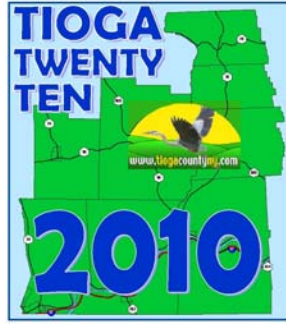


# **Tioga 2010 Strategic Plan EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**



## **Tioga County's Mission**

The Tioga County government exists to ensure the safety and well-being of the people who live, work, as well as visit our communities. That responsibility includes personal safety, security of property, preservation of infrastructure, environment, health, safety, and assisting in providing for our citizens' basic needs. Tioga County places a special emphasis on improving the quality of life for our citizens, job growth and tax base expansion, and services that benefit youth and senior citizens.

The Tioga County 2010 Strategic Plan identifies over 35 goals to be initiated over the next five years that will advance the County's mission. Very few of the goals in this document can be undertaken and completed exclusively by one agency, and successful implementation will require continual public input, public-private partnerships, intermunicipal agreements, and/or inter-agency coordination and cooperation.

It is anticipated that the Tioga County 2010 Strategic Plan will be adopted by the Tioga County Legislature in the first quarter of 2005. The Plan builds on the successes of the 1997 County Comprehensive Plan as well as the findings of numerous other studies that were completed in recent years. As a guidance document, it is intended for use by County, municipal, and community leaders to provide a county-wide context for decision-making. The Plan should be used to help define a common understanding about the primary trends, assets, and challenges the County and its partner municipalities, along with its residents, share in the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

<b>Planning Goals (pages 14-17)</b>	
<b>PL1</b>	<b>Prepare Tioga County to more effectively attract commercial, industrial, and residential development at a suitable level that will increase economic viability, optimize current water and sewer infrastructure, and sustain its rural character and heritage.</b>
<b>PL2</b>	<b>Tioga County will be technologically current and competitive.</b>
<b>PL3</b>	<b>Increase Tioga County municipalities' capacity to appropriately and effectively facilitate controlled development.</b>
<b>PL4</b>	<b>Increase recreational and cultural opportunities that will provide current and future residents with more significant leisure-time experiences within the County.</b>
<b>Agriculture Goals (pages 18-19)</b>	
<b>AG1</b>	<b>To expand the vitality and viability of County agriculture and to maintain and retain for future generations, agricultural land and the feasibility of farming.</b>
<b>Environment Goals (pages 19-23)</b>	
<b>EN1</b>	<b>To protect and conserve the water resources of Tioga County through the identification of priority issues and development of solutions on a watershed basis.</b>
<b>EN2</b>	<b>Work with the Upper Susquehanna Coalition to develop a Chesapeake Bay Program Tributary Strategy.</b>
<b>EN3</b>	<b>Work with municipal officials to enable them to be knowledgeable about Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System regulations and proficient at implementing them.</b>
<b>EN4</b>	<b>Preserve and protect Tioga County's natural resources</b>
<b>Housing Goals (pages 23-24)</b>	
<b>HG1</b>	<b>The Housing Market Assessment recommended a coordinated approach that incorporates "smart growth" principles.</b>

<b>Economic Development Goals (pages 24-28)</b>	
<b>ED1</b>	<b>Increase the number of basic activity jobs in Tioga County.</b>
<b>ED2</b>	<b>Increase and diversify the basic activity industry base in Tioga County.</b>
<b>ED3</b>	<b>Utilizing the Tioga County Empire Zone, revitalize downtowns and encourage both basic activity and non-basic activity business areas.</b>
<b>ED4</b>	<b>Bring Tioga County to its full tourism potential</b>
<b>Workforce Development Goals (pages 28-29)</b>	
<b>WD1</b>	<b>The Tioga Employment Center will become and remain aware of skills demands of existing and potential businesses.</b>
<b>WD2</b>	<b>The Tioga Employment Center will increase its business contacts in order to inform businesses of funding sources available for new and incumbent worker skill upgrades.</b>
<b>WD3</b>	<b>Information on GED and post-secondary educational programs will be made easily available to Tioga residents and businesses.</b>
<b>WD4</b>	<b>Participate in the linkage of business and higher education to assure the skill training offered is in businesses demand, and explore the expansion of internship/mentoring between business and students.</b>
<b>WD5</b>	<b>Increase the visibility of the Tioga Employment Center as a focal point for training and re-employment services for Dislocated Workers, Displaced Homemakers, Public Assistance recipients, and all other youth and adults.</b>
<b>Health and Human Services Goals (pages 29-33)</b>	
<b>HS1</b>	<b>To develop stronger alternatives to institutional placement for the elderly and disabled in order to improve quality of life and reduce the cost of long term care services.</b>
<b>HS2</b>	<b>Promote and develop parenting training and support programs in order to reduce child abuse/neglect recidivism.</b>
<b>HS3</b>	<b>To proceed with the Children's Integration Project that allows for the implementation of a major children and family organizational change.</b>
<b>Criminal Justice Goals (pages 33-34)</b>	

<b>CJ1</b>	<b>Improve the practices and operations of Justice Courts across Tioga County so that they operate in a more consistent manner.</b>
<b>CJ2</b>	<b>Intervene with children at a younger age to target youth at risk of being petitioned into New York State Family Court as a Person in Need of Supervisions (PINS) or a Juvenile Delinquent (JD).</b>
<b>CJ3</b>	<b>Provide coordinated services in Tioga County to investigate, prosecute, supervise, and treat residents who are involved in the manufacture, sale, and use of controlled substances including methamphetamine.</b>
<b>Public Safety Goals (pages 34-35)</b>	
<b>PS1</b>	<b>Maintain a high level of emergency preparedness.</b>
<b>PS2</b>	<b>Provide 911 technology that will enable the present level of dispatchers to handle the volume expeditiously without sacrificing quality.</b>
<b>PS3</b>	<b>Assist local fire districts to recruit, train, and maintain volunteer EMT's and to provide technical assistance in the event that local districts wish to discuss voluntary consolidation and/or outsourcing that would allow for charging insurance companies for responses.</b>
<b>PS4</b>	<b>Assist the Owego Fire Department in meeting their fundraising objectives to enable them to construct a new Fire Training Facility and develop a cooperative agreement for training firefighters from throughout the County.</b>
<b>PS5</b>	<b>Explore the feasibility of implementing a "Reverse 911" computerized telephone notification system.</b>
<b>Transportation Goals (pages 35-36)</b>	
<b>TR1</b>	<b>Route 17 conversion to I-86.</b>
<b>TR2</b>	<b>Explore feasibility of new State or County road to connect the County's northern rural areas of Candor and Newark Valley.</b>
<b>TR3</b>	<b>Continued improvements to the Tioga County transit system by creating a better-coordinated system between Tioga and Broome Counties and service to Cornell University.</b>

<b>TR4</b>	<b>Tioga County must improve the oversight of the transit system to reduce liability, ensure quality of service, and improve service efficiencies.</b>
<b>Governance Goals (pages 37-38)</b>	
<b>GO1</b>	<b>Identify the tasks that the Towns feel could be consolidated and establish an agreement that creates shared services for those tasks.</b>
<b>GO2</b>	<b>The Council of Governments will continue to provide a forum for working with the Office of the State Comptroller's Cooperation, Coordination and Collaboration (3C's) program in order to explore areas that would improve the efficiency and delivery of local government services in order to provide taxpayer savings.</b>