



Vision 2050 Survey Results

JANUARY 2024



CHENANGO COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

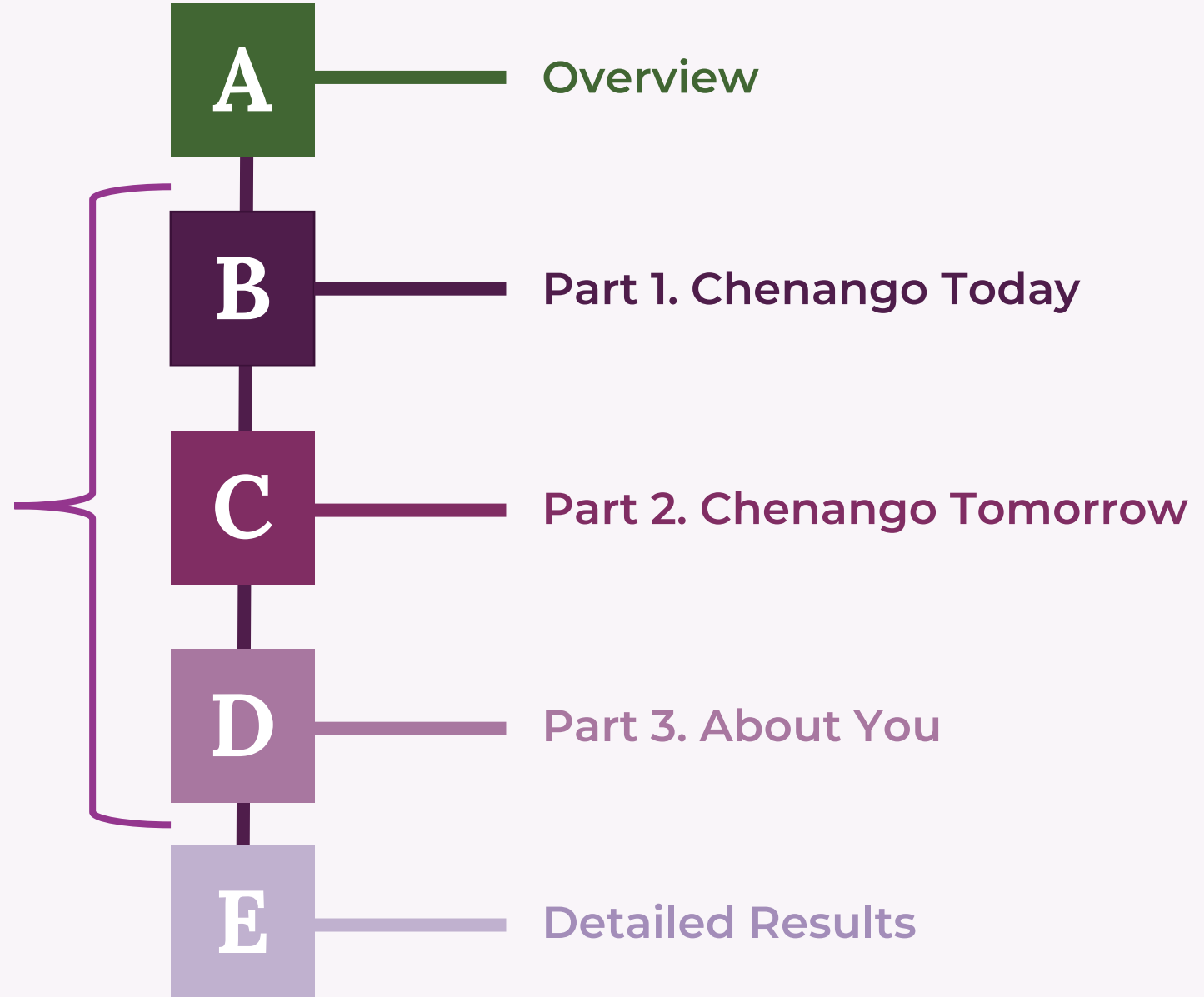


Engineering
& Design



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Response
Summaries





Overview

VISION 2050
SURVEY RESULTS

A



Overview

A

The Vision 2050 Survey was launched during the virtual Public Kick-Off Meeting held Wednesday, August 9th. The purpose of this survey was to better understand community priorities and opinions regarding areas where change is desired in Chenango County. The survey was published online and hard copies were also made available at the Chenango County Office Building and shared with the various Towns and Villages. The survey consisted of three parts:

- 1) Part 1. Chenango Today
- 2) Part 2. Chenango Tomorrow
- 3) Part 3. About You



**Survey Response
Period**

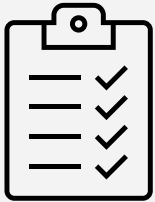
**Aug 9, 2023
to
Oct 30, 2023**



Overview



21 questions in the survey



645 total respondents



30 local municipalities represented





Part 1. Chenango Today

RESPONSE SUMMARY

B

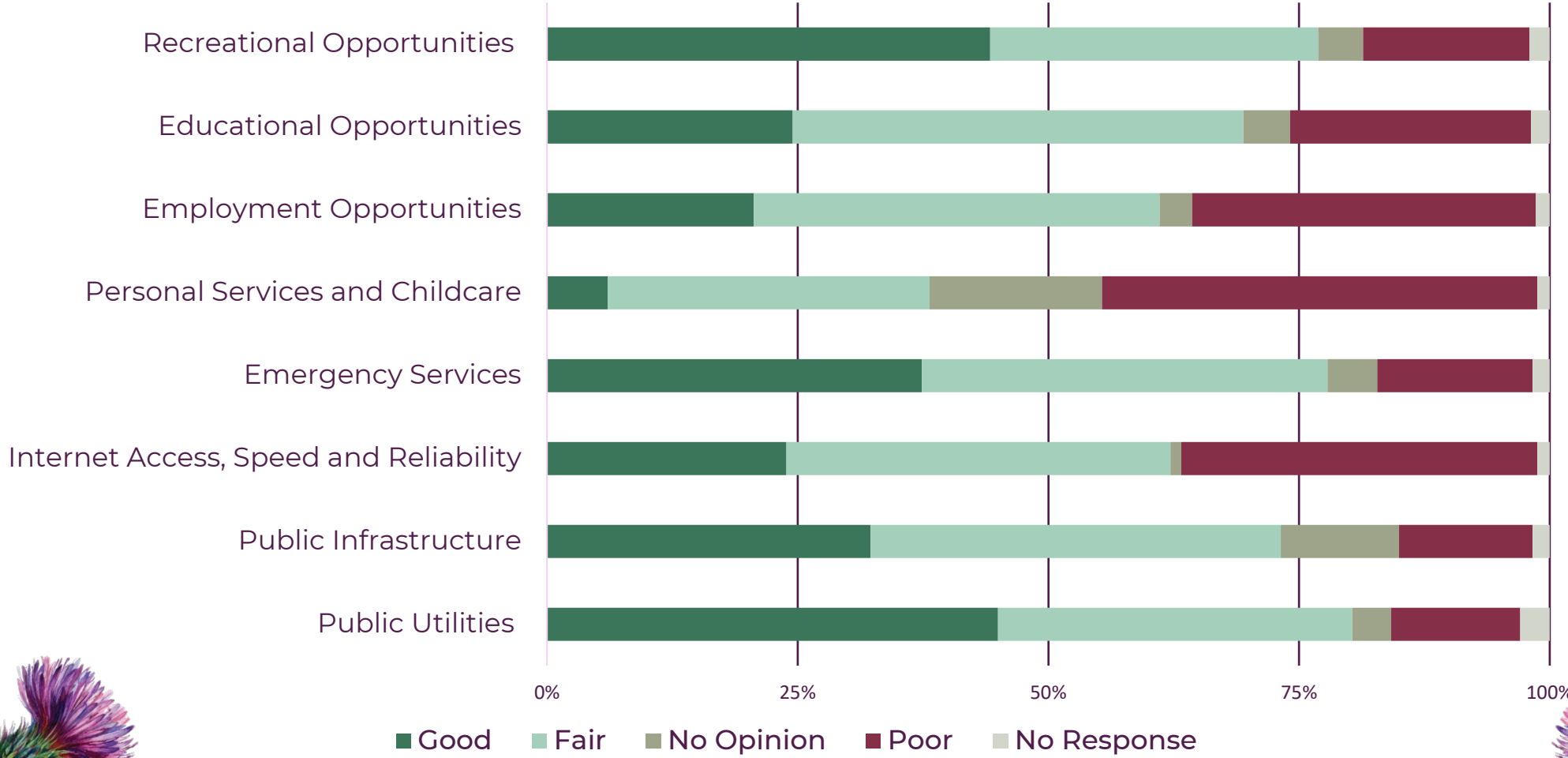
3. In my opinion the County's greatest weakness is...

Most common response themes :

- Drug use and addiction
- Poverty
- Homelessness
- Lack of resources
- Welfare
- Lack jobs/well paying jobs
- Crime
- Poor transportation infrastructure
- Unemployment
- Lack of quality & diverse employment opportunities
- Lack of drug treatment centers and resources
- Lack of resources for the homeless
- Lack of robust and comprehensive medical services
- Lack of mental health services
- Abundance of vacant and rundown houses and structures
- Lack of activities
- Lack of industry
- Failing to retain young professionals
- Lack of technology; internet services
- Lack of forward thinking
- Ineffective leadership



4. In my opinion, the availability and quality of the following community resources and infrastructure within the County is/are....



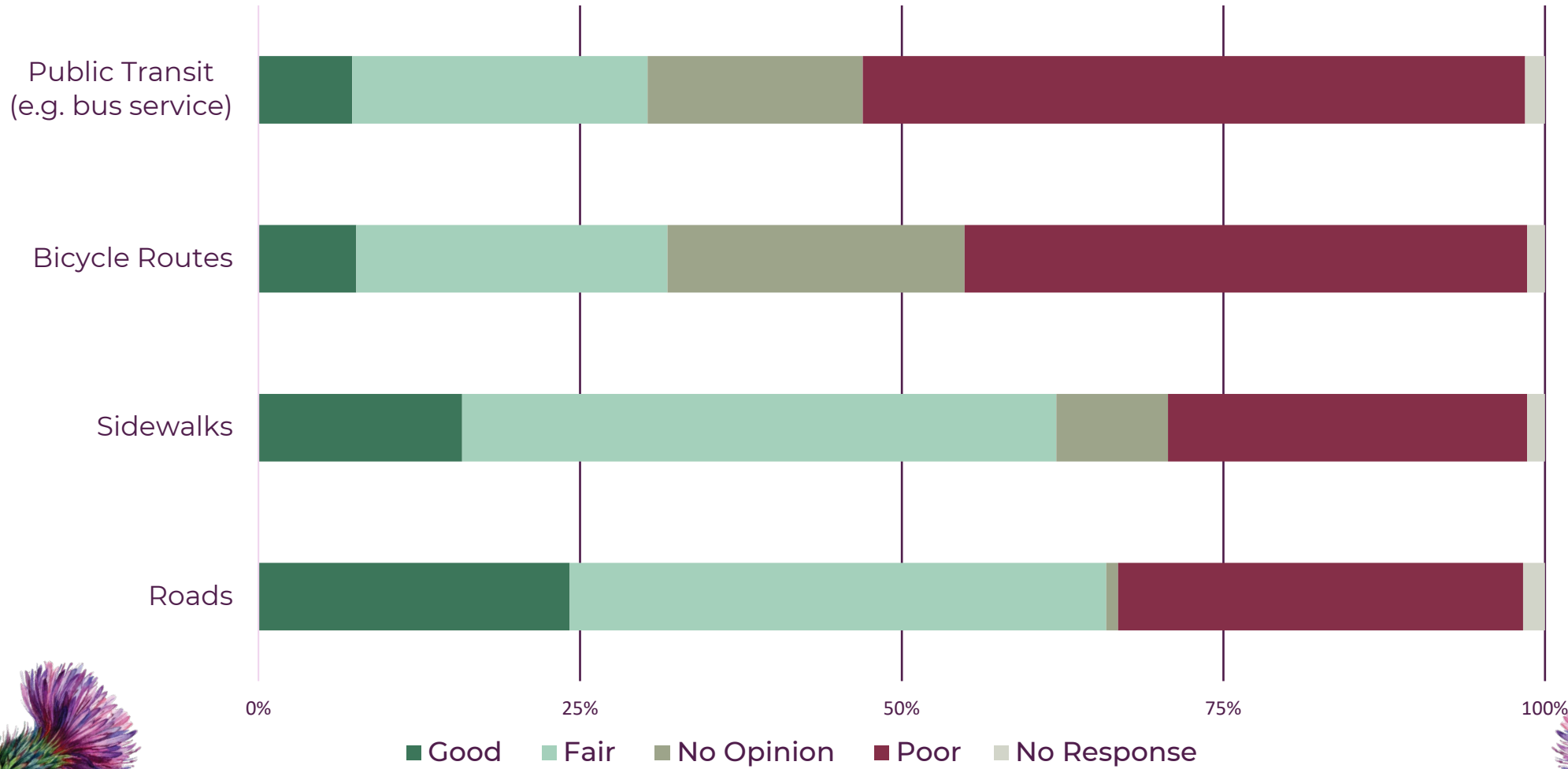
4. Any comments on the above ratings?

Most common response themes :

- Need more parks, trails, & other recreational activities & infrastructure
- Need interventions to break the cycle of poverty
- Must address public transportation quality & availability
- Need to improve quality & availability of internet services
- Must increase availability & quality of personal services, childcare etc.
- Expensive electricity; limited options for electricity water and gas
- Need to address lack of emergency services, fire, & ambulance
- Need more professional training & vocational programs
- Need for more activities and programs for young people
- Need to address crumbling infrastructure
- Need to increase number of safe spaces for children and families



5. I think the availability and quality of the following transportation options in the County is/are...



5. Any comments on the above ratings?

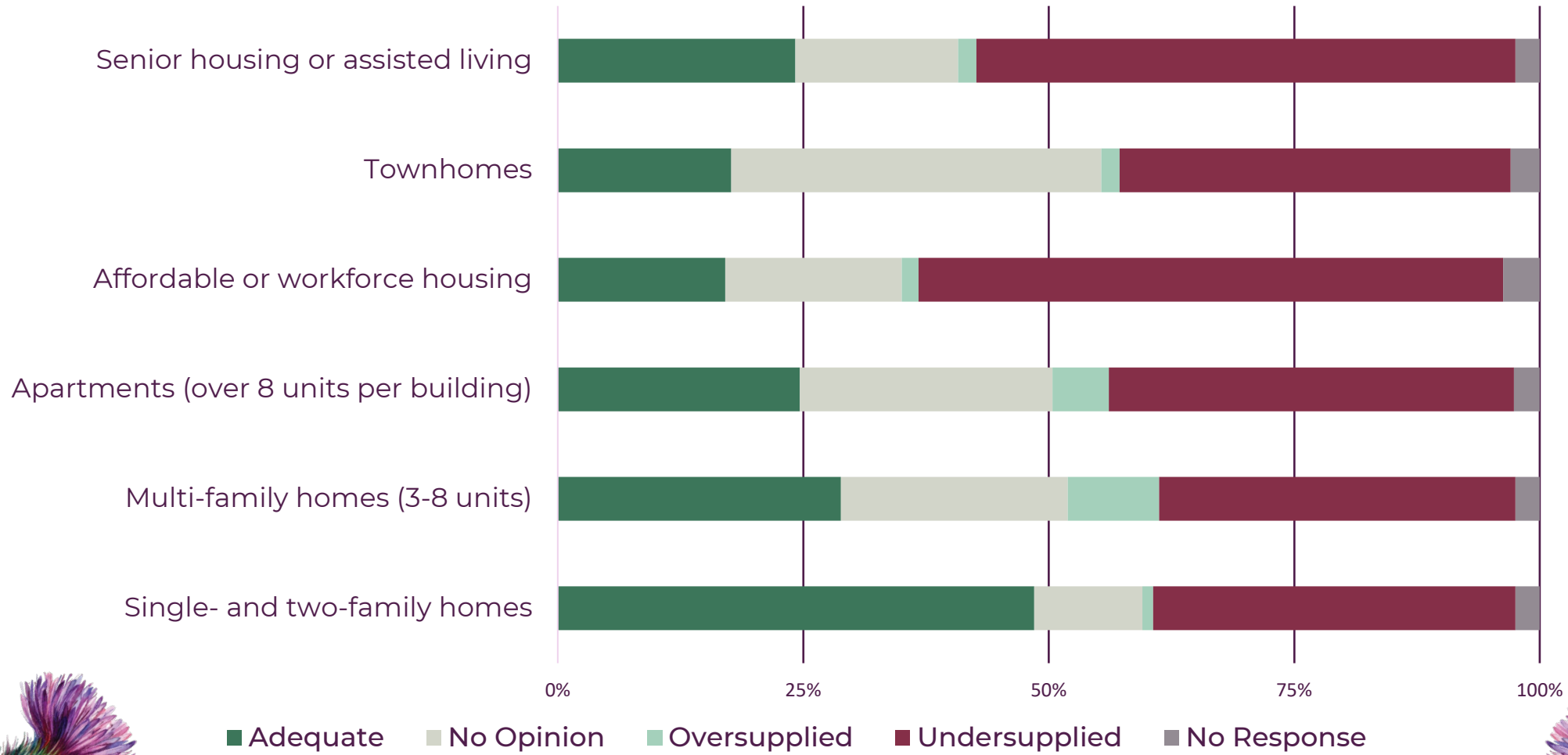
Most common response themes :

- Inadequate public transportation infrastructure
- Poor quality & maintenance of roads
- Need to revitalize rail traffic & heavy industry
- Lack of quality & diversity of transportation options
- Lack of pedestrian amenities & infrastructure
- Lack of bicycle amenities & infrastructure
- Sidewalk improvements needed to increase accessibility and ease for all persons
- Need increase in & affordability of medical transportation options
- Car centric design limits mobility of persons who do not own a car
- Opportunity for adaptive reuse of rail trail
- No comment



6. I think the following housing types within the County are...

Answered: 628
Skipped: 17



6. Any comments on the above ratings?

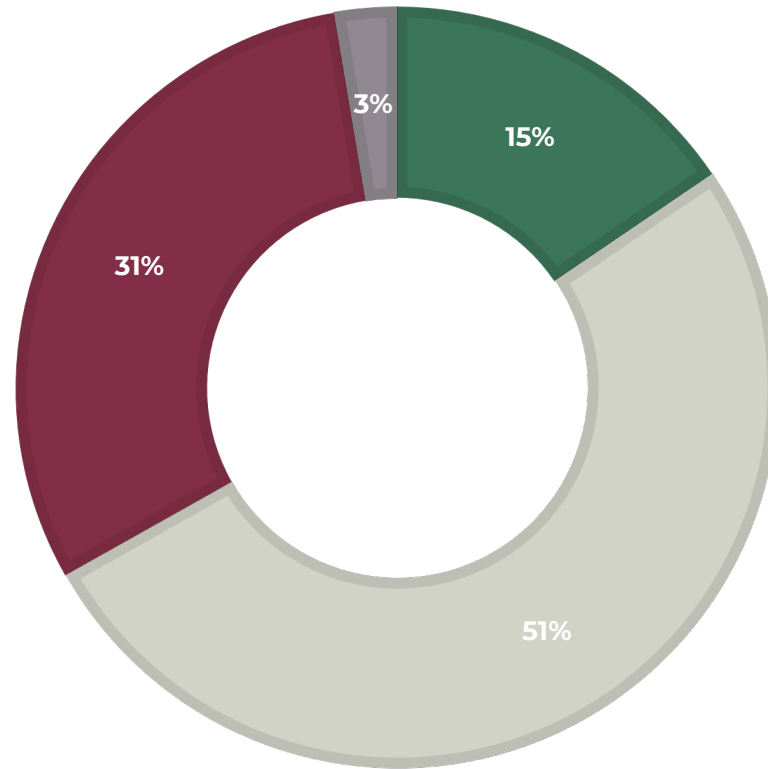
Most common response themes :

- Few nursing homes & assisted living housing available despite aging population
- Lack of subsidized housing options for seniors
- Lack of quality & availability of homes for existing and new residents
- Lack of quality & availability of affordable housing
- Need for consistent & effective code enforcement
- Need for increase in availability & quality of middle-income housing options
- Need for vacant & dilapidated housing to be updated, restored, & preserved
- Apartments that are not upkept
- Rent disproportionate to income
- Lack of regulation & accountability for landlords
- Housing interventions needed to help those suffering from homelessness, addiction, & mental health issues



7. How would you rate the overall quality of life in Chenango County?

Answered: 628
Skipped: 17



■ High ■ Neutral ■ Low ■ No Response



7. Why?

Pros :

- Natural beauty
- Rural lifestyle
- Quiet
- Affordability
- Lack of congestion
- Historic
- Hardworking people

Cons:

- Drug use and addiction
- Generational poverty
- Homelessness
- Lack of resources and interventions for addiction, homelessness and mental health issues
- Welfare
- Lack jobs/well paying jobs
- Crime
- Poor transportation infrastructure
- Unemployment
- Inadequate availability & quality of healthcare
- Lack of safe recreational opportunities for residents of all ages
- Inability to retain and integrate young professionals into the workforce
- Wealth disparities
- Lack of access to & quality of grocery stores, restaurants and other retail shops
- Declining schools
- High taxes
- Inadequate internet and cellular services
- Housing prices disproportionate to wages
- Inconsistent or absent code enforcement
- Ineffective leadership
- Overall decline in quality of life throughout residency
- Safety concerns
- Vacant & dilapidated houses, buildings, and structures
- Lack of availability & quality of affordable and senior housing
- Lack of retirement resources
- Lack of quality & availability of childcare
- Poor trash & litter management





Part 2. Chenango Tomorrow

RESPONSE SUMMARY

C



8. In one word or phrase, how would you like to be able to describe Chenango County in the future?

Answered: 594
Skipped: 51





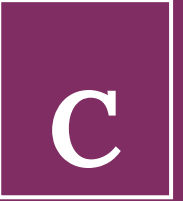
Answered: 514
Skipped: 131

9. In my opinion the County's greatest opportunity is...

Most common response themes :

- Recreational tourism
- People
- Natural resources
- Attracting & retaining businesses
- Agriculture
- Land for open space, greenspace, & potential development
- Education
- Young people
- Natural beauty
- Manufacturing
- Increasing quality employment opportunities
- Location
- Potential to develop rail trail
- Beauty
- Rural & Small-town living
- Growth potential
- Unsure
- Attracting & retaining new residents
- Renewable energy
- Vocational education
- Increasing quality & availability of housing
- Opportunities for community collaboration
- Peaceful





Answered: 587
Skipped: 58

10. In my opinion the County's greatest threat is...

Most common response themes :

