

**St. Lawrence County Industrial Development Agency
Civic Development Corporation
2021 Mission Statement and Performance Review**

Mission Statement

Reviewed and Reaffirmed in Public Session on March 30, 2021

The IDA-CDC helps to support the operations of not-for-profit corporations within the County to increase employment opportunities for the residents of the County and provide financing through low-interest loans and the issuance of tax exempt and taxable bonds to projects of not-for-profit corporations, which is essential to the continued development, construction, improvement and operation of projects by not-for-profit operations.

The IDA-CDC may, using other assets under its control, also help to support not-for-profit corporations and for-profit corporations within the County to increase employment opportunities for the residents of the County by providing financial assistance to the St. Lawrence County Industrial Development Agency and/or the St. Lawrence County Industrial Development Agency Local Development Corporation, as permitted by law, to support these organizations' operations and/or their projects whose activities are essential to the continued development, construction, improvement and operation of projects by not-for-profit corporations and for-profit corporations.


Performance Goals

- *To create new employment opportunities for St. Lawrence County citizens through the attraction of or the creation of new businesses*
- *To create new employment opportunities for St. Lawrence County citizens through the expansion of existing businesses*
- *To retain existing employment opportunities*
- *To leverage the greatest level of private investment in St. Lawrence County enterprises*
- *To provide assistance to the numerous hospitals, colleges and other civic facilities that operate within the County through low-interest loans and the issuance by St. Lawrence County of tax-exempt civic facility bonds.*
- *To help to support not-for-profit corporations and for-profit corporations within the County to increase employment opportunities for the residents of the County.*
- *Work cooperatively with area economic development agencies to market County assets and economic development resources to potential new or expanding businesses.*
- *Ensure a transparent and accountable operation with responsibly-managed SLCIDA-CDC assets.*

2021 Performance Review (January 2021 – December 2021)

- The St. Lawrence County IDA – Civic Development Corporation authorized a bond issuance for Clarkson University in the amount of \$43 million, which included both refinancing of previous bonds and the issuance of new funds for the University.

A summary from a study completed by the Center of Governmental Research was provided as part of the public hearing minutes demonstrating the economic impact Clarkson University has on the region. According to the study, Clarkson “*provided a \$346.9 million impact to the North Country’s economy based on data from 2019, through its institutional operations and jobs related to supporting student services, research and construction.*”

- The Cornell Cooperative Extension (“CCE”) of St. Lawrence County was approved for a