

Positively Greene



COUNTY-WIDE UPDATE



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January 2018

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

NYS Proposed Call in Pay Rules and Minimum Wage Increases for 2018

The minimum wage for *general* workers has been increased to \$10.40 an hour with a \$15.60 hourly rate for overtime (after 40 hour week) and for *tipped* workers an hourly rate of \$7.85 with a \$13.05 or \$14.05 hourly rate for overtime.

LEGISLATIVE NOTE - Greene County Legislature Resolution # 403-17 Opposing NYS DOL Proposed Employee Scheduling Rules of the Minimum Wage Order (Call-in Pay).

Sales Tax and Employment

Sales tax and employment figures have shown year over year increases. Sales tax collections are up 3.9% over 2016 (Total collections = \$31,270,161 in 2017). An additional 500 in-county jobs were created in 2017 for at total 15,000 (3.4% Job Growth is Second in NYS), and unemployment fell 0.2% from 4.8% in Sept. 2016 to 4.6% in Sept. 2017.

Redevelopment and CFA Awards

The Department of Economic Development, Tourism & Planning (EDT&P) worked with the Village of Catskill and Sister Properties LLC of Ft. Lauderdale Florida to apply for \$1M in funding for the redevelopment of the 50,000 sq. ft. building at 111 Water Street into Office, Studio, Event & Restaurant space focused on the Creative Economy. ForeLand Center for Contemporary Arts.

Announcements are expected in March of 2018.



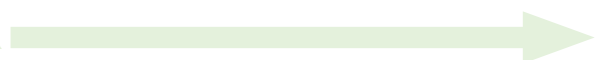
2017 NYS REDC Awards Greene County \$712,330 for projects including: Catskill Mountain Housing Development Corporation, Catskill Main Street Renovations **\$300,000**; Thomas Cole Historic House: **\$52,000**; Village of Catskill, Local Waterfront Revitalization Program: **\$85,000**; CGCC Transportation Training Program: **\$50,330**, Skywalk Marketing Campaign and Special Events: **\$225,000**.

The Mews At Prattsville

A 44 Unit Housing Development is under construction with 36 of the units for senior living and the other 8 as workforce units. These units will be located in the same complex as the planned Prattsville Regional Medical Facility.



OVER



Craft Beverage Expansion

Crossroads Brewing Company opened a new production facility and tap room on Water Street in Catskill, **West Kill Brewing** opened in Lexington and **Hop Barn Brewing** opened in Greenville all of which support the Catskills Beverage Trail.

Second Home Owner Outreach - YouDontKnowGreene.Com

8,000 second home owners were engaged by direct mail and the newly added landing page on the website, specific for the second home owner, had 3,000 visits. Website visitors, who have opted-in, were also added to the eMail database and sent monthly updates. A platform was established for ongoing outreach.

TOURISM

Major Capital Investment by Hunter Mountain Resort



Hunter Mountain Resort will increase their skiable terrain by 20% and their capacity by 10%. They expect to attract an additional 40,000 new ski visits over 3 years. Read the announcement from Peak Resorts at www.peakresorts.com/news-updates/page-788/.



Ride-Sharing in Upstate NY

Ride-Sharing was first made available on June 29, 2017, the new transportation options bring new economic opportunities for visitors arriving without personal vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE NOTE - Greene County Legislature Resolution # 22-17 Supporting Ride-Sharing Legislation in the State of New York

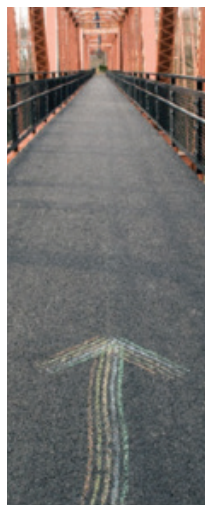
Rail/Car Rental Providers and Greene County Tourism Properties

Greene County Tourism partnered with Amtrak, NY by Rail, Enterprise, and multiple Destination Properties to promote the ease of taking the train from NYC to experience Greene County.

PLANNING

Catskill Walkway & Catskill Mountain Pedestrian Bridge Complete

A half-mile long pedestrian pathway that connects the east and west sides of the Catskill Creek allows access to businesses, school campuses, and county offices. Benches and picnic tables are prominently positioned along the route.



Mountain Biking in the NYC Watershed

The NYS Department of Health released its Draft 2017 Filtration Avoidance Determination (FAD) for public comment in July. Section 4.3 of the document (Land Management Program) raised concerns that the FAD may prohibit the responsible expansion of Mountain Biking on watershed lands.

LEGISLATIVE NOTE - On September 5, 2017 EDT&P submitted a letter to NYS Department of Health requesting the FAD recognize the importance of mountain biking to the region and that the regulatory agencies make every effort to support the connectivity of trails and inclusion on and through State and NYCDEP lands.

Greene County Department of Economic Development,
Tourism & Planning

Warren Hart - Director

518-719-3290 • business@discovergreene.com

Great Northern Catskills of Greene County
tourism@greatnortherncatskills.com

Buy In Greene | Invest In Greene
info@buyingreene.com