

**SOUTHERN TIER CENTRAL REGIONAL
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
2010 REPORT
SERVICES AND FUNDING TO CHEMUNG COUNTY**

Funding

An annual county share of \$85,000 to STC provides staff and services bringing into Chemung County over **\$6.42 million** in the last four years, with over **\$10 million** still pending in 2010-2011 (details attached).

Telecommunications/Technology

STC secured **\$9.7 million for a fiber optic network for Chemung, Schuyler, and Steuben Counties**, building on the previous telecom development work of STC and the counties. The three year project will benefit public safety, economic development, health, education, government, and other sectors.

STC and Chemung County also have a significant relationship regarding other technologies: **Geographic Information Systems (GIS), provided by STC to Chemung County at no additional charge.** Projects include the following:

- Work with **Chemung County Planning, Elmira Chemung Transportation Council, City of Elmira Engineering, and Town of Big Flats** with GIS needs on projects such as Agriculture District mapping and pavement scoring.
- **Mapped culverts for the Chemung County Highway Department and Town of Chemung.**
- Provided assistance to Chemung County on the **technical review of draft flood insurance rate maps.**
- Assisted **Stormwater Coalition** with GIS needs for reporting, data organization, and grant preparation; provided hands-on GIS training for coalition members, including towns of Horseheads, Big Flats, Southport. Provided technical assistance and training to the Stormwater team.
- Completed the **ArcGIS server and viewer being utilized by Soil and Water, Chemung County Planning, and Chemung County municipalities.**
- Assisted the **GIS group** with the **2010 Aerial Photo flight.**
- Provided assistance to Chemung County **EMO for hazard mitigation plan**
- Provided **detailed mapping** for Chemung County's **telecom study.**
- STC implemented project to **create a regional data warehouse** to store and serve GIS data; **all three counties participate and receive training in use.**

Provided **IT support**, consulting, and training to the Elmira Water Board. STC dedicates federal funds to its computer assistance program, so **municipalities and organizations can contract for information technology at low cost.**

Economic Development/Infrastructure

STC's 2010 **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)** includes a prioritized list of **Chemung County vital projects.**

STC's **2010 Chemung County Economic Profile** includes data and trends relating to population, employment, unemployment, major employers, income, housing, transportation, and agriculture.

STC participated in a **Sustainability Planning** process and secured support for the inclusion of sustainability principals in the CEDS process.

Environmental and Watershed Planning

Implementation of a **\$249,000 grant for the “Southern Tier Central Rural Stormwater Program”** included: public education using a stormwater-floodplain model at Environmental Field Days, Riverfest, and other venues; support for the 3-county Rural Stormwater Coalition; assistance for planning boards, code enforcement officers, highway departments; development of model stormwater language for rural land use laws; and stormwater resources on the STC website.

STC ran the **11th Annual Chemung River Float**, from Lindley to Mulholland Bridge in Erwin. The Float, involving Chemung and Steuben Counties, focuses media attention on rivers as natural and recreational resources.

Worked with the **Chemung County Stormwater Coalition** to meet the State Pollution Discharge Elimination System (**SPDES**) Phase II Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer System (**MS4**) **Permit requirements for: Chemung County**; City of Elmira; Towns of Ashland, Big Flats, Horseheads, Elmira, Southport, and Veteran; Villages of Horseheads, Millport, Elmira Heights, and Wellsburg. Assisted with program development for the **Stormwater Symposium**, 11/2010.

Provided information, data analysis, and other support to NYS Department of Environmental Conservation for urban runoff sections of the **Draft Watershed Implementation Plan for the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)**, which, when finalized, will regulate releases of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment from NY portions of the Bay watershed. Applied for and coordinated Local Pilot Project to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of urban management options for reducing pollution loads to the Chesapeake Bay. The STC Board submitted comments regarding EPA’s draft document.

Initiated the **Susquehanna-Chemung Action Plan to develop an ecosystem-based management plan for the Susquehanna and Chemung Basins of New York**. The plan will provide a unified vision for the region and promote funding for projects that benefit the Basin’s residents. Resources can be found at www.susquehanna-chemung.org.

With the **County Water Quality Strategy Committee**, support local water quality issues and efforts. Host the Committee’s website; serve as secretary.

STC began work on the 5-county **Seneca Lake Watershed Management Plan**; stakeholder outreach includes the project website: www.SenecaLakePlan.info.

Flood Assistance

STC staff includes a **Certified Floodplain Manager** who provides technical assistance for floodplain management, flood insurance, and mapping issues. She served as Chair/Past Chair of the **NYS Floodplain and Stormwater Managers Association** (NYSFSMA). As Chair of the NYSFSMA Public Policy Committee, she drafted letters and comments on various issues, including a policy paper proposing major reforms to the National Flood Insurance Program.

Participated in meetings about **FEMA’s Chemung County flood hazard mapping project** and the related levee issues. Drafted several letters regarding this project and the related policy issues in order to promote development of high quality mapping projects that accurately represent flood hazards.

