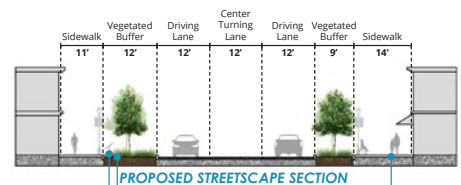
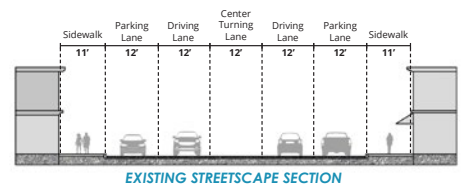
Readiness Indicators: Village of Falconer Downtown Revitalization Master Plan (2023)

Project Timeframe: 24 months

Total Project Cost: \$2,000,000

NY Forward Ask: \$1,000,000

Potential Funding Source: Village Funds, NY Main Street Grant Funds, Green Innovation Grant Funds, CDBG, NYSDOT-TIP, NYSDOT-TAP, DEC Urban, Community Forestry Grant Program



Educational Signage
Educational signage encourages learning, allows pedestrians to have a more interactive experience within spaces, can promote environmental conservation, and can help develop a lasting understanding of the Village of Falconer's values.

Planting Strip
Street trees and landscaping provide street calming effects, and have the ability to slow traffic down. They provide shade, create a buffer between vehicular traffic and people, and improve aesthetics.

Active Sidewalks
Sidewalks are ADA Accessible, wide, safe, and appropriately transition into the street when needed.

Alignment with NY Forward Goals:

Strong sense of place

Enhance public spaces

Provide amenities that support and enhance downtown living

Project 2 Building Facade Enhancements

As noted previously, Falconer's downtown character was severely impacted from the fires in 2017 and 2018 and resulted in the vacancy of many adjacent businesses and storefronts. This has presented an opportunity for future development by private investors to purchase vacant storefronts and provide variety of commercial and housing services to its community. The increase in activity along the Main Street corridor has resulted in the interest of new private investment with Falconer's downtown. The Village and various stakeholders identified the importance of building facade improvements to retain the Village's historic charm and to attract new businesses into its downtown core. Property owners who are making renovations to these buildings are interested in participating in building facade improvements, including PersNikkity Pies, J Sirianno Holdings II LLC., Jebco OGM Resources, Inc., and John A. Dietrick, among a few..

Project Sponsors: Various Private Owners, Village of Falconer

Readiness Indicators: Village of Falconer Downtown Revitalization Master Plan (2023)

Project Timeframe: 24 months

Total Project Cost: \$1,250,000

NY Forward Ask: \$1,000,000

Potential Funding Source: Village Funds, Matching Funds by Property Owners



Alignment with NY Forward Goals:

Strong sense of place

Enhance public spaces

TRANSFORMATIVE PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

Project 3 Placemaking & Wayfinding Signage

There is a need for the Village to create a wayfinding signage hierarchy to brand the Village and provide informational, educational, and directional signage within the Village's limits. Creating an effective brand will help to strengthen the community's sense of belonging, enhance cultural heritage through signage or historic markers, and determine how the community wants the Village to be seen. A strong, cohesive brand will make Falconer more attractive and easily navigable for residents and visitors.

Project Sponsors: Village of Falconer

Readiness Indicators: Village of Falconer Downtown Revitalization Master Plan (2023)

Project Timeframe: 6 months


Total Project Cost: \$102,000


NY Forward Ask: \$80,000

Potential Funding Source: Village Funds, Chautauqua County Occupancy Tax Grant Program, Empire State Development or Market NY Grant Funds



Alignment with NY Forward Goals:

 Strong sense of place

 Enhance public spaces

 Provide amenities that support and enhance downtown living

Project 4 Park Improvements

Falconer Park is a highly used community park within walking distance to Falconer's downtown core. Residents identified a need for new pickleball courts and a new playground within the Park at the NY Forward Public Workshop. With these improvements, the Village aims to upgrade the park's amenities to accommodate the community's needs. The existing tennis courts will be restriped as pickleball and tennis courts. Lion's Memorial Park is just south of the Village's downtown and is used for much active recreation. The existing baseball fields are in need of dug out improvements and a new drinking fountain.

Project Sponsors: Village of Falconer

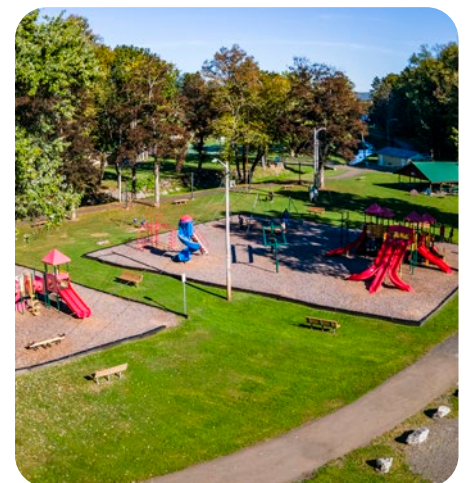
Readiness Indicators: Village of Falconer Downtown Revitalization Master Plan (2023)

Project Timeframe: 24 months


Total Project Cost: \$800,000

NY Forward Ask: \$350,000

Potential Funding Source: Village Funds, NYS Parks Grant



Alignment with NY Forward Goals:

 Strong sense of place

 Enhance public spaces

TRANSFORMATIVE PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

Project 5 Community Building Improvements

The community building within Falconer is highly used for a variety of events and community meetings but is in need of repairs, restoration of the exterior, and upgrades in order to maximize the use of the space. The installation of an elevator will also provide ADA accessibility and encourage more diverse groups to utilize the building.

