



CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY LEGISLATURE

3 N. ERIE STREET · MAYVILLE, N.Y. 14757-1007 · (716) 753-4215

Martin Proctor
Legislator, District 18

October 11, 2024

Karen Utz
WNY Regional Director
95 Perry Street, Suite 500
Buffalo, NY 14203-3030

Re: NY Forward Grant Application for the Village of Sherman

Dear Ms. Utz,

This letter is in strong support for the Village of Sherman's \$4.5 million NY Forward Application to the NYS Department of State for the Village of Sherman's downtown revitalization.

The NY Forward award would be an all-encompassing master project providing funding for building improvements, business development, placemaking strategies, gateways and green infrastructure for implementation and revitalization of downtown Sherman to attract businesses, residents, and visitors by increasing access to the trail systems, new retail spaces adding more amenities to the downtown's current offerings and establishing the anchor business 'We Rock the Spectrum – Sherman'.

The Village of Sherman has prepared for its 'shovel readiness' by upgrading the public water and sewer infrastructure, ideal for business and residential development. It has completed a Comprehensive Plan, Downtown Market Analysis, and NYMS Building Feasibility Study that incorporated the input of all stakeholders and received support from businesses, residents, and community organizations that led to the NY Main Street Award for the multiple Façade Restoration Projects along with the restoration of the covered walkway awnings. Funding the local trail improvements as part of the Chautauqua Rails to Trails network and parks along French Creek is critical to the Village's economic development and quality of life strategies.

Once again, I fully support this important grant application and the Village of Sherman's commitment to improving the lives of people who live and work in Sherman, while attracting visitors to the region.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Martin J. Proctor".

Martin J. Proctor
Legislator – District 18
County of Chautauqua