

**Joseph Wetmore
Town Board Member Report
August 2023**

Planning Board

Monday, July 24·6:30 – 8:30pm

825 Lansingville Rd, applicant proposes to subdivide a ~4 acre flag lot from the ~66.2 acre parent lot. The property is in the AG Zone.

Genie Solar Energy, Lansingville Road, Tax Parcel Number 16.-1-19.2 The applicant proposes to construct a 5 MW ground-mounted solar, approximately 18 acres in size, on a 107.2 acre parcel in the RA zone

Code Amendments Ch. 7, Committees

TCCOG Meeting

Thursday, July 27·3:00 – 5:00pm

1. Report from County Administration
 - a. Draft shared services plan
 - b. Strategic operation Plan Survey

There is a scam saying that the County will pay \$300 to participate.

2. County Food System Plan

FOOD SYSTEM PLAN GOALS



3. 10 Year Local Solid Waste Management Plan (LSWMP) Draft

This Plan will:

- a. Serve as a countywide framework for the coordination of solid waste management;
- b. Establish countywide materials diversion goals and objectives as well as a plan to monitor progress toward the goals;
- c. Satisfy NYSDEC requirements for solid waste planning and comprehensive recycling analyses

Program Strategy #1 – Promote Waste Reduction Programs

Goal: Establish robust waste reduction programming to increase waste reduction through modifications in behavior, as well as purchasing, while supporting a sharing economy.

Program Strategy #2 – Promote Reuse Programs

Goal: Expand reuse activity and infrastructure in Tompkins County, supporting material exchange, repair, creative reuse for residential, commercial, and institutional generators, and focusing on materials such as packaging and dishware, building materials, paint and hazardous waste, electronics, and textiles.

Program Strategy #3 – Expand Recyclables Recovery

Goal: Increase the participation in recycling programs and types of materials accepted for recycling at the County's Recycling and Solid Waste Center (RSWC), while reaching residents, institutional, and commercial generators, as well as public spaces and events.

Program Strategy #4 – Organic Recovery Programs

Goal: Promote wasted food prevention, donation of surplus edible food, and organics recycling opportunities for all community members, including residents, businesses, and institutions.

Program Strategy #5 – Rethink

Goal: Engage the community in rethinking waste, encompassing strategies for product stewardship, as well as green purchasing for residents, municipalities, businesses, and institutions.

Program Strategy #6 – Managing Residue

Goal: Continue the successful PAYT program, household hazardous waste collection, environmental management of closed landfills, and preparedness for management of disaster debris.

Program Strategy #7 – Local Laws and Enforcement Programs

Goal: Research and update local laws; provide public education and enforcement of the revised laws, rules, and regulations.

Program Strategy #8 – Communications

Goal: Educate the community to address operational needs, including promotion of the 4Rs to promote sustainable materials management.

Program Strategy #9 – Data Collection and Evaluation Efforts

Goal: Continually improve data collection and reporting to monitor and assist with the implementation of the program strategies.

Program Strategy #10 – Review Available Technologies

Goal: Evaluate alternative waste disposal technologies that are available to the County.

4. Subcommittee, Liaison, and Other Reports

a. Broadband –Developing RFP for developers to run broadband to properties that don't have it available in the county.

b. Transportation -- Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit (TCAT) to recover from both the pandemic and the driver and equipment shortages that have limited its service since early-2000. In summary, it's best stated that the agency is improving, but that it has a long ways to go to match its 2019 service levels. May 2023 ridership totaled just fewer than 176,000 patrons, down more than 51,000, or 22.6 per cent from 2022. It's a year-to-year drop-off that's been evidenced since February. (By comparison, May ridership was about 350,000 in 2019, pre-pandemic.) The rural component of those declines in May (-21.7%) mirrored the system-wide average drop-off. Non-campus urban ridership dropped by not as much; -13.8%, May '22 to '23.

Yellow Barn Solar HCA Discussion

Monday, August 7:3:00 – 4:00pm

We discussed the proposed host community agreement with Groton and our consultants.