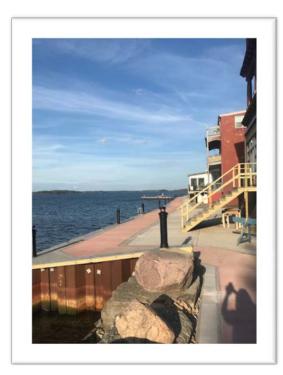
# Clayton Local Development Corporation Annual Report 2018

#### **CLDC Mission Statement:**

The Clayton Local Development Corporation seeks to promote, provide and enhance employment opportunities and business development in the Town and Village of Clayton; and act in the public interest to improve the area's quality of life, to lessen the burdens of government, and to improve the economic welfare and prosperity of all residents.





# CLDC Board Members 2018

# Officers

Chairman Michael Geiss, retired 1000 Islands Regional Director, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Vice-Chairman Dennis Weller, Chairman of the Board, Structural Associates Inc., retired President and Chief Executive Officer Structural Associates Inc.,

Treasurer David Storandt, Supervisor of the Town of Clayton, Ex-Officio Member

Secretary Dr. John Slattery, retired Superintendent of Schools for Thousand Islands Central School District, Community Member

Assistant Secretary Christopher Bogenschutz, President of the Clayton Chamber of Commerce, Ex-Officio Member

#### **Ex-Officio Members**

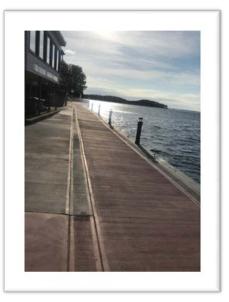
Doug Rogers, Chairman of the Clayton Joint Planning Board, Ex-Officio Member Norma Zimmer, Village of Clayton Mayor Bobby Cantwell, Jefferson County Legislature, District #1 Michael Bashaw, Superintendent of Schools, Thousand Islands School District

#### **Community Members**

Jamie Ganter, Director of Media Operations Knowlton Technologies LCC Christine Powers, Commercial Loan Officer, Watertown Savings Bank John Cooper, Territory Sales Manager, Reeb Jack Stopper, Weather Stopper

# **Riverwalk 3**

The Clayton LDC continued to partner with the Village of Clayton to facilitate the New York State Department of Transportation, Transportation Enhancement Program funding to construct the third phase of the Clayton Riverwalk. This phase extended the Riverwalk along the waterfront from the Veteran's monument to the vacant lot near Key Bank. The project was delayed in 2017 because of the high water levels and flooding. The \$1.7 million phase of the Riverwalk started in December 2017 and was substantially completed in late 2018. Several minor parts of the project, including an entrance fence, will be completed in the spring of 2019 to wrap up the project.



# Historic District Infrastructure Improvement Project

The Clayton LDC partnered with the Village of Clayton to secure funding towards the Historic District Infrastructure Improvement Project. The scope of work for this project includes rehabilitating the streets, curbs and sidewalks, replacing water mains and sewer laterals, burying utility lines and installation of street lights. The Clayton LDC was able to secure funding through the Northern Border Regional Commission for \$250,000 and NYS DASNY for \$250,000. The CLDC was also able to secure funding from NYS Empire State Development (\$1 million) and NYS Department of State (\$500,000). Due to the magnitude and complexity of this project, the design phase has taken longer than anticipated. The current start date is estimated to be in early 2018.

# **Community Economic Development Workshop**

In the fall of 2018 the Clayton LDC invited local stakeholders to attend a workshop to discuss issues such as the workforce, parking, future development, under-utilized properties, regionalism and construction mitigation plans. The workshop was attended by 23 local stakeholders, including business owners, managers, architects, non-profit directors and retired politicians. The workshop provided vital information to be used planning for Clayton LDC projects.

# **Strategic Planning**

The Strategic Planning Committee worked throughout 2017 & 2018 to complete the 2018 Clayton LDC Strategic Plan. This Plan has multiple short term and long goals and will be used as a roadmap for the organization in the future.

- 1. Collaborate with the Village of Clayton, NYDOT, National Grid and local business owners to work toward undergrounding utilities along Riverside Drive to improve aesthetics and help boost tourism.
- 2. Complete the final components of the Clayton Riverwalk (Phase 3), to include finishing items for new park area and closing out funding documentation.
- 3. Support local businesses during the Historical District Infrastructure project, to include working with Jefferson County LDC on a small business loan program.
- 4. Work with local agencies and municipalities to expand and connect the local trail and walkway system, to include the Sissy Danforth Trail and Clayton Riverwalk.
- 5. Apply for a NYS Consolidated Funding Application to rehabilitate and upgrade the infrastructure of local businesses, including small lodging facilities located throughout the Town of Clayton.
- 6. Explore additional revenue generating activities to ensure the future sustainability of the CLDC.
- 7. Continue to update the recently approved Strategic Plan to accurately reflect the needs of the community and organization.
- 8. Develop a committee to analyze and identify underutilized properties and potential development areas in the Town and Village.
- 9. Actively work with the Town and Village to assure any development is consistent with the recently completed Comprehensive Plan.