Social Resilience = Economic Resilience

Numerous new and ongoing community initiatives supporting health and local food production. Many agents of change are helping to transform the city.

A Map of Partnerships Working on Healthy Eating and Active Living in Kingston, NY

Vision
Live Well Kingston envisions a community environment that promotes and supports healthier lifestyle choices.

Mission
Live Well Kingston brings partners and residents together to facilitate policy, environmental, and systems changes that result in a healthy and active community.
Social Empowerment and Wellness

Kingston Urban Agriculture Project – Timeline

1652 - Burgevin Floriculture
1852 - Buzzanco's Farm
1900 - c.1950-1994
2000 - 2007
2008-2013
2025
An Opportune Moment

We have the chance to support the update to Kingston’s Comprehensive Plan, which is currently underway, and recommend changes to the zoning ordinance and related city ordinances that would remove the current barriers to urban agriculture.
The focus of Phase 1 was an analysis of Kingston’s zoning and a review of best practices to provide recommendations for Kingston’s new Comprehensive Plan and zoning.
Phase 1 – Recommendations

Commitment

• Support of the Comprehensive Plan Committee and Planning Department and Common Council resolution to adopt and integrate the proposed recommendations into comprehensive planning, zoning and related ordinances, and City programs.

Comprehensive Plan Integration

• Addition of recommended urban agriculture objectives in this report to “Kingston 2025” Comprehensive Plan.
Phase 1 – Recommendations
(continued)

Zoning and Related Ordinance Changes

- Revise zoning to allow urban farming in more districts, including rooftops
- Streamline the permitting process for urban farmers
- Consider allowing chickens, bees, and explore possibilities for other animals
- Allow broader range of accessory structures (coops, apiaries, hoophouses, greenhouses)
- Increase potential for composting (backyard and curbside)
- Create incentives for stormwater management
- Support remediation of contaminated soil
- Support access to land and water
Phase 1 – Recommendations (continued)

Capacity Building

- Strengthen coordination and support proposed report, including City departments and the Conservation Advisory Council to communicate with the public and coordinate with supportive community organizations.

Partnerships with Supportive Organizations

- Partnerships with Kingston Urban Agriculture Committee, supportive community organizations, and local experts to leverage resources and expertise in support of policy implementation and project coordination.

Coordination of Information, Education, and Outreach

- Working with partners, use the information referenced in this report and best practices resources for information, education and outreach to support a UA program.
Phase 2 – Potential Focus Areas

Positive Policies to Support Local Food Systems Change

• **Inclusion**: Focus on access to food production for underserved people.
• **Land access**: connect vacant city-owned properties with farmers and backyard farming exchange opportunities; establish tenure regulations for public land based on best practices.
• **Funding**: support business planning and access to credit
• **Education**: work closely with Cornell Cooperative Extension and the new Farm Hub to support new urban farmers.
• **Institutional buyers**: work with schools, hospitals to provide legal and policy support for farm-to-table procurement.
• **Restaurants and food establishments**: provide supports for contract growing.
• **Policy**: work with newly forming Ulster County Food Policy Council to support urban agricultural policies and connections.
• **Rural connections**: support connections with surrounding farms.
• **Environmental remediation**: incorporate stormwater management and other beneficial “green infrastructure” techniques.
Phase 2 Focus: Food production infrastructure

The Food System

- Growing
- Harvesting
- Processing
- Packaging
- Distributing
- Marketing
- Consuming
- Disposing
Urban Ag Study Focus Area

Phase 2 Focus: Food production infrastructure
Supports for Urban Farmers

Hudson Valley Food Hubs Initiative

Executive Summary

Kingston Urban Agriculture Project – Timeline

1652: Burgevin Flower Farm
1852: Buzzancio Farm
1900: c.1950-1994
2000: IBM and “urbanization in Kingston
2008-2013: I-Believer
2025: 2025
(Phase 1: Vacant Land Analysis)
Phase 2 Focus: Land Access / Vacant Land Utilization
Phase 2 Focus: Green Infrastructure

Zoning Incentives for Urban Ag + Stormwater
The promise of urban agriculture

With just 35* acres, Kingston could...

- Produce Annually: 4,234,032 servings
- Produce Up To: 1,058,508 lbs.
- Total Jobs: 156 jobs

GHG with Methane Avoidance: -3330 tons
GHG Emissions: -77 tons

Reduce As Much As

*There are just over 35 acres of vacant, city-owned land and over 800 acres, more than 1/3 of the entire city, of property in Kingston.

Imagine the Possibilities.
Contact Info

Jennifer Schwartz Berky, Principal
HONE STRATEGIC, LLC
Urban Planning & Community Revitalization
35 Hone Street, Kingston, NY 12401
www.honestrategic.com, jsberky@honestrategic.com
845.389.2404

Jeffrey P. LeJava, Esq.
Senior Staff Attorney and Adjunct Professor of Law
Land Use Law Center, Pace University School of Law
78 North Broadway, White Plains, NY 10603
jlejava@law.pace.edu
914.422.4698

Rebecca Martin, Management Division
Larrecca Music Management
PO Box 1326
Kingston, NY 12402
rebecca@larreccamusic.com
Urban Agriculture
State Support
Urban Agriculture

- Many definitions
- Public misconception
- Benefits
- Rural Perception
Government Support

- Community Gardens programs/grants
- Cornell Small Farms Program
- SARE Grants Program
- Farm Service Agency-young farmer and rancher program-youth loans for farm enterprises
- Farm Credit Services-Loans
Other Support

• Partnerships
• Private Foundations
• Medical Establishments
Margaret K. Kelly
Assistant Director - Division of Plant Industry
NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets
Margaret.Kelly@agriculture.ny.gov
518-457-5985
Climate Smart Communities
Webinar

E-Mail Addresses

• Mark Lowery
  mdlowery@gw.dec.state.ny.us

• Kim Farrow
  kxfarrow@gw.dec.state.ny.us

• Climate Change Office
  climatechange@gw.dec.state.ny.us
Climate Smart Communities
Webinar

Website Address

http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/50845.html