

## **Authority Mission Statement and Performance Measurements 2020**

**Name of Public Authority:** Clayton Local Development Corporation

**Public Authority's 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;*
- *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*

**Date Adopted:** December 7, 2017

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### **CLDC GOALS FOR 2020**

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**1. Work with the Village of Clayton and local businesses to submit a viable application to the 2020 NYS Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) program.**

A DRI committee was formed in 2019 and worked on the application to submit to the state in 2020. We worked with local stakeholders to submit ideas for the application. We planned on activities to communicate our application to the community and receive any additional ideas. Due to the pandemic, the DRI program was not offered in 2020. The committee is on hold until the State gives us new guidelines on future application submittals. The program was put on hold due to Covid-19 and the State's financial position.

**2. Continue to 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.**

The CLDC continued to work with all stakeholders to move this project forward in 2020. The project is ahead of schedule and expected to be complete by Summer of 2021. Presently all underground work is complete and additional work will continue this Spring.

**3. Support local businesses during the Historical District Infrastructure project, continuing to work with Jefferson County LDC on a small business loan program.**

The program was approved in 2019 with planned execution in 2020. However, due to Covid-19 and the Federal Stimulus Program in 2020, which allowed businesses to apply for

Stimulus Aid, the CLDC delayed offering of this program until late in 2020. Two businesses took advantage of the program in late 2020.

**4. Continuing to 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.**

The CDLC has continued to support the Thousand Island Trust (TILT) as they moved forward with this project in 2020. TILT has secured the required easements and funding to complete the project in 2020. This phase of the project does not include a connection to Clayton Riverwalk but the CDLC will continue to look at opportunities to complete the connection in the future. Due to the pandemic the project to connect to the Riverwalk will be worked on in 2021.

**5. Explore additional revenue generating activities to ensure the future sustainability of the CLDC.**

The CDLC continues to work on opportunities to generate revenue for the future sustainability of CDLC. We were successful in increasing resources of \$5,000 in the 2020 budget from the town of Clayton. We were also successful in developing a small loan program with the Jefferson County LDC for local businesses impacted by the underground utilities that has a small application fee that will generate additional revenue for the CDLC. This goal will be extended in 2021 due to the lack of need because of the Federal Stimulus Program in 2020, which gave local businesses opportunity for Stimulus Aid.

**6. Continue to update the recently (2018) approved Strategic Plan to accurately reflect the needs of the community and organization.**

The committee continued to meet in 2020 to review the plan and decided to modify it for the next five -year plan. Execution of the plan was limited due to the pandemic. The committee still exists and did a lot of work in 2019-2020 until the pandemic hit and the State put the program on hold. We will reconvene when we have new guidelines from the State. We continue to investigate any opportunities for the community.

**7. Continue to explore ways the LDC can support neighboring municipalities to strengthen the overall Thousand Island region.**

The CLDC was contacted by two local municipalities in 2020 but goal was delayed due to the pandemic.

**8. Actively work with the Town and Village to assure any development is consistent with the recently completed Comprehensive Plan.**

The CDLC continued to facilitate discussions with a developer of a potential large project in Clayton in 2020. The CLDC advocated for a zoning change in the town with the zoning committee that would allow for development opportunities, yet would still protect the character of the community. The zoning process was extended into 2021 after much discussion at the opening hearing. The Town expects a new zoning plan to be in place by Spring 2021. After zoning approval the CLDC will continue to support the Town, Village, and business development.

**9. Support the Village of Clayton in the implementation of the Resiliency Economic Development Initiative (REDI) program.**

The CLDC did support the Village in 2020 in development of a projects list and application to the State for the REDI monies. We were successful in getting awarded REDI monies on multiple projects that will start in 2022. The CLDC worked with the Village and their consultant to move the REDI project forward during 2020.