Project Sponsors: Village of Falconer

Readiness Indicators: The Village completed a repair and improvements study to assess the building and generate elevator costs

Project Timeframe: 24 Months

Total Project Cost: \$850,000

NY Forward Ask: \$650,000

Potential Funding Source: Village Funds, NY Main Street, Restore NY



Alignment with NY Forward Goals:

-  Strong sense of place
-  Enhance public spaces
-  Provide amenities that support and enhance downtown living

Project 6 PEAK Development (21 - 37 West Main Street)

PEAK Development Partners is planning a project to bring two new buildings to 21 - 37 W Main St. The preliminary version calls for two four-story buildings with a combined 55 apartments. One of the buildings would front Main Street and have first floor commercial space. The second would be constructed behind the first and would be solely residential. This dual-purpose project plans to revitalize the existing gap in buildings along Main Street while creating contemporary apartments on the upper floors and retail space on the first floor. This project will maximize the use of space and provide both commercial and residential value to the Village's downtown core.

Project Sponsors: Peak Development Partners

Readiness Indicators: Empire State Development Funds (Status Pending)

Project Timeframe: 24 months




Total Project Cost: \$14,000,000-\$16,000,000

NY Forward Ask: \$1,500,000

Potential Funding Source: Empire State Development



Alignment with NY Forward Goals:

-  Strong sense of place
-  Provide a variety of housing & employment opportunities
-  Attract new businesses

TRANSFORMATIVE PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

Project 7 1 East Main Street Redevelopment

1 East Main Street is located at a prime location within Falconer’s Main Street corridor; on the corner of the Village’s busiest intersection at East Main Street and Chautauqua County Route 380 (Work Street). This project will support the building’s redevelopment for a variety of mixed uses including office space for commuters and professionals. Phase 1-2 have been completed which include parking lot upgrades, facade restoration, and new window installation. Phase 3 is underway with HVAC upgrades and the creation of eight new offices and a conference room for Prevention Works (NYS non-profit) being 90% complete. In order to attract additional tenants and maximize use of this building by people of all ages and abilities, the building is in need of an elevator installation for second floor access, exterior enhancements, and final renovation of an upstairs suite with the intention of soliciting an additional non-profit. With new tenants, an estimated 28-32 professional positions will be coming to the Village; when all spaces are filled, it is anticipated to have 45 new job opportunities.

Project Sponsors: J Sirianno Holdings II LLC.

Readiness Indicators: Renovations currently underway by Property Owner, projects at this location are active now

Project Timeframe: 8-12 months

Total Project Cost: \$850,000

NY Forward Ask: \$375,000

Potential Funding Source: Private funds



Alignment with NY Forward Goals:

-  Provide a variety of housing & employment opportunities
-  Enhance public spaces
-  Attract new businesses
-  Provide amenities that support and enhance downtown living
-  Strong sense of place

Project 8 27 - 29 East Main Street & 27 Merchant Lane

This project consists of Four Phases. The extensive work for Phase 1 is almost complete, and so is the first quarter of Phase 2. Phases 1-3 consist of construction and remodeling of 27-29 E. Main St, which is a four-story, two-building (connected) 26-unit apartment building, with the first floor offering commercial space. Phase 4 will be the complete remodel of the adjacent building, known as 27 Merchant Lane, which is a two-story apartment building, with the potential for commercial space on the first floor. This summary proposal will identify the scope of each of the four phases and the estimated timeline and cost of each part of the project. All estimations are subject to external circumstances and are subject to change. Owner, Jebco OGM Resources, Inc., has commissioned Diamond Builders Corp., with John A. Dietrick, III, as President, (“contractor”) to head up the entire project.

Project Sponsors: Jebco OGM Resources, Inc. and John A. Dietrick

Readiness Indicators: Renovations are currently underway

Project Timeframe: 24 months

Total Project Cost: \$3,200,000

NY Forward Ask: \$1,500,000

Potential Funding Source: Private funds



Alignment with NY Forward Goals:

-  Strong sense of place
-  Provide a variety of housing & employment opportunities

TRANSFORMATIVE PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

Projects 9 Mercantile (17 - 19 West Main Street)

This project consists of three phases, with Phase 1 being complete. Phase 1 included the creation of a retail space, community area, and a workshop on the ground level as well as replacement of flat roof and a cleanout of second story residences. Phase 2 will include facade improvements that will highlight the historic brick, storefront windows and doors for energy efficiency, exterior lighting for first floor retail space, and an entrance to second floor apartments. Phase 2 will also include a mural facing west on the southwest rear of the building that will highlight Falconer. Phase 3 will be the final phase and will include renovations of four-unit residential second floor apartments, including a rear entrance to residences with a deck walkway and safety rail system.

