



UPCOMING EVENTS

CEDS Focus-To-Action Sessions

May 19- 22, 2025

30th Annual Local Government Conference
June 5, 2025

Driving Strategic Implementation: CEDS Focus-To-Action Groups Now Forming

Southern Tier West is moving forward with the implementation phase of the 2023–2028 **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)** by launching the first round of Focus-to-Action Groups. These collaborative groups will help translate regional priorities into actionable, partner-led initiatives. With nearly 200 recommended actions across 33 core objectives, the CEDS provides a strategic roadmap for building a more vibrant, resilient regional economy. Drawing on input from late 2024 stakeholder engagements, STW will convene groups in the following sectors:

- Arts, Culture & Tourism
- Business, Industry & Entrepreneurship
- Economic Drivers of Community Health & Wellness

Upcoming Focus-to-Action Sessions

All initial meetings will be hosted via Zoom:

- Arts, Culture & Tourism – Monday, May 19 | 1:00–2:15 PM
- Business, Industry & Entrepreneurship – Tuesday, May 20 | 9:00–10:15 AM
- Community Health & Wellness – Thursday, May 22 | 10:00–11:15 AM

Follow-up meetings will include a mix of virtual and in-person formats.

These groups will work to:

- Engage the right mix of regional partners
- Identify implementable projects aligned with CEDS priorities
- Explore funding opportunities
- Align efforts with EDA goals, such as workforce competitiveness and economic resilience

These sessions will also elevate visionary ideas, support underrepresented sectors, and emphasize the interconnected roles of public health, food systems, and cultural assets in shaping a strong and inclusive economy.

Want to get involved?

Contact Kimberly LaMendola at klamendola@southerntierwest.org (716) 945-5301 x2211

Community GIS Program

Currently, 26 communities across Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, and Allegany Counties are actively participating in the Southern Tier West (STW) Community CGIS Program. To date, these municipalities have used the system to collect over 7,250 data points on vital municipal assets—such as signs, culverts, shut-offs, hydrants, and cross-pipes—directly from their mobile devices while working in the field.

These asset inventories have proven essential for effective management, planning, and decision-making, and the data is instantly accessible for viewing and editing on custom, user-friendly maps.

We currently have open enrollment spots available and would be happy to schedule a meeting with your community to discuss the program, demonstrate its capabilities, and explore the benefits it can offer your municipality.

If you are interested in learning more or would like to enroll, please contact:

Johnathon Mayr
jmayr@southerntierwest.org
(716) 945-5301, ext. 2232

Municipal Needs Assessment Survey

Southern Tier West (STW) has rolled out a **Municipal Needs Assessment Survey** to gather essential information from municipalities across our region. This initiative is designed to identify local needs, improve support, and align communities with valuable programs and resources.

The purpose of this survey is to collect foundational data on:

- Planning and zoning policies
- Municipal building and vehicle asset inventories
- Clean energy projects and infrastructure upgrades
- GIS capabilities and related needs

The data collected will help STW develop customized profiles and action plans to guide local development strategies and increase eligibility for funding opportunities through:

- NYSERDA
- NYS DEC

STW's regional initiatives Since mid-April, 27 municipalities have already participated, and outreach continues daily through personal meetings.

Get Involved!

If your municipality has not yet taken the survey, we encourage you to participate. Your input is critical to shaping future resources and programming.

To schedule a meeting or learn more, please contact:

Johnathon Mayr
jmayr@southerntierwest.org
(716) 945-5301, ext. 2232

Together, we can build stronger, more resilient communities across the Southern Tier.

STW 30th Annual Local Government Conference

Conference Preparations in Full Swing

Preparations continue for the 30th Annual Local Government Conference! This milestone event will be held on Thursday, June 5, 2025, at Houghton University.

To date, we have:

- 22 Vendors Registered
- 110 Municipal Officials Pre-Registered

Sessions & Educational Opportunities

The conference will feature:

- 4 Concurrent Sessions
- 8 Classes per Session
- Topics tailored for municipal leaders and staff

Participants can earn continuing education credits applicable to:

- Municipal Clerks
- Planning & Zoning Board Members
- Code Enforcement Officers
- Justices & Court Clerks

Why Attend?

- Gain up-to-date insights on local government operations
- Earn valuable CE credits
- Connect with peers and vendors
- Learn from experienced presenters

Don't miss this valuable opportunity to grow your knowledge and professional network.

.gov for Municipal Websites

Southern Tier West is proud to share that thirteen (13) municipalities in our region have successfully transitioned their official websites to .gov domain names.

This initiative helps municipalities navigate the federal registration process, implement best practices for secure websites, and ensure long-term sustainability for their digital presence. These local governments now proudly operate under the .gov domain:

- City of Salamanca
salamancany.gov
- Town of Charlotte
charlotteny.gov
- Town of Clymer
townofclymerny.gov
- Town of Dunkirk
townofdunkirkny.gov
- Town of East Otto
townofeastotto.gov
- Town of Freedom
freedomny.gov
- Town of Harmony
harmonyny.gov
- Town of Ripley
ripleyny.gov
- Village of Angelica
villageofangelica.gov
- Village of Lakewood
lakewoodny.gov
- Village of Little Valley
villageoflittlevalley.gov
- Village of Mayville
mayvilleny.gov
- Village of Wellsville
wellsvillevillageny.gov