

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

Funding

An annual county share of \$85,000 to STC provides staff and services bringing into Steuben County over **\$3.13 million** in the last four years, with **\$10 million** still expected 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 provided **significant assistance to municipalities and projects** in the field of Geographic Information Systems (**GIS**). STC implemented a project to **create a regional data warehouse** to store and serve GIS data; **all three counties participate and receive training in the use of the system**. STC completed the ArcGIS server and viewer that are being utilized by municipalities in Steuben County. STC also provided mapping for: the telecommunications grant for all of Steuben County; the River Vision project in the City and Town of Corning and the Villages of Riverside and Painted Post; the Village of Addison; and Steuben County Lake Associations. STC also provided GIS technical assistance to the Towns of Corning and Lindley and the Village of Hammondport.

STC provided information technology (**IT**) **support**, consulting, and training to local units of government in Steuben County. 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 **Steuben County vital projects**.

STC's **2010 Steuben 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.

Transportation

STC administers the **Schuyler-Steuben Transportation Committee**, which coordinates with NYSDOT and plans for transit, bicycle/pedestrian, and signage.

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 Outdoor Education Field Days, Cool Kids Ecofest, and other venues; support for the 3-county Rural Stormwater Coalition; training for planning boards and highway departments; development of model stormwater language for rural land use laws; and stormwater resources available on the STC website.

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

Completion of the **Southeast Steuben River Vision Project** with City of Corning, Towns of Corning and Erwin, and Villages of Painted Post, South Corning, and Riverside to create a "River Vision" for the Chemung River from its beginning in Painted Post to the Steuben County line. Funding came from NYS, matched by the communities and STC.

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 Coordinating Committee**, support local water quality issues and efforts. Serve as vice chair; host the Committee's website. Wrote the Committee's Round 10 Water Quality Improvement Project **grant application** to conduct water resource training and prepare annual reports of priorities. For small lake associations, prepared maps (showing watershed boundary, aerial photography, parcel boundaries, contours, and steep slopes).

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.

Assisted with implementation of the Community Rating System of the National **Flood Insurance** Program. Participation by **2 Steuben County municipalities saves property owners about \$10,000/year in flood insurance premiums**. Submitted recommendations for improvement to FEMA's CRS Task Force.

Conducted workshop in Bath about **floodproofing techniques for protecting existing flood-prone development**. The STC website provides access to a wealth of information about local flood hazards, flood safety, and mitigation techniques: www.stcplanning.org.

Served on the Board of Directors for **Environmental Emergency Services (EES)**. Provided technical support for EES **Flood Warning** Service and operation of the 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 now 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 Services

STC completed work on a Pre-Nomination Study that provided the basis for a successful application for a **Brownfield Opportunity Area Nomination Study** for Erwin, Painted Post, and Riverside. The focus of the project will be to assess the feasibility of site upgrades (such as an access road) and to conduct a real-estate analysis of the Brownfield Opportunity Area.

Provided planning assistance (master planning, zoning updates, and development review) to **Towns of Campbell, Caton, Corning, and Erwin** and **Villages of Addison, Painted Post, and Riverside.**

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 the region's Congressional representation and funding.** STC worked 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 Steuben County

- I-86 Executive Committee
- Guthrie Board of Trustees and Guthrie Health Clinic Advisory Group
- REDEC Board of Directors
- Corning Hospital Board of Directors
- STC Steuben County Human Services Committee
- Steuben County Natural Gas Task Force
- Susquehanna River Basin Commission Water Quality Advisory Committee
- Schuyler-Steuben Transportation Committee
- Bicycle Advisory Committee/ Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- Erwin, Painted Post, Riverside Brownfield Opportunity Area Steering Committee
- Steuben County Water Quality Coordinating Committee, Vice Chair
- Environmental Emergency Services – Board of Directors, Flood Warning Service, and Public Information and Outreach Committee
- Rural Stormwater Coalition
- Meads Creek Watershed Citizens' Committee
- Painted Post Forward (Foundry Site promotion; other community development projects)
- Founding Board Member of Friends of the Chemung River Watershed
- Co-Chair, Chemung Basin River Trail Partnership
- Southeast Steuben River Vision Advisory Committee

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

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Year</u>
<u>Steuben County</u>			
<u>2010 Pending</u>			
3-County Telecommunications Project (pending; regional)	9,700,000	to be announced	2010
Downtown Pulteney Square Revitalization Project (pending)	150,000	ARC	2010
B&H Railroad Crosstie Replacement--Phase II (pending)	150,000	ARC	2010
TOTAL 2010 Pending	10,000,000		
<u>2007-2010 Funded</u>			
Brownfield Opportunity Area Program	150,000	NYSBOA	2010
Study/Determine Impact of Marcellus Shale Drilling on Tourism	7,000	ARC	2010
Data Warehouse (regional)	58,690	NYSARA	2010
Telecom Open Access Plan (regional)	72,000	ARC	2009
Ecosystem-Based Transp. Planning (regional)	42,000	FHA/NYDOT	2009
Education Opportunity Network II (regional)	50,000	ARC	2009
SE Steuben River Vision Project	26,430	NYSLWRP	2009
Susquehanna Action Plan (regional)	328,152	ARRA/NY	2009
Coordinated Care for Recovery in Steuben County	40,000	ARC	2009
Town of Erwin Industrial Water Supply	1,000,000	EDA	2008
STC Rural Stormwater Program (regional; 2008-2010)	249,000	NYSWQIP	2008
S2AY Rural Health Network School Dental II (regional)	89,800	ARC	2008
Integrated Care and Assistance Network Expansion (I-CAN)	48,638	ARC	2008
C-PP School District Parents as Teachers Demo. Proj.	89,850	ARC	2007
B&H Railroad Tourism & Economic Development Study	20,000	ARC	2007
I-86/199 Economic Blueprint, SE Steuben	40,000	ARC	2007
B&H Railroad Infrastructure Upgrading	150,000	ARC	2007
Village of Addison Wastewater Treatment	150,000	ARC	2007
TOTAL 2007-2010 Funded	3,130,142		
TOTAL 2007-2010 Funded and Pending	13,130,142		