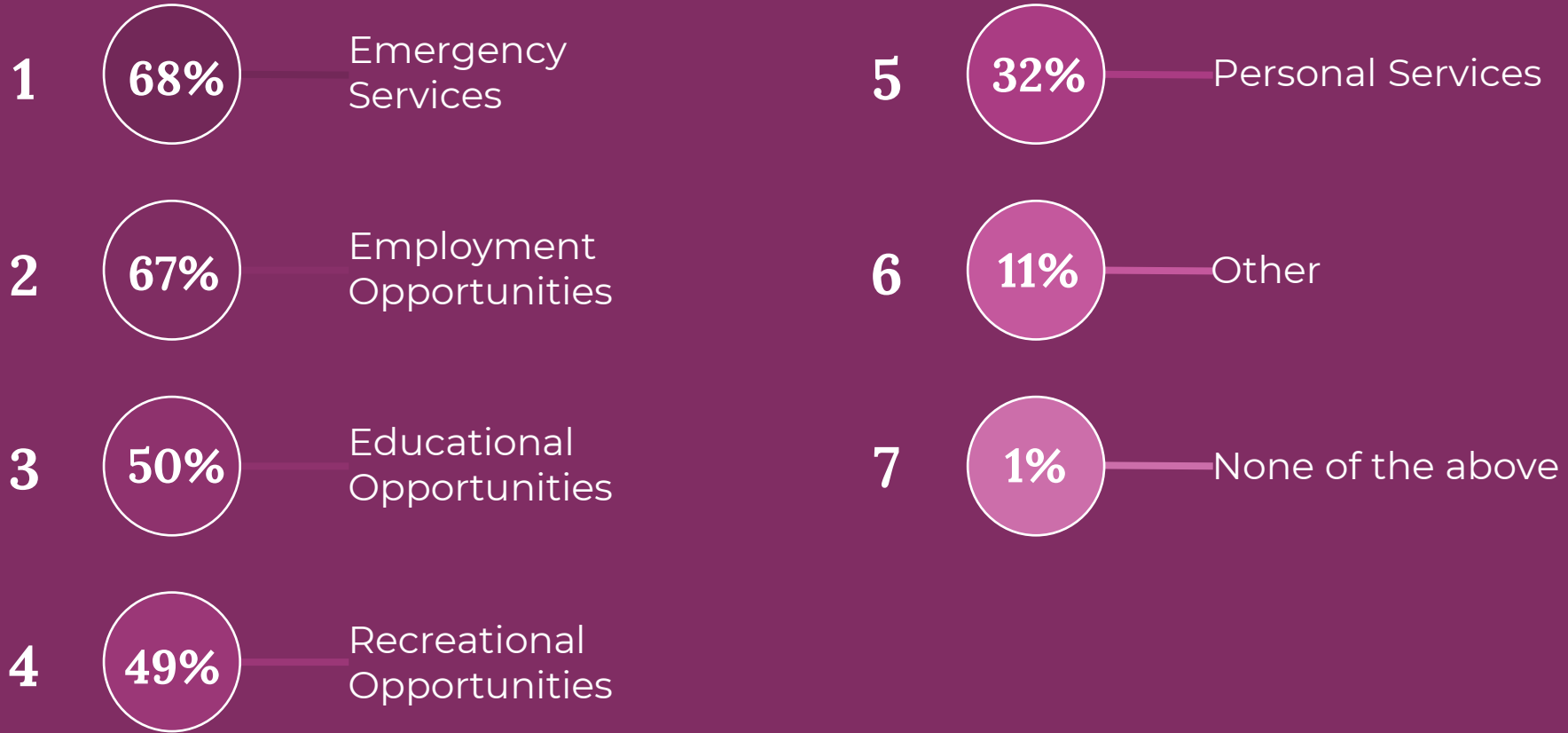
- Drugs, drug use, drug addiction, drug related issues
- Crime
- Poverty
- Homelessness
- Welfare
- Resistance to change
- Lack of well-paying jobs
- Young professionals leaving the area
- Population decline
- Lack of education
- Over-taxation
- Deteriorating infrastructure
- Theft
- Violence
- Corruption
- Politicians
- Lack of housing
- Wind turbines
- Mental health epidemic
- Weak tax base
- Ineffective leadership
- Loss of businesses
- Bail reform
- Closemindedness





11. Select the TOP 3 community resources and services that are most important to you.

Answered: 632
Skipped: 13



11. Other please specify

Answered: 73
Skipped: 572

Most common response themes :

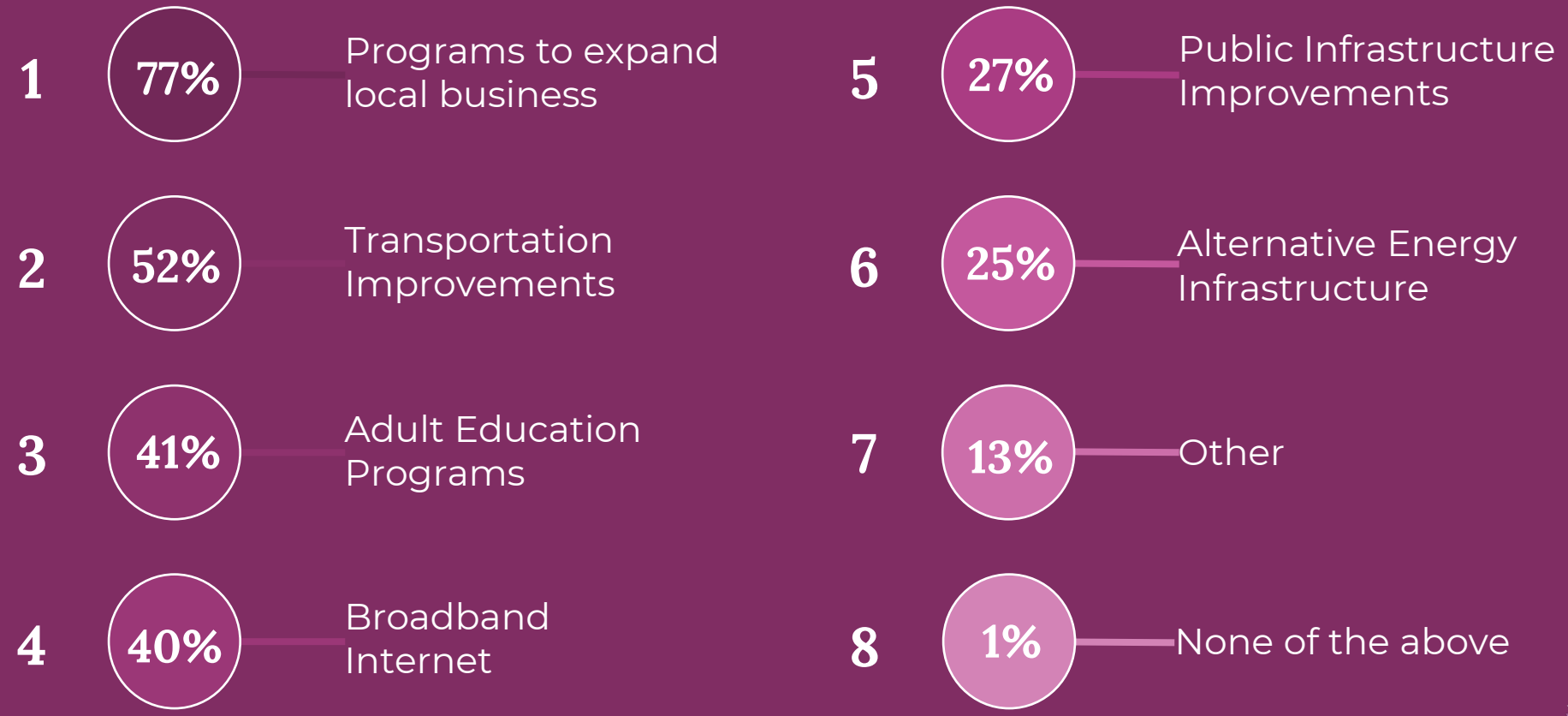
- Healthcare
- High speed internet & cellular coverage
- Transportation
- Services for seniors
- Senior housing, affordable housing, increased housing
- Childcare
- Code enforcement
- Increased religious opportunities
- Highway departments
- Need to incentivize small grocery stores, farmers markets and overall healthy local food options
- All are important
- Need for more accessible medical & mental health services
- Need for more medical specialist & specialized care
- Need for taxi & driving services





12. Select the TOP 3 economic development opportunities that you feel the County should invest in.

Answered: 631
Skipped: 14



12. Other please specify

Answered: 84
Skipped: 561

Most common response themes :

- Increase of businesses
- Recreation, ecotourism
- Housing
- Affordable housing
- Mental health facilities & services
- Tourism
- Activities for children & families
- Bike trails
- Adaptive reuse of existing rail trail
- Senior Housing
- Entrepreneurship
- Improve waste removal and waste management
- Local food production
- Land preservation
- Improved transportation; transportation for seniors
- Increase industry & manufacturing
- Education
- Effective drug rehabilitation





13. Thinking about the future of Chenango County, please select the TOP 6 goals that are most important to you.

Answered: 633
Skipped: 12

	Percentage	Goal
1	72%	Supporting local businesses
2	67%	Preserving natural resources
3	54%	Supporting agriculture
4	54%	Expanding local goods & services
5	51%	Improving transportation
6	45%	Increasing housing
7	44%	Expanding personal services & childcare
8	35%	Expanding recreational opportunities
9	34%	Expanding tourism opportunities
10	30%	Promoting sustainable development
11	25%	Improving public infrastructure
12	9%	Other
13	0.3%	I do not agree with these goals



13. Other please specify

Answered: 55
Skipped: 590

Most common response themes :

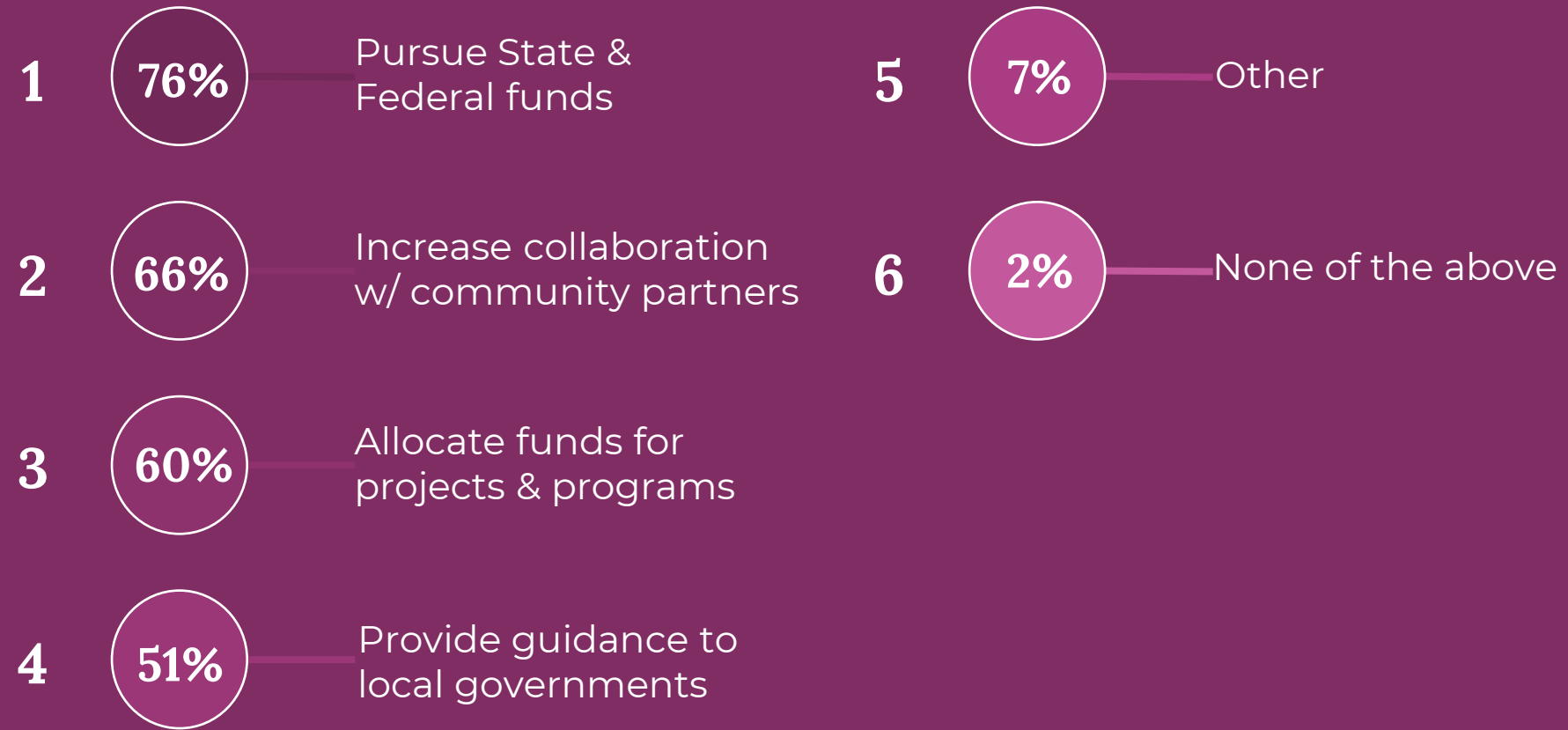
- Improve waste removal & management
- Effectively address drug and homelessness issues
- Increase access & quality of internet & cellular services
- Increase mental health facilities & services
- Establish more childcare options
- Bolster EMS infrastructure
- Promote walkability
- Reduce barriers to farm to table programs
- Increase number of tradesmen, vocational programs and skilled workforce
- Reduce taxes
- Improve schools
- Develop rail trail
- Senior housing
- Address littering





14. In what ways do you feel the County should pursue and support these goals?

Answered: 620
Skipped: 25



14. Other please specify

Answered: 44
Skipped: 601

Most common response themes :

- Create & leverage tax incentives and similar programs to increase business development; private investment
- Explore grant opportunities for funding programs & initiatives
- Increase education
- Mitigate crime
- Address vacant & derelict structures
- Increase public awareness & participation in this process
- Reduce barriers to facilitate four-wheeler & ATVs activities to promote tourism
- Transform County government structure to be more adaptive
- Consolidate services where appropriate
- Increase collaboration between municipalities
- Explore establishing work program opportunities within the County





Answered: 189
Skipped: 456

15. Please share any additional thoughts you have on things this survey may have missed and/or your experience in and vision for Chenango County.

Most common response themes :

- Poverty, crime, homelessness, & drug addition must be addressed in a constructive and effective way.
- There is a need for increased transparency of local government decisions and increased public participation within those processes.
- Children, families, and seniors need more safe and affordable recreational opportunities.
- Recreation should be developed in various and increased forms to promote tourism and support the economy.
- Residents desire an increase in the quality and number of commercial businesses, retail, grocery, restaurants, etc.
- Community services such as infrastructure, public transportation, internet, emergency services and medical care need to be improved.
- Make County government structure more effective.
- Action should be taken to increase climate resilience within the County
- Vacant buildings should be retrofitted to address the needs for more housing, and increased mental health, substance abuse, and homelessness services.
- Nature should be utilized to bolster tourism and recreational industry but must also be conserved and preserved.
- The county should emphasize its agricultural roots and history to increase cultural and recreational programming as well as tourism.
- Childcare and lack of activities for children and teenagers must be addressed.
- The amount and quality of jobs must be increased.
- Policies and spending must be leveraged in a proactive rather than a reactive manner.
- Opportunities to streamline and consolidate services
- Need for increased code enforcement.
- Need for policies addressing litter.



