

Brockport NY Forward - Local Planning Committee Meeting #4 Summary

September 16, 2025 @ 6:00 pm

Location: Parish Center at Church of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Project Status & Timeline

The NY Forward planning process is currently positioned in the Project Development phase. The planning process spans from May through November 2025, with ongoing community engagement. One additional LPC meeting is scheduled:

- **LPC Meeting 5:** Tuesday, October 7th at 6pm (Parish Center at Church of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

A pop-up event was held at the Farmer's Market in September to encourage people to attend the upcoming public workshop, which is scheduled for Tuesday, September 23rd at 6pm at the Parish Center at Church of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Key themes from discussions with the public included importance of events like Arts Fest to bring newcomers downtown, importance of the Welcome Center, desire to reduce business vacancies, more housing, and improve sidewalks and streets.

The project team met with SUNY Brockport's Student Senate in September. They noted that they like going downtown to eat, shop, and just walk around with friends. They think it's an attractive, walkable place with good food options. They highlighted the need to prioritize places to hang out that are indoors for the winter but don't require you to spend money or buy anything. They would like more affordable food options.

On September 23rd at 6pm there will be a second public workshop at the Parish Center at Church of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The community will learn about the NY Forward process, receive an overview of the projects that are being considered by the LPC, and then have the chance to spend \$4.5 million on the projects they find to be most impactful.

The workshop will be followed by a public survey that mimics the spending exercise. The survey will be open until October 2nd and can be accessed from our website, www.brockportforward.com.

Project Review

Leigh Ann reviewed the process we've undertaken to arrive at the current list of projects under consideration, highlighting the projects that were eliminated at the last meeting. As of this meeting, we have \$10 million in NY Forward funding requests. Our goal is to get between \$6 and \$8 million. Leigh Ann reviewed the goals for tonight's meeting:

- Receive updates on due diligence and project development with sponsors
- Present the revised cost estimates and funding request amounts
- Confirm the NY Forward boundary

- Approach the \$6-\$8 million funding request

Leigh Ann reviewed the list of projects categorized at the last meeting as “Good Fit” projects totaling \$9.2 million in requests and “Unsure” projects totaling \$760,000 in funding requests.

Each project was then reviewed and discussed by the LPC. The attached table summarizes the feedback and questions received by the LPC.

Public Comments

Time was set aside at the end of the meeting for public comment.

- It was noted that trees make a huge difference in making it more comfortable to walk down Main Street and to manage heat in the storefronts. Market Street was supposed to have trees replaced when this streetscape was improved but they were never replaced.
- It was noted that the trees on Main Street were planted in 2000. It took them 25 years to reach this point.
- Lift Bridge Book Shop is an anchor and a landmark, we can't afford to lose it
- The LPC reiterated that they love all of the projects, they think all projects are worthy of funding.