

**Summary of Ideas Presented at
Community Visioning Forum on Economic Development
July 29, 2009**

Idea	# of supporters
1. Focus on all 23 towns, 9 villages, as well as the city. Create a comprehensive County plan that makes sense.	62
2. Focus on existing businesses, what they need to expand, and what programs are available to them.	53
3. Education needs to prepare a workforce ready to face the challenges of the workplace. Needs to focus on skills employers want for both today and in the future.	40
4. Focus on establishing and expanding small businesses.	37
5. Improve Infrastructure both inside and outside the city. Water, sewer, roads, and internet access.	31
6. Focus on what we have, not what we don't have. Accentuate the positives.	28
7. Need to increase web presence for tourism and promoting the county as a whole.	24
8. Promote green technology and alternative energy	23
9. Promote the quality of life in the county	21
10. Create a buy local/support local program	19
11. Government has a role in economic development, but should not control it. Gov't can open doors a private agency cannot.	17
12. Support agricultural development and ag tourism. Protect farmland.	15
13. Consolidation of towns/villages and services in order to streamline government and lower taxes.	15
14. Tourism is the key to economic development.	14
15. Support rail infrastructure and transportation throughout the county.	13
16. Keep youth here/Get them back	13
17. Government has no place in economic development.	10
18. Single point of entry for coordinated economic development.	9
19. Create and nurture businesses which will provide more than minimum wage jobs.	8
20. Increase communication between all entities involved	5
21. Create housing opportunities for younger people.	4
22. Strong Leadership	4
23. Ambassador group to meet and welcome business owners and assist them in networking.	3
24. Develop centralized list of businesses and a upand down supply chain.	2
25. Plan for aging demographic and opportunities for retirees to invest capital in.	2
26. Structure tax pilots so not to reduce tax base	1
27. Improve housing stock and values to increase tax base.	1
28. Finger Lakes Museum	1
29. Business Friendly	1

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Create more incentives for small business development.
Create a planning committee to develop a strategy for economic development.
Identify key issues and communicate info. w/ attendees and continue to seek their input.
Push for CCC of CCIDA, AIDA, and chamber. Email quarterly and discuss progress.
Follow up meetings, increase communication with residents.
Meeting in October use website and citizen.
Determine leader for economic development. Communicate via website.
Communicate better.
Streamline tonight's ideas and have another forum.
Keep local gov'ts in the loop and follow through on website.
SWOT analysis, action plan, strategic leadership. Communication web/virtual as well as face to face.
Follow up on web and follow up w/ this group to report action results.
Solicit volunteers to form community committee. Create the email list to communicate.
Information to promote & evaluate & change.
Develop an agency to move this forward. One person on ground floor working in the trenches.
Communicate using the internet. Follow up meeting sharing results of this meeting and where we are going.
Create 1 st stop with 225,000 budgeted to make it happen. We all know assets and community resources, but need to market it to the outside world.
Distill information. Identify common themes. Look at data and trends for our community and combine with tonight's meeting. Communication through website great start...quick turnaround and follow up.
Committee sub groups to meet then bring ideas forward. Emails, media, central portal.
Where are the banks?
Consolidate info gathered. Develop advisory board to drive this forward. Townhall meetings. Website updates.
More town and city neighborhood involvement. Perception this was just for business and leaders. Envisioning and implementation.
Working task force w/ key stakeholders. Research other successful economic development and strategies. Put together county with city 5yr plan (10 yr plan.)
Communication newspaper, email, task force update meetings.
Follow up meeting with this group.
Consolidate large group into smaller groups. Email smaller groups.
Email. All use of technology.
Take repeating ideas and focus. Set up website and one signs up contact them.
Collect ideas from tonight outline topics by importance.
Implementation meetings to bring this forward.
Feedback from tonight. Continue work in education to support local education.
Follow up report on tonight's meeting.
Set up next meeting to discuss how to proceed. Internet and email.
Talk to each other and promote your ideas to businesses nationwide to come to our country.
Share results of this meeting.
Consolidate information and communicate it to the public. Use the local paper. Have similar night to discuss resources.

Start! Lead! Openly! Often!
More forums. Web newsletter. Have people submit articles to newspaper.
Assemble, digest, publish info from meeting. www.
More action, less talk.
Need to put ideas into action.
Empower an organization/group of business leaders to speak for the community on economic development.
Follow up to concepts discussed and what was done w/ ideas presented.
Funding???? Coordinaton-Governments??? Leader-Who will run this???
Summarize what was done and put it on website.
Define key priority areas.
Summarize on web, but hold a follow up meeting to inform back and develop strategy/next steps.
Form individual groups. Health, tourism, agriculture, energy, education, information technology, etc... and carry the process to the next level.
Fund a private entity to serve as a first stop.
More focus meetings. Communicate publicly so people will get involved.
Create an always current website.
Get people who are passionate about & keep this ball rolling to meet regularly and push this agenda/vision forward.
Hire staff for planning and communication.
Resolve city/county dispute over economic development.
Communicate: Listserv, write press releases
Put together a permanent selection of Cay. Co. people to act as a dedicated group to keep working.
Show summary of tonight via listserv. Ranking of top ten if possible.
Regroup once all ideas are analyzed- refine ideas into action steps.
Summary of this meeting funneled into a committee on economic development at county level.
Communication –monitored/facilitated blog to share “positive” solutions in the affirmative. Website for subscribers contributed.
NGO to coordinate county economic growth. Not Chamber of Commerce consider factors not just \$ such as quality of life.
Best way to communicate. BLOG
Communicate full page ads in local paper.
Report specifics of this meeting to all citizens in Cayuga County. Build on energy in this room.
Summary report online and email. Committees for future planning. Less talk, act. Keep it going don't stop here. Involve state and fed reps as appropriate.
Website needs to be current, updated, and interactive.
Communicate with website. Ask experts to sign up in areas of expertise.q
Updated websites for county, city governments. Facebook, twitter, gmai;l for intergovernmental work WiFi hotspots for major population centers. (downtown auburn)
Consolidate ideas on poster sheets and create graphs other methods to share. Identify small simple steps we can do immediately to keep momentum and make a difference.
Publicize all meetings, action steps, so all can see and participate. Simple step example, create central calendar for events, trainings, meetings, etc... Engage more small business, arts, orgs, and non profits in discussion.

Bring together the best minds to decide upon a course of action. However several groups of great minds are needed. One to address health services, another for energy production to provide cheap energy; another for agriculture; one for tourism; and one for engagement of youth.