

SOUTHERN TIER 8

R E G I O N A L B O A R D



2024 IN REVIEW & 2025 AHEAD...

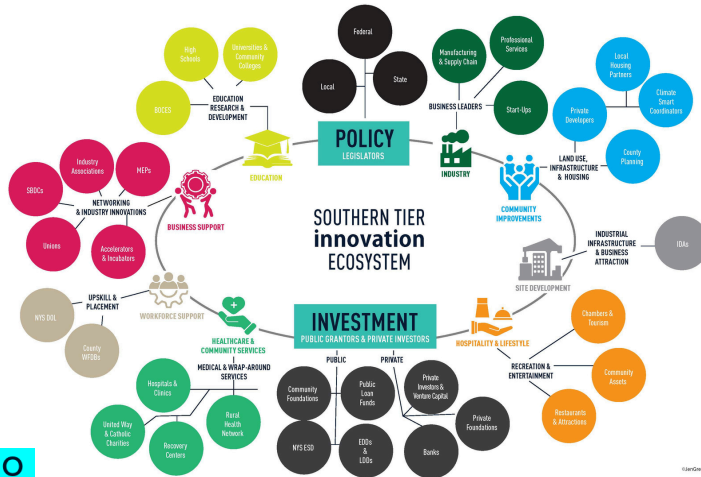
Serving Boome, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, Schoharie, Tioga & Tompkins counties

MISSION

to partner with member counties to identify & address multi-county issues in order to improve the quality of life within the region

ROLE

1. Prioritize Annual Federal Economic Development Investments
2. Promote Collaboration & Build Community Capacity
3. Provide Education & Networking Opportunities



SO
TIER

INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

Successful Ecosystem Development allows a "place" and a "home" for private sector investment, growth and prosperity.

Ecosystem partners & roles defined to encourage collaboration & resilient growth. Explore assets & resources & opportunities @ [So-Tier](#)



RESULTS (of community's work)...

2023: USA Tech Hub Designation

2024: NSF Engine Upstate New York Energy Storage

NEW & GENERATIONAL...INDUSTRY INVESTMENT!!

Energy Storage & Semi-Conductor Industry Investment

Toyota's Raymond \$15,000,000

Menlo Micro \$50,000,000

BAE Systems \$65,000,000

IM3NY Gigafactory \$180,000,000

Micron \$50,000,000,000 in Upstate NY

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Since 2021, the Broadband Collaborative (Staff, County Planning Directors, Southern Tier Network, Inc and BOCES) built community capacity and provided technical assistance with educational resources & national expertise, advocacy, data, project development, community outreach.

CONTINUED SUPPORT

Developed a [Connectivity Plan](#) for middle-mile broadband infrastructure in Chenango and Otsego Counties with Rural Innovation Strategies Inc (RISI), as part of ARC ARISE Connect Humanity grant.

RESULTS...

NTIA BEAD/NYS ESD's Connect All investment of **\$87 million** for **17,997** households (hardest-to-serve, most rural households) across Chenango, Cortland, Tioga and Schoharie Counties.

Fiber/ Ground Infrastructure:

for **25 years of service**

Build cost: **\$193 per year**

Consumer cost: **\$55-\$99/month**

NOW in 2025

Awarded grant to assist Counties understand new cybersecurity regulations (NYS ESD Connect All 2025-2026)

2024 STAFF
Lolene Cornish, Secretary
Jen Gregory, Executive Director
Beth Lucas, Director of Planning
Ashley Seyfried, Director of Sustainability
Evan Maslin, Director of Economic Development



INVESTMENT IN NUMBERS:

SECURED Funding for Local Economic Development Initiatives

2024 AWARDS	INVESTMENT
Ithaca Shared Kitchen	\$110,000
TakeCharge Southern Tier	\$150,000
Expanding Meat Processors	\$250,000
Otsego Lake Watershed Plan	\$125,000
Mentoring Students Toward Improving Career Readiness	\$63,000
Electric Technology Training Center Planning Study in Delaware	<u>\$50,000</u>
Total 2024 Award...	\$788,000

