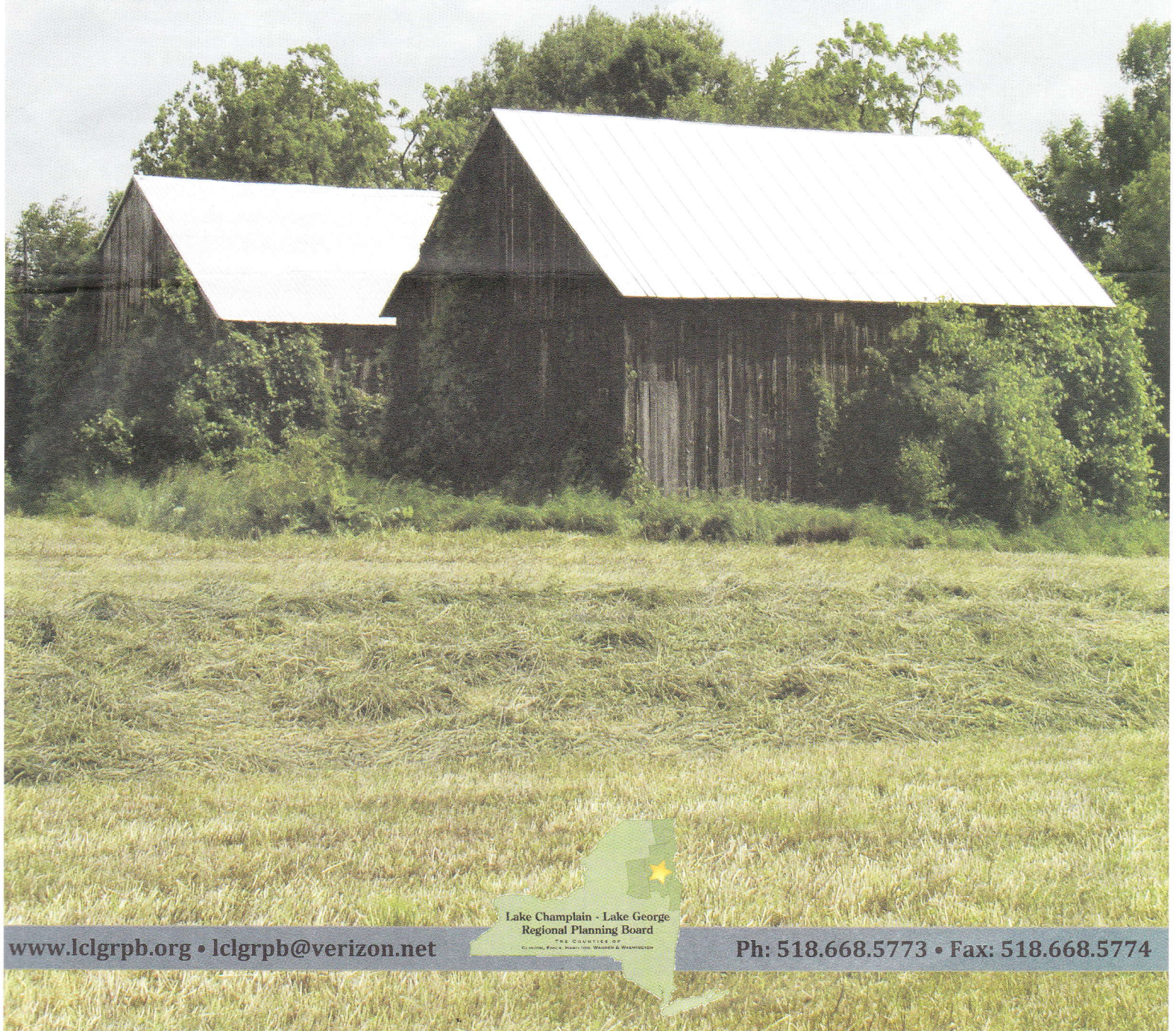


Lake Champlain - Lake George Regional Planning Board

2013 Annual Report



Lake Champlain - Lake George
Regional Planning Board

THE COUNTIES OF
CLINTON, FOLK, HAMILTON, WARREN & WARRENFIELD

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Business Loan Fund Reaches Milestone

The Lake Champlain-Lake George Regional Planning Board operates a number of Revolving Loan Fund Programs capitalized in the mid 1980's through funding provided by the US Commerce Department and US Department of Agriculture. From inception to 2013, the sum total of funding provided through these programs exceeded \$14 million.

The RLF Programs have provided a needed source of risk capital for new and expanding businesses. Loans provided currently carry a 5% fixed interest rate with terms ranging from 5 - 15 years depending on loan size and use of loan proceeds. The maximum loan size has been set at \$150,000.