Project Sponsors: Danielle Marra (Cardinal Property Development LLC)

Readiness Indicators: Development Plan 2022-2026 with Phases 1-3; Phase 1 already complete

Project Timeframe: 15 Months


Total Project Cost: \$134,500


NY Forward Ask: \$67,000

Potential Funding Source: Occupancy Grant Tax through Chautauqua County (Status Pending)



Alignment with NY Forward Goals:

 Strong sense of place

 Provide a variety of housing & employment opportunities

 Attract new businesses

Project 10 9 - 11 East Main Street

9 East Main Street was purchased in 2021 with the vision of rehabbing its first floor into a full-service bakery and second floor as housing. A former vacant building for over 30 years, was renovated over an 18-month time period and rebranded as PersNikkity Pies. This new bakery has been enjoyed by over 31,000 customers since its grand opening in 2023 and its property value has increased by over 536%. Currently, PersNikkity Pies employs four full-time employees and six part-time employees. In 2022, the same property owners purchased 11 East Main Street with plans to expand their operation and begin remodeling in January 2025 with a projected opening date between May 2025 and September 2025. With its renovation into a diner, another locally owned business will be incorporated into Falconer’s downtown landscape offering essential goods and services to the larger community. It is projected that this project will be adding additional employment opportunities, consisting of two full-time employees and another one to three part-time employees.

Project Sponsors: PersNikkity Pies, LLC

Readiness Indicators: Renovations currently underway by property owner

Project Timeframe: 7-11 Months


Total Project Cost: \$150,000

NY Forward Ask: \$135,000

Potential Funding Source: Private funds





Alignment with NY Forward Goals:


 Provide a variety of housing & employment opportunities

 Enhance public spaces

 Attract new businesses

 Provide amenities that support and enhance downtown living

 Strong sense of place

 Reduce greenhouse gas emissions

TRANSFORMATIVE PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

Projects 11 106 N Work Street

At one time, 106 N Work Street was an elegant brick house just one block from the main intersection in Falconer. The property, currently under construction, is in need of updates which include: kitchen and bathroom renovations; new cabinets, lighting, appliances; bringing electric and plumbing up to code; adding a first floor laundry/mudroom; window replacement (complete); hardwood floor refinishing; and exterior improvements.

Project Sponsors: Carrie Blitz (Hartson Holdings, LLC)

Readiness Indicators:

Project Timeframe: 12 - 18 Months

Total Project Cost: \$50,000

NY Forward Ask: \$50,000


Potential Funding Source: Private Funds



Current Single-Family Home Rehabilitation



Alignment with NY Forward Goals:

 Strong sense of place

 Provide a variety of housing & employment opportunities

Project 12 22 E Elmwood Avenue

22 E Elmwood Avenue is a two-family home, located just behind the Ellicott Police Station. This property was purchased through a foreclosure auction and had been neglected for years. The old lath and plaster are in need of removal in order to insulate the home and to access the old knob and tube wiring. Restoration of this property will include rewiring, new plumbing, insulation on both floors, and drywall. It is in need of two kitchens, two bathrooms, flooring, doors, light fixtures, appliances, and some extensive exterior work to bring this two family home back to life.

Project Sponsors: Carrie Blitz (Hartson Holdings, LLC)

Readiness Indicators:

Project Timeframe: 18 Months


Total Project Cost: \$100,000


NY Forward Ask: \$100,000

Potential Funding Source: Private Funds



Alignment with NY Forward Goals:

 Strong sense of place

 Provide a variety of housing & employment opportunities

TRANSFORMATIVE PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

Total Proposed Investment \$25,236,500

Total NY Forward Ask \$6,707,000

PUBLIC REALM PROJECTS		
Project Name	Total Project Cost	Total NYF Ask
Main Street Improvements	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000
Building Facade Enhancements	\$1,250,000	\$1,000,000
Placemaking & Wayfinding Signage	\$102,000	\$80,000
Park Improvements	\$800,000	\$350,000
Community Building Improvements	\$850,000	\$650,000
	\$4,752,000	\$2,980,000
TRANSFORMATIONAL PROJECTS		
PEAK Development (21-37 West Main Street)	\$16,000,000	\$1,500,000
1 East Main Street Redevelopment	\$850,000	\$375,000
27-29 East Main Street	\$3,200,000	\$1,500,000
	\$20,050,000	\$3,375,000
SMALL BUSINESS PROJECTS		
Mercantile (17-19 West Main Street)	\$134,500	\$67,000
9&11 East Main Street	\$150,000	\$135,000
	\$434,500	\$352,000
SMALL HOUSING PROJECTS		
106 N Work Street	\$50,000	\$50,000
22 E Elm Street	\$100,000	\$100,000
	\$150,000	\$150,000
	Total Project Cost	Total NYF Ask
	\$25,236,500	\$6,707,000

ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY

ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY

Through the dedicated work of Village staff and active members of the community, along with other regional partners, significant work has already been accomplished. The Village has been managing multiple grants awarded by a variety of federal, state, and local agencies such as the Community Foundation, Chautauqua County, and others who have co-funded various planning and infrastructure projects. The Village of Falconer, with the support of its partners, is fully prepared to implement the NY Forward funds once awarded. The Village plans to work with the private sector to ensure that individual private contracts move forward quickly.

The Village office is comprised of an elected Mayor and four trustees, a Village Clerk, and the Village Treasurer, all of whom work closely to conduct day-to-day Village business and coordinate with the Falconer community.

Mayor James Jaroszynski will be responsible for the overall delegation of responsibilities to Village staff members. He became Mayor in 2019 but has been actively involved as a Village Board trustee since 2016.

