

List of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats Compiled by the Steering Committee of the Joint Comprehensive Master Plan

This is a partial list that was given by the steering committee and community input.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<p>Friendly place to live, Good Schools Kindness of people in the area Privacy Small Town Environment, Good roads Quiet, safe, Small, rural nature Good Farmland Family and Community Oriented Environment Outstanding Quality of life Old Clyde River Skilled and available work force Farmland is mostly in Ag Districts and enjoys Some protection and tax benefits Farmland is not being pressured by development Agriculture is a strong contributor to local economy Solid Core of Business Proximity to two major urban areas Community interest in revitalization and planning Geographic Location Existing industrial sites Combined Schools Citizens-creative, self-sufficient and good Railroad siding Concerned Citizens Rich history Audubon Society</p>	<p>High Taxes/Taxes too high in relation to property values Lack of Employment opportunities Community appearance/poorly maintained properties Deterioration of business district in Clyde and the Hamlet Savannah Lack of growth and development Lack of local shopping opportunities Small Population can not support large number of businesses Lack of things to do Lack of long-term planning Lack of developable property Loss of tax base due to government land acquisition Affordable housing not available Limited resources Lack of programs for children and elderly</p>
Opportunities	Threats
<p>Alternative energy sources/wind/BioFuels Environmental resources Celebrate the rural & small town characteristics Agricultural production can be increased with opportunities in organic, specialty markets and others Tourism, eco-tourism and agri-tourism Grants and other outside aid Shared Services Recreational attractions Canal Use and development Interest and support in small town revitalization strategies Tourism-hunting and fishing Route 31 corridor Ely Mansion Savannah Dhu Walking trails, trails for motorized vehicle use Housing more affordable than many other areas</p>	<p>Population decline/stagnation in upstate NY Absentee ownership of property Economic conditions in state, national and global scale State Aid formulas do not reflect the needs of the rural areas Continued leakage of local dollars to other areas Crime Rate Protection of natural resources impacts tax base Excessive wildlife restoration programs and wetland expansion Accidental creation of wetlands Economics of agriculture working against small farmer Loss of farmland for wetlands and wildlife Continued outflow of young people Over-reliance on manufacturing Unfunded mandates Loss of community spirit</p>