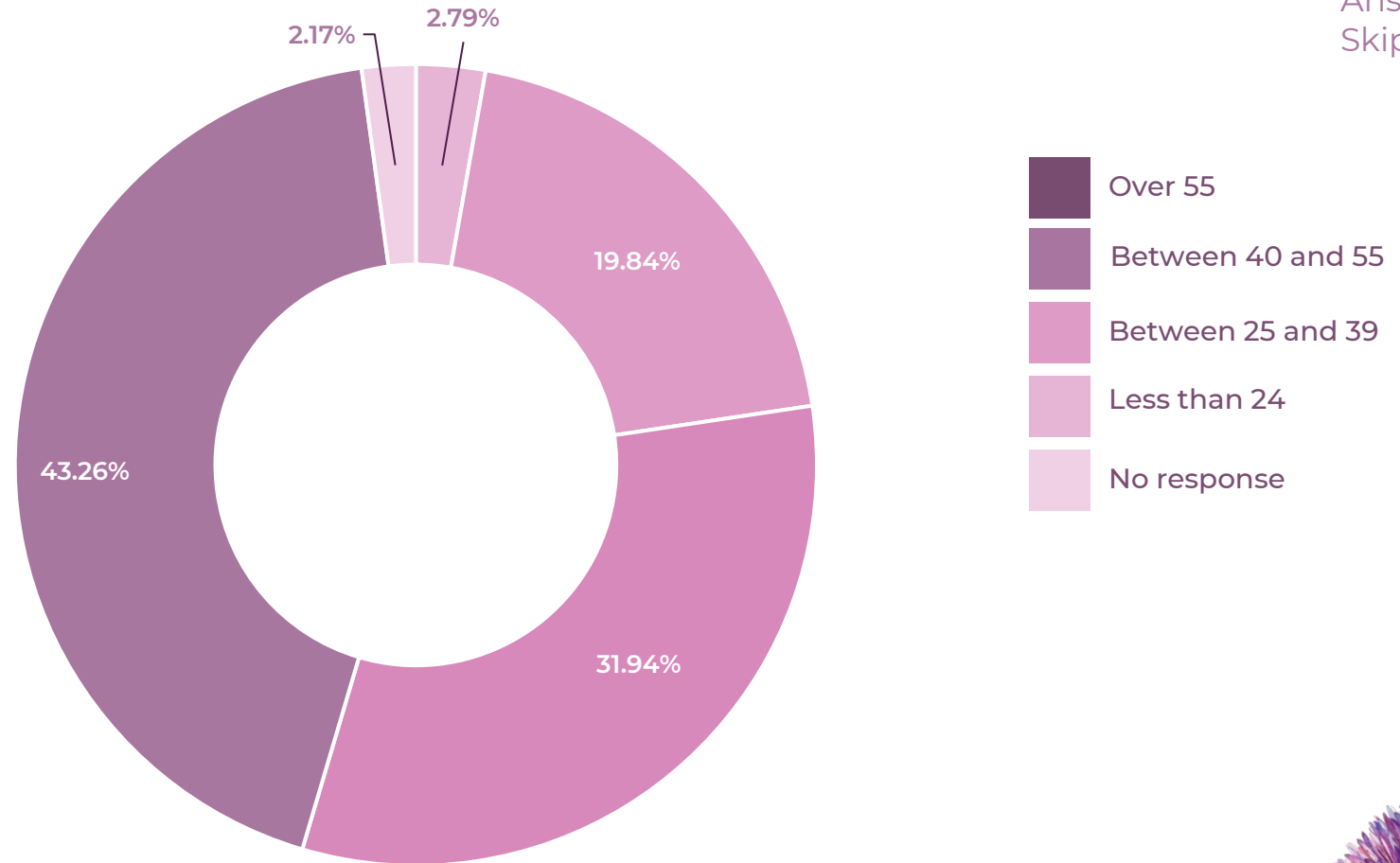


Part 3. About You

RESPONSE SUMMARY

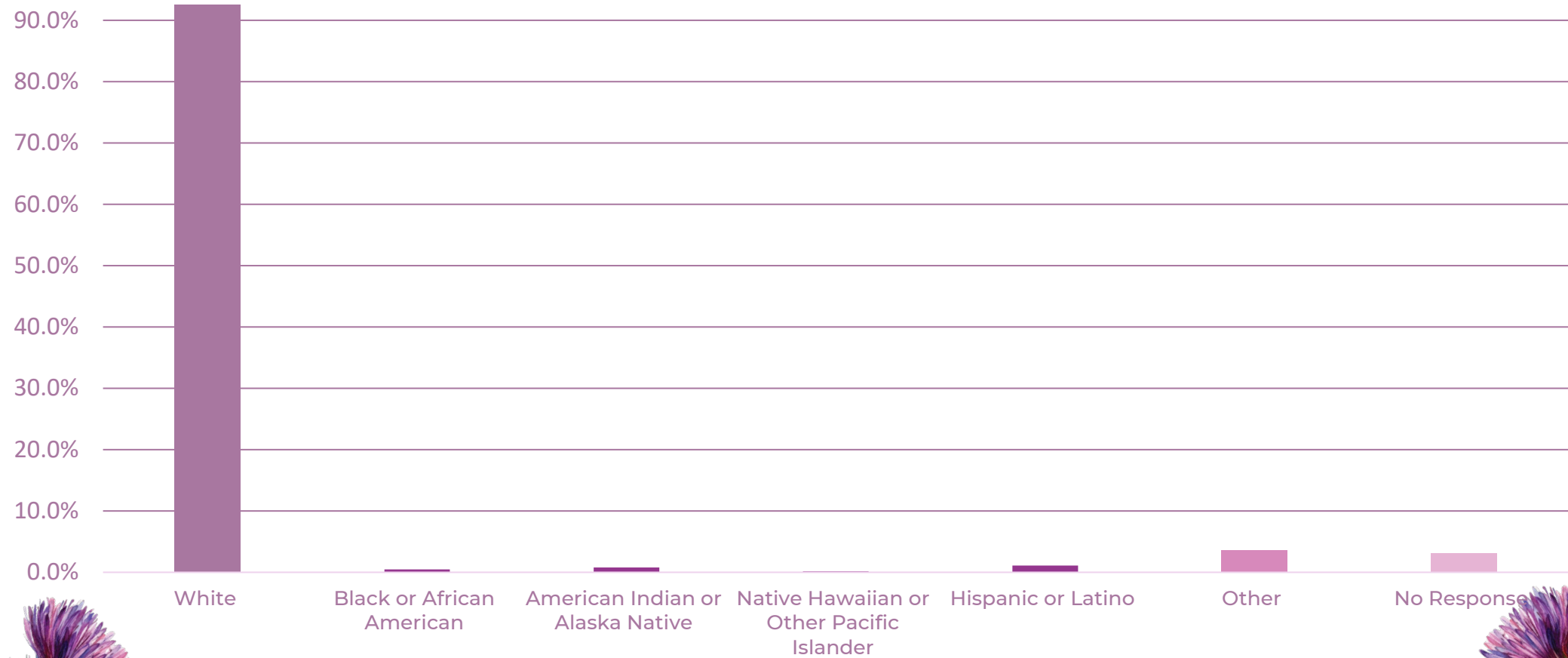
D

16. Please select your age range:

Answered: 631
Skipped: 14

17. How would you describe yourself?

Answered: 625
Skipped: 20



17. Other please specify

Answered: 21
Skipped: 624

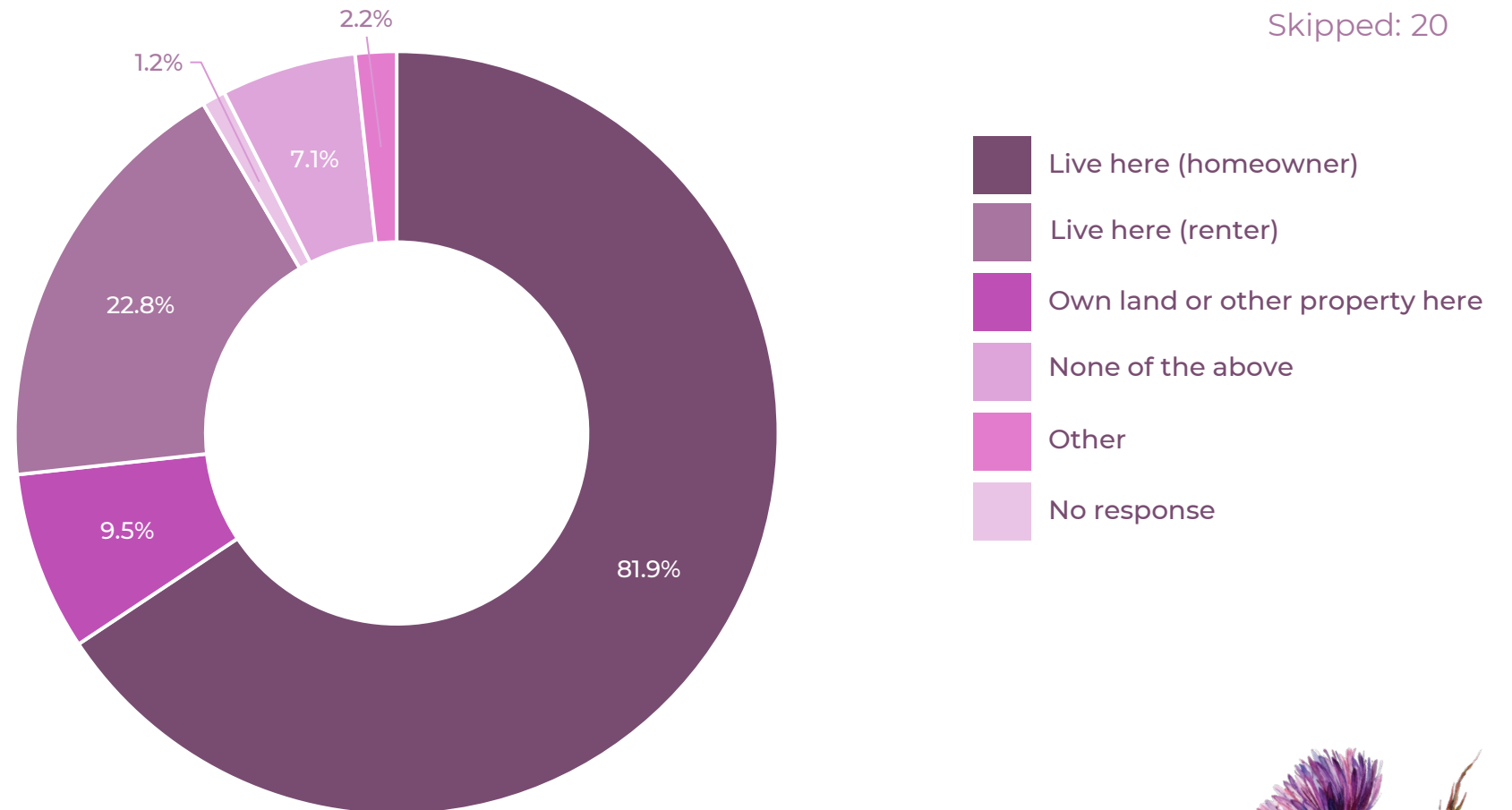
Answers:

- Prefer not to answer
- Mixed race
- Italian
- White with Iroquois relatives
- Caucasian/Asian



18. What is your interest in Chenango County?

Answered: 625
Skipped: 20



18. Other please specify

Answered: 42
Skipped: 603

Answers:

- I work here
- I am a former resident
- I have family/loved ones that live within the County
- I grew up here
- I own a business within the County
- I live just outside the County
- I shop in Chenango County
- I live here part-time
- I own a secondary residence within the County
- I have family that live just outside the County



19. Where do you live?

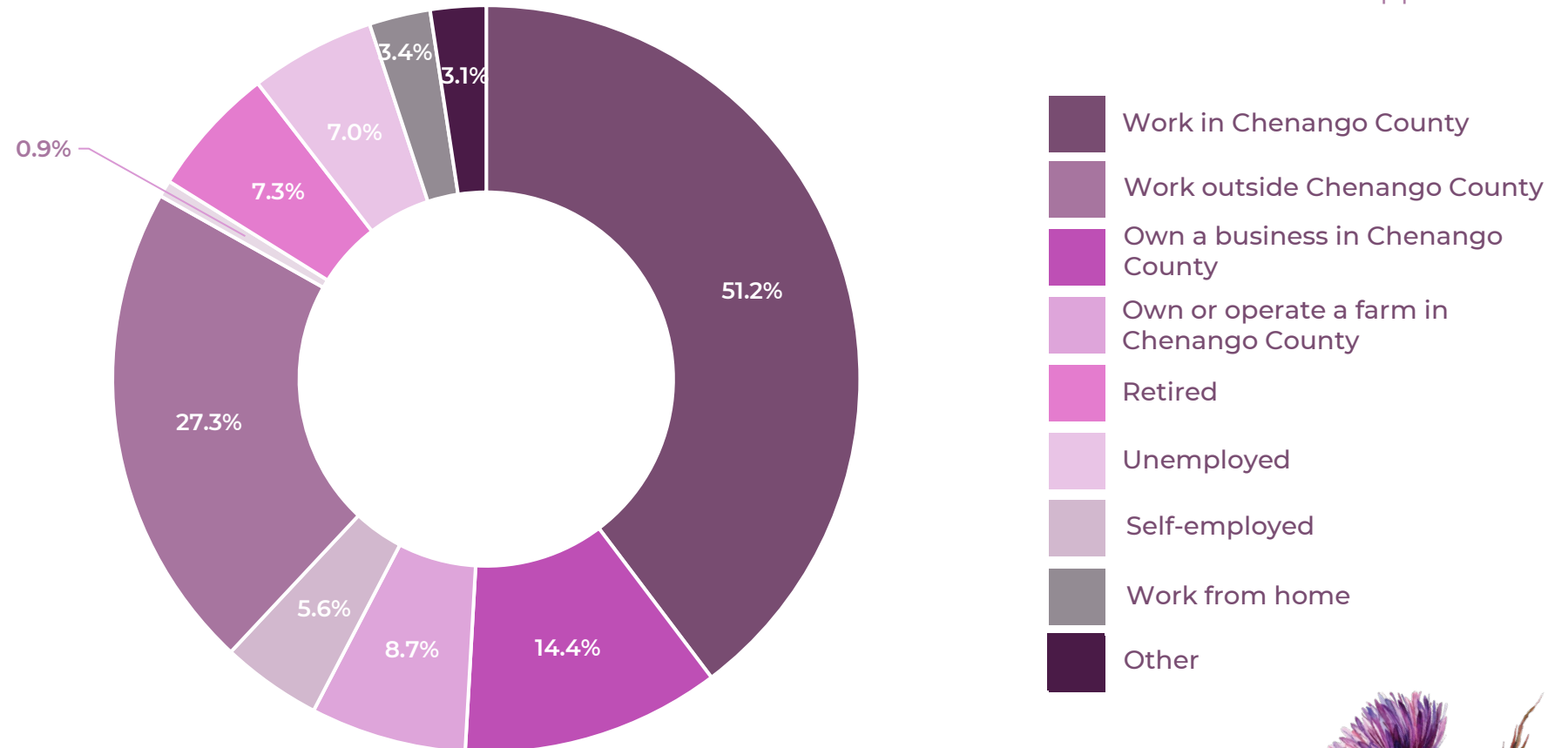
Answered: 616

Skipped: 29

%	Municipality	%	Municipality	%	Municipality
15%	City of Norwich	2.5%	Village of Bainbridge	1.5%	Village of Earlville
10%	Town of Norwich	2.5%	Town of Plymouth	1.4%	Village of Green
8%	Town of Guilford	2%	Town of Coventry	1.4%	Town of McDonough
6%	Town of Oxford	2%	Town of Otselic	1%	Town of Smyrna
5%	Town of Greene	2%	Town of Preston	1%	Town of Pitcher
5%	Town of New Berlin	2%	Village of New Berlin	1%	Town of German
4%	Town of Sherburne	2%	Village of Oxford	.5%	Town of Lincklaen
4%	Town of North Norwich	2%	Village of Sherburne	.5%	Town of Pharsalia
3%	Town of Smithville	1.5%	Town of Afton	.3%	Village of Smryna
3%	I do not live in Chenango County	1.5%	Village of Afton		
3%	Town of Bainbridge	1.5%	Town of Columbus		

20. What is your employment status?

Answered: 625
Skipped: 20



20. Other please specify

Answered: 21
Skipped: 624

Answers:

- Disabled
- Work in the County part-time
- Retired
- Retired but working part-time
- Small business owner
- Full-time student
- Stay at home parent within the County
- Children work in the County
- Used to work within the County





APPENDIX.

Detailed Results

**NOTE: COMMON RESPONSES HAVE
BEEN CONSOLIDATED WHERE
APPROPRIATE**

E

1. In one word or phrase, how would you describe Chenango County?

Common Responses:

Rural	45	Sinking	3	In need of a few small repairs	1
Poor	42	Tranquil	3	In need of a food and energy plan.	1
Beautiful	38	Great place to raise a family	2		
Depressed	26	A lot of untapped potential	2	Lack of single individual accountability	1
Sad	19	A mess	2	landscapes	1
Struggling	19	Aging	2	limited opportunity	1
Poverty	13	Backward	2	Mainly low-income family's	1
Declining	11	Bad	2	Need more resources	1
Impoverished	11	Beautiful fall	2	Needing to find an identity	1
Lacking	10	Challenged	2	No jobs	1
Rundown	10	Corrupt	2	Room for improvement and updates.	1
Going downhill	8	Crumbling	2	Underutilized	1
Behind the times	7	Crumbling infrastructure	2	Vacant buildings	1
Failing	7	Disgusting	2	Rich in history	1
Home	7	Divided	2	Desert	1
Okay	7	Drug dealing	2	A drug selling hub	1
Drug infested	6	Drug haven	2		
Economically depressed	6	Dying	2	A few people doing a lot and most people complaining	1
Drug-ridden	5	Economically stressed	2	A great place to work.	1
Homeless	5	Failing to drugs	2		
Peaceful	5	Green	2	a lack of younger leaders that don't get listened to.	1
Stagnant	5	Homelessness	2	A nice quiet place to live	1
Too many drugs	5	In trouble	2	A wasted opportunity	1
Very poor	5	Lacking education	2	A work in progress	1
Too many on welfare	4	Lacking jobs	2	Addiction issues	1
Crime	4	Need bail reform	2	Addicts	1
Deteriorated	4	Need improved public transportation	2	Adequate	1
Drug addicts	4	Needs improvement	2	Alarming	1
Drug problem	4	Neglected	2		
Has potential	4	Once prosperous	2	Americana	1
Improving	4	Over taxed	2	Appalachia	1
Low income	4	Overrun with homeless	2	At risk	1
Potential	4	Poorly managed	2	Average	1
Rural beauty	4	Quaint	2	Awesome	1
Underdeveloped	4	Reactive	2	Bad shape	1
Agricultural	3	Resilient	2	Barren wasteland	1
Depressed area	3	Safe	2	Beat	1
Friendly people	3	Scary	2	Beautiful place to grow up	1
Boring	3	Scenic	2	Behind in technology	1
decrepit	3	Small town	2	Better than Broome, Delaware and Otsego County's.	1
Desperate	3	Stagnating	2	Broke	1
Dilapidated	3	Stuck in the past	2	Broken	1
Dirty	3	Terrible	2	Bucolic	1
Full of drugs	3	Treading Water	2	calming	1
good	3	Troubled	2		
Great place to live	3	Trying to revive	2	Chaos	1
Natural Beauty	3	Underrated	2	Circling the drain	1
Natural resources	3	Underserved	2	Close knit	1
Outdated	3	Financially depressed	1	Comfortable	1
Poverty-stricken	3	In decline	1	Coming back to life	1

2. In my opinion the County's greatest strength is...

Common Responses:

Its people	53	County life	3	Drugs	
Natural beauty	46	Natural Spaces	3	ecological beauty and diversity	1
Community	33	Peaceful	3	Economic development	1
Beauty	23	Quiet	3	Education....DCMO BOCES being located in the county as the premier provider of cool services	1
Agriculture	22	taking care of the needs of the elderly	3	Environment opportunity	1
Natural Resources	19	Art community	3	Community Resources	1
Location	17	The workforce and retirees	3	fairly clean	1
small town feel	15	Community organizations	3	Families	1
Nature	15	Woods	3	Families with several generations still here	1
Land	13	Recreational resources	2	farmers	1
Local farms	11	Determined few	2	finances	1
Nothing	11	Cheap housing	2	Fiscal strength	1
Beautiful	10	Community events	2	Friends	1
caring people	10	Dairy	2	Generations of families that continue to reside here.	1
Landscape	10	Environmental beauty	2	Geography	1
Environment	9	Farm community	2	great living conditions	1
I don't know	9	Farmers Markets	2	green space	1
Sense of community	9	Farming	2	Greenery	1
Community involvement	7	Friendliness	2	Handing out grant \$ and financial aid	1
History	7	healthy environment.	2	hard pressed to find one	1
It's rural	7	Norwich	2	Having strong emotions about things they are passionate about.	1
Rural beauty	7	Not much	2	How people band together in times of need	1
A few large employers	6	Route 12 Traffic	2	I cant say it has one to be honest.	1
Open Space	6	School Systems	2	independent lifestyle	1
Opportunities for improvement.	6	tourism	2	Industrious people	1
clean water	5	Walmart	2	Industry	1
Beautiful Landscape	5	agricultural heritage	2	its diverse population	1
Hardworking people	5	Climate resilience	2	its employable population.	1
Hills	5	Their schools	2	Its largest businesses	1
low population density	5	proximity to bigger cities but not influenced by them.	1	its quality of life	1
Rivers	5	character of its villages	1	It's residents	1
Rural atmosphere	5	children.	1	Its scenery	1
Small communities	5	fresh foods	1	it's self employed businesses and people	1
State lands	5	great location for events	1	leadership	1
The countryside	5	Native American history	1	Local family businesses	1
Safe	5	Plentiful water	1	Looking forward,temperature,water,,	
Potential	5	utilities, police and fire	1	Low crime.	1
rural areas	4	wooded areas, etc.	1	Manufacturing and the quaint townships that are in Chenango County.	1
Outdoor Opportunities	4	adaptability	1	many good leaders	1
Preserved landscapes	4	Agriculture potential	1	Military	1
Scenery	4	Area businesses	1	Multiple seasons	1
Small business	4	Being represented in Albany	1	Parks	1
Young people	4	Bringing new development in and ideas	1	northeast classic car museum	1
Low cost of living	4	bucolic	1	Not overly regulated.	1
Natural surroundings	3	Businesses	1	Only one direction to go	1
rural setting	3	Chobani sponsored events	1	our local businesses	1
Can't really think of any	3	Commitment to children	1		
Churches	3	Compassion	1		

3. In my opinion, the County's greatest weakness is... Common Responses:

Drugs	76	Lack of engaging young people into workforce	4	Affordable Healthcare	1
Poverty	47	Technology	3	Weak government	1
Homeless	26	Infrastructure	3	Very old infrastructure	1
Homelessness	22	Weak tax base	3	unwelcoming attitudes	1
Lack of resources	22	Lack of infrastructure	3	Under utilization of community assets by individuals in power	1
It's leadership	17	Lack of economic opportunity	3	Unable to take care of the elders	1
Lack of employment opportunities	16	Bail reform	3	Tourism	1
Welfare	15	lack of new businesses	2	Too slow in getting anything done	1
Drug addiction	15	Lack of local jobs	2	lack of professionalism	1
Lack of Well paying jobs	14	things to do	2	The will to bring in new business to the area	1
Lack of jobs	13	the people	2	parking lots	1
Crime	13	Lack of acceptance in general	2	The remote rural landscape	1
Lack of housing	13	Population loss	2	The political ideologies	1
Lack of mental health resources	11	Inadequate public transportation	2	The large income disparity between residents.	1
drug epidemic	9	Not addressing drug problem	2	The lack of diverse jobs	1
Drug problems	9	Not addressing homelessness	2	The lack of commitment by its citizens	1
Transportation infrastructure	8	No forward thinking	2	The lack of care within the school districts	1
Poor road infrastructure	8	Limited economic opportunity.	2	property taxes	1
Lack of services	8	Lack of zoning	2	crime	1
Lack of businesses	8	lack of affordable childcare	2	the mindless buildout of wind energy	1
drug abuse	7	Lack of foresight	2	the Amount of trash all over the road sides	1
Unemployment	7	Lack of development	2	The disrespect of people who have become selfish, self centered and greedy - it's not the county	1
Lack of drug treatment resources	7	Lack of (you name it)	2	the broader NYS government	1
Drug use	7	A lack of a vision	2	classism	1
Lack of internet & cellular	7	High taxes	2	the harshness and cruelty that people who use drugs are met with,	1
Lack of opportunity	6	population decline	2	No workforce development opportunities for unskilled workers.	1
Lack of resources for homeless	6	not taking care of the marginalized	2	Like the people who have a run of bad luck and can't get any assistance because they make more than is allowed... and the more than is allowed is so low I don't know how anyone could live on it.	1
its weak economy	6	Low wages	2	Taxes	1
Lack of affordable housing	6	Losing fire departments and EMS	2	Stuck in the past mindset	1
lack of robust medical services	5	Lack of social services	2	stagnant	1
Drug dealers	5	lack of access to services	2	spending way too much money on decorative upgrades.	1
Resistance to change	5	Lack of an interstate and operating rail line.	2	Small population	1
Low education	5	poor healthcare	2	Size	1
Poor planning	5	Conservatism	2	Short sightedness	1
Loss of businesses	5	Addiction, and lack of services for treatment	2	Self-awareness	1
economy	4	healthy food	2	salaries	1
Vacant & rundown houses	4	low income	2	Run down buildings	1
Lack of activities	4	No money	2	road crows	1
lack of medical specialists	4	No manufacturer work	2	vagrancy	1
Lack of industry	4	Lack of senior services	2	retaining its residents	1
Lack of engaging young people into workforce	4	Lack of law enforcement	2	Lack of support	1
Technology	3	Outdated	2		
Infrastructure	3	Workforce lacks necessary skills to obtain jobs in local industry	1		

4. In my opinion, the availability and quality of the following community resources and infrastructure within the County is/are...

Rating	Public Utilities	Public Infrastructure	Internet Access, Speed and Reliability	Emergency Services	Personal Services and Childcare	Employment Opportunities	Educational Opportunities	Recreational Opportunities
Good	44.96%	32.25%	23.88%	37.36%	6.05%	20.62%	24.50%	44.19%
Fair	35.35%	40.93%	38.29%	40.47%	32.09%	40.47%	44.96%	32.71%
No Opinion	3.88%	11.78%	1.09%	4.96%	17.21%	3.26%	4.65%	4.50%
Poor	12.87%	13.33%	35.50%	15.50%	43.41%	34.26%	24.03%	16.59%
No Response	2.95%	1.71%	1.24%	1.71%	1.24%	1.40%	1.86%	2.02%

4. Any comments on the above ratings?

Common Responses:

Need improved internet	15	Need to be family friendly	1
Need more choices for utilities	15	We are a rural community some opportunities are traded for other qualities of life.	1
No	12	Need improved internet	1
Need more/better jobs within the County	10	Need improved internet and cell service infrastructure	1
Need more childcare services	10	This community needs to catch up in many areas to other surrounding communities	1
Need more things to do	7	The problem is not that there aren't services	1
Need improved utilities	7	Things could improve a lot, but id hate to lose our rural nature	1
Infrastructure is crumbling	6	Things are tougher in rural areas	1
we need more trails, both walking and biking; too much land is restricted; need land trusts	6	Lack of activities	1
We need to capitalize more on our recreational resources.	5	There is room to improve	1
Need better transportation	4	Creating a more vibrant downtown, fairground area,	1
Poor roads	4	There is no choice for electric and most of the county does not have natural gas available.	1
Emergency services should be paid	4	There is a lack of paid EMS personal and fire fighters.	1
Need better mental health services	4	The rural nature of the county makes the good rating hard for any of the above.	1
We also need to increase our opportunities for higher education in the County	4	The lack of new natural gas services makes manufacturing difficult. Ironic considering vast deposits of natural gas in the county.	1
Need more continuing education/training opportunities	4	The future leaders are our children. Have we really created the environment that excites them to stay here	1
None	3	The county needs a rail trail	1
Emergency services need improvement	3	need more childcare services	1
Unsafe/unsanitary parks	3	Still hoping for the development of the rail-trail through the center of our county	1
We need to attract more businesses	2	Small fire departments need help smaller towns need better resources	1
We need more medical services	2	significant differences between Norwich and rest of the county	1
Need extracurricular programming for children, teens	2	Rural areas need reliable high speed Internet access	1
Needs much more recreational activity to promote healthy community	2	drugs	1
Need more/better jobs within the County	2	road pavement Maintenance poor seasonal plowing fair	1
we definitely need more areas where people can enjoy nature	1	Retired	1
Would like public money spent on improving the Country	1	Possible rails to trails at some point	1
Would be nice to see the parks and certain walking/biking trails updated because this county doesn't have many to begin with	1	Poor	1
We need more investment in our communities.	1	Perspective of Greene Village resident	1
We need more family spaces	1	Public waste cans	1
We need more activities for young children	1	People, after graduating from High School, go to college or move away from the county	1
Need to address homelessness	1	Parks are excellent!	1
We have to drive to Binghamton area for quality food store and retail businesses. We fly out of the Albany Airport.	1	New internet system in Sherburne is good, recent repairs in Norwich are good also.	1
we could always use more personal services	1	needs updating	1

5. I think the availability and quality of the following transportation options in the County is/are...

Rating	Roads	Sidewalks	Bicycle Routes	Public Transit (e.g. bus service)
Good	24.19%	15.81%	7.60%	7.29%
Fair	41.71%	46.20%	24.19%	22.95%
No Opinion	0.93%	8.68%	23.10%	16.74%
Poor	31.47%	27.91%	43.72%	51.47%
No Response	1.71%	1.40%	1.40%	1.55%