Projects are evaluated based on community need, local capacity, project impact and project readiness. Income earned from loan pre-payments is placed into a capital base for relending.

The RLF Program is self-sustaining due to its "revolving" nature. A management plan and uniform operating procedures are in place to govern administrative and organizational strategies of the RLF Program. Loan applications can be found online at www.lclgrpb.org.

In 2013, the US Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration awarded the Regional Planning Board an \$800,000 grant to capitalize a new RLF Program for the five county service area as result of the economic impact the 2011 flooding from Hurricane Irene had on the region. This Program is in line with the US Department of Commerce's EDA mission, which prepares America's regions for growth and success by making investments in economically distressed communities. The total project cost with local match will be approximately \$1 Million.

2012 OPERATING FUND

<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
Grants	658,636
Overhead Reimbursement	54,972
In-kind Rent	39,832
Interest Income	37
Administrative Income	25,217
TOTAL REVENUES	\$778,694
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
Payroll Expenditures:	
Salaries and Wages	293,923
Payroll Taxes and Fringe Benefits	119,264
Total Payroll Expenditures	\$413,187
Operating Expenditures:	
Pass Through Grants	129,716
Contractual Services	9,762
Insurance	6,141
Maintenance Agreements	1,458
Equipment & Computer Software	2,824
Postage	2,804
Printing and Supplies	20,840
Professional Fees	119,841
Rent	51,254
Telephone and Internet	6,516
Travel, Conferences, Dues & Meetings	12,681
Total Operating Expenditures	\$363,837
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$777,024

2013 Loan Recipients

Every year the Revolving Loan Fund Committee reviews dozens of applications for loans. Each applicant is eager to create or improve an existing business that will not only generate new employment opportunities, but will also give back to their community. This year, almost \$700,000 in capital financing was provided to local businesses, including those highlighted in this newsletter.

Monty's Bay Recreation, Inc. West Chazy, Clinton County

Monty's Bay Campsites was established in 1963 in northern Clinton County and since then, the family operated business has grown to include 134 campsites. In 1991, the

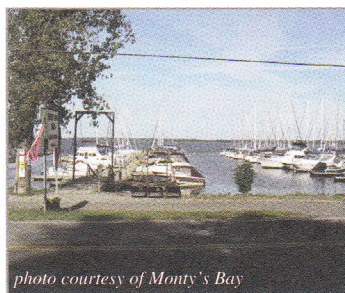


photo courtesy of Monty's Bay

business added Gilbert Brook Marina, which has 170 boat slips and 90 boat moorings. In 2011, Hurricane Irene severely damaged the marina, including one dock with 56 slips, while also destroying the breakwater that protects the marina and the boats

docked and moored in the Bay. The Revolving Loan Fund provided a Disaster Relief Opportunity Program loan to repair the damages sustained from the Hurricane, and aid the business in retaining 2 employees.

The Spa Studio
Glens Falls, Warren County

The Spa Studio is a full service, family owned and operated spa and salon that specializes in massage, acupuncture, facials, nail and hair care, and waxing. Recently re-located, the Revolving Loan Fund provided a working capital loan for the expansion of the Beauty Salon in its new location on South Western Avenue. The business currently employs seven independent contractors and is working to create an additional 3-4 new jobs.



Washington County Agri-Business Park
Jackson, Washington County

The newly established Washington County Agri-Business Park is located on the former Cambridge Valley Mushroom Farm on State Route 313 in the Town of Jackson. The site boasts a 7000 ft² packing plant with 2400 ft² of cooling space and two loading docks, twenty-four 1500 ft² suites, 1800 ft² of commercial office space, 4300 ft² maintenance and repair shop and 1000 ft² powerhouse. The Revolving Loan Fund provided funds for the conversion of the existing structures and insulated panel buildings to house businesses which serve the agricultural and building trades market in Washington County. There are currently two businesses residing with the Park, Lampros Solar, which provides solar electric installations and Davis Enterprises, a landscape and snow plowing company. There are a wide range of uses for the space available in the Park, including farm related retail stores, food and trucking hubs, cheese and meat aging, lumber yards, car/boat/RV storage, and machine shops.



Image courtesy of Washington County Agri-Business Park

All Brands Redemption Center Too
Pottersville, Warren County

All Brands Redemption Center Too is the expansion of the currently operating All Brands Redemption Center in Chestertown, which has been operating with one employee since June 2012. This business accepts and pays cash for all NY return deposit bottles. The Revolving Loan Fund provided a working capital loan for equipment purchase for the new building which will employ an additional 1 - 2 people. Future expansion of the space is proposed to include a bait/tackle shop, propane filling station and food vending/ice services.