Assisted with implementation of the Community Rating System of the National **Flood Insurance** Program. Participation by **9 Chemung County municipalities saves property owners about \$25,000/year in flood insurance premiums**. Submitted recommendations for improvement to FEMA’s CRS Task Force.

Conducted workshops about **floodproofing techniques for protecting existing flood-prone development** for Chemung County's Floodproofing Training Project through a flood mitigation grant written by STC. STC provided Informational fact sheets. The STC website provides access to a wealth of information about local flood hazards, flood safety, and mitigation techniques: www.stcplanning.org .

Provided technical support for EES **Flood Warning** Service and operation of locally-owned gauge network. Served as an Evaluator for the Hurricane David Regional Tabletop Exercise. Information developed previously for the Susquehanna River Basin Flood Forecasting and Warning System website is online.

Energy

A **new staff member** at STC will work with municipalities, organizations, and the energy industry to coordinate projects and information concerning **Marcellus Shale** natural gas exploration. Options available to and responsibilities of local governments in preparing for the impact of drilling and operation will be a focus. STC also received funding from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) to study the impact of gas exploration on tourism, to be completed in 2011.

Community and Human Services

STC received ARC funding to work with Chemung County human services agencies to develop a plan for **shared services and improved efficiencies**. Participating agencies are exploring several options for collaboration.

STC teams with Cornell, Pipeline4Progress, and Economic Development Administration on a **capacity building regional initiative** for the Southern Tier.

Census 2010

STC coordinates regional Census work in partnership with U.S. Census Bureau and led efforts to increase the 2010 Census count to **preserve region's Congressional representation and funding**. STC wrote successful applications for 3 Chemung County organizations to foster awareness of the Census. STC provided data processing and analysis services to not-for-profits and the public.

Local Government Leadership Training

14th Annual Regional Leadership Conference (April 15, 2010)

Total attendance was 450 officials, with 28 workshops offered. Participants reported the conference was very useful for their positions in local government.

STC Assistance to Committees/Organizations Affecting Chemung County

- I-86 Executive Committee
- Guthrie Board of Trustees and Guthrie Health Clinic Advisory Group
- REDEC Board of Directors
- Chemung County Agricultural Resource Committee
- STC Chemung County Human Services Committee
- Elmira Chemung Transportation Committee
- Environmental Emergency Services (EES) Board of Directors, Flood Warning Service, and Public Information and Outreach Committee
- Founding Board Member of Friends of the Chemung River Watershed
- Bicycle Advisory Committee/ Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- Rural Stormwater Coalition
- Chemung County Water Quality Strategy Committee
- Chemung County Stormwater Coalition
- Co-Chair, Chemung Basin River Trail Partnership
- Chemung County Executive's Advisory Commission on Natural Energy Solutions
- Susquehanna River Basin Commission Water Quality Advisory Committee

**Grants Brought into the County by STC
Through Applications and Other Technical Assistance
from 2007 through 2010**

<u>Chemung County</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Year</u>
<u>2010 Pending</u>			
3-County Telecommunications Project (regional)	9,700,000	to be announced	2010
Business Park Development Plan Update	15,000	ARC	2010
Mark Twain Riverfront Park Renaissance	150,000	ARC	2010
Airport Corporate Park South Water & Sewer	150,000	ARC	2009
TOTAL 2010 Pending	10,015,000		
<u>2007-2010 Funded</u>			
Chemung Human Services Efficiencies Planning	10,000	ARC	2010
Study/Determine Impact of Marcellus Shale Drilling on Tourism	7,000	ARC	2010
Data Warehouse (regional)	58,690	NYSARA	2010
I-86 Corridor Infrastructure Project	1,454,080	EDA	2009
Telecom Open Access Plan (regional)	72,000	ARC	2009
Seneca Lake Watershed Mgt. Plan (Chemung and Schuyler)	305,000	NYSLWRP	2009
Ecosystem-Based Transp. Planning (regional)	42,000	FHA/NYDOT	2009
Flood Mitigation Grant	36,000	FEMA	2009
Big Flats Detention Basin	300,000	FEMA	2009
Education Opportunity Network II (regional)	50,000	ARC	2009
Susquehanna Action Plan (regional)	328,152	ARRA/NY	2009
Center at Horseheads Industrial Access Road	150,000	ARC	2009
The Bridges	35,800	ARC	2009
Bridge to Employment	66,467	ARC	2009
STC Rural Stormwater Prog.(regional;2008-2010)	249,000	NYSWQIP	2008
Revitalization of Clemens Square	144,918	ARC	2008
S2AY Rural Health Network School Dental II (regional)	89,800	ARC	2008
Chemung Cty. Child Development/ Mental Health Training	59,091	ARC	2008
Pine City Municipal Water Study	10,000	ARC	2007
Family Day Care Satellite Project	76,304	ARC	2007
Community Job Center	38,701	ARC	2007
TOTAL 2007-2010 Funded	6,422,502		
TOTAL 2007-2010 Funded and Pending	16,437,502		