Cindy Capestrani, the Village Clerk, will oversee the fiscal staff and assist Mayor Jaroszynski with monitoring the grant process, attending meetings, and keeping a record of all grant proceedings. She became the Village Clerk in August of 2022.

Paula Spunaugle, the Village Treasurer, will be responsible for general financial oversight and will assist the Mayor with monitoring grant funds, procurement, and project budgets.

The Village of Falconer is also fortunate to receive support from the Chautauqua Chamber of Commerce and the Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth (CCPEG). This partnership has brought together the public and private sectors to focus on economic development within the area and has supported the Village's efforts in advancing economic prosperity, attraction of quality jobs, and advancements to the quality of life in Falconer and the greater Chautauqua area.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

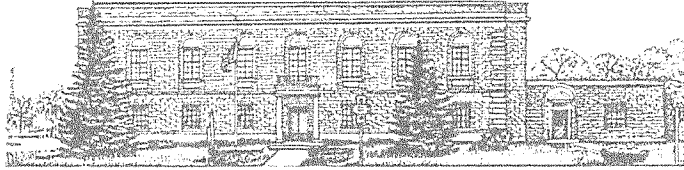
The Letters of Support that accompany this NY Forward application exemplify the community spirit and desire to revitalize Falconer's historic downtown. The Village's holistic planning, project co-funding approach, and project readiness have engaged a multitude of stakeholders who stand to benefit from our proposed downtown building revitalization and infrastructure projects that will promote long-term economic growth, job opportunities, and prosperity within the Village of Falconer.

Resolution by Village Board of Falconer

Resolution Certified Pro-Housing Community

1. **James Jaroszynski**, Village of Falconer Mayor
2. **Mark R. Geise**, Deputy County Executive for Economic Development, CEO of the County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency
3. **Stephanie Nick**, Special Projects Coordinator for Chautauqua County Department of Planning & Development
4. **Lisa Vanstrom**, County Legislator, District 15
5. **Paul M. Wendel**, Chautauqua County Executive
6. **George M. Borrello**, Senator, 57th District
7. **Daniel J. Heitzenrater**, President/CEO of Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce
8. **Nathan Aldrich**, Manager of Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth
9. **Nicholas A. Langworthy**, Member of Congress, District 23
10. **Nina Gustafson**, Former President of the Falconer Rotary Club
11. **Alan & Nina Gustafson**, Village of Falconer Residents
12. **Lee Crewson**, President, Peak Development Partners
13. **Nikki & Kevin Pierce**, Owners of PersNikkity Pies
14. **Danielle & Angelo Marra**, Owners of West Main Mercantile
15. **Carrie Blitz**, Owner of Hartson Holdings, LLC
16. **Tracy Hultin**, President of Ellison Bronze, Inc.
17. **James Roach**, President of Falconer Printing
18. **Gary Henry**, CEO of Fancher Chair
19. **Edward Sullivan**, CEO of Hanson Sign Companies
20. **Thomas M. Ames**, Principal of Ames Insurance

Village of Falconer



101 West Main Street
Falconer, New York 14733

Phone (716) 665-4400

Email: falconer@netsync.net

Fax (716) 488-9224

RESOLUTION # 14-2024

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND SUPPORTING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION BY THE VILLAGE OF FALCONER FOR THE 2024 NY FORWARD PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Village of Falconer has expressed downtown revitalization in Falconer as a goal to spur local economic development; and

WHEREAS, the NY Forward program from the NYS Department of State may fund \$4.5 million in grant funding to two communities; or \$4.5 million to one community and \$2.25 million to two communities in each of the ten (10) regions of NYS for a combination of public sector improvements and private sector projects that all have the specified aim of spurring economic development and job creation; and

WHEREAS, the Falconer NY Forward application will seek funding for a combination of public sector and private sector projects within the Village of Falconer; and

WHEREAS, the NY Forward program does not require a "local match" but instead scores applications based on the amount of public and private sector leveraging that can be provided to augment the \$4.5 million in grant funding; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the governing board of the Village of Falconer hereby authorizes and supports the submission of a grant application for the Village of Falconer NY Forward program.

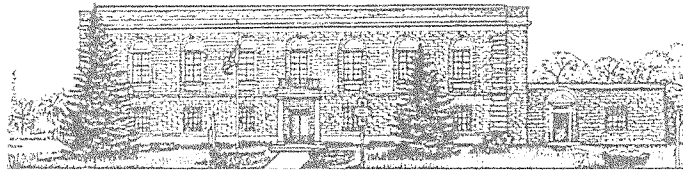
Motion to Approve as written: Trustee Gustafson

Motion Seconded: Trustee Miller

Roll: Trustee Gustafson: Aye, Trustee Dunn: Aye, Trustee Miller: Aye, Trustee Cavallaro Aye, Mayor Jaroszynski: Aye,

Motion: Carried

Village of Falconer



101 West Main Street
Falconer, New York 14733

Phone (716) 665-4400

Email: falconer@netsync.net

Fax (716) 488-9224

RESOLUTION #16-2024

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that Village of FALCONER, in order to take positive steps to alleviate the housing crisis, adopts the Pro-Housing Communities pledge.