Adirondack Technical Solutions
Argyle, Washington County

Adirondack Technical Solutions, founded in 2005, is an internet technical support business with security offering that works throughout the Capital Region, Lower Adirondack Region and western Vermont and Massachusetts. The owner was provided with a working capital loan to expand and renovate the company's physical space and add technical support staff and acquire new equipment. The business currently employs six individuals, and aims to add 1 to 2 new jobs with this expansion.

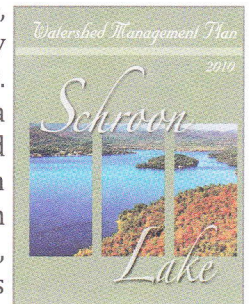
Quicksilver Aircraft Northeast, LLC
Fort Ann, Washington County



Quicksilver Aircraft Northeast is a full service dealer of light sport aircrafts, including single seat ultralights and puddle jumper amphibian floats, as well as accessories including brakes, tires and engines. The owner was provided with a working capital loan for new and used aircraft sales and service and flight instruction. Four news jobs are projected to be created.

Water Quality Grants

In 2013 the Regional Planning Board authored close to \$1.6 Million worth of water quality grants for various projects throughout the 5-County service area. Several funding programs were applied to, including the NYS DEC Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) grants. Projects applied for include a stormwater system upgrade around Feeder Street in the Village of Hudson Falls, implementation of the Schroon Lake Watershed Management Plan, Phase 1 implementation of the RPB's Champlain Roadside Erosion Inventory and Assessment Report, Town and Village of Lake George Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Program Planning and Implementation, and the Upper Hudson River Watershed Coalition Roadside Erosion Control Program. Awards are slated to be announced in mid-2014.



Utilizing the State's Consolidated Funding Application, the RPB authored a NYS DEC/Environmental Facilities Corp Wastewater Engineering & Planning Grant to fund an engineering report for the separation of the storm sewer system from the sanitary system and eliminate several Combined Sewer Overflow and Sanitary Sewer Overflow instances in a river front area in the Village of Fort Edward. The funding for the plan was awarded to the Washington County Sewer District No. 2 in December, and work on the plan will begin in 2014.

Professional Education Forums

North Country Stormwater Tradeshow and Conference
Staff at the RPB lead the organization and implementation of the 9th annual Stormwater Tradeshow in October as a member of CWICNY. Over 75 local engineers, landscape architects, and municipal officials and employees attended to learn about green infrastructure planning and implementation throughout New York State. Amanda LaValle, Environmental Program Coordinator for Ulster County, presented on the EPA funded Ulster County Green Infrastructure Plan that was recently concluded in conjunction with the NYS DEC. Three members of the Onondaga County Save the Rain Program presented on how they accomplished 50 green infrastructure projects in one year utilizing public/private partnerships. The afternoon included walking tours of the Beach Road Pervious Pavement Project and the West Brook Conservation Initiative.



Southern Adirondack Planning & Zoning Forum

As a member of the Warren County EDC Product Improvement Committee, the RPB helped organize and

hold the first annual Southern Adirondack Planning and Zoning Forum, held in September in Lake George. The day was opened with a plenary session featuring Brad Duke who presented on the updated APRAP report. The remainder of the day included two concurrent sessions, one for ZBA members and one for Planning Board members. The ZBA sessions included presentations from the APA on Approved Land Use Plans and a NYS DOS presentation on Use and Area Variance. The Planning sessions included presentations on the new SEQRA regulations and NYS DEC green infrastructure compliance requirements. The half-day Forum was closed by Keynote Speakers Fred Monroe and Mark Schachner. In total, over 60 people representing 25 municipalities and private businesses attended.

Project WET and Wild Workshops

Three workshops were held throughout the Champlain Watershed for local educators, funded by the Lake Champlain Basin Program. In total, 41 local teachers from six counties attended, and were provided with the Program curriculum guide and a "Treasure Chest" full of the materials needed to perform five of the activities in their classroom.



REGIONAL PLANNING BOARD AT THE FOREFRONT OF WINTER ROAD MAINTENANCE EDUCATION

In late 2012, the Regional Planning Board authored a Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP) Education and Outreach grant to hold a Municipal De-Icing Best Management Practices Forum in Lake George in partnership with the Lake George Association (LGA) and Warren County Soil and Water Conservation District. The Forum was held in April 2013 where over 65 local Highway Superintendents and staff from 21 municipalities attended, as well as NYS DOT employees from Warren, Washington, Clinton, Essex and Hamilton Counties. Speakers included Duane Amsler, PE, Cornell Local Roads Program; Paul Brown, PE, Massachusetts DOT; and Mike Lashmet, PE, Snow and Ice Program Engineer for NYS DOT. Opening remarks were given by Bob Winans, PE, Acting Co-Director, Office of Transportation Maintenance, NYS DOT. The Lake George Forum was such a success, an additional Forum was held in Plattsburgh in November, funded by the Clinton County Water Quality Coordinating Committee and the NYS DEC. Over 50 local Highway Department employees and NYS DOT employees from Clinton, Franklin and St. Lawrence Counties as well as Watertown attended.