5. Any comments on the above ratings?

Common Responses:

Access, frequency, connectivity, reliability, and quality of public transportation should be improved	51
Road and street infrastructure need improvement	35
Access, safety, and quality of on and off road bicycle and pedestrian trails, routes and lanes should be improved	33
Absent/poor quality sidewalks is an issue	16
No	11
Lack of reliable taxi or ride share service	6
Need increased reliable transportation options for seniors and persons with disabilities	6
Rail road should be improved and utilized	4
I do not use the bus service, so I have no reference.	4
Unused rail roads should be converted to bike and pedestrian trails	3
I or someone I know has experienced damage to their vehicles because of the roads	3
I am seeing progress in road and street infrastructure	3
We have beautiful scenic landscape	2
The drug and homelessness epidemic should be addressed	2
Our rural environment make these difficult	2
road lighting should improve	2
I love appreciate the buses that currently have routes in the county, they are just poorly advertised.	2
We need inventive solutions and not to compare our services to that of urban communities.	1
There aren't many options in terms of Uber or cabs. Unsure of their safety and reliability but they appear questionable if you can find one.	1
significant lack of affordable quality housing	1
Should be more options for folks who live out of town/city	1
Good to have an airport even though I'm not likely to use it.	1

6. I think the following housing types within the County are...

Rating	Single- and two-family homes	Multi-family homes (3-8 units)	Apartments (over 8 units per building)	Affordable or workforce housing	Townhomes	Senior housing or assisted living
Adequate	48.53%	28.84%	24.65%	17.05%	17.67%	24.19%
No Opinion	11.01%	23.10%	25.74%	17.98%	37.67%	16.59%
Oversupplied	1.09%	9.30%	5.74%	1.71%	1.86%	1.86%
Undersupplied	36.90%	36.28%	41.24%	59.53%	39.84%	54.88%
No Response	2.48%	2.48%	2.64%	3.72%	2.95%	2.48%

6. Any comments on the above ratings?

Common Responses:

Need more quality, affordable, senior housing and residential care facilities and in-home options	24
We need more quality affordable housing options	24
No	18
There is an undersupply of quality housing options of all types and price ranges	16
There is inadequate or unaffordable housing options for middle income individuals and young families	14
Too many homes that are rundown, abandoned, or in disrepair	13
Rent is not affordable	12
Code enforcement for apartments needs to improve	8
No opinion	8
Apartments are not maintained	5
the need for subsidized housing and assisted is huge.	4
Absentee landlords are a problem	4
Too many apartments	3
Poverty	2
We need updated apartment complexes/townhomes	2
Need more quality, affordable housing options for persons with disabilities	2
homeless shelters with services	2
we need to attract a demographic that would improve the socioeconomic profile	1
unsure	1
There is a desperate need need for safe and well maintained subsidized housing.	1
Quality of homes for the price, is very high for this area - a major selling point. That's what got my family to move here!	1
People can build their own homes like civil action always has, no need for the government to stick their wasteful noses in this matter.	1
need drug rehab and need non-acute care wing at hospital with rehab.	1
Multi-family and townhome proformas dont work in this geography.	1
Incentivize people making improvements rather than punish with increased taxes	1
I'm interested in taking advantage of the NYS grant to build a tiny home on my land for her to rent from me. To my knowledge, the program is not currently available in Chenango County	1
There is a need for workforce housing	1

7. How would you rate the overall quality of life in Chenango County?

Rating	Count
High	15.50%
Neutral	51.32%
Low	30.54%
No Response	2.64%

7. Why?

Common Responses:

Homelessness	14
Drug epidemic	13
Need more quality employment options	9
Poverty	6
Need better recreational services	4
Low cost of living	4
Crime	3
Welfare abuse	3
variable quality of life	3
Low wages	3
Rundown properties	3
need more businesses	2
Inadequate senior healthcare	2
Have to travel far for services, such as healthcare and recreation such as restaurants	2
Lack of cell service and internet	2
Poor/low quality of life	2
Need more quality and affordable housing	2
Schools are struggling to retain teachers	2
The natural environment	2
not a lot of opportunities	1
drawing people to open business and restaurants.	1
good school systems and natural resources,	1
agriculture, especially small farm agriculture, is being pushed aside for other more profitable things like housing for downstaters who appreciate the beauty of the area - but demand big city resources, putting a drain on the resources.	1
limited culture	1
Limited education opportunities	1
Limited opportuniteis	1
Low affordability	1
resources spread thin	1
manufacturers left	1
Now that I've been here for 13 years, I plan on leaving soon and moving to albany.	1
Run down housing	1
better access to groceries in the Greene area especially.	1
We need community centers, cultural centers	1
We need better services	1
We love it here- nice people and beautiful area	1

8. In one word or phrase, how would you like to be able to describe Chenango County in the future?

Common Responses:

Thriving	45	Hidden gem	4
Safe	33	A place that embraces it's history	4
Prosperous	33	Proactive	4
Vibrant	23	Improved employment opportunities	4
Progressive	21	Better retail shopping, grocery shopping, restaurants	4
A great place to live	16	with great roads	3
Clean	14	Supported	3
Beautiful	14	Optimistic	3
A great place to raise a family	13	Low crime rate	3
Welcoming	12	inclusive	3
Flourishing	11	charming	3
Rural living	10	Attractive	3
Full of opportunities for all	9	more farms	3
Growing	8	plenty of mental health resources	3
A nice place to live	8	A tourism destination for outdoor recreation.	3
Forward thinking	8	A great small town	3
Quaint	8	Transforming	3
Hopeful	7	Educated	3
Peaceful	7	Green	3
More small business	7	Decreased food miles	3
Changing	7	Stagnant	2
Thriving economically	7	Liveable	2
Booming	7	Inviting	2
Tourist destination	6	opportunities for families currently and in the future.	2
Sustainable	6	Community	2
A beautiful place to live	6	bright	2
Diverse	6	Better	2
Same	6	accepting new people makes everything better.	2
Supportive	5	affordable housing.	2
Stable	5	A safe place to work	2
Improving	5	Improved recreational opportunities	2
Home	5	Litter free	2
Drug free	5	wonderful	2
Affordable	5	Nice place to visit.	2
Healthy	5	lots of good paying jobs.	2
Modern	5	Energized	2
Potential	5	Better interconnection	2
accessible	5	I hope to see a place where young people would like to live.	2
up and coming	4	Good schools	2
Rural	4	Proud	2
Natural Beauty	4	Community Driven	2
Drug problems mitigated	4	All the people are gainfully employed	2
Growth	4	Bustling	2
great	4	eco-tourism	2
Family friendly small town	4	attractive dining options	2
A safe place to live	4	Agrotourism	2
Homeless problem mitigated	4	Self sufficient	2

9. In my opinion the County's greatest opportunity is...

Common Responses:

Recreational tourism	27	To help business opportunities grow	3
People	23	To help homeless	3
natural resources	21	Solar energy	3
Attracting businesses	20	New people	3
Agriculture	16	we could be a meca for outdoor activities	3
Outdoor recreation	16	Vocational education	3
Land	15	Increasing housing stock	3
Education	12	Working together	3
Young people	11	Peaceful living	3
The natural beauty	11	Jobs available	3
Open space	9	Remote workforce	3
manufacturing	8	Cleaning up the Drug problem	3
Increasing quality job opportunities	8	To clean it up	3
Location	7	Economic development	3
Rail trail	7	Growth	3
Beauty	7	affordable	3
Small town living	7	potential	3
growth	6	the fact that there is cheap houses	2
Nature	6	Scenery	2
Industry	6	Community events	2
Quiet	6	Opportunities for affordable housing	2
Increasing work opportunities	6	factory jobs	2
the development of a rail trail	5	Tech companies	2
its beautiful landscape	5	Agribusiness	2
Rural beauty	5	Improving housing	2
Not sure	5	Farmland preservation	2
Development of tourism	5	Workforce	2
Space for development	5	Clean air	2
Employment opportunities	5	Clean water	2
Unsure	4	Safe	2
Nothing	4	small towns	2
Not sure	4	Schools	2
rural living	4	resources	2
Renewable energy	4	Raymond Corporation	2
None	3	Investing in tourism	2
Farming	3	Healthcare	2
To help the low income	3	utilizing our assets	2

10. In my opinion the County's greatest threat is...

Common Responses:

Drugs	182	Solar farms	5
Poverty	39	Mental health epidemic	5
Crime	36	Low tax base	4
Homelessness	28	Immigration	4
Homeless	22	Loss of business	4
Welfare	15	Closemindedness	4
Lack of well-paying jobs	15	Bail reform	4
Drug addiction	15	Limited health services	4
Resistance to change	14	People leaving	3
People leaving	10	Unwillingness to change	3
Declining population	10	Political divide	3
Drug use	10	Lack of broadband	3
Lack of education	9	Overdevelopment of solar	3
Overtaxation	8	Aging population	3
Politicians	7	Hate	2
Lack of housing	7	Climate change	2
Wind Turbines	6	Apathy	2
Unemployment	6	windmills	2
Deteriorating infrastructure	6	Low payng jobs	2
Leadership	6	Lack of vision	2
Young people leaving	5	Road quality	2
Theft	5	Overdevelopment	2
violence	5	outside interest	2
Corruption	5	Conservative leadership	2
Solar farms	5	Lack of affordable housing	2
Mental health epidemic	5	Lack of medical serices	2

11. Select the TOP 3 community resources and services that are most important to you.

Community Service	Percent
Emergency Services	68.06%
Employment Opportunities	67.13%
Educational Opportunities	49.77%
Recreational Opportunities	49.61%
Personal Services	32.25%
Other	11.47%
None of the above	1.09%

11. Other please specify Common Responses:

Healthcare providers & services	10	Places where people can come together and talk about what they care about	1
Affordable housing	8	behavioral health options	1
Housing	4	Local Family attractions	1
High Speed Internet	4	libraries - full campus community college- Morrisville Norwich is a poor choice. More senior centers and activivites.	1
Transportation	4	Law enforcement and infrastructure service	1
Medical specialists	3	internet and telecommunications	1
local food	2	Incentives for small supermarkets	1
Senior support services	2	Healthy living	1
Religious opportunities	2	healthcare insurance	1
Mental health services	2	Grocery	1
Highway departments	1	Free housing, cell phone, food and drugs.	1
cell service in rural areas (cable would be nice, too)	1	Farm to table without ridiculous regulations	1
Trades farms jobs factories	1	Employment and Educational Opportunities	1
Town and county government	1	Easily accessible public services	1
Teen programs	1	did not specify a third resource	1
Taxis	1	codes/enforcement	1
Task Force to keep drugs out of our county	1	Childcare	1
		Cellphone coverage	1
Some additional good restaurants	1	bullthisle hiking club/	1
social services aimed at breaking the cycle of poverty instead of enabling poverty	1	broadband and cellular	1
Shopping	1	Better transportation	1
services for small farmers	1	better business opportunities.	1
Senior living	1	Availability of labor	1
Public assistance	1	Airport is important	1

12. Select the TOP 3 economic development opportunities that you feel the County should invest in.

Economic Development Opportunity	Percentage
Programs to expand local business	76.59%
Adult education programs	41.40%
Broadband Internet	40.62%
Alternative energy infrastructure	24.81%
Public infrastructure improvements	28.06%
Transportation improvements	52.40%
None of the above	0.93%
Other	13.02%
No response	2.17%

12. Other please specify Common Responses:

Hiking, biking trails	7	Public safety	1
Increase in businesses	6	Public housing	1
Recreation	5	families to help getting into the workforce	1
Education	5	support for mental health, substance abuse	1
Housing	4	Press release type media listings, social media campaign - to emphasize the availability of affordable quality housing.	1
mental health facilities and services	4	Pre-K through Higher Ed and daycare	1
Tourism	3	Outdoor recreation	1
Activities for kids and families	3	State land is plentiful	1
Rail trails	3	Natural gas development.	1
Arts and cultural events	3	More industry	1
transit improvements	2	Manufacturing	1
Senior housing	2	Low income housing	1
Entrepreneurship	2	Local food production	1
Drug rehab abs get rid of bail reform	2	Land preservation	1
Revitalization of downtowns and surrounding neighborhoods	2	Workforce training	1
Shelters and services for the homeless	2	Family attractions	1
Increase electrical company options	2	Effective policing	1
Drug task force	2	Code enforcement	1
Bring back the railroad.	2	more healthcare options.	1
Better cell phone reception	2	Drilling for natural gas and supplying our own community first.	1
young couples are looking for good jobs, good schools, recreational opportunities	1	Bring more recreational business to Chenango County	1
Waste removal and pick-up in our rural communities	1	Better housing	1
tax reduction/county tax too	1	Attract /retain professionals, especially prime care providers, teachers	1
small farm development	1	All of these are important!	1
services to the people increasing shopping and quality	1	Affordable housing	1
Rural health	1	Adequate services for our aging population	1
Roads	1	Agriculture	1
Retaining public land	1	ecotourism	1

13. Thinking about the future of Chenango County, please select the TOP 6 goals that are most important to you.

Goals	Percentage
Supporting local business	72.1%
Preserving natural resources	67.3%
supporting agriculture	54.4%
Expanding local goods & services	53.6%
Improving transportation	51.0%
Increasing housing	45.4%
Expanding personal services & childcare	43.7%
Expanding recreational opportunities	34.6%
Expanding tourism opportunities	34.6%
Promoting sustainable development	30.9%
Improving public infrastructure	25.4%
Other	8.5%
I do not agree with these goals	0.3%
No response	1.9%

13. Other please specify Common Responses:

addressing substance abuse issues	7	Development of a rail trail	1
Improving Internet and cellular services	3	Expanding cell phone service availability	1
Addressing homelessness	3	Expanding early intervention and preschool services, including programs and therapists.	1
broadband internet	2	Expanding opportunities for artists to relocate to the county to live and work here by providing studio space, affordable housing, artist residencies and support for art related businesses and venues	1
Improving education system	2	Fine people for littering along the roads	1
medical services	2	promote walkable communities and waling access to businesses and services.	1
More childcare options	2	promoting more youth to attend Morrisville - Norwich Campus	1
More mental heath providers and facilities	2	Railroad back in county	1
Seniors need true senior housing, community halls/activites	2	Promote farm to table programs.	1
1) Preserve availability of affordable hydrocarbon fuels for transportation, agriculture, and industry. 2) Preserve reliability and affordability of electricity supply.	1	Showing respect for all people providing these services.	1
better more active senior centers in oxford	1	Stronger EMS system to meet increasing needs	1
Brining in and supporting the arts	1	supporting locally owned businesses	1
cell phones are widely used, need better cell service in the valley... south new berlin, total dead zone	1	Supporting the existing arts organizations that enhance the life of the community.	1
Cheaper utilities	1	Tear down abandoned homes	1
Clean up the main areas in towns.	1	The County needs to attract private investment in key areas with its own sustained public investment.	1
offer better housing	1	We need more tradesmen (not enough options for plumbing, electric, carpentry)	1
creating career type jobs that offer entry level training and long term growth	1	Daycare	1
Increase higher education opportunities	1	develop attractions to drive commerce and tourism. Capitalize more on outdoor recreation.	1

14. In what ways do you feel the County should pursue and support these goals? (select all that apply)

Strategies	Percent
Pursue State & Federal funds	75.66%
Increase collaboration w/ community partners	66.20%
Allocate funds for projects and programs	60.31%
Provide guidance to local governments	51.01%
Other	6.98%
None of the above	1.86%
No response	3.88%

14. Other please specify Common Responses

Actively recruit young people from all over NYS to physically participate in work projects through Vista programs etc. Create a county Civilian Conservation Corp type program.	Meet individually with each municipality to discuss larger projects and ideas that could benefit the entire county.
all of the above	Offer incentives to draw industry in
Appoint or hire someone as social media promoter of affordable, quality homes! With an emphasis on retirees, digital workers and growing families, we could enliven the populations of the small towns and keep 'em healthy. Targeted smart advertising works.	Open town and back roads up to atv use to bring people in the area. This would bring money to smaller businesses give kids something to do, give families something to do, keep people occupied with something
broadband internet (cannot stress this enough)	Prioritize preservation of forest, open land, and agricultural land against the land-intensive intrusion of solar and wind energy projects.
co-author GRANTS with in-kind contributions with Local Towns.	promote vibrant downtowns with a diverse populations
Communities need to tackle resiliency as well, especially flood prevention/correction now or small communities will continue to see burden and turnover.	Provide guidance to local business owners on possible hurdles to overcome both with governmental agencies and community.
Consolidate some services between county and towns/ villages etc	Provide resources outside the city/town of Norwich
convert unused rails to hiking/biking paths	Provide tax breaks and/or incentives for small business/small manufacturing. Implement legislation to allow 4wheelers on dirt roads to increase tourism.
Coordinate efforts between towns	Publish quarterly education attended by county, town, and village leadership.
County needs to generate revenue	Rail Trail will bring tons of \$\$\$ into the local economy! Grants for building more trails!!
Demolish derelict structures	Research grant opportunities
develop sound property ordinance, enforce them, create an intervention/support program for hoarding situations	Specify the intended outcome of proposed actions and evaluate the actual vs ntended outcomes each year and adjust accordingly.
do everything possible to lower property taxes.	subsidizing taxes to small businesses, shrinking the county presence in the City of Norwich to increase taxable property within the city. The County utilizing more remote work to decrease the need for office space
Elected officials need to make systems more efficient. Qualified paid professional staff need to be empowered to get projects accomplished without the bureacracy of multiple committee meetings.	tax incentives for private investment
encourage and support private investment.	Transform County Government Structure so that it can be more nimble and innovative

15. Please share any additional thoughts you have on things this survey may have missed and/or your experience in and vision for Chenango County.

Common Responses:

Address homelessness	education is key. We need more education in high schools. More incentive not to take that path. we also need homeless shelter or recourses for those too mentally challenged to work.
1. Rails to trails through the valley 2. Full day childcare facility within Chenango County 3. An all inclusive recreational outlet that draws people to the community i.e. a mountain bike park with events and competitions can help tourism. What are the County sales tax revenues during events in the county that are high tourism dollars and visitors?	It would be lovely if it could be a family friendly place where we don't have to feel bad about bringing our children up in it
Adding more facilities for mental health can decrease drug use because you fix many problems and people seeking drugs. Homeless is so high also get housing and help people with their problems instead of closing doors let's open them for people in need .	It's a great place to raise children, but there's not much here after they finish high school. It would be nice to have more industry or opportunities for young people, including the social enticements that make them want to stay. (educational opportunities and a stronger arts presence)
Offer more educational/employment opportunities	It's my community - I want to be proud to live here. It's no easy job to accomplish by real devotion to the goal (shared) could make this county desirable. Need resources, Need funds - grants, allotted monies, donations, Need services (in town and rural) rural always gets missed.
Increase recreational services	Keep the beauty of the county, Increase well paying jobs, affordable housing, more services for the elderly, ** advise each community on regulations that will help protect our small town lifestyles.
Address drug epidemic	Kids need things to do. They need mountain bike parks, they need atv trails.
Improve services	Lack of mental health care is huge.
Invest in Agrotourism	Let's make the old rail a rail to trail program. So we can have a good river path that's already flat and they state will probably pay for it like the Erie Canal path
Allocate more funds	mental health and addiction recovery services are terrible.
Efficiently use resources, streamline services	The ability to get into Healthcare in a timely manner. I would like to be able to do more things in Chenango County for kids that aren't overly expensive and easy to get to. More things for kids to do.
An edictic group should work together to more for progressive actions.	My children are grown now but child care is still such a huge issue in this area.
Approve riding ATV,UTV in rural areas. Use vacant land, buildings to make parks, music venues, bowling etc. This county needs things to do to draw tourism, not more people to live in it!	My family relocated here in 1816 and will never leave! All roads lead to Norwich, NY!
Art, artist and economic development often go hand in hand.	Need to coordinate between towns on attracting businesses, education and tourism, market area as a whole, what helps one community helps all approach.
local grocery stores	No area in the country is immune from the damages that follows climate change. That includes Chenango County. But we may be better situated to avoid some of the worst effects, and better positioned to build in resilient infrastructure.
Improve transportation	No idea
become more of a tourist attraction; expand on soccer camps, tournaments, like oneonta did with baseball;	No one wakes up and decides that they're going to become addicted to a substance, it's a systematic issue that comes as a result of things like job loss/lack of opportunity, mental health issues, lack of resources, and more.
better use and promotion of the college is an underused asset for Norwich and Chenango County	none
Improve cellular services	continue on improving our communities Greene NY needs a grocery store for all people concerned.
Need small local grocery stores	Once Chenango County is willing to embrace positive, productive change, it will become a vibrant place where others will want to live and work.
Chenango County is a beautiful area. The opportunities afforded the residents need to match its beauty.	One of the biggest threats to our communities are the growing drug overdoses and the homelessness. We need to work together to find a viable solution. These are our families and friends and they are dying.
Chenango County is a great place to live and I appreciate this. Municipal-leader interest is important.	Opinions on what areas need improvement depend heavily on what region of the county you live in.
Education, employment, quality healthcare are key. Affordable housing and safe communities. Programs, events, entertainment. Provide outdoor spaces and encourage using local resources.	Opportunities for development: Any/any trails like what Lewis and Clark did
Chenango County takes too much responsibility for our citizens	Other towns in Chenango County should follow the Village of Sherburne's lead by getting fiber, having affordable electricity, and having well kept roads and side walks.
Clean up the common places and make them safe. Enforce existing codes. Implement a no loitering law. Police presence. New business.	Our local government does a great job, but they are hindered by NYS. Downstate seems to forget about upstate NY. Until we change the leadership for the state, Chenango County will keep going downhill
Consolidate services for underprivileged to delete duplication of services	Our roads are in horrible shape and need improvements and we need to find a way to bring in new businesses to our area and get them to stay here.
County is %20+ 65 and older and losing population.	People aren't involved in local government. Hard to progress without that.
County-wide promotion. Each town has its gems- and they need to be promoted. The museum district in Norwich is great. Each town should have something like that.	If we want this to remain an environmentally sound and attractive place we must build it to our vision, and not to what is expedient.
Currently, our young kids are leaving the area for greener pastures.	Perhaps most of all, I would like for young people to share an optimistic view that their world can be brighter and more hopeful.
Decent pay for jobs, internet services, cable availability,work on the homeless situation, Norwich has become the welfare area, safety, better shopping options, Wegmans, Target, restaurants	Perhaps raise taxes for houses / property that is not lived in full time
Address the drug and poverty issue	healthcare access.
Drugs and violence continue to be a major problem in Chenango County.	Polling the wish lists for county web site's links - real estate, rentals, employment, activities, culture and classes, education, dining out, etc.
Encourage young people to stay with good paying jobs	Highlighting and encouraging grants for teen and cultural programs.
Fire EMS needs to be county wide entity. Support technical training . Support local business by prioritize bidding for county projects. Allow law enforcement to make arrests. Mental health facilities. Drug enforcement	Progressive
Fix EMS/fire district problems.	Quality leadership is the life blood of any organization or community. Support the growth of leaders in our community.
Get a gas station in Mcborough.	Roads need to be improved
Get this town back in order. It has amazing potential	Small business us the backbone, needs to be supported
good luck, i applaud your efforts	Stop living in the past and building for the future.
Has a lot of potential	Thank you for caring.
Housing and transportation is an issue	The area is economically depressed and the folks that live here struggle. This struggle and stress results in crime and drug use to meet the needs and provide comfort.
I am a resident of 2 years; came here for natural beauty and proximity to family; very disappointed with lack of hiking and bike trails, poor public transportation - need to drive everywhere	The arts!
I do not know how to pursue or support the goals I feel are important.	The Chenango, Unadilla and Tioghnia river proved some of the most scenic flat water kayaking and canoeing in the state. Promote it!!!!
I don't think they should ask for any more funding, but should adjust how the current funds are being spent.	The County has missed an amazing recreational, health and tourism opportunities by not converting railroads property to hiking/biking trails.
evansion expansions taking place in the villages/Norwich; not a bunch of carry roadside attractions sprawled throughout the county, destroying the rural/agricultural character.	The county must remember that Bainbridge has interstate highway in place already in place. Rather than spend money on an abandoned rail line, work to increase usage of existing services.
I look for things to do as a family with children. It's hard to come by enough to do local.	The County should look at what other similarly sized communities have done and model our own planning on any successes they have had.
I love this City and I love this county, but we need to make homelessness a thing of the past.... We need more affordable housing and we need to have more for recovery of addiction....	the healthcare, and childcare deficiency in this county is crippling.
I think Chenango county is beautiful. I believe we can continue to grow our communities while keeping the beauty. In order to be successful all around, it all needs to be addressed.	the main tool is preserving open space is allowing for property owners the ability to afford to keep it. secondarily resist the pressures from Albany and D.C. to destroy our land with subsidized alternate energy projects.
I think if the county could provide more guidelines and make it easier for entrepreneurs to build industries and homes. It could create a boom for the county.	the shrinking population impacts the financial health of communities both personally, business wise, and tax revenues. stabilizing and then increasing the population slowly is important.
I think the northeast is going to become an important area .due to its weather water farmland and fairly affordable and recreational opportunities. The county should be prepared for a bigger influx of growth protect for that or be more prepared for that possibility	the time to put the brakes on solar farms is now,once land is lost to those its gone.
I think we are heading in the right direction.	There is no easy solution, but we should also try to address the drug problem in a more cohesive way.
I think we need to educate and teach the future generations the importance to participate and pay attention to how local government works. To make the county a place where future generations want to be a part of and help grow the communities that shape them.	There is real potential in the amazing tight-knit community, small businesses, (and local larger companies supporting the area), as well as maintaining our natural resources.
I would like to see stronger leadership and visibility of our local supervisors and town councils	Things can be improved without losing what makes Chenango county special
I'd love to see the preservation of the county's nature and history including buildings/architecture, landmarks, the agricultural aspect	This is a beautiful county - too bad that the bad elements in society (greed, laziness, poor moral compass) seem to be getting stronger.
I'd like to see children & adults playing outside in the summer--not sitting & playing video games	Try to get education in school to build acceptance of others and combat the hate/conservatism that is rampant in the area, I moved here 20 years ago and often think about leaving due to this even though I love the natural beauty
If electric vehicles are the future, we should invest in charging stations (Greene, Norwich, Oxford).	Very concerned about drug use and homelessness.
If you build it, they will come. We need housing.	We have very poor internet service in Chenango and low literacy. How do you plan to collect information and ideas from the people who need the most help?
Improve WiFi	We need an abundance of good jobs to attract people & families to build our communities.
education is key. We need more education in high schools. More incentive not to take that path. we also need homeless shelter or recourses for those too mentally challenged to work.	We need more affordable recreational activities for people to engage in activities other than drugs and crime!!!! We need cheaper utilities to be able to afford to live in this area.
It would be lovely if it could be a family friendly place where we don't have to feel bad about bringing our children up in it	We need more money available to small local farms to provide more food and products that stay right in purgwin communities. Food will be scarce and we need to take care of ourselves.
It's a great place to raise children, but there's not much here after they finish high school. It would be nice to have more industry or opportunities for young people, including the social enticements that make them want to stay. (educational opportunities and a stronger arts presence)	We need to do more as a community to truly celebrate the successes of our community and the people who choose to call it home.
	We need to invest in our community - the people as well as the structures. We need food paying jobs, adorable housing and engaging community events and resources.