SUPPORTED Project Development

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT	INVESTMENT
Schoharie County Broadband	\$900,000
Cayuga Waterfront Trail Connector	\$750,000
Regional Workforce Housing	
Investment Framework	\$200,000
Tioga County Regional Career and Technical Education Center	<u>\$1,000,000</u>
Total 2025 Request...	\$2,850,000

Current Regional ROI: \$1: \$18,314
([Click for more data](#))

Provided grant administration assistance for **45 active projects** across the 8 counties

ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED across THE REGION:

- Provided project development assistance to **48** unique local organizations, and hosted **3** grant writing sessions
- Hosted **6 CEDS “Sync-Up Sessions”** to provide partner networking opportunities and project development, with 81 attendees.
- Promoted STEM & Entrepreneurship opportunities across **74** unique school districts
- Hosted a regional partnership development program to consider alternative strategies in **workforce readiness, community engagement and housing policies**, in advancing the Southern Tier’s Innovation ecosystem with **19 professionals from all 8 member counties**, to engage with ARC ARISE \$10 million recipient Catalyst Connection & local partner AM&T, and EDA Build Back Better Recipient Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, and others in Pittsburgh, PA from November 19-21.

WORKFORCE HOUSING

With the 8 County Planning Departments, staff assessed local housing needs, identified common challenges, and defined 6 shared housing priorities: Increase Availability and Variety of Housing Options, Support New Housing Development, Improve Existing Housing Stock, Enhance Capacity to Implement Housing Solutions, Revitalize Existing Neighborhoods, and Provide Options for Demographics with Specific Needs.

NOW in 2025

A Regional **Workforce Housing Coalition** will be established for “**building to scale**” a portfolio of investment opportunities with a **Market Study & region’s 1st Capital Stack** for workforce housing.



SAVE THE DATE AUGUST 21, 2025

to visit Broome County’s no-cost medical event with Department of Defense’s Innovative Readiness Training!

MANY THANKS TO THE REGIONAL BOARD

BROOME

Susan Ryan, Broome County Legislator
Anthony Fiala, Commissioner of Broome County Economic Development & Planning
Joseph Mihalko, Broome County Clerk

CORTLAND

Beau Harbin, **Vice Chair**, Cortland County Legislator
Trisha Hiemstra, Director of Cortland County Planning
Brendan O’Bryan, Executive Director/CEO, Cortland County Business Dev

OTSEGO

Michelle Catan, Otsego County Representative
Tammie Harris, Director of Otsego Co Planning & Solid Waste
Jody Zakrevsky, CEO, Otsego Now

TIOGA

Ron Ciotoli, Tioga County Legislator
Elaine Jardine, Director of Tioga County Planning

CHENANGO

Robert Jeffrey, **Board Chair**, Board of Supervisors-City of Norwich Wards 4,5,6
Shane Butler, Director of Chenango Co Planning & Airport Administrator
Erik Scrivener, Department of Planning-City of Norwich

DELAWARE

Shelly Johnson-Bennett, Director, Delaware County Planning & Watershed Affairs/Delaware County Public Information Officer
Allen Hinkley, Supervisor, Town of Roxbury
Glenn Nealis, Executive Director, Delaware County Dept of Economic Dev

SCHOHARIE

Shane Nickle, Director, Schoharie County Planning & Comm Dev.
Alicia Terry, Supervisor, Town of Gilboa
Julie Pacatte, Executive Director-Schoharie Econ. Enterprise Corp- SEEC

TOMPKINS

Gregory Mezey, Tompkins County Legislator
Katie Borgella-Commissioner, Tompkins County Planning
Heather McDaniel, President, Ithaca Area Economic Development

AND Partner Counties
THANKS Appalachian Regional Commission
FOR US Commerce’s Economic Development Administration
SUPPORT New York State Department of State
FROM New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

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