Trustee Gustafson moved and Trustee Cavallaro seconded that

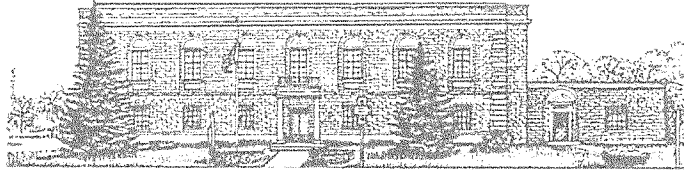
WHEREAS, the Village of Falconer (hereinafter "local government") believes that the lack of housing for New York residents of all ages and income levels negatively impacts the future of New York State's economic growth and community well-being;

WHEREAS, the housing crisis has negative effects at regional and local levels, we believe that every community must do their part to contribute to housing growth and benefit from the positive impacts a healthy housing market brings to communities;

WHEREAS, we believe that supporting housing production of all kinds in our community will bring multiple benefits, including increasing housing access and choices for current and future residents, providing integrated accessible housing options that meet the needs of people with sensory and mobility disabilities, bringing economic opportunities and vitality to our communities, and allowing workers at all levels to improve their quality of life through living closer to their employment opportunities;

WHEREAS, we believe that evidence showing that infill development that reduces sprawl and supports walkable communities has significant environmental and public health benefits; and

Village of Falconer



101 West Main Street
Falconer, New York 14733

Phone (716) 665-4400

Email: falconer@netsync.net

Fax (716) 488-9224

October 3, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street
Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

I fully support and endorse the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. Securing this award would significantly boost the redevelopment of the Village's historic downtown, which has suffered a severe economic setback due to multiple tragic fires.

Redeveloping the Village's downtown core will attract new commercial businesses to revitalize the village as it was many years ago: Future development can contribute to building activity and life on Main Street and bring back the traditional village charm.

Rebuilding the downtown corridor is extremely important to the residents and the Village of Falconer and we fully support the submission of this application.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this essential grant to support the rebuilding of Falconer's historic downtown. Should your office have any questions or require any additional information, please feel free to contact me at 716-665-4400.

Sincerely,

James M. Jaroszynski

Mayor



County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency



ChooseCHQ.com

September 24, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street
Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. Securing this award would significantly boost the redevelopment of the Village's historic downtown, which has suffered a severe economic setback due to multiple tragic fires.

Revitalizing the historic downtown will attract new businesses and restore the village's vibrant economic center. This transformation promises to combine the charm of a traditional Main Street with the conveniences of modern amenities. Investing in Main Street will mark the beginning of restoring the village's unique character.

The Village of Falconer is well-positioned for this investment, with a supportive local government, active civic groups, and several cornerstone industries all dedicated to its revival.

Thank you for considering this essential grant to support the rebuilding of Falconer's historic downtown.

Sincerely,

Mark Geise
Deputy County Executive for Economic Development, Chautauqua County
CEO, County of Chautauqua Industrial Development Agency
Co-Chair, Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth
201 W. 3rd St. - Suite #115
Jamestown, NY 14701
(716) 661-8900
(716) 489-6075 - Cell



Chautauqua County
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

201 West Third Street • Jamestown, New York 14701
214 Central Avenue • Dunkirk, New York 14048
Phone (716) 661-8900 • www.planningchautauqua.com

September 25, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street
Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. Securing this award would significantly boost the redevelopment of the Village's historic downtown, which has suffered severe economic setbacks due to multiple tragic fires.

The Village has already begun to see a resurgence in new small businesses and a number of local community groups have been started or restarted, which has reinforced the feeling of community and small-town pride. Revitalizing the historic downtown will attract more new businesses and restore the Village's vibrant economic center. This transformation promises to combine the charm of a traditional Main Street with the conveniences of modern amenities. Investing in Main Street will mark the beginning of restoring the village's unique character.

The Village of Falconer is well-positioned for this investment, with a supportive local government, active civic groups, and several cornerstone industries all dedicated to its revival.

Thank you for considering this essential grant to support the rebuilding of Falconer's historic downtown.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Nick
Special Projects Coordinator

Chautauqua County Department of Planning & Development
201 W. 3rd St.
Jamestown, NY 14701
Office: (716) 661.8214
Email: nicks@chqgov.com



CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY LEGISLATURE

3 N. ERIE STREET · MAYVILLE, N.Y. 14757-1007 · (716) 753-4215

Lisa Vanstrom
Legislator, District 15

September 24, 2024

Karen Utz, WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street, Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

Today I write in strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. This vital award would significantly boost the redevelopment of the Village's historic downtown, after suffering severe economic setbacks due to multiple tragic fires.

Revitalizing the historic downtown will attract new businesses and restore the village's vibrant economic center. This transformation promises to combine the charm of traditional Main Street with the conveniences of modern amenities.

Investing in Main Street will mark the beginning of restoring the village's unique character.

The Village of Falconer is well-positioned for this investment, with a supportive local government, active civic groups, and several cornerstone industries all dedicated to its revival.

Your consideration is greatly appreciated in this essential grant to rebuild Falconer's vibrant and historic downtown.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa Vanstrom".

Lisa Vanstrom

County Legislator, District 15



PAUL M. WENDEL, JR.
County Executive

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

Gerace Office Building – 3 N. Erie St. – Mayville, NY 14757-1007
(716) 753-4211 – FAX (716) 753-4756 – wendelp@chqgov.com
<https://chqgov.com/>

October 7, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street
Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. Securing this award would significantly boost the redevelopment of the Village's historic downtown, which has suffered a severe economic setback due to multiple tragic fires.