16. Please select your age range:

Age Range	Percentage
Less than 24	2.79%
Between 25 and 39	19.84%
Between 40 and 55	31.94%
Over 55	43.26%
No Response	2.17%

17. How would you describe yourself? (please select all that apply)

Race	Percentage
White	92.6%
Black or African American	0.5%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.8%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.2%
Hispanic or Latino	1.1%
Other	3.6%
No Response	3.1%

17. Other please specify
Common Responses:

White with an Iroquois great granma.

White native American

We are all a mix of something.

support job seekers and businesses in Chenango County

prefer not to answer

olive skin

non-binary

Mixed Race

Mixed Caucasian/Asian

Italian American

Asian

American

18. What is your interest in Chenango County?

Interest	Percentage
Live here (homeowner)	81.9%
Live here (renter)	9.5%
Own land or other property here	22.8%
none of the above	1.2%
other	7.1%
no response	2.2%

18. Other please specify
Common Responses:

I work here	17
Former resident	9
Have family/loved ones that live within the County	7
Business owner	6
Grew up here	5
live just outside the county	4
shop here	2
Current County residents	2
Live here part-time	2
Own a secondary property within the county	2
councilman	1
Best free benefits in CNY.	1
Former business owner in the County	1
Have family nearby	1
Live here with grandparents	1
Prospective resident	1
Retired dairy farmer and lifelong resident	1
Sig. other owns the property we live on	1
Will eventually have a working art studio with links to galleries and classes.	1
My children attend school here	1

19. Where do you live?

Municipality	Percentage	Municipality	Percentage
City of Norwich	15.4%	Village of New Berlin	1.9%
Town of Norwich	9.9%	Village of Oxford	1.9%
Town of Guilford	8.4%	Village of Sherburne	1.7%
Town of Oxford	5.7%	Town of Afton	1.6%
Town of Greene	4.5%	Village of Afton	1.6%
Town of New Berlin	4.5%	Town of Columbus	1.6%
Town of Sherburne	4.0%	Village of Earlville	1.6%
Town of North Norwich	3.6%	Village of Green	1.4%
Town of Smithville	3.4%	Town of McDonough	1.4%
I do not live in Chenango County	3.4%	Town of Smyrna	1.2%
Town of Bainbridge	2.6%	Town of Pitcher	1.1%
Village of Bainbridge	2.5%	Town of German	0.6%
Town of Plymouth	2.5%	Town of Lincklaen	0.5%
Town of Coventry	2.3%	Town of Pharsalia	0.5%
Town of Otselic	2.2%	Village of Smyrna	0.3%
Town of Preston	2.0%		

20. What is your employment status?

Employment Status	Percentage
Work in Chenango County	51.2%
Work outside of Chenango County	14.4%
Own a business in Chenango County	8.7%
Own or operate a farm in Chenango County	5.6%
Retired	27.3%
Unemployed	0.9%
Self-employed	7.3%
Work from home	7.0%
Other	3.4%
No Response	3.1%

20. Other please specify
Common Responses:

Disabled	6
work part time in chenango county	3
Stay at home mom	2
Retired	2
my daughter works in Chenango County	1
i operate an Airbnb	1
Retired but starting a small business at my home.	1
Retired but work at school pool, train lifeguards for many town pools/lakes.	1
I own a small business	1
Spent the last 20+ years of my professional career in this community.	1
Also a full time horticulture student at SUNY Morrisville	1

Chenango County Vision 2050 Plan

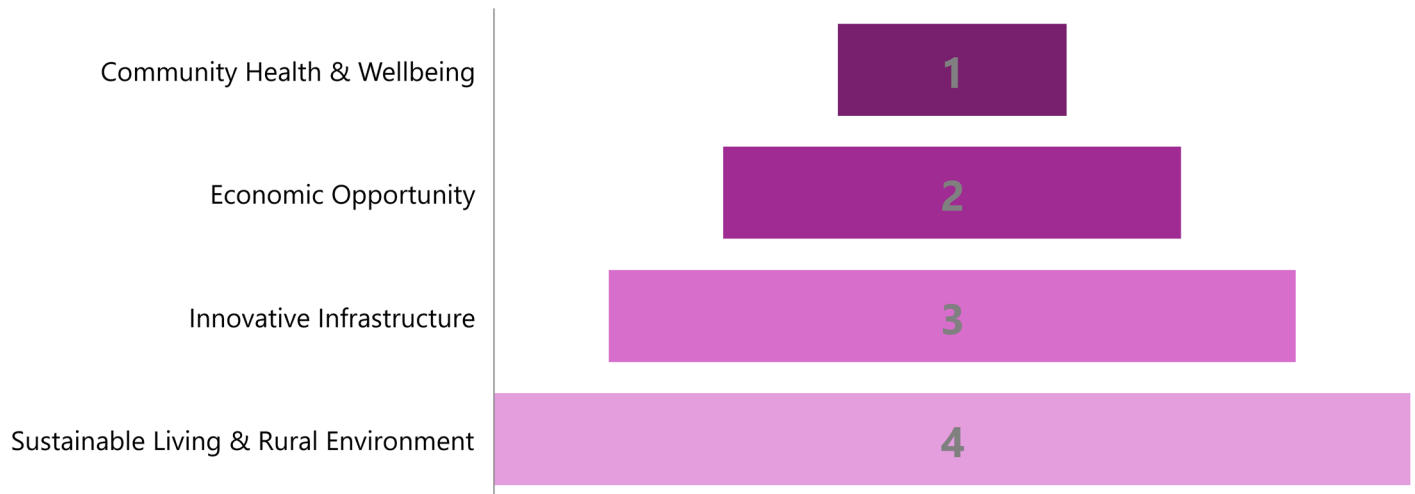
ACTION SURVEY RESULTS

September 17, 2024

The Chenango County Vision 2050 Plan Action Plan Survey launched on July 15, 2024, and was live through August 26, 2024. The survey received 173 responses. The purpose of the survey was to collect public input on key strategies and proposed actions for the Chenango County Vision 2050 Plan. A summary of the survey results, including written comments is provided below.

Overall Goals

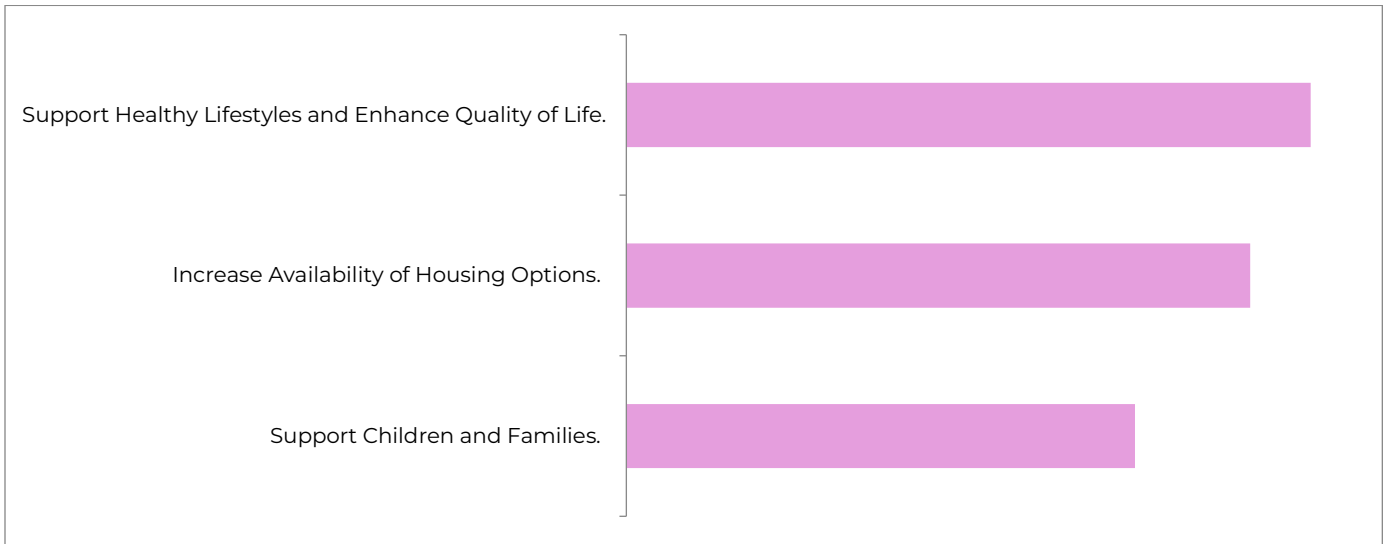
Please rank the goals of Chenango County's Vision Plan from 1-4, from the goal you feel most strongly about (1), to least strongly about (4).



	Rank 1		Rank 2		Rank 3		Rank 4		TOTAL VOTES
	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	
Community Health & Wellbeing	10.1%	70	7.1%	49	5.1%	35	2.7%	19	173
Economic Opportunity	8.5%	59	6.9%	48	6.8%	47	2.7%	19	173
Innovative Infrastructure	2.9%	20	6.8%	47	7.4%	51	7.9%	55	173
Sustainable Living & Rural Environment	3.5%	24	4.2%	29	5.8%	40	11.6%	80	173
TOTAL VOTES		173		173		173		173	692

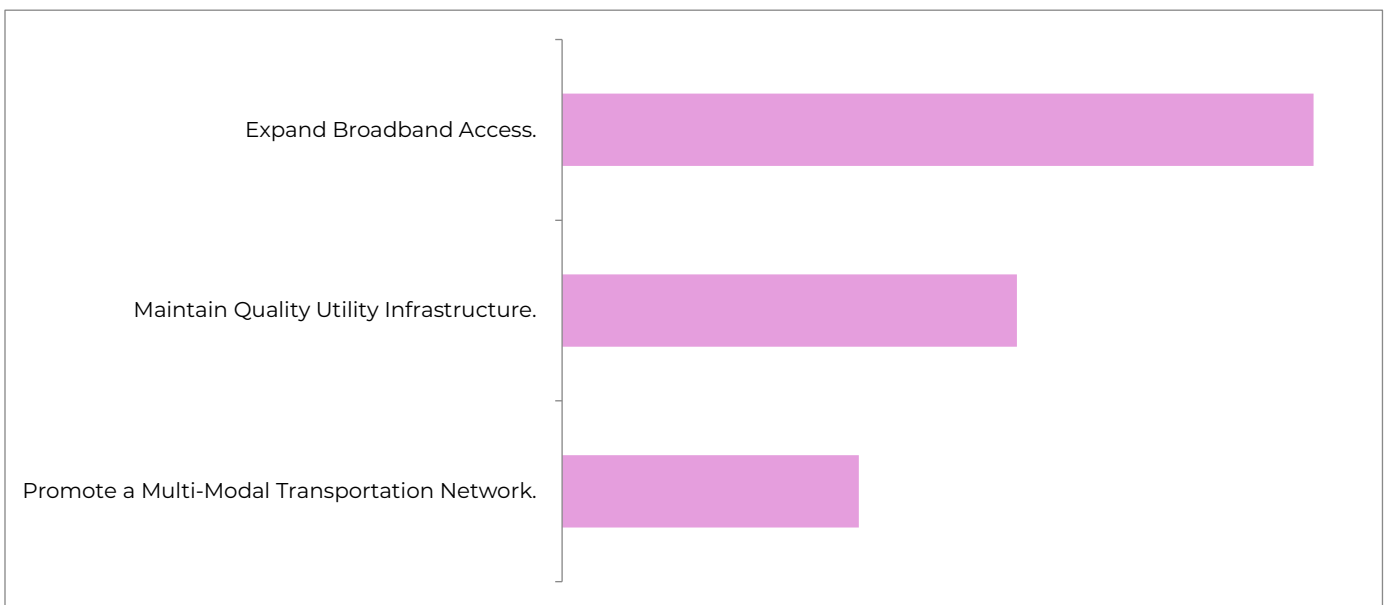
Community Health & Wellbeing

Please rank the **Community Health & Wellbeing** strategies from 1-3, from the strategy you feel most strongly about (1), to least strongly about (3).



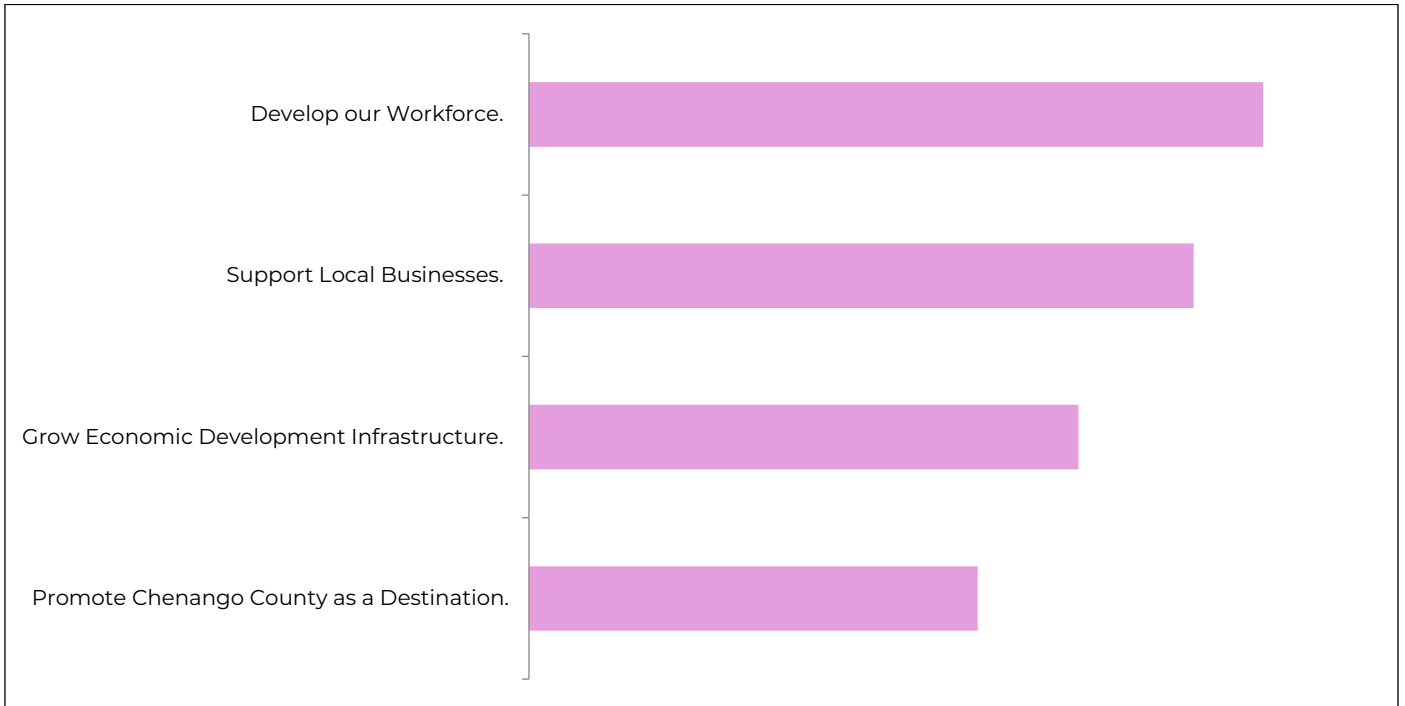
Innovative Infrastructure

Please rank the **Innovative Infrastructure** strategies from 1-3, from the strategy you feel most strongly about (1), to least strongly about (3).



Economic Opportunity

Please rank the **Economic Opportunity** strategies from 1-4, from the strategy you feel most strongly about (1), to least strongly about (4).



Sustainable Living & Rural Environment

Please rank the **Sustainable Living & Rural Environment** strategies from 1-3, from the strategy you feel most strongly about (1), to least strongly about (3).



Overall Goals

Any other thoughts on the above vision and goals you'd like to share?

