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**Attachment B.**

**Workshop Documentation**

# THE EVENING TELEGRAM

Herkimer County's Local News Source Since 1898

Thursday, January 31, 2002

HERKIMER, ILION, MOHAWK, FRANKFORT-SCHUYLER AND THE KUYAHOORA VALLEY, N.Y.

50 CENT

## Herkimer considers options for improvement projects

**By [Name] Staff Writer**  
HERKIMER — Village officials, business owners and residents gathered for a workshop at the Frank J. Basloe Library on Wednesday evening to discuss ideas for a variety of projects that could be undertaken through the Small Cities grant program to improve the village.

Herkimer recently received a \$12,000 Technical Assistance planning grant it applied for last year and will contribute \$8,000 as its share of the 60-40 match.

The Small Cities program is concentrated in certain, defined areas, with some exceptions, according to Dave Carlson, of Carlson Associates of Cooperstown. Carlson was hired by the village last year to assist in developing a Small Cities application and conduct a study to identify the community's needs, goals and potential projects.

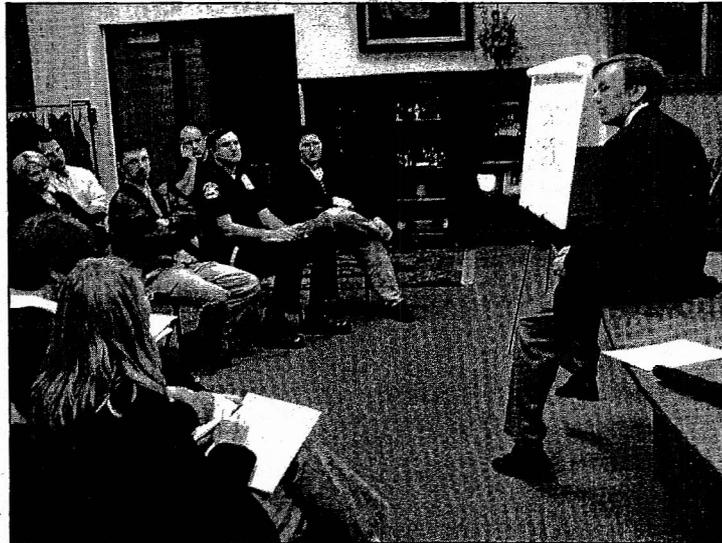
"From that point, we will develop strategies that will help the community, over time, address those needs," Carlson said.

The village's needs will be determined from a number of various sources, including census figures and an upcoming survey, and additional funding sources possibly identified. Carlson recently completed what he called "a windshield survey," mapping areas of the village to target specific locations where projects could be planned.

"Herkimer is in a very advantageous position to secure funds because it does have needs," Carlson said.

Projects discussed that could be addressed under the program include cleanup of the Hydraulic Canal, infrastructure work, drainage and bridge projects, and Main Street and downtown improvements. Other projects include cleanup of the median along State Street, recreation improvements and erosion control at Brookwood Park, parking, street drainage, and housing rehabilitation.

The plan being developed should be nearly completed by April, Carlson noted.



Telegram photo/Chick Perry

**BRAINSTORMING** — Dave Carlson, of Carlson Associates of Cooperstown, at right, met with village officials and residents at a Small Cities Grant application workshop at the Frank J. Basloe Library on Wednesday evening to discuss possible projects that Herkimer could apply for funds to complete.

"It's going to be an exciting project ... it will give the village board documentation and support for the things they want to do and give them a direction to go in," Carlson said. "The more places you can show your needs are consistent (with the program) the better the funding chances."

Under the Small Cities program the village could apply for a single-purpose grant of up to \$400,000 for a storm or sanitary sewer project or for a comprehensive grant of up to \$750,000 for a day care or youth center or for housing improvements. A combination of projects could be used to address a number of different needs, but would have to target one specific area, Carlson said.

One of the key issues discussed was Main Street.

"It has to turn around on a big scale with the community's businessmen, not just one

or two, sticking their necks out," to attract shoppers who now go to chain stores, Carlson said. "There are no real hard and fast rules. We just need a couple of ambitious people who can turn Herkimer around."

Business owner Patt Lewis said she patches her own sidewalks because it's something that has to be done. She said the village has to decide what its needs are.

"It has to be an effort from all parties," Carlson said. "The trick is to get this effort to happen in a couple of places and it'll move on."

Trustee Katherine Nichols agreed the sidewalk repair issue was one that has to be addressed. "It's something that has to be done and we shouldn't sit back and say whether or not the property or the business owner should have to do it. It just has to be done."

In addressing the State

Street median problem, Mayor Mark Ainsworth said he thought the state once had an agreement with the village to maintain the area along Albany Street.

"We should be able to do small projects that have impact," Carlson said, suggesting local service groups such as Rotary become involved, as well as other people with expertise in certain areas. "It just takes some industrious people who will take an interest, get involved and want to see something happen."

Two different surveys will be sent out in early February, Nichols said. One to business owners and a second to property owners. The surveys should be returned before the end of the month so a list of suggested projects can be prepared and presented at a public hearing in Municipal Hall on Monday, March 4.

*Town Hall Workshop  
Wednesday, January 30, 2002  
Frank J. Basloe Library  
Herkimer, New York*

**Tasks:**

Surveys to Businesses & Residents  
Target Areas/Rehab  
Downtown Improvements  
Economic Development

**Projects Presented:**

Hydraulic Canal  
Main St. Beautification  
Parks Improvement  
Brookwood Park  
Neighborhood Parks  
Parking/County Building  
Housing Rehab  
Public Works Improvements

**Suggestions & Questions/Attendees:**

**Main Street:**

Facade Improvements  
Beautification  
Business Loans -  
? Programs/Property Owners and or  
Business Owners  
Parking - Parking Meters  
Sidewalks

Design Controls  
Codes Enforcement  
Youth & Recreation  
Improve Parks  
Hydraulic Canal Use-  
Bike & Hike trail/Running Track  
Community Center  
Improve Neighborhoods

**Attendees:**

**NFPs:**

Heidi Moody - Exec Dir Public Library  
Sue Perkins - Exec Dir Herk County History Society

**Village Officials:**

Mark Ainsworth, Mayor  
Katherine Nichols, Trustee

**Business and/or Property Owners:**

Frank Malowski - The Little Dorm (off-campus housing/HCCC- Downtown)  
Patt Lewis - Antiquity Press (Family owned/Main St.)  
Al Moretti - Moretti's Barber Shop (Family owned/Main St.)  
Ron Scalise - C&R Properties (Main St. Apartments)  
Reina Merkelbach - Reina's Ladies Shop (S. Main St. Family owned)  
Gina Hartman - Rudy's Menswear (S. Main St., Family owned)  
David Bunce - Employee Rudy's Menswear  
Katherine Nichols - Village Art Gallery (Main St.)  
Brian Bixler - Region Dir Rural Metro Emergency Response  
Tanya Moyer - Director, Local operation Rural Metro Emerg Response.

**Media:**

C. Perry - Reporter *The Evening Telegram*  
S. Tran - Reporter WKTU New Channel 2

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