## Village of Pulaski and Town of Richland Comprehensive Plan

Meeting #2 – March 5, 2007 Results from Brainstorming Session

### Pulaski Economic Strengths

- o Available land to develop, schools
- o Water, roads, people/work force, schools, quality of living, low crime, four seasons, location between larger city, rail
- o No quick on/off ramp from Route 81, good retail sales, demand that the traffic be routed through the whole Village
- o Access to Interstate 81 and Syracuse, affordable land, willing local government, strong community services (schools, etc.)
- o Room for growth untouched by many popular businesses, season attractions (fishing- salmon, steelhead; snowmobiling; skiing; hunting), Amish friendly
- o Small town friendliness, all local services within walking distance, rail system
- o Group discussion: Location (Interstate 81, river, Syracuse/Watertown), traffic through the Village, recreation, officials welcome, room for growth, Amish friendly, Village charm and character

### Pulaski Economic Weaknesses

- o Weather, commute, no good food establishments, on/off Interstate 81, high taxes
- o Vacant storefronts, no theater
- o Interstate 81 interchange, high energy and taxes
- o Too far from big cities, Interstate 81 interchange, high energy, high taxes, low population
- o Expensive water and sewer, high taxes, aging population, low income population, no decent paying jobs, Empire Zone
- o Group discussion: Snow, existing variety of businesses, limited restaurants, high taxes (perception, versus rest of county), vacant storefronts, perception of "difficult" government agencies

### Pulaski Opportunities

- o Natural resources, lodging, more retail, trail programs, snowmobiling, stewardship, downtown infrastructure, theater, Haldane Center
- o Kayaking
- o Better use of river year round
- o Group discussion: Opportunities for other retail sales (diversify), lodging underutilized, natural resources, trail system, Haldane Center underutilized, control release on water to help fishing

## Pulaski Challenges

- o Funding, land, labor
- o Weather, funding, poor trail, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), lack of volunteers
- o Keeping the tourism that we have, highway
- o Funding, DEC rules, no zoning enforcement, too many chicken sales
- o "Grant" money for housing/building low interest, roads for development, added housing bring more tax money, PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) programs for development
- o Group discussion: Perception of weather, poor trail conditions, lack of sufficient volunteer labor, perception of DEC rules and regulations, encouraging unique new businesses, snow maintenance and highway maintenance (snow fence, trees, etc.), "North of Thruway" stigma, "North of Brewerton" stigma, need to have image of a good place to live, bringing youth back to area/keeping them here

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# Richland Strengths

- o Land availability, water district/sewers
- o Low land values, water, lake/river/natural resources, agricultural area, opportunity for growth
- o Very little strengths
- o Water, State Park, low land values
- o Group discussion: Water Port Ontario/Route 3 (2<sup>nd</sup> district), strong agricultural based area, opportunity for commercial and retail, land available to grow corn, well maintained roads

### Richland Weaknesses

- o Septic/sewer, commercial areas are not well defined
- o Lack of water, limited resources available, lack of Empire Zone
- o Lack of zoning enforcement
- o Lack of sewer, lack of water, limited broadband, lack Empire Zone
- o Too far from big cities
- o Group Discussion: Lack of sewer/water service, limited "high tech" services

# **Richland Opportunities**

- o Agricultural/residential, Tinker Tavern zone, large tracts of land open for development
- o Residential, bedroom community, access at Tinker Tavern, electric power (wind power), waterfront
- Wind energy
- o Corn, residential, Tinker Tavern Road, wind mills, recreation, water park Six Flags.
- o Group Discussion: Agricultural and residential potential, Tinker Tavern access to I-81, increased recreational opportunities, lake access/waterfront, potential amusement park

### Richland Challenges

- o Funding, tourism promotion, unrealistic business value perception on for sale/vacant businesses
- o Snow
- o Taxes, poor leadership
- o Water/sewer, county involvement, broadband, youth migration
- Water/sewer, lack marketing (county tourism), more volunteer resources, tourism promotion, area image, north of Thruway, keeping our talent here (both Town and Village), perception of cost of living, community pride, code enforcement, compromise, visitor center (kiosk system)
- o Group Discussion: funding for water/sewer extensions, lack of marketing/promotion, county involvement, pay for upgrades/improvements without raising taxes, "North of Thruway" stigma, "North of Brewerton" stigma, need to have image of a good place to live, bringing youth back to area/keeping them here, code enforcement and zoning, new construction design standards