- More focus on homelessness and addiction if we really want to talk about community wellness
- We need to improve the effectiveness of our governing structure at the county level. This may mean consolidation, expansion in some areas, and contraction in others. An open discussion and investigation needs to occur. A community lead commission needs to explore this over a 2-3 year process, with deliverables, and an action plan.
- There should be more adult living options available....senior apartments, 55 and older mobile home courts,..... affordable, clean, and convenient to community.
- All are necessary and important. However having small business present will help with tourism and encouraging people to visit something that is unique and special. Protecting natural resources also helps to retain that special feeling. Housing and transportation continue to be areas of great need.
- PROTECT our farmland. Work with AFPB to get more farmland protected with ag easements.
- Don't ignore the rural areas of the county including German Smithville Afton and beaver meadow when you're generating all these ideas and spending all this money.
- Rural areas need better access to internet phone electric and transportation choices
- It would be great to see the county prepare and make itself marketable to bring business here. Being proactive and having sites available for business to move in is essential.
- na
- No
- The County needs to prepare and align its policies to support the resumption of natural gas development, and to support natural gas supply to manufacturing sites. The "climate" agenda against fossil fuels is itself not sustainable, as it is based on unsound claims about warming and about weather impact. Also, large-scale solar and wind energy development is counter to the higher priority of preservation of our rural/agricultural/scenic character. No objection to non-intrusive programs to encourage efficiency, electrification, EV charging, etc.
- "We are an aging county.....more and better nursing home options!
- More educational support services for preschool children
- Jobs! Better Jobs! More jobs! Many things will fall into place when job opportunities draw taxpayers to our area!
- Encourage and support current local businesses. Don't encourage another pizza parlor if you already have plenty. Diversify!"
- Need better internet on Route 32 from BOCES to Route 12.
- Lower taxes so people want to live and invest here. Get rid of the rural solar farms and windmills-look up how damaging they actually are. I am planning to leave this county & never would've moved here if I'd realized how bad that is.
- Need to have manufacturing that supports agriculture, need to balance that with push on tourism, need to work with all localities and neighboring counties to promote area as a whole

- I feel our largest concern right now is to figure out how to handle the drug traffic that we have in this county. The second largest concern is to figure out on how to help the homeless population with basic needs for living.
- With how few entries are in the individual lists, I want to emphasize that something being ranked last out of 3, doesn't mean I believe it is unimportant.
- I have a master's degree and no where to work unless I have a long commute. The homeless population and drug addiction rate makes neighborhoods unsafe. Children have no where to entertain themselves- so they fall into bad habits. Renovate and upkeep the parks, more school sports (hockey, lacrosse,) to become competitive with other districts. More opportunity for work besides trades. Incentive or lower rent for businesses to open shop and STAY open. There are too many storefronts that are abandoned and not well maintained. Look to other cities (Syracuse, Binghamton,) for help catching up. Our kids and families deserve better than the bare minimum.
- We need to continue to revitalize unused spaces. And beautify the community.
- Sustainable Living has different definitions for different residents
- "1st- Early childhood intervention. When you know better you do better. This goes hand in hand with youth programs.
- 2nd- Jobs, jobs, jobs. Financial stability DOES equal happiness. Happiness=hope and hope lowers drug and alcohol abuse.
- 3rd- Affordable housing and the elimination of slum lords in Norwich. These property owners don't live here, don't check on their buildings or tenants and rake in millions over charging HUD. Also wouldn't hurt to find some money to repair the homes in Chenango county for the MIDDLE class owners.
- "Get the homeless off the streets. Provide them a safe place for them (including their pets and children). Drug addicts should be made to go to mental health care facility where they have choices of either rehabilitation or a mental hospital(permanent until the decide to stay clean)
- Half way houses that are supervised for those who are recovering addicts."
- I would like to see access to more affordable gyms and fitness centers. There's nothing where I live and would have to travel 30 mins or more to have access to an indoor place to shoot hoops or have access to an indoor gym. It makes no sense that schools have fitness centers that the public who assists in paying to support the school cannot access. Why is there no community centers like the Y outside of Norwich?
- Emergency Services, Provide funding to support full time county wide ems system. Offer livable wages and continuing education so it will attract quality providers to stay and work in our county.
- These are great goals!
- Must deal with the homelessness, drugs, and excessively high rent!
- We need to address the homelessness created by drugs and enabling government programs.
- Give kids something to do!!! And more affordable housing.
- none at this time
- Think bigger! Expand SUNY Morrisville into a 4-year college with student housing opportunities, Creation of a large amphitheater or conference center that can host large concerts and events (3,000+)

- Development of our workforce through connection with local educational resources - SUNY Morrisville, BOCES, school districts - to promote opportunities for careers in Chenango County and encourage young people to build their lives here in Chenango County.
- All of the goals and visions are worthy and I found it difficult to prioritize. Broadband infrastructure and child care/education should be a top priority.
- Volunteer workshop classes where experienced employees can train and teach residents basic skills from their fields i.e. A salesperson teaching people on how to sell, promote product in order to help that person(s) to obtain a job.
- Excellent start!
- The county should focus on training our workforce with the skills needed for the future. With a trained and ready workforce top quality business will relocate to the community hiring those workers. All that spending a tax money will come back to the community building an even stronger community.
- Self-sufficiency should be a goal. We should strive to create a local economy that is not dependent on state and federal funding. Being dependent on state and federal funding creates rules which local communities must follow rather than have the freedom to decide for themselves.
- All of these are excellent goals for the vision of Chenango County. However, I question the efficacy and long-term effects of growing this area as a tourist spot. Let's focus on those of us actually living and creating a life here.
- Chenango County needs a shelter for our homeless with care managers/social workers that can assist those that are homeless with engaging in and following through with service providers to improve their overall wellbeing. Despite the opinion that it will drag the community down, it will do the opposite if it is managed appropriately.
- Glad that sustainable, renewable energies are a component and the coming changes caused by climate change are also mentioned. Climate change will change farming so the need to adapt food production to a warmer climate will affect agriculture here. Public transportation can reduce carbon emissions as well as provide a needed service to residents. I would suggest local school districts offer evening computer classes to business owners and seniors and students who are proficient could offer tutoring as needed.
- I am in a community where a wind turbine project was approved even though the majority of the community didn't want it. How about supporting farmers in using their land for farming instead of a misplaced turbine project that is only helping 21 families across the entire county?
- As long none of there environmental issues use the green new deal
- Lack of qualified physicians in our area
- Any businesses that we help grow/incubate cannot be allowed to hold the county hostage by threatening to leave, that is to say overreliance on a single source is futile lest we repeat what happened to Norwich multiple times on a grander scale, cultivating a wider net will be harder, of course, but would be ideal to help prevent this.
- Addressing food deserts
- Clean up the awful unsightly trash homes and trailers in the county! Who wants to drive through East Pharsalia to see what a 3rd world country looks like in their own county? You have to start with making people want to see East Pharsalia and what it can offer.
- Can't think of anything.

- The wellness section ignores the drug crisis facing every community in Chenango county. It's not sexy, but if the drug (and related crime) problems are not addressed in a serious and overarching way, none of the other items in this vision will be realized.
- We need raw material conversion industry. This type of industry creates the most jobs, community wealth and opportunity. Service businesses cannot survive without wealth creation by these industries. Chenango has had a massive decline in manufacturing and it shows. Industry that converts raw materials create jobs for non college grads that are careers with good benefits and perks. Retail, restaurants, entertainment all need many industrial complexes to ensure a steady clientele and trade to support the jobs within these sectors.
- Access to better mental and physical health is extremely important! The lack of services for all income levels is disappointing.
- Bring some industrial employment opportunities in to keep everyone from leaving.

Community Health & Wellbeing

GOAL STATEMENT

We are committed to improving the quality of life for our residents through the enhancement of community services and resources that support the physical, mental, and social wellbeing of all. Our ultimate indicator of success will be the satisfaction of basic resident health and safety needs and ability for all to achieve their fullest potential in terms of personal growth and self-sufficiency. Through these efforts we seek to foster a resilient spirit and strong sense of pride in our community.

STRATEGY 1: Support Healthy Lifestyles and Enhance Quality of Life.

Choose **up to 3 initiatives** you feel most strongly about.

Community Health & Wellbeing	
Strategy 1: Support Healthy Lifestyles and Enhance Quality of Life	%
Expand service level and awareness of drug addiction and mental illness support services.	37%
Partner with local producers to reduce food deserts, promote locally grown food, and increase access to healthy food.	32%
Increase the number of walking, biking, and hiking opportunities with continued trail development and outdoor recreation amenities.	31%
Establish a task force of community members and public health and safety organizations to lead direct outreach and education efforts on mental health and drug addiction services and programs.	28%
Follow NYS guidance to identify and designate Medically Underserved Areas or Populations to target program action and open funding opportunities.	27%
Encourage shared or collaborative municipal public safety and service delivery.	26%
Evaluate opportunities to improve availability and access to health (telehealth) and medical services.	20%
Continue to work with community service partners to evaluate and adapt to changing resident needs.	20%
Provide support for nonprofits to establish shared services agreements across agencies to reduce operation costs and build capacity.	20%
Expand efforts to accept food stamps at farmers markets across County.	12%
Foster the creation of more public parks in populated areas accessible to residents by foot, bike, or car. E.g. City of Norwich.	11%
Actively recruit new volunteers and leaders for public health and safety services and initiatives.	10%
Partner with local food producers like Chobani to promote nutritious food products and improve community access to nutritious food.	10%
Pilot local initiatives to reduce consumption of junk food; this includes addressing barriers to eating healthy due to poverty.	9%

Answered: 98. Skipped: 75.

STRATEGY 2: Increase Availability of Housing Options.

Choose **up to 3 initiatives** you feel most strongly about.

Community Health & Wellbeing	
Strategy 2: Increase Availability of Housing Options	%
Establish a Land Bank in Chenango County to formalize efforts bringing vacant, abandoned, and deteriorated properties back to productive use and foster additional housing investment.	56%
Support home rehabilitation, renovation, and maintenance efforts through local education, programming, and securing grants.	52%
Explore programming that would assist unhoused individuals with securing more permanent shelter and employment.	39%
Work with municipalities to identify where there are viable parcels for housing development and develop a checklist to prioritize the inventory of parcels.	24%
Assist municipalities in becoming NYS recognized “Pro-Housing Communities” to ensure eligibility for housing grant programs.	22%
Continue to encourage the formation of public/private partnerships for the development and delivery of housing and rehabilitation.	20%
Expand access to and awareness of home improvement programs for low-income and market-rate housing stock.	19%
Create a tool-library and/or neighbor-supported home service program for small-scale home improvements.	19%
Work with agencies to support tenants at risk of eviction to prevent increases in the rate of homelessness. Consider implementing emergency rental/mortgage assistance programs.	17%
Work with municipalities to identify barriers in land use codes to build or redevelop housing.	13%
Continue the Chenango County Housing Council and work to expand capacity in membership and programming.	2%

Answered: 98. Skipped: 75.

STRATEGY 3: Support Children and Families

Choose **up to 3 initiatives** you feel most strongly about.

Community Health & Wellbeing	
Strategy 3: Support Children and Families	%
Collaborate with schools and recreational programs to expand afterschool care and activities.	70%
Work with local employers on creative ways to provide more high-quality affordable day care.	65%
Secure funding to programs supporting disconnected youth to address chronic absenteeism and early interventions.	50%
Explore opportunities to support home-based childcare and/or shared services with community partners.	43%
Use ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) household data to identify gaps in services and connect families to resources that augment and/or lessen financial burden on basic family needs.	34%
Support programs promoting access to public benefits, such as SNAP, federal Child Tax Credits, etc., for residents and students that are underserved.	19%

Answered: 98. Skipped: 75.

Community Health & Wellbeing

Do you have any thoughts or feedback on these strategies and actions?

- We need to improve the effectiveness of our governing structure at the county level. This may mean consolidation
- make sure that viable ag land is NOT used for housing!!! or any other industry; PROTECT OUR DISAPPEAR FARMLAND!!!!
- Our children/grandchildren/aging population should be our number one concern. What they are being exposed to daily is absolutely horrible way to have to live.
- Provide more education for potential landlords in the area that may want to rent a property, but don't know how or are concerned about their rights.
- "Amazing mix of government trying to fix issues. Rather than addressing the free support to those who take it vs earn it. 'No one has ever washed a rental car' No ownership in rehabilitation. no results from government led rehabilitation "
- Support families with senior family members and disabled family members who they are trying to care for.
- Make people accountable for their situations. People who qualify for assistance need to step up and help pay, get a job, not use drugs etc....
- Specifically expand youth programs for children under school age.
- Work with local employers on job sharing. Like Chobani, Raymond, Amphenol. With daycare being scarce and family members taking care of aging parents. Job sharing may be a great option.
- Need affordable rent!
- We need to stop enabling addicted drug users and stop disincentives to working for a living.
- "Parks: the number of parks seems sufficient but all need better amenities, equipment and maintenance. We need an inpatient facility for mental health and substance use treatment and comprehensive aftercare for those returning from inpatient services"
- Renovate the vacant and deteriorating "Victory" building into a homeless/rehabilitation center. A location where workshops, alcohol/drug abuse counseling can take place.
- Community members should get jobs to help themselves and not just expect to have all things provided for them. Children, however, must be supported with our best efforts to help them to be safe, well-educated and fed.
- We need to empower people, and teach them the skills on how to provide for themselves and their families, while being less dependent on government
- Too much money is allocated to social programs when there are no evaluation tools or measurements to justify spending. Each social program should have itemization of all expenses and third party evaluation of how successfully a program meets its mission, goals and objectives. If it isn't working, stop funding it and work toward a more effective use of funds. Every social program should have an annual audit and evaluation of services.
- Chobani can help access to nutritional resources by paying their fair share of taxes to Columbus (instead of wiping them out in court fees) and also by paying every full-time employee no less than \$75,000/year. PLEASE FOR THE LOVE OF CHENANGO have higher expectations for billion-dollar companies and CEOs. Can you imagine how that kind of change alone would impact our local economy????

- All of these options are beneficial.
- If you are looking out as far as 2050 you should be considering the consolidation of school districts from the standpoint of superintendents and administration. The funding gained by this consolidation could be used to strengthen programs aimed at improving student outcome and future opportunity. In addition, with the exodus of people from upstate NY the volunteer fire departments are no longer viable in many communities. A plan for 2050 MUST include the consolidation or county-level oversight of a county-wide response network (fire and medical).
- Focus on the strategies that have been most successful in reenergizing similar communities
- No
- None of these are important as compared the economic viability of the county. These are all political hot button topics. None of these truly improve a communities ability for citizens to take care of themselves. They all are aimed towards government subsidies and coddling of people. You cannot balance a budget without subsidies with programs like these. They are not self sustaining. I would rather see more money spent on bringing viable companies into the area that employ people with honest jobs that allow families to thrive. Creating giveaway programs and all sorts of government agencies and organizations to prop people up is the exact opposite of what you should be doing. Do any of you in the county government know how a large business really works? It is not by baby sitting the employees and families.
- For the Support Children and Families, maybe work on creating a blueprint or support for parents that want to homeschool their kids
- Housing is a significant problem. The cost of living is too high. Not only for those receiving public assistance, but those who are outside that level of need. Oftentimes, those above the threshold also struggle with childcare, housing, and regular household maintenance. A lot of times, even those who are "middle class" find themselves having to prioritize needs because after everything, they barely make it pay check to pay check. There's such a focus on those in "the system" that increasing taxes, cost of living, childcare, amongst other needs has them at more of a disadvantage

Innovative Infrastructure

GOAL STATEMENT

We are committed to working with community partners to provide a multi-modal transportation network and reliable broadband service that encourages the use of modern technological advancements. Our goal is to promote pedestrian friendly environments that enhance the quality of life for residents and the experience of visitors. Meeting the needs of local businesses and attracting new ones is essential. As the County continues to grow and develop, we will ensure now and in the future that the necessary infrastructure meets the needs of the community.

STRATEGY 1: Promote a Multi-Modal Transportation Network.

Choose **up to 3 initiatives** you feel most strongly about.

Innovative Infrastructure	
Strategy 1: Promote a Multi-Modal Transportation Network.	%
Continue efforts to implement the Chenango County Coordinated Transportation Plan.	49%
Seek funding to develop new and expand existing walking trails/sidewalks and bike lanes for use of alternative transportation.	48%
Explore opportunities to raise funds, connections, and ridership for public transportation options between city, town, and village centers.	61%
Support transit-oriented development practices in the City of Norwich, villages, and hamlets.	38%
Identify best delivery routes for tractor-trailer traffic to decrease burden on local roads and infrastructure.	38%
Support the development of Active Transportation Plans and complete streets policy guidance in populations centers to foster more pedestrian and bicyclist connectivity.	22%
Promote NYS 511 Program to serve residents and commuters with information about transportation services and conditions.	17%

Answered: 95. Skipped: 78

STRATEGY 2: Expand Broadband Access.

Choose **up to 3 initiatives** you feel most strongly about.

Innovative Infrastructure	
Strategy 2: Expand Broadband Access.	%
Continue to implement and extend quality and reliable broadband services throughout the County and the last mile	84%
Expand access and services using electronic and fiber optics networks.	75%
Consider and prepare for cybersecurity needs of utility infrastructure investments that move to "cloud based" management (e.g. off-site metering of water/sewer facilities).	40%
Develop digital literacy and cybersecurity programming to help residents better access, navigate, and utilize online resources.	35%
Connect local businesses and entrepreneurs with online marketing and tech resources to expand accessibility for residents and visitors.	31%

Answered: 95. Skipped: 78

STRATEGY 3: Maintain Quality Utility Infrastructure.

Choose **up to 3 initiatives** you feel most strongly about.

Innovative Infrastructure	
Strategy 3: Maintain Quality Utility Infrastructure.	%
Consider supporting diversification of energy generation and supply models county-wide (i.e. utilizing commercial properties to generate energy rather than agricultural lands).	42%
Consider regional wastewater treatment facility to compost septic, organic waste, and wastewater sludges for beneficial reuse.	42%
Incentivize the installation of solar panels above parking areas and rooftops.	42%
Pursue certification in NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities program to open up additional clean energy infrastructure planning and implementation funding opportunities.	41%
Develop and/or update local alternative energy system (solar, wind, battery storage, etc.) regulations to guide investment, where appropriate.	27%
Work with New Energy New York programming to expand energy generation and promote industry expansion.	23%
Provide more electric vehicle charging stations (Level 2 and/or Level 3 service) at key destination points like parks and the airport.	20%
Continue to evaluate appropriate sites for alternative energy facilities, such as large-scale solar.	16%
Encourage participation in community choice aggregation and demand response programs.	6%

Answered: 95. Skipped: 78

Innovative Infrastructure

Do you have any thoughts or feedback on these strategies and actions?

- Develop SMALL scale wind and water power (GET AWAY FROM SOLAR!!!!!!). We have streams in Chenango County that USED to provide electricity (Plymouth)!!! We are using wind power & gravity fed irrigation on our farm to pump water and irrigate our fields!!!!!!
- Don't forget what makes money in the name of bunny hugging.
- Locate solar development on commercial properties, over parking lots, on rooftops, closed landfills, etc rather than on agricultural land or in natural areas.
- Do not promote or support industrial wind turbine projects as they are inefficient and will destroy the quality of rural living and provide virtually no meaningful benefits to the host community.
- We need more adequate cell phone coverage For all carriers.
- Complete Streets programs will allow the elitists to feel good about themselves - while removing auto lanes from use by those who are productive members of the community
- Stop ruining our rural areas with solar panels. Use the parking areas and rooftops un the cities and towns.
- I don't like seeing beautiful fields/land covered with solar panels. I like the idea of solar panels on top of building roofs.
- No more solar farms!
- Work with NYSEG to increase resilience and capacity of our electric grid/network.
- Green energy is great but using land where houses could be built or could be used for agricultural or manufacturing sites isn't the best use of the land. Consider building small parking garages in Norwich so that some of the larger lots can be repurposed for development
- Our area seniors need viable transportation options as MLT and A&D are unreliable, leave them stranded and this impacts their healthcare needs. I see this all the time in my professional life and I feel its a travesty. I left multiple messages at The Office of the Aging as a professional and they never bothered to return a single call I made.
- Support famers with bio-digester installations. Solar is not efficient enough yet, don't waste taxpayer money on its use/installation until the efficiency is > 70%. Also, remember whatever "sustainable" energy source is determined to be installed/used there needs to be a long-term look at what the plan is to do with the waste generated from them (i.e. old solar panels, windmill blades). Along with the reality that most of the recourses needed to build the "sustainable" energy source is less sustainable then using oil to begin with. Lets be smart about picking and choosing sustainable energy sources.
- Plant trees as oppose to investing in toxic solar power and alternative energy technologies which are far more devastating to the environment than traditional gas/oil/coal. Forbid solar farms due to the fact that they are forever destructive to the land and water, kill off wild life and provide a small life span while giving a small amount of energy.
- "Fast speed internet development strategy should be multi-pronged. As the technology of satellite broadband enters the market it should be included (at least at a pilot level deployment). Also, with ""IoT"" becoming more and more common place and necessary to manage data/information, networks that support these devices for various industries (especially outdoor activities like agriculture and forestry where connectivity is remote/non-

existent).

- For infrastructure: we should encourage more micro-type PV solar installations for individual home owners to gain more energy independence (via nyseg credits). The industrial scale deployments are fine but have very few financial beneficiaries while smaller scale deployments democratizes and provides more autonomy for solar energy"
- If climate change is in fact an "existential threat" then the state should be willing to utilize state land (or allow the counties to do so) for renewable energy projects instead of offering unrealistic rewards to poor, rural communities who agree to these projects only because they think they will reap great financial rewards and jobs (which never materialize). I am absolutely disgusted by the way the county has handled the High Bridge wind project and I think the entire process, from the state-level down, is grossly negligent and rife with nepotism. If the county is going to be transparent about alternative energy opportunities, then the county should drive the state to do a realistic survey of sites which are BEST SUITED for these projects because those sites will provide the highest energy production in the long run, not because they will be cheapest for the industry.
- Technological literacy is often considered a need for older populations, however is quite necessary for the younger groups as well. Many school-based technology programs are either no longer in use or involve only part of the very basics, even during my time learning in the 2000s and early 2010s. I believe this would be important to keep in mind while developing the aforementioned programming.
- No
- Get rid of these pie in the sky eco warrior dreams and get down to building a viable economy in this area. If you do, all of the social problems will take care of themselves. Further, green energy is a lie. Without tax money none of these projects, either solar or wind, are economically feasible. Stop spending money on social and green issues and get back to creating an environment that is lucrative to heavy business. This is the only way to save this county from becoming a huge retirement home as well as a county full of section 8 housing and the crime problems that are associated with many of the people who are in these programs.
- Does this plan include getting away from agencies like NYSEG and their expensive, inconsistent, and questionable billing? Support agencies like Sherburne Electric to provide more affordable services to the rest of the county??

Economic Opportunity

GOAL STATEMENT

Chenango County will continue to work with local and regional partners to grow existing businesses, establish new businesses, expand tourism, and attract investors and people from outside the county to ensure goods and services that the community requires are available and attainable. It is essential to foster a healthy economy that provides a wide array of employment opportunities for our residents and supports the growth of business and industry from within our community.

STRATEGY 1: Develop our Workforce.

Choose **up to 3 initiatives** you feel most strongly about.

Economic Opportunity	
Strategy 1: Develop our Workforce.	%
Create partnerships with educational programs like BOCES and SUNY Morrisville to promote specialty and higher education opportunities within the County.	76%
Support efforts to diversify entertainment, cultural events, and other amenities that will retain and attract the workforce needed to grow the economy.	53%
Identify and promote pathways for manufacturing careers that are in-demand by the private sector.	48%
Encourage regional educational Institutions to identify ways to expand educational programs and services making them more effective and accessible for residents (e.g. with the use of technology).	36%
Pilot industry-led workforce training initiatives to expand across the county.	35%
Engage with statewide resources, like NYS Economic Development Councils, to access training and networking opportunities in and around the county.	31%

Answered: 95. Skipped: 78

STRATEGY 2: Promote Chenango County as a Destination.

Choose **up to 3 initiatives** you feel most strongly about.

Economic Opportunity	
Strategy 2: Promote Chenango County as a Destination.	%
Expand lodging options and event spaces to draw local and regional interest and special event offerings (e.g. hotels, wedding venues).	54%
Develop a Rail Trail through the County and support agri-tourism.	48%
Develop a County-wide Tourism Plan to ensure a cohesive approach to implementation of these actions and new opportunities.	33%
Leverage anchor events like Taste Chenango to cross-promote other activities in the region and direct visitors to the upcoming events.	33%
Utilize outdoor recreational assets as a method to attract more visitors.	29%
Connect with regional metro tourism agencies to market Chenango as a rural getaway alternative or a day trip in both NY and PA.	22%
Create enhanced “day trip” experiences for visitors that connect the City and nearby villages and towns.	18%
Provide digital and physical material to demonstrate how to spend a weekend/day in Chenango County.	16%
Assist local farms to partner with tourist destinations in the development of weekend vacation packages.	15%
Use a large regional event as an opportunity to learn about the market and conduct a quick visitor survey to get real-time information on clientele.	9%

Answered: 91. Skipped: 82

STRATEGY 3: Support Local Businesses.

