

Grant awarded to Hyde Park project

Redevelopment initiative targets area around Route 9

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The Town of Hyde Park's project to refurbish an area of Route 9 recently got a financial boost.

The town, in December, was awarded \$161,000 for its project "Retrofitting Hyde Park's Town Center." The project's goal is to spur redevelopment in the area of Route 9 around the intersection with Pine Woods Road.

Components will include:

- » Engineering plan for a wastewater treatment system for this area.
- » Design of a new cross street and pedestrian/bicycle/bus amenities.
- » Traffic study and environmental review to streamline future development.
- » Zoning updates to accommodate desired density and uses.

In recent years, Supervisor Aileen Rohr has convened stakeholder meetings to focus the town's efforts to revive key commercial centers. The area around Pine Woods Road (former Amish Market and surrounding parcels) was identified as a top priority. The area offers the opportunity to be reconstructed as a "vibrant town center, serving the



Mr. Grumpy's food truck is shown in the Hyde Park Shopping Center in Hyde Park. The town is in the process of redeveloping the area of Route 9 around the intersection with Pine Woods Road, where the shopping center is located.

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needs of residents and tourists," Rohr said in a written release.

She noted that "while the town's role

in private property decisions is limited, one available strategy is to incentivize the type of redevelopment the communi-

ty desires by conducting design and review proactively. Having these components in place allows for a dependable investment for a developer and increases the likelihood that future development will provide what the community is seeking."

"The town can't insist that private landowners sell or redevelop their land, but by solving underlying challenges like sewer treatment and traffic flow, we can make the former Amish Market area more attractive for investors and make the area more shovel-ready," Rohr said.

Funding was awarded through the Cleaner Greener Communities program, which supports community strategies for environmentally sustainable growth.

"Redevelopment of a town center with shops, restaurants and services within walking distance of homes will allow more residents to walk and bike to meet daily needs. It will also entice tourists to shop and dine in Hyde Park," Councilwoman Emily Svenson said in a written statement.

Rohr said the Dutchess County Planning Department and Water and Wastewater Authority assisted in developing the proposal and is committed to providing in-kind services "that will fulfill the local contribution requirement."

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