Several Next Steps for moving forward with improved winter road maintenance activities were identified in both Forums, including (1) the need for improved equipment; (2) education for local elected officials on how they can help their DPW implement improved practices; (3) equipment calibration training for truck operators; and (4) creation and implementation of Winter Road Maintenance Policies. A summary of the Forums, their outcomes, identified needs and next steps is currently being produced by the RPB and LGA and will be released in mid-2014.

The RPB authored two additional LCBP grants, awarded in early 2014, to purchase pavement temperature sensors for the Towns of Lake George, Queensbury and Dresden and to continue education for local elected officials and Highway employees to promote improved winter road maintenance activities. The RPB was also funded to create Winter Road Maintenance Policies for several municipalities throughout the Watershed, utilizing information from the Cornell Local Roads Program.

2035 Ahead

2035 Ahead, the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRP) for the region, was completed and adopted by the A/GFTC Policy Committee in November. The Long Range Plan (LRP) is the core document of the transportation planning process, and it serves to guide all federally-funded investments for planning programs and capital projects for the region's surface transportation system. The plan contains demographic and survey summaries, infrastructure and condition inventories, goals, objectives, and planning principles, and a financial forecast. Public input, consultation with resource agencies, and committee involvement were also used to prepare the LRP.



Transportation Improvement Program 2014-2018

A/GFTC adopted its Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the roster of planned federal investments in the surface transportation system, in May. This TIP differs significantly from previous programs in scope and content. Changes in federal and state programming eligibility and emphasis areas have combined to yield the smallest overall regional planning targets since before 1991. The TIP is largely comprised of preservation and maintenance projects rather than larger scale infrastructure replacements. A/GFTC staff is continuing to work with member municipalities to make the most of this challenging programming environment.

Exit 17 Transportation & Land Use Study

The Route 9 / Exit 17 Corridor in the Town of Moreau is an important component of the regional transportation network. A planned expansion of the sewer network along the corridor is likely to generate significant new commercial and residential development. A/GFTC and Creighton Manning Engineering are working with the Town of Moreau, Saratoga County, and NYSDOT to develop a plan to preserve the utility of the existing surface transportation system by formulating feasible land use recommendations and conceptual design alternatives that will help the Town of Moreau plan for anticipated growth and foster economic development along the corridor. Plan completion is anticipated in Spring 2014.

A/GFTC is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Planning and Programming Area that includes Warren, Washington & northern Saratoga County.

For more information contact A/GFTC at 518.223.0086

Bay/Sanford St. Intersection Evaluation

Following two vehicular crashes that involved roadway departures, CHA was hired by A/GFTC on behalf of the Glens Falls Police Department to conduct a review of the crash history at this location. The crash rate at this intersection was found to exceed statewide expected rates for similarly configured intersections, and impaired visibility of the traffic signal was identified as a contributing factor. Included among the findings were recommendations to lower the traffic signals and install reflective backplates, repair the pedestrian signals, and remove selected vegetation overgrowth within the City's right-of-way.

Fire Rd./Crandall Park/Kensington Road School Bike Pedestrian Improvements

A/GFTC and Creighton Manning Engineering provided technical assistance to the City of Glens Falls and the Glens Falls City School District to develop conceptual alternatives to address the comparative lack of bicycle and pedestrian facilities in this area. The final report recommends a combination of sidewalks, crosswalks, and a multiuse path. Cost estimates and a listing of funding opportunities were also included.



Crandall St./Sherman Ave. Intersection Evaluation

The Chazen Companies were hired by A/GFTC, also at the request of the Glens Falls Police Department, to review intersection operations at this location. Observations by concerned neighbors called in to question the need for the existing traffic signal in this residential neighborhood. Traffic volumes and crash experience were reviewed, and it was determined that no established signal warrants were met. Traffic modeling was used to determine that the intersection would operate more efficiently under four-way stop sign control. The City of Glens Falls Board of Public Safety has approved the evaluation and intends to proceed with removal of the signal.

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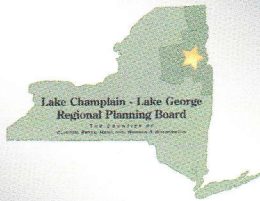
Tori Riley

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Sustainable Economic
 Development that



Strengthens & Preserves
 our Communities

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 Cover photo of Boquet River provided by the Boquet River Association

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