Choose **up to 3 initiatives** you feel most strongly about.

Economic Opportunity	
Strategy 3: Support Local Businesses.	%
Prioritize business retention and expansion efforts with existing businesses across the County.	66%
Investigate the feasibility of a business incubator program that can assist smaller local businesses with start-up and ongoing success.	54%
Regularly engage the business community to gather real-time feedback on their experiences and opportunities in the sectors. Ensure that a cross-sector of businesses is represented throughout the engagement.	42%
Assist the local business community in a process that will allow them to define a “community vision” for the economic future of Chenango County.	33%
Increase awareness of succession planning tools, and if demand is present, seek ways to match exiting business owners with the next generation of ownership.	22%
Leverage the existing local economic development groups around the county to align regional and local efforts.	19%
Brand the Chenango County community, highlighting broadband access along with lively downtown and authentic local amenities.	16%
Connect with small and medium-sized businesses and maintain a record of what information is collected as part of the visit or digital outreach.	13%
Create peer learning networks to demystify internet sales and marketing.	5%

Answered: 91. Skipped: 82

STRATEGY 4: Grow Economic Development Infrastructure.

Choose **up to 3 initiatives** you feel most strongly about.

Economic Opportunity	
Strategy 4: Grow Economic Development Infrastructure.	%
Work with regional economic development leaders who can help identify opportunities spinning out from Micron and the supply chain/workforce needs. Promote what role Chenango County is poised to play within a 5-, 10-, or 20-year timeframe.	47%
Continue to foster manufacturing, agricultural production, food/beverage manufacturing as the County's target sectors.	45%
Define the message for what role Chenango County plays in the regional economy and the sectors of industry that are well-suited to grow based on the existing industry mix. Use market data to make the case for the business environment in the county.	36%
Designate a project development team that can shepherd emerging economic development projects through a process of preparing them for CFA and other funding opportunities.	36%
Identify publicly owned land that could be suitable for expansion or new projects. Identify what infrastructure exists and what is lacking on each site and pursue feasibility studies to advance the project-readiness of the sites.	33%
Evaluate with Southern Tier REDC leaders how Chenango County can support the region's five investment pillars.	22%
Create an inventory of "shovel-ready" sites to attract new business and industry.	22%
Determine what parcels will become viable as business opportunities as water/wastewater infrastructure is expanded in Norwich.	19%
Bring in speakers or visiting economic developers to discuss the long-term potential of Micron to this region.	7%

Answered: 91. Skipped: 82

Economic Opportunity

Do you have any thoughts or feedback on these strategies and actions?

- Commerce Chenango needs an attitude change. Along the lines of: forward, supportive, promotional.
- What is "Micron"??? Keep in mind 1/2 the farms still do not have adequate internet or cell phone service to keep current or to do "text messaging"!!!
- A good first step would be to get rid of the abandoned houses... nothing says a 'lively downtown' and 'bring your business to Norwich' quite like a bunch of squatters cutting heroin in a home code enforcement hasn't visited in years.
- "Let's not limit our industries to manufacturing and agribusiness. Financial services, engineering, healthcare and education are vital too."
- Our job market is stunted and pays pennies to the dollar of nearby cities. I could move an hour away and make \$5 more an hour doing the same work. Why? We cannot retain quality professionals in our area when we cannot compete with nearby salary. This impacts education, medical resources, and so on. We should be working to expand local amenities-the bowling alley is such a waste. There needs to be more to draw people in and keep them. Everything buttons up here early on weekends. Families are traveling elsewhere to find things to do. Nothing to do unless you want to go to a bar. Young professionals find it an unfulfilling and underpaid area and leave.
- Ask local businesses what they need for success, sustainability and expansion. Lower taxes for businesses. Become a self-governed community by breaking away from state mandates as stated in the NYS constitution.
- I wonder if local small businesses would need this much support if it was regular practice in our culture that giant, billion-dollar companies paid their employees higher wages?
- Strategy 2 Provide digital and physical material to demonstrate how to spend a weekend/day in Chenango County: We could gameify or provide some other incentive, such as digital badges to show someone has completed all recommended activities, or other badges/keepsakes to represent completing certain individual or batches of activities.
- For tourism: Rail Trail, Rail Trail, Rail Trail!!!! Also for tourism: Have more of a regular social media presence with upcoming events in our local towns (ie festivals, concerts) with a ""press release"" every month. Also, after attending 4 towns forward and Bainbridge CoC meetings: leaders would love training in social media. A county effort to do this for our various CoC's could really help them!
- If you want Chenango County to be a "destination" you need to do something about the fact that much of it looks like a third-world country (and I have been to many of them in 29 years in the military) with vacant homes and farms, formerly beautiful old barns collapsing in on themselves, homeless drug abusers on the street corners etc, If you want people to come here there must be evidence of PRIDE in the community. People here have no hope and it shows. Relating to that, I am curious why you would focus on Micron (which is 90 minutes away) instead of looking at industry in the immediate area (Chenango and Delaware counties) such as Chobani, GE Aerospace, Amphenol, McDowell-Walker, Unalam, Golden Artists, Alvogen or even Mirabito and Preferred Mutual. We have industry in the local area. Why not partner with them to expand opportunities and bring a source of pride back to Chenango County? This is a BLUE COLLAR region. The development efforts need to acknowledge and serve this population.

- We should add the CleanTech Battery development, in addition to Micron, to the third initiative above.
- I am sure you do not need to be reminded that the education in Chenango County beyond high school is lacking. Whilst I believe that the opportunities offered by BOCES, SUNY Morrisville, and Cornell's extension in the area are great and should be encouraged to grow further, the net needs to be wider. BOCES has a variety of programs however, at least from my experience growing up here, is widely considered just where they send students who cannot make it in regular high school, while in reality that is only a side project essentially. Morrisville offers programs in agriculture and human resources almost exclusively in their Chenango County campus, and Cornell appears to focus on agriculture as well. As an agriculture-heavy area this is awesome, however as an individual who does not want to be involved in either of these fields, my only choice was to continue my education outside of Chenango County, and upon returning I found my opportunities lacking, something that I will attribute, not wholly but in most part, to the lack of these other skills in the area. I believe that more nearby educational institutions should be invited to participate nearby, even if they do not open buildings directly inside Chenango County and offer reliable pipelines to reach the skills that companies that will be encouraged to move here will want to see from their employees. I would point to how Wolfspeed in Utica has fostered their partnership with the nearby schools as an example of how this can build that path.
- No
- Need to work to reduce flood prone lands and make lands developable along route 12
- "Shovel ready" is the biggest joke from the Obama era. Please do not ever use that term again. It is a farce that represents government wasteful spending on nothing. If I had friends coming from out of state to stay here where would they go? Most of the motels are full of section 8 housing. How on earth can you attract legitimate business people when you cannot even offer a decent room for them? What is wrong here is you in the county have created a haven for deadbeats, drug addicts and criminals who all sop up off the system at the expense and safety and security of the tax paying residents. Get these bums out of here. Foster more jobs and make the choice of living off the teat of government or working an honest job one that the job always wins. I hate parking in town because of the thefts that go on. I worry about strangers on my road because in the last few years, rural thefts and violence has gone up massively. This used to be a safe place, Chenango County. Now it is full of drugs, violence and unsavory people. Put the citizens back to work. Stop driving businesses out with excessive regulations. Get the no bail laws repealed. Bring law and order here and we will prosper as a haven that is safe and a proper place to make a living.
- There are so many vacant, deteriorating buildings that could be used for so much good. I like the plan of keeping small businesses while desperately correcting the numerous 'eye sores'.

Sustainable Living & Rural Environment

GOAL STATEMENT

We are committed to investing in our towns, villages and the city in a manner that revitalizes our communities while sustaining the beauty and value of our natural and rural environment. Over time, Chenango County will strive to make public and private investment decisions that protect our natural resources, foster resiliency in our citizens and our lands, and enhance the livability of the places we call home. We will continue to support the local agricultural industry, recognizing its role in building economic opportunity, protecting soils, and maintaining our bucolic and pastoral setting. It is our responsibility to make mindful decisions that capitalize on these environmental assets while reducing our impact and conserving lands for future generations.

STRATEGY 1: Promote Sustainable Living Practices.

Choose **up to 3 initiatives** you feel most strongly about.

Sustainable Living & Rural Environment	
Strategy 1: Promote Sustainable Living Practices.	%
Promote and seek funding for clean technology upgrades to residential and commercial properties (e.g. heat pumps, geothermal, etc.)	44%
Evaluate the feasibility of implementing a Countywide program to reduce waste, including household recycling, hazardous waste recycling, composting, and farm waste reduction programs.	31%
Pursue certification in NYSERDA's Climate Smart Communities program to open up additional climate action planning and implementation funding opportunities.	28%
Provide training to community officials and board members on environmental policies and land use best practices.	28%
Promote collaboration between neighboring municipalities for shared sustainable waste management practices.	24%
Provide education and resources on the conversion from lawn space to native plantings and/or low or no-mow lawns.	23%
Support and promote repair cafes and reuse centers.	19%
Provide guidance on green infrastructure implementation and consider incentives for incorporation of green infrastructure in public and private projects like development bonuses, grant funding, and awards and recognition programs.	17%
Identify grants and educational resources for businesses and homeowners to install rainwater collection and graywater systems.	16%
Develop a County-wide Climate Action Plan to inventory greenhouse gas emissions and identify necessary climate mitigation measures.	13%
Support shift to electric small equipment and tools (leaf blowers, lawn mowers).	12%
Promote conversion to LED lighting and help coordinate bulb trade-in programs.	10%
Develop a Green Procurement Policy and support the implementation of green building code practices.	6%
Educate and encourage consumers and businesses to use reusable products, like refillable containers, the reuse or up-cycling of used goods, goods repair, etc.	6%

Answered: 86. Skipped: 87

STRATEGY 2: Support the Viability of Agriculture.

Choose **up to 3 initiatives** you feel most strongly about.

Sustainable Living & Rural Environment	
Strategy 2: Support the Viability of Agriculture.	%
Promote a branding campaign for products grown or produced in Chenango County.	59%
Ensure local land use regulations provide reasonable protections to agricultural lands from development pressures and protect the right-to-farm.	58%
Continue efforts to implement the Chenango County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Program.	52%
Secure funding through the NYS Climate Resilient Farming program to increase sustainable farming practices, such as biomass plantings, cover cropping, and upgraded irrigation systems/reservoirs.	40%
Continue administration of the Agricultural District Program through NYS Agriculture and Markets.	31%
Pursue new biofuel options in the agricultural industry to ensure sustainable development.	20%

Answered: 86. Skipped: 87

STRATEGY 3: Protect Natural Resources and Increase Environmental Resiliency.

Choose **up to 3 initiatives** you feel most strongly about.

Sustainable Living & Rural Environment	
Strategy 3: Protect Natural Resources and Increase Environmental Resiliency.	%
Encourage the redevelopment of underutilized sites and direct development near existing infrastructure to reduce pressure on undeveloped lands and green space.	38%
Identify opportunity areas for expanding public access along the Chenango River.	31%
Continue to work with local environmental and conservation organizations to educate local decision makers and residents on environmental stewardship efforts that apply to their geographical region (i.e. watersheds, forestry).	30%
Coordinate land use management efforts between municipalities to help direct development towards existing infrastructure.	24%
Track severe weather events and impacts to community services, property values, and cost of infrastructure maintenance/repairs.	24%
Support programs to increase tree cover, establish tree canopy goals across the County, and consider creating a tree fund, prioritizing planting trees in vulnerable areas.	23%
Ensure local land use regulations prohibit inefficient development patterns and fragmentation of open space. Consider additional regulations that protect environmentally sensitive features and scenic vistas.	22%
Support programs to conserve more land in collaboration with land trust organizations and conserve more wooded lots.	21%
Support municipalities in participating in and securing funding through the NYS Brownfield Opportunity Area Program, where applicable.	19%
Create policies for the removal and/or relocation of impervious surfaces and buildings in floodplains, wetlands, or other areas prone to flooding. Prohibit replacement of such infrastructure in vulnerable areas.	16%
Identify opportunity areas for ecorestoration that could increase biodiversity and offset or sequester greenhouse gas emissions (e.g. restore wetlands on unused agricultural lands).	15%
Inventory large impervious surface areas and consider alternative development practices to reduce stormwater run-off.	10%

Answered: 86. Skipped: 87

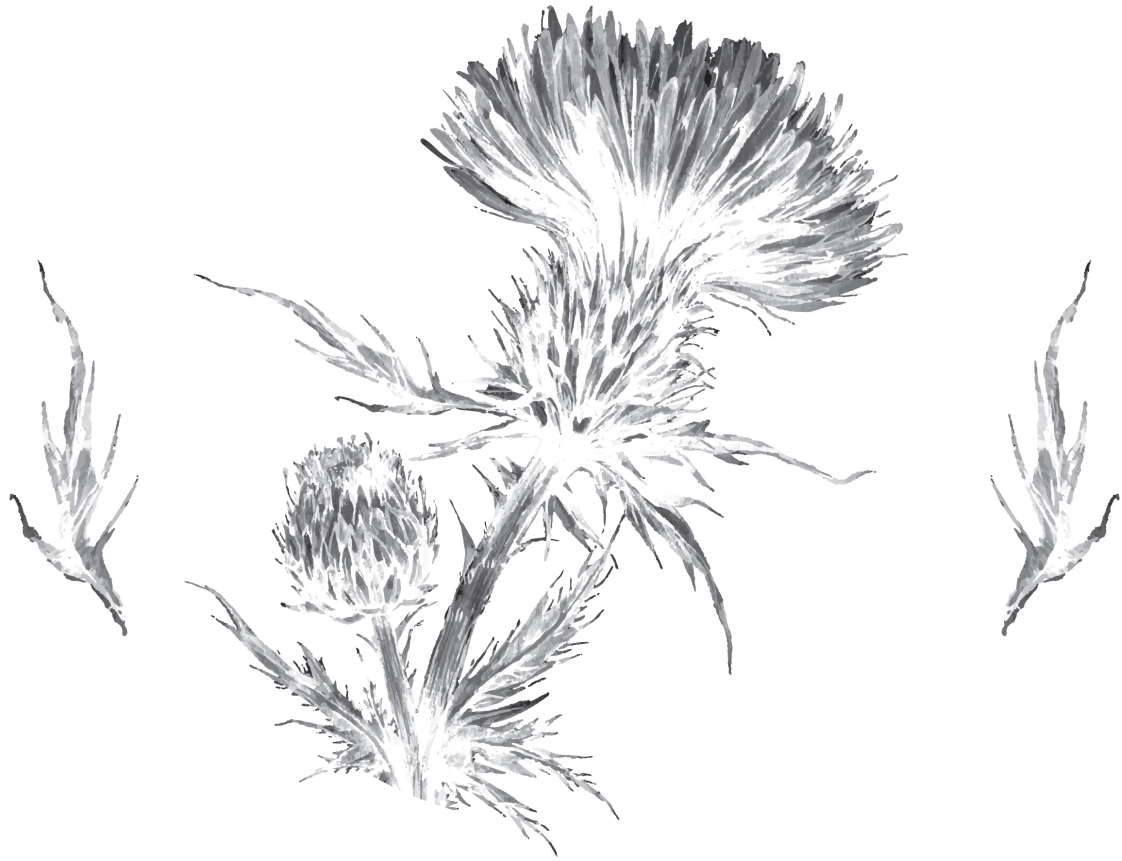
Sustainable Living & Rural Environment

Do you have any thoughts or feedback on these strategies and actions?

- Planning department Needs an every 5yr State of the Environment assessment with prioritized plan recommendation.
- Get plant-based bio DIESEL (not gasoline) in the county AGAIN!!! Switch buses/tractors to biodiesel NOT electric! The technology is ALREADY well used and CHEAPER. We can grow willow, soy, sunflowers, etc. Solar is NOT sustainable and will contaminate our farm land!!!! Do NOT use municipal waste water for food production!!! This research was done in the 1980's!! NO to electric motors!! Go with biodiesel! The research was done in the 1970's!!!
- Education and appropriate treatment of Japanese knotweed is needed. You can see it taking over many areas along waterways.
- I have no words for the amount of silliness and virtue signaling by those who have never worked outdoors in rural America to just get by, entertaining such lofty government programs that *if* they get off the ground will fail... the way every elected leadership fails our county. At least the elite can feel good about it though...
- Drinking water should be the purest form possible, going far beyond accepted limits but as clean as possible. Zero fluoride because it's industrial waste and not beneficial for human consumption.
- The "hydrogen economy" is still in it's nascent stages but dedicating some county time/resources to pull any hydrogen infrastructure our way will help our odds of being part of any future pipelines which would then draw in more industries. NYS has released some money for investigating applications for hydrogen generation and infrastructure development. Would be a shame to pass on this while getting, in the long run, bypassed with pipelines being built in corridors not including Chenango county
- Bring more industry opportunity to Chenango county to open up the job market in this region to tech, and creative pursuits.
- No
- None of the liberal agenda items on these pages ever create wealth and opportunity. They are all government managed boondoggles that waste money and have little if any positive effects on the environment or energy sector. The tone of this questionnaire is so embedded in the democrat agenda that I believe if followed it will lead to the ruin of what little is left to this once prosperous county. In the 23 years I have been here I have seen many industries leave creating massive holes in our workplace where people cannot find decent jobs as a result. This is due to excessive taxation and regulation at both the local and state levels. These are the obstacles to the rejuvenation of this area. Going green will not fix the lack of quality career jobs in this area except for those who are employed by the government. Everyone else pays these people at their detriment. While most of the liberals detest industry barons who created our nation, it is these people whose vision and desire to create and build that put our nation and this county on the map. Now, you are walking away from these concepts and dreams and adopting eco policies that will do nothing to help bring jobs to this community. Fast food jobs are not ever meant to be family supporting and they do nothing to improve the lifestyles of the community. We need industries that use railroads to haul in raw materials and haul out finished products. We need infrastructure that makes their existence in the regulatory hell easier. From what I can tell you are moving this county into being a bedroom community for jobs outside our county and also a rest home for the elderly as well as a haven for the homeless and drug users and criminals. If you do not act to try to change this, this will continue until no one

can afford the taxes here and you will see another 5 thousand people leave in the next census and the one after that and the one after that. You either lead the county to prosperity or you lead us to hell. Green policies do not bring any prosperity except to those who are employed or own them.

- Should be implementing large flood prevention projects instead of removing developed buildings and lots unless those areas can be replaced elsewhere where not prone to flooding
- No mow lawns, seriously, how?? Policy on people buying land, logging it, then selling the property after they destroy the land and cause significant emissions issues, flooding from the topography being changed (don't know how but it's happening, need an environmental expert for that one), and loss of animal habitats?



Framework Overview

Organizing Ideas & Elements

Vision - A general statement that describes the aspiration of the County; it is an end towards which all actions are aimed. The Vision should not dramatically change over time, but rather be consistent throughout the planning horizon. Ideally, the Vision contained in this Plan should be useful for the 30-year planning horizon.

Goal - A general statement of a future condition towards which actions are aimed addressing a particular area or issue facing the community that impacts the vision. Goals should not dramatically change over time but rather be consistent throughout the planning horizon.


Strategy - A statement of a measurable activity to be accomplished in pursuit of the goal; it refers to some specific aspiration which is attainable. Think in terms of actions such as "increase", "develop", "continue", or "preserve."

Action - A specific proposal to do something that relates directly to accomplishing a strategy; it can take the form of a plan, project, or program. The lifespan of an action item can vary from one to 10 years depending on the item.

In this plan, there are generally two types of actions:

- **Direct County Actions:** Actions that may be taken directly by Chenango County to help achieve the goals of a given focus area.
- **Community Actions:** Potential actions that can be taken by municipalities, businesses, organizations, and residents which the County may support as a coordinator, connector, and/or informational resource. The County may also assist with efforts to secure funding, where necessary and appropriate.

Basemap concerns
- don't recognize them





Chenango County Vision & Goal Framework

WORKBOOK

DRAFT | JULY 2024



Chenango County VISION STATEMENT

Our 2050 Vision shows us a County to be proud of; a place of diverse opportunities in a setting that preserves our cherished rural quality of life. We see a healthy, well educated, involved, and informed citizenry participating fully in all aspects of community life. We will strive to become a county known for its...

- **Community Health & Wellbeing.** We see a network of human services that supports those who cannot care for themselves while engendering self-sufficiency and greater productivity among those who can.
- **Innovative Infrastructure.** We see an advanced infrastructure system that ties the transportation, utility, and broadband network together to support growth and enhance physical and digital connectivity within the County.
- **Economic Opportunity.** We see a diverse economy, with business and industry in a true partnership with government and the educational system to provide challenging lifelong opportunities for work and learning.
- **Sustainable Living & Rural Environment.** We see a County that has grown and developed in a way that promotes sustainability and resiliency in a manner that protects our farmland and preserves our natural environment for the enjoyment of future generations.

In planning, our County will be a leader in implementation, working with community partners and providing guidance and support to municipalities that may not be able to accomplish these goals on their own.

"Let us develop the resources of our land, call forth it's powers, build up its institutions, promote all its great interests and see whether we also, in our day and generation, may not perform something worthy to be remembered" – Daniel Webster

COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLBEING

Quality of life in the greater Chenango County community is supported by meeting basic individual and family needs and providing services that enrich one's physical and mental health and wellbeing. The primary elements identified by our community that directly impact our quality of life include availability and quality of housing, public health and safety services, childcare, education, and social and emotional development opportunities.

NEEDS IN THIS FOCUS AREA

- 1** **Access to Healthcare:** Many residents of Chenango County face barriers to accessing quality healthcare services, including geographical distance, lack of transportation, cost, and limited availability of healthcare providers, particularly in rural areas.
- 2** **Chronic Disease Prevalence:** Chronic diseases such as diabetes, obesity, and heart disease are significant health concerns in Chenango County. Lifestyle factors, including diet, access to nutritious foods, physical activity, and access to healthcare, play a crucial role in the prevalence of these conditions.
- 3** **Mental Health and Substance Abuse:** Mental health disorders and substance abuse are growing issues affecting Chenango County. Stigma, limited access to mental health and treatment services, lack of residential care, and economic stressors contribute to these challenges.
- 4** **Lack of Diverse Housing:** A lack of housing diversity impacts residents across various demographics, from affordable housing for low-income families to safe and accessible living facilities for seniors. This scarcity not only limits choices for those seeking to downsize, age-in-place, or find their first home but also hinders the county's ability to attract new residents and retain existing ones.
- 5** **Childcare:** There is limited availability of affordable childcare facilities, especially in the more rural parts of Chenango County. Lack of reliable transportation and high childcare costs relative to household income reduce the accessibility of childcare.

