

# THE CATSKILL CENTER FOR CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

## Summary of Community Planning Work

### General Technical Assistance

Through our planning program, our staff provides information, referrals and general technical assistance to communities in the areas of community visioning, historic preservation, land use planning, quality communities/smart growth issues, and more.

## HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Very often, The Catskill Center gets involved helping communities with local projects that have a historic preservation component. For example, our staff assisted the **Town of Halcott** in applying for funding to restore a local historic landmark for use as a community center. We prepared documentation that was instrumental in getting that landmark - the **Green Valley Grange** - included on the New York State Register of Historic Places.



In addition, we helped the **Fleischmanns Museum of Memories** prepare a charter to the New York State Museum so that they could become self-sufficient, and obtained a grant that allowed the group to make necessary building repairs.

The Catskill Center is also an active member of the **New York State Barn Coalition**. Over the years, we have hosted two conferences/workshops on restoring historic barns, and act as a local clearinghouse for information on barn restoration tips, techniques and financial resources.

## LAND USE PLANNING

The Catskill Center also provides land use planning assistance to communities when requested. Occasionally we assist communities by drafting local land use regulations. Recent examples include things like cell tower laws, moratoria on wind farms, and a local law to establish an architectural review board.

Very often, we also provide free assistance to municipalities that are engaging in the process of creating or updating a municipal comprehensive plan. Working in partnership with a paid planning consultant, The Catskill Center can help organize and facilitate the public participation component, and/or provide GIS mapping assistance. Recent examples include the Town of Fallsburg (Sullivan County) and the Town of Denning (Ulster County).

## GRANT WRITING

One of the most important roles that we play in the region is helping communities with limited resources tap into funding that might be available for local projects. To this end, we provide free grant writing assistance on a first-come first-served basis.

Since 2000, we have helped dozens of communities and community-based non profit organizations leverage over \$1 million in grant funding for a wide variety of projects. Examples include funding for downtown revitalizations, parks and trail projects, historic preservation, housing, infrastructure, cultural facilities, and more.