Revitalizing the historic downtown will attract new businesses and restore the village's vibrant economic center. This transformation promises to combine the charm of a traditional Main Street with the conveniences of modern amenities. Investing in Main Street will mark the beginning of restoring the village's unique character.

The Village of Falconer is well-positioned for this investment, with a supportive local government, active civic groups, and several cornerstone industries all dedicated to its revival. Thank you for considering this essential grant to support the rebuilding of Falconer's historic downtown.

Sincerely,


Paul M. Wendel, Jr.
Chautauqua County Executive

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

AGRICULTURE

BANKS

PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTS

COMMITTEES

AGING

FINANCE

INTERNET AND TECHNOLOGY

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



GEORGE M. BORRELLO
SENATOR
57TH DISTRICT

ALBANY OFFICE
ROOM 406
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BLDG.
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247
PHONE: (518) 455-3563
FAX: (518) 426-6905

DISTRICT OFFICE
2-6 E. SECOND ST.
FENTON BLDG., STE. 302
JAMESTOWN, NY 14701
PHONE: (716) 664-4603
FAX: (716) 664-2430

SATELLITE OFFICE
WESTGATE PLAZA
700 W. STATE STREET
OLEAN, NEW YORK 14760
PHONE: (716) 372-4901
FAX: (716) 372-5740

September 24, 2024

Ms. Karen Utz, WNY Regional Director
Empire State Development
95 Perry Street, Suite 500
Buffalo, New York 14203-3030

Re: Village of Falconer NY Forward Grant Application

Dear Regional Director Utz,

I write today in strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. Securing this award would significantly boost the redevelopment of the village's historic downtown, which has suffered a severe economic setback due to multiple tragic fires.

Revitalizing the historic downtown will attract new businesses and restore the village's vibrant economic center. This transformation promises to combine the charm of a traditional Main Street with the conveniences of modern amenities. Investing in Main Street will mark the beginning of restoring the village's unique character.

I commend the Village of Falconer for being directly instrumental in making Western New York a better place to live and work, and I wish them much success with their endeavor.

Please accept my best wishes. Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George M. Borrello". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "G" and "B".

George M. Borrello
Senator, 57th District



October 2, 2024

Regional Director Karen Utz
Western New York Regional Economic Development Council
59 Perry Street, Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: Village of Falconer NYForward Grant Application

Dear Director Utz:

On behalf of the Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce, please accept this letter of support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NYForward program.

The Village of Falconer is ripe for revitalization thanks to a strongly supportive local government, active civic groups including a dedicated local Chamber of Commerce Committee, and several cornerstone industries all interested in building the community both figuratively and literally. Falconer is home to numerous manufacturing facilities and boasts numerous comfortable residential neighborhoods in a quality school district. However, it has suffered economically with the loss of retail and small businesses due largely to multiple tragic fires that destroyed buildings in the downtown corridor.

Revitalizing the historic downtown will attract new businesses and restore the village's once-vibrant economic center. This transformation promises to combine the charm of a traditional Main Street with the conveniences of modern amenities. Investing in Main Street in Falconer will mark the beginning of restoring the village's unique character as a bustling and walkable community. The NYForward grant is essential to this important work.

Thank you for your consideration. If the CHQ Chamber can provide additional support, please call our office at 716-484-1101.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Heitzenrater, President/CEO
Chautauqua County Chamber of Commerce

**CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

PO Box 27, Jamestown, NY 14702-0027
(716) 484-1101 or (716) 366-6200

www.chqchamber.org



October 4, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street, Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz:

As the Manager of the Chautauqua County Partnership for Economic Growth, I am pleased to provide my support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the New York Forward program. Securing this award would significantly boost the redevelopment of the Village's historic downtown, which has suffered a severe economic setback due to multiple tragic fires.

Revitalizing the historic downtown will attract new businesses and restore the village's vibrant economic center. This transformation promises to combine the charm of a traditional Main Street with the conveniences of modern amenities. Investing in Main Street will mark the beginning of restoring the village's unique character.

The Village of Falconer is well-positioned for this investment, with a supportive local government, active civic groups, and several cornerstone industries all dedicated to its revival.

Once again, please accept this letter of support for the essential grant to support the rebuilding of Falconer's historic downtown. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (716) 363-3672.

Sincerely,

Nathan Aldrich, Manager
aldrichn@chqgov.com

NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY
23RD DISTRICT, NEW YORK

RULES
OVERSIGHT
AGRICULTURE



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3223

October 4, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
Empire State Development
95 Perry Street
Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

I write to express my strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. Securing this award would significantly boost the redevelopment of the village's historic downtown, which has suffered a severe economic setback due to multiple tragic fires.

Revitalizing the historic downtown will attract new businesses and restore the village's vibrant economic center. This transformation promises to combine the appeal of a traditional Main Street with the conveniences of modern amenities. Investing in Main Street will mark the beginning of restoring the village's unique character.

The Village of Falconer is well-positioned for this investment, with a supportive local government, active civic groups, and several cornerstone industries all dedicated to its revival. Please give their grant application full and fair consideration, consistent with applicable statutes and regulations. Should you have any questions, please contact my Clarence District Office at (716) 547-6844.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nicholas A. Langworthy".

NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY
Member of Congress

DC OFFICE
1630 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3223
(202) 225-3161

DISTRICT OFFICES
8201 MAIN STREET
SUITE 13
WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221
(716) 547-6844

THE FENTON BUILDING
2-6 EAST SECOND STREET
JAMESTOWN, NY 14701
(716) 488-8111

1 BLUEBIRD SQUARE
OLEAN, NY 14760
(585) 543-5033

89 MARKET STREET
CORNING, NY 14830
(607) 377-3130

October 14, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street
Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

I am writing to you today express the Falconer Rotary Club's strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward grant program/

We fully support and endorse the Village of Falconer's submission of a 2024 NY Forward Grant application. Securing this award would assist in the revitalization of the Village's historic downtown core which has suffered a severe economic setback due to back-to-back tragic fires.

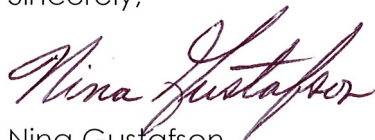
Continued redevelopment of the historic downtown corridor will attract new businesses and potential new residents and restore the Village's vibrant economic center. The transformation promises to combine the charm of a traditional Main Street with the conveniences of modern amenities. This investment in Main Street will mark the beginning of restoring the Village's unique character.

As the Falconer Rotary Club enters our 85th year of service to people in the Village of Falconer, we celebrate the history of our partnership and the many successful ventures we have undertaken with the Village administration and the citizens of the community. Some of these include the annual Santa Parade, The Village Clean-up Day, The 25 Days of Christmas Story Program with the Falconer Library, and the playground and new disc golf course at Falconer Park.

The Village of Falconer is well-positioned for this investment with the supportive local government, active civic groups, several cornerstone industries and the marvelous citizens of the Village who have dedicated themselves to its revival.

Thank you for considering this essential grant to support the rebuilding of The Village of Falconer's historic downtown.

Sincerely,



Nina Gustafson
Past President- Falconer Rotary Club

Alan and Nina Gustafson
125 N. Ralph Avenue
Falconer, NY 14733

October 14, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street
Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

My husband Alan and I are writing to you to express our strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. If the Village secures this award, its effort to redevelop the historic downtown corridor which was destroyed by two tragic fires would be a significant boost. This success of this application is personal for us.

We love the Village of Falconer. It is our hometown and revitalizing the historic downtown will attract new businesses and restore its vibrant economic center. We remember growing up in a beautiful village where, within the downtown core, you could shop, eat, bank, buy clothes, and even go to the doctor. Investing in Main Street will mark the beginning of restoring the Village's unique character and help to bring back some of what was lost.

Alan and I met in Falconer, got engaged at Falconer Park, were married in the Village and after many years just bought a home to return to the place we love. Our son is a Village Trustee and he and his family live close to us and our other son is a police officer in the municipality. We have made a commitment to this community through our jobs and our volunteer work with the Falconer Rotary, the Village Beautiful Committee, the Neighborhood Watch and the Falconer Chamber.

We feel like the Village of Falconer is well-positioned for this investment with a supportive government, active civic groups and several cornerstone industries all dedicated to its revival. We can remember the vibrant, wonderful life we had growing up and how lost we felt after the fires. The development in the past few years has created vibrancy and the NY Forward grant would be a great catalyst to finish what has already been started.

Thank you for considering this very essential grant to support rebuilding a place we love, Falconer's historic downtown.

Sincerely,


Alan and Nina Gustafson



September 24, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street
Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. Securing this award would significantly boost the redevelopment of the Village's historic downtown, which has suffered a severe economic setback due to multiple tragic fires.

Revitalizing the historic downtown will attract new businesses and restore the village's vibrant economic center. This transformation promises to combine the charm of a traditional Main Street with the conveniences of modern amenities. Investing in Main Street will mark the beginning of restoring the village's unique character.

The Village of Falconer is well-positioned for this investment, with a supportive local government, active civic groups, and several cornerstone industries all dedicated to its revival.

Thank you for considering this essential grant to support the rebuilding of Falconer's historic downtown.

Sincerely,

A blue ink handwritten signature, appearing to be "Lee Crewson", written in a cursive style.

Lee Crewson
President



October 8, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street
Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. Securing this award would significantly boost the redevelopment of the Village's historic downtown, which has suffered a severe economic setback due to multiple tragic fires.

Revitalizing the historic downtown will attract new businesses and restore the village's vibrant economic center. This transformation promises to combine the charm of a traditional Main Street with the conveniences of modern amenities. Investing in Main Street will mark the beginning of restoring the village's unique character.

The Village of Falconer is well-positioned for this investment, with a supportive local government, active civic groups, and several cornerstone industries all dedicated to its revival. Thank you for considering this essential grant to support the rebuilding of Falconer's historic downtown.

Sincerely,

Nikki and Kevin Pierce



17-19 West Main Street
Falconer, NY 14733
1719westmainmercantile@gmail.com
716-338-0400
www.1719westmain.com

October 1, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street
Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. As a village resident and now a Main Street Business owner, the enthusiasm for growth and rebuilding our community has been a collaborative effort along Main Street with our local government and residents.

The past 2 years we have been restoring and renovating a historic building that was spared from the devastation on West Main Street due to the fires in 2017/2018. We have created a gift shop that encompasses over 20 local small businesses, including grab and go meal prep, as well as an area in the rear that will provide community space for small events and instructional DIY classes. The next phase is to renovate the housing on the second story that will encourage population growth and retention.

