

**VILLAGE OF SHERMAN**  
**HOME OF THE YORKER MUSEUM**  
111 MILL ST, PO BOX 629, SHERMAN, NY 14781  
716-761-6781 TDD 711 \* VILLAGE.SHERMAN@GMAIL.COM  
**WWW.SHERMANNY.ORG**

August 18, 2022

**Letter to Interested Partners**

**Re: Community Center, Restore NY Grant**

\$2,000,000 Grant, \$222,222 Local Contribution

The Village of Sherman has been pursuing grant opportunities for economic and community development. Empire State Development has posted the very appropriately named Restore NY grant. The Restore New York Communities Initiative can provide reimbursable grant funds up to \$2,000,000 covering 90% of a capital project. The Village of Sherman is looking to apply for the Restore NY grant but discovered the municipality is ineligible on its own.

*The local municipality is the primary applicant for the Restore NY grant, the municipality may own the building, however the municipality may not contribute funds to the project or be directly involved in the operations.*

<b>Capital Project</b>	<b>\$2,222,222</b>
<b>Restore NY</b>	<b><u>\$2,000,000</u> 90% Grant</b>
<b>Local Share</b>	<b>\$ 222,222 10% Contribution</b>

The Village of Sherman is in need of a partner in the form of a not-for-profit leaseholder who would have the ability to secure financing of over \$2 million in short-term financing until it is reimbursed by the Restore NY Grant at the completion of the project and be willing to contribute as much as \$222,222. The application process begins with a letter of intent from the Village of Sherman and a commitment from a qualified organization(s).

The “Old Ford Garage” located at 130 W Main St was donated to the Village of Sherman and it has been the residents’ desire to convert the nearly 11,000 sq ft building into a community center on the property that runs adjacent to The George D. Edmunds Memorial Park.

Residents have requested community space to hold regular meetings for the 4-H, Boy’s & Girl Scouts, senior citizen groups, a place for supervised visits of foster children, a dedicated space for the American Veterans, and rooms to run an early educational daycare for 0-3 year old’s. The consultants of Camoin Associates proposed makerspace for small incubator businesses, a community event venue, a farmer’s market style market place, and outdoor greenspace.

*“Preserving our Past... Working for our Future”*

**THE HONORABLE COLLEEN MEEDER, MAYOR**

DEPUTY MAYOR RYAN SANDERS

TRUSTEES DENNIS WATSON, GARY EMORY, AND CHRIS LABUSKES

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Regarding the 'operations' aspect. The community center would not be directly responsible for running 'programs' but would be the structural component facilitating the various organizations supporting the needs of the greater Sherman community. It is understandable that the long-running operations of the community center would be difficult for a foundation to administer from a location based outside of Sherman. An economic and community development corporation is being established for this purpose of supervising the community center's schedule and maintenance along with supporting other economic and community development in Sherman.

In preparation of an implementation (construction) grant opportunity, the Village has conducted two planning and feasibility studies involving 130 W Main St, along with a Phase 1 Environmental Review. Enclosed you will find the concept plans from the community planning studies.

The Village is engaged with engineers from Barton & Loguidice DPC, architects from Clinton Brown Company Architecture PC, and community planners from Camoin Associates on several projects including the creation of a community center. The Village of Sherman Comprehensive Plan and several other projects are summarized and enclosed for your review giving you a portfolio of the efforts of the Village of Sherman in serving the greater Sherman area community. The Steering Committee is overseeing the Village projects on Main St, and would happily assist in the coordination of the community center project, along with local organizational leaders like Joel Fisher of the Sherman New York Youth Foundation (SNYYF) who expressed support for the community center project, and descendants of George D. Edmunds. The community center would be named at the discretion of the foundation(s) securing the short-term financing and contributing to the community project.

Thank you for your time and interest in exploring what opportunities there are for our organizations to gather our resources in service to the residents and businesses of Sherman.

Sincerely,



Colleen Meeder  
Mayor

CLERK-TREASURER JEANETTE RAMM

STREETS & WATER SUPERINTENDENT DOUGLAS CRANE

WWTP CHIEF OPERATOR JAMES IRWIN

716-761-6781

716-269-9096

716-581-3397