Community Health & Wellbeing

GOAL STATEMENT

We are committed to improving the quality of life for our residents through the enhancement of community services and resources that support the physical, mental, and social wellbeing of all. Our ultimate indicator of success will be the satisfaction of basic resident health and safety needs and ability for all to achieve their fullest potential in terms of personal growth and self-sufficiency. Through these efforts we seek to foster a resilient spirit and strong sense of pride in our community.

STRATEGIES

1. **Support Healthy Lifestyles and Enhance Quality of Life.** Improve access to mental, emotional, and social development resources and physical health services to support healthy lifestyle choices.
2. **Increase Availability of Housing Options.** Increase availability, quality, and diversity of local housing stock to meet varying resident needs with respect to age, income, and lifestyle.
3. **Support Children and Families.** Expand availability of affordable, high-quality childcare options for families with children of all ages.

ACTIONS

Community Health & Wellbeing	County Actions	Community Actions
Strategy 1: Support Healthy Lifestyles and Enhance Quality of Life		
Follow NYS guidance to identify and designate Medically Underserved Areas or Populations to target program action and <u>open funding opportunities.</u>	yes TBD	yes TBD
Evaluate opportunities to improve availability and access to health (telehealth) and <u>medical services.</u> <i>need transportation</i>	<i>Bus Service</i>	<i>Driver Services</i>
Continue to work with community service partners to evaluate and adapt to changing resident needs.		
Provide support for nonprofits to establish shared services agreements across agencies to reduce operation costs and build capacity.		
Encourage shared or collaborative municipal <u>public safety</u> and service delivery. <i>Emergency notifications to landlords</i>	yes	
Actively recruit new volunteers and leaders for public health and safety services and initiatives.		
Expand service level and awareness of drug addiction and mental illness support services.	yes	

Community Health & Wellbeing	County Actions	Community Actions
Establish a task force of community members and public health and safety organizations to lead direct outreach and education efforts on mental health and drug addiction services and programs.		
Partner with local producers to reduce food deserts, promote locally grown food, and increase access to healthy food.	yes	yes
Pilot local initiatives to reduce consumption of junk food; this includes addressing barriers to eating healthy due to poverty.	yes	yes
Partner with local food producers like Chobani to promote nutritious food products and improve community access to nutritious food.	yes	yes
Expand efforts to accept food stamps at farmers markets across County.		
⊗ Increase the number of walking, biking, and hiking opportunities with <u>continued trail development</u> and outdoor recreation amenities.	Fiction RR South of Norwich ←→	
Foster the creation of more public parks in populated areas accessible to residents by foot, bike, or car. E.g. City of Norwich.	OK	
Strategy 2: Increase Availability of Housing Options		
Expand access to and awareness of home improvement programs for low-income and market-rate housing stock.		
Create a tool-library and/or neighbor-supported home service program for small-scale home improvements.		
Establish a Land Bank in Chenango County to formalize efforts bringing vacant, abandoned, and deteriorated properties back to productive use and foster additional housing investment.	yes	
Continue the Chenango County Housing Council and work to expand capacity in membership and programming.		
Work with municipalities to identify where there are viable parcels for housing development and develop a checklist to prioritize the inventory of parcels.		
Work with municipalities to identify <u>barriers in land use codes</u> to build or redevelop housing. <i>Depends on each town's regulations</i>		
Assist municipalities in becoming NYS recognized "Pro-Housing Communities" to ensure eligibility for housing grant programs.		
Explore programming that would assist unhoused individuals with securing more permanent shelter and employment.	yes	
Work with agencies to support tenants at risk of eviction to prevent increases in the rate of homelessness. Consider implementing emergency rental/mortgage assistance programs.	yes	
Continue to encourage the formation of public/private partnerships for the development and delivery of housing and rehabilitation.		

cc. Cornell Coop does this

The Finger Lakes Trail already exists and is used

Community Health & Wellbeing	County Actions	Community Actions
Support home rehabilitation, renovation, and maintenance efforts through local education, programming, and securing grants.		
Strategy 3: Support Children and Families		
Explore opportunities to support home-based childcare and/or shared services with community partners.		yes
Collaborate with schools and recreational programs to expand afterschool care and activities.		yes
Work with local employers on creative ways to provide more high-quality affordable day care.		
Use ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) household data to identify gaps in services and connect families to resources that augment and/or lessen financial burden on basic family needs.	yes	
Secure funding to programs supporting disconnected youth to address chronic absenteeism and early interventions.	yes	
Support programs promoting access to public benefits, such as SNAP, federal Child Tax Credits, etc., for residents and students that are underserved.		

INNOVATIVE INFRASTRUCTURE

The foundation of our infrastructure lies within the advancement of the community’s transportation network and broadband services. We will continue to grow and develop our infrastructure, while also adapting to evolving technologies. It is critical to ensure our community has a sense of connectivity to meet the infrastructural needs and desires of our County. Creating a more efficient, accessible, and reliable infrastructure and utilities is essential to ensure a high quality of life for the community and the abilities for businesses to operate and expand within Chenango County.

NEEDS IN THIS FOCUS AREA



Broadband Access: One of the most pressing infrastructure challenges in Chenango County is the lack of reliable and high-speed internet access, particularly in rural areas. Limited broadband connectivity hinders economic growth, restricts access to educational resources, and impedes telecommuting and remote work opportunities.



Transportation Networks: The county’s transportation infrastructure, including roads and bridges, requires significant investment to ensure safety, efficiency, and accessibility for residents, businesses, and visitors. Improving transportation networks is essential for supporting local businesses, promoting tourism, and enhancing connectivity within the county and beyond.



Water and Wastewater Systems: Aging water and wastewater systems in Chenango County pose environmental and public health risks. Upgrading and modernizing these systems are critical for ensuring clean and safe water supplies, protecting natural resources, and supporting sustainable growth and development.



Energy Infrastructure: Enhancing energy infrastructure, including electricity distribution and renewable energy resources, is essential for reducing reliance on fossil fuels, promoting energy efficiency, and mitigating the impacts of climate change in Chenango County.

Innovative Infrastructure

GOAL STATEMENT

We are committed to working with community partners to provide a multi-modal transportation network and reliable broadband service that encourages the use of modern technological advancements. Our goal is to promote pedestrian friendly environments that enhance the quality of life for residents and the experience of visitors. Meeting the needs of local businesses and attracting new ones is essential. As the County continues to grow and develop, we will ensure now and in the future that the necessary infrastructure meets the needs of the community.

STRATEGIES

1. **Promote a Multi-Modal Transportation Network.** Ensure all modes of travel (walking, biking, public transportation, and driving) are well provided for, increasing accessibility and connectivity of transportation infrastructure for users of all modalities and mobility levels.
2. **Expand Broadband Access.** Improve coverage, quality, and reliability of broadband access for residents, visitors, business, and industry.
3. **Maintain Quality Utility Infrastructure.** Ensure investment and management of municipal services and utilities are supporting resident and business needs in an efficient and sustainable manner, including the incorporation of alternative energy sources.

ACTIONS

Innovative Infrastructure	County Actions	Community Actions
Strategy 1: Promote a Multi-Modal Transportation Network		
Continue efforts to implement the Chenango County Coordinated Transportation Plan.	TBD <i>yes</i>	TBD <i>yes</i>
Support the development of Active Transportation Plans and complete streets policy guidance in populations centers to foster more pedestrian and bicyclist connectivity.	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>
Seek funding to develop new and expand existing walking trails/sidewalks and bike lanes for use of alternative transportation.		
Explore opportunities to raise funds, connections, and ridership for public transportation options between city, town, and village centers.	<i>yes</i>	
Promote NYS 511 Program to serve residents and commuters with information about transportation services and conditions.		
Identify best delivery routes for tractor-trailer traffic to decrease burden on local roads and infrastructure.		
Support transit-oriented development practices in the City of Norwich, villages, and hamlets.	<i>yes</i>	<i>yes</i>

Innovative Infrastructure	County Actions	Community Actions
Strategy 2: Expand Broadband Access		
Continue to implement and extend quality and reliable broadband services throughout the County and the last mile	yes	
Develop digital literacy and cybersecurity programming to help residents better access, navigate, and utilize online resources.		
Expand access and services using electronic and fiber optics networks.	yes	
Connect local businesses and entrepreneurs with online marketing and tech resources to expand accessibility for residents and visitors.		
Consider and prepare for cybersecurity needs of utility infrastructure investments that move to "cloud based" management (e.g. off-site metering of water/sewer facilities).		
Strategy 3: Maintain Quality Utility Infrastructure		
Provide more electric vehicle charging stations (Level 2 and/or Level 3 service) at key destination points like parks and the airport.	yes	
Consider supporting diversification of energy generation and supply models county-wide (i.e. utilizing commercial properties to generate energy rather than agricultural lands).	yes	
Continue to evaluate appropriate sites for alternative energy facilities, such as large-scale solar.	yes	
Develop and/or update local alternative energy system (solar, wind, battery storage, etc.) regulations to guide investment, where appropriate.	yes	
Incentivize the installation of solar panels above parking areas and rooftops.	yes	
Encourage participation in community choice aggregation and demand response programs.		
Pursue certification in NYSERDA's Clean Energy Communities program to open up additional clean energy infrastructure planning and implementation funding opportunities.	yes	
Work with New Energy New York programming to expand energy generation and promote industry expansion.		
Consider regional wastewater treatment facility to compost septic, organic waste, and wastewater sludges for beneficial reuse.	yes	

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

The County will continue to focus on economic development strategies that support and utilize our small businesses and major employers along with existing agricultural and tourism assets as economic drivers for future growth. By continuing to support small and large businesses, and educational institutions, we are providing the Chenango County community with long-term economic growth opportunities that foster an economically stable and attractive community. Providing the community with long-term growth strategies can provide Chenango County with a diverse and vibrant local economy.

NEEDS IN THIS FOCUS AREA

1

Limited Tourism Sector: Despite its natural beauty and cultural attractions, Chenango County's tourism sector remains underdeveloped. The lack of marketing efforts, infrastructure investments, and visitor amenities has hindered the county's ability to attract tourists and capitalize on its potential as a destination for outdoor recreation, cultural experiences, and agritourism.

2

Employment Opportunities: Many residents of Chenango County face limited job prospects and economic opportunities, particularly in rural areas. The decline of traditional industries, such as agriculture and manufacturing, coupled with the lack of diverse employment sectors, has contributed to unemployment, underemployment, and outmigration from the county.

3

Workforce Development: The mismatch between available jobs and the skills of the local workforce presents a significant challenge for economic growth in Chenango County. Investing in workforce development programs, vocational training initiatives, and educational partnerships can help bridge this gap and equip residents with the skills needed for emerging industries and occupations.

4

Business Retention and Expansion: Retaining existing businesses and supporting their growth is essential for maintaining a strong economic base in Chenango County. Challenges such as limited access to capital, regulatory barriers, and workforce shortages can hinder business expansion efforts and impede entrepreneurial success in the county.

Economic Opportunity

GOAL STATEMENT

Chenango County will continue to work with local and regional partners to grow existing businesses, establish new businesses, expand tourism, and attract investors and people from outside the county to ensure goods and services that the community requires are available and attainable. It is essential to foster a healthy economy that provides a wide array of employment opportunities for our residents and supports the growth of business and industry from within our community.

STRATEGIES

- 1. Develop our Workforce.** Support the economic growth and independence of residents through increased job and skills development as well as the attraction and retention of local talent.
- 2. Promote Chenango County as a Destination.** Increase tourism efforts to attract more visitors to the Chenango County area, increase the tax base, and boost community assets, events, and businesses.
- 3. Support Local Businesses.** Provide support for local businesses, entrepreneurs, and institutions to promote and retain economic opportunity within the community.
- 4. Grow Economic Development Infrastructure.** Invest in the economic development infrastructure, both physical and policy based, that is necessary to attract and grow regional jobs and business.

ACTIONS

Economic Opportunity	County Actions	Community Actions
Strategy 1: Develop our Workforce		
Pilot industry-led workforce training initiatives to expand across the county.	yes	
Create partnerships with educational programs like BOCES and SUNY Morrisville to promote specialty and higher education opportunities within the County.	yes	
Encourage regional educational Institutions to identify ways to expand educational programs and services making them more effective and accessible for residents (e.g. with the use of technology).	yes	
Engage with statewide resources, like NYS Economic Development Councils, to access training and networking opportunities in and around the county.	yes	
Identify and promote pathways for manufacturing careers that are in-demand by the private sector. <i>depends</i>	Maybe	

Economic Opportunity	County Actions	Community Actions
Support efforts to diversify entertainment, cultural events, and other amenities that will retain and attract the workforce needed to grow the economy.		
Strategy 2: Promote Chenango County as a Destination		
Create enhanced “day trip” experiences for visitors that connect the City and nearby villages and towns.	Yes	Museum District
Develop a Rail Trail through the County and support agri-tourism.	No	No
Assist local farms to partner with tourist destinations in the development of weekend vacation packages.		
Utilize outdoor recreational assets as a method to attract more visitors.		
Leverage anchor events like Taste Chenango to cross-promote other activities in the region and direct visitors to the upcoming events.		Yes
Use a large regional event as an opportunity to learn about the market and conduct a quick visitor survey to get real-time information on clientele.		
Connect with regional metro tourism agencies to market Chenango as a rural getaway alternative or a day trip in both NY and PA.	No	No
Provide digital and physical material to demonstrate how to spend a weekend/day in Chenango County.		Yes
Develop a County-wide Tourism Plan to ensure a cohesive approach to implementation of these actions and new opportunities.		
Expand lodging options and event spaces to draw local and regional interest and special event offerings (e.g. hotels, wedding venues).		
Strategy 3: Support Local Businesses		
Prioritize business retention and expansion efforts with existing businesses across the County.		
Connect with small and medium-sized businesses and maintain a record of what information is collected as part of the visit or digital outreach.		
Investigate the feasibility of a business incubator program that can assist smaller local businesses with start-up and ongoing success.	Yes	
Increase awareness of succession planning tools, and if demand is present, seek ways to match exiting business owners with the next generation of ownership.		
Regularly engage the business community to gather real-time feedback on their experiences and opportunities in the sectors. Ensure that a cross-sector of businesses is represented throughout the engagement.	Yes	

would encourage next to private land!
 Hiking opportunities already exist, Greenway Conservancy in Norwich



Economic Opportunity	County Actions	Community Actions
Leverage the existing local economic development groups around the county to align regional and local efforts.		
Create peer learning networks to demystify internet sales and marketing.	yes	
Brand the Chenango County community, highlighting broadband access along with lively downtown and authentic local amenities.	No	No
Assist the local business community in a process that will allow them to define a "community vision" for the economic future of Chenango County.	yes	
Strategy 4: Grow Economic Development Infrastructure		
Continue to foster manufacturing, agricultural production, food/beverage manufacturing as the County's target sectors.		
Define the message for what role Chenango County plays in the regional economy and the sectors of industry that are well-suited to grow based on the existing industry mix. Use market data to make the case for the business environment in the county.		
Work with regional economic development leaders who can help identify opportunities spinning out from Micron and the supply chain/workforce needs. Promote what role Chenango County is poised to play within a 5-, 10-, or 20-year timeframe. <i>what is this?</i>		
Bring in speakers or visiting economic developers to discuss the long-term potential of Micron to this region.		
Designate a project development team that can shepherd emerging economic development projects through a process of preparing them for CFA and other funding opportunities.		
Identify publicly owned land that could be suitable for expansion or new projects. Identify what infrastructure exists and what is lacking on each site and pursue feasibility studies to advance the project-readiness of the sites.		
Determine what parcels will become viable as business opportunities as water/wastewater infrastructure is expanded in Norwich.		
Create an inventory of "shovel-ready" sites to attract new business and industry.	yes	
Evaluate with Southern Tier REDC leaders how Chenango County can support the region's five investment pillars.		

SUSTAINABLE LIVING & RURAL ENVIRONMENT

Adopting a sustainable lifestyle for our residents allows for the growth of the community to meet its current economic, social, and environmental needs. Environmental and natural resources such as the Chenango River, the several state forests within the County, rural landscapes, etc. shape our communities and add to the quality of our lives. The County will need to consider a regional balance of development to ensure that environmentally friendly and resilient measures are being taken to protect ourselves from extreme weather events and/or flooding. By promoting sustainable development, we are ensuring that our community is adaptive and resilient to the triple line of sustainability, social, economic, and environmental.

Our thriving agricultural sector, characterized by dairy farms, crop production, and sustainable farming practices, is a cornerstone of Chenango County's economy and identity. We recognize the crucial role of agriculture in preserving our rural character, supporting local food systems, and contributing to the county's resilience and sustainability goals.

NEEDS IN THIS FOCUS AREA



Climate Change: Chenango County, like many regions in NYS, is not immune to the impacts of climate change. Increased frequency of severe weather events, including flooding, droughts, and storms, threatens the county's infrastructure, agriculture, and overall community well-being.



Renewable Energy: The transition to renewable energy sources is crucial for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and combating climate change. However, challenges include funding the initial investment, integrating these systems into the existing infrastructure, and ensuring they are accessible and affordable for all residents.



Natural & Rural Environment: Chenango County's natural resources and rural character are one of the region's largest assets. The protection and preservation of open spaces, environmentally sensitive areas, and agricultural lands is vital to maintaining the rural charm of the County and the associated social, economic, and environmental benefits.

Sustainable Living & Rural Environment

GOAL STATEMENT

We are committed to investing in our towns, villages and the city in a manner that revitalizes our communities while sustaining the beauty and value of our natural and rural environment. Over time, Chenango County will strive to make public and private investment decisions that protect our natural resources, foster resiliency in our citizens and our lands, and enhance the livability of the places we call home. We will continue to support the local agricultural industry, recognizing its role in building economic opportunity, protecting soils, and maintaining our bucolic and pastoral setting. It is our responsibility to make mindful decisions that capitalize on these environmental assets while reducing our impact and conserving lands for future generations.

STRATEGIES

1. **Promote Sustainable Living Practices.** Foster a culture of sustainable choices in everyday actions of individuals, municipalities, and local industry.
2. **Support the Viability of Agriculture.** Support the long-term viability of agricultural lands and sustainable operations.
3. **Protect Natural Resources and Increase Environmental Resiliency.** Protect open space, natural resources, and environmentally sensitive areas and increase efforts to promote biodiversity, sustainable development, and resilient land management practices.

ACTIONS

Sustainable Living & Rural Environment	County Actions	Community Actions
Strategy 1: Promote Sustainable Living Practices		
Promote and seek funding for clean technology upgrades to residential and commercial properties (e.g. heat pumps, geothermal, etc.)	yes	yes
Evaluate the feasibility of implementing a Countywide program to reduce waste, including household recycling, hazardous waste recycling, composting, and farm waste reduction programs.	yes	yes
Promote collaboration between neighboring municipalities for shared sustainable waste management practices.	yes	
Support shift to electric small equipment and tools (leaf blowers, lawn mowers).	yes	yes
Promote conversion to LED lighting and help coordinate bulb trade-in programs.	yes	yes
Support and promote repair cafes and reuse centers.	yes	yes
Educate and encourage consumers and businesses to use reusable products, like refillable containers, the reuse or up-cycling of used goods, goods repair, etc.	yes	yes

Sustainable Living & Rural Environment	County Actions	Community Actions
Provide guidance on green infrastructure implementation and consider incentives for incorporation of green infrastructure in public and private projects like development bonuses, grant funding, and awards and recognition programs.	yes	yes
Provide education and resources on the conversion from lawn space to native plantings and/or low or no-mow lawns.	yes	yes
Identify grants and educational resources for businesses and homeowners to install rainwater collection and graywater systems.		
Develop a Green Procurement Policy and support the implementation of green building code practices.	yes	yes
Develop a County-wide Climate Action Plan to inventory greenhouse gas emissions and identify necessary climate mitigation measures.	yes	
Pursue certification in NYSERDA's Climate Smart Communities program to open up additional climate action planning and implementation funding opportunities.		yes
Provide training to community officials and board members on environmental policies and land use best practices.	yes	yes
Strategy 2: Support the Viability of Agriculture		
Continue efforts to implement the Chenango County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Program.	yes	yes
Continue administration of the Agricultural District Program through NYS Agriculture and Markets.	yes	yes
Pursue new biofuel options in the agricultural industry to ensure sustainable development. <u>Not ethanol</u>	maybe	
Promote a branding campaign for products grown or produced in Chenango County.		
Secure funding through the NYS Climate Resilient Farming program to increase sustainable farming practices, such as biomass plantings, cover cropping, and upgraded irrigation systems/reservoirs.	yes	yes
Ensure local land use regulations provide reasonable protections to agricultural lands from development pressures and protect the right-to-farm.	yes	yes
Strategy 3: Protect Natural Resources and Increase Environmental Resiliency		
Continue to work with local environmental and conservation organizations to educate local decision makers and residents on environmental stewardship efforts that apply to their geographical region (i.e. watersheds, forestry).	yes	
Identify opportunity areas for expanding public access along the Chenango River.	no	no

Sustainable Living & Rural Environment	County Actions	Community Actions
Identify opportunity areas for eco restoration that could increase biodiversity and offset or sequester greenhouse gas emissions (e.g. restore wetlands on unused agricultural lands).	yes	yes
Coordinate land use management efforts between municipalities to help direct development towards existing infrastructure.	yes	yes
Support municipalities in participating in and securing funding through the NYS Brownfield Opportunity Area Program, where applicable.	yes	
Encourage the redevelopment of underutilized sites and direct development near existing infrastructure to reduce pressure on undeveloped lands and green space.	yes	
Support programs to increase tree cover, establish tree canopy goals across the County, and consider creating a tree fund, prioritizing planting trees in vulnerable areas.		
Support programs to conserve more land in collaboration with <u>land trust organizations</u> and conserve more wooded lots. <i>Chenango Land Trust</i>	yes	yes
Ensure local land use regulations prohibit inefficient development patterns and fragmentation of open space. Consider additional regulations that protect environmentally sensitive features and scenic vistas.	yes	yes
Inventory large impervious surface areas and consider alternative development practices to reduce stormwater run-off.	yes	yes
Track severe weather events and impacts to community services, property values, and cost of infrastructure maintenance/repairs.		
Create policies for the removal and/or relocation of impervious surfaces and buildings in floodplains, wetlands, or other areas prone to flooding. Prohibit replacement of such infrastructure in vulnerable areas.	yes	yes