In the past 2 years, we have seen multiple private investments into our walkable village and a rising interest of more to come. The overwhelming support of our residents and local governments have created a sense of hope and excitement after the village was devastated close to a decade ago. Falconer has a thriving industrial park and is conveniently located in second busiest intersection in Chautauqua County. These factors provide the perfect combination for economic growth, population retention, and an overall better quality of life for its current residents.

Thank you for considering this essential grant to support the rebuilding of Falconer's historic downtown.

Sincerely,

Danielle and Angelo Marra

West Main Mercantile

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The top signature is a cursive signature that appears to be "D. Marra". The bottom signature is a more stylized cursive signature that appears to be "A. Marra".

HARTSON HOLDINGS LLC.

October 1, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street
Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. Securing this award would significantly boost the redevelopment of the Village's historic downtown, which has suffered a severe economic setback due to multiple tragic fires.

Revitalizing the historic downtown will attract new businesses and restore the village's vibrant economic center. This transformation promises to combine the charm of a traditional Main Street with the conveniences of modern amenities. Investing in Main Street will mark the beginning of restoring the village's unique character.

The Village of Falconer is well-positioned for this investment, with a supportive local government, active civic groups, and several cornerstone industries all dedicated to its revival.

Thank you for considering this essential grant to support the rebuilding of Falconer's historic downtown.

Sincerely,



CUSTOM CRAFTED BALANCED DOORS

October 2, 2024

Ms. Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street
Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

I am writing on behalf of the employee-owners of Ellison Bronze to express our strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. Securing this award would significantly boost the redevelopment of the Village's historic downtown, which has suffered a severe economic setback due to multiple tragic fires.

For over 100 years Ellison Bronze has manufactured custom doors at some of the most prestigious buildings throughout the world. We are proud to say this has been done from right here on Main Street in Falconer.

I believe the proposed revitalization of the historic downtown is important and will undoubtedly benefit existing and attract new businesses, residents and visitors to the Village.

Please feel free to contact me at (716) 307-7986 if you require further information or have any questions regarding this letter of support. I trust that the grant committee will recognize the value of this application and consider it a worthy recipient of your support.

Sincerely yours,
ELLISON BRONZE, INC.

Tracy Hultin
President

Ellison Bronze, Inc.
125 West Main Street
Falconer, New York 14733
Tel: 716-665-6522 Fax 716-665-5552





September 30, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street
Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. Securing this award would significantly boost the redevelopment of the Village's historic downtown, which has suffered a severe economic setback due to multiple tragic fires. Revitalizing the historic downtown will attract new businesses and restore the village's vibrant economic center. This transformation promises to combine the charm of a traditional Main Street with the conveniences of modern amenities. Investing in Main Street will mark the beginning of restoring the village's unique character.

The Village of Falconer is well-positioned for this investment, with a supportive local government, active civic groups, and several cornerstone industries all dedicated to its revival.

Thank you for considering this essential grant to support the rebuilding of Falconer's historic downtown.

Sincerely,

James M. Roach
President



Fancher Chair Co. Inc.

PO Box 8

121 South Work Street

Falconer NY 14733

Senior1@fancherchair.com

716-665-4313

September 24, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street
Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. Securing this award would significantly boost the redevelopment of the Village's historic downtown, which has suffered a severe economic setback due to multiple tragic fires.

Revitalizing the historic downtown will attract new businesses and restore the village's vibrant economic center. This transformation promises to combine the charm of a traditional Main Street with the conveniences of modern amenities. Investing in Main Street will mark the beginning of restoring the village's unique character.

The Village of Falconer is well-positioned for this investment, with a supportive local government, active civic groups, and several cornerstone industries all dedicated to its revival.

Thank you for considering this essential grant to support the rebuilding of Falconer's historic downtown.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary King". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and "K".



September 24,2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street
Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. Securing this award would significantly boost the redevelopment of the Village's historic downtown, which has suffered a severe economic setback due to multiple tragic fires.

Revitalizing the historic downtown will attract new businesses and restore the village's vibrant economic center. This transformation promises to combine the charm of a traditional Main Street with the conveniences of modern amenities. Investing in Main Street will mark the beginning of restoring the village's unique character.

The Village of Falconer is well-positioned for this investment, with a supportive local government, active civic groups, and several cornerstone industries all dedicated to its revival.

Thank you for considering this essential grant to support the rebuilding of Falconer's historic downtown.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Edward Sullivan'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'E' and 'S'.

Edward Sullivan
CEO - Hanson Sign Companies
82 Carter St.
Falconer, NY 14733



Thomas M. Ames, CIC, Principal
Hermes L. Ames, Principal

Voice 716-665-3407 • Fax 716-665-3998 • www.amesinsurance.com

September 24, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street
Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Falconer

Dear Ms. Utz,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Village of Falconer's application for Round Three of the NY Forward program. Securing this award would significantly boost the redevelopment of the Village's historic downtown, which has suffered a severe economic setback due to multiple tragic fires.

Revitalizing the historic downtown will attract new businesses and restore the village's vibrant economic center. This transformation promises to combine the charm of a traditional Main Street with the conveniences of modern amenities. Investing in Main Street will mark the beginning of restoring the village's unique character.

The Village of Falconer is well-positioned for this investment, with a supportive local government, active civic groups, and several cornerstone industries all dedicated to its revival.

Thank you for considering this essential grant to support the rebuilding of Falconer's historic downtown.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read "Tom Ames", is written over a white background.

Thomas M. Ames
Falconer business owner
Falconer resident