



PREFACE

This guidebook is intended to aid local officials in understanding the development and implementation process of a comprehensive plan for their municipality. This tool was created by the Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center (Syracuse EFC), with support from the USDA Rural Development. This guidebook provides information on what a comprehensive plan is, the purpose of developing a plan, how to develop and implement a plan, and funding opportunities for plan creation and implementation. Further resources for plan development and implementation are provided at the conclusion.

Information for this guide was primarily derived from a New York Department of State Office of Coastal, Local Government & Community Sustainability PowerPoint Presentation named “Developing a Comprehensive Plan” which was developed on 3/8/2012. Supplemental information was provided by the “Livable New York: Sustainable communities for all ages” edited by Vera Prosper of the New York Office for the Aging, updated in 2012, and from the James A. Coon Technical Series “Zoning and the Comprehensive Plan” of the New York Department of State which was revised in 2009.

Located at the Syracuse University Center for Sustainable Community Solutions (CSCS), Syracuse EFC enhances the administrative and financial capacities of state and local government officials, nonprofit organizations, and private sectors to make change toward improved environmental infrastructure and quality of life. Syracuse EFC facilitates the development of sustainable and resilient communities across US EPA Region 2 (New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, the US Virgin Islands, and eight tribal nations), across the US, and internationally.

More information can be found at efc.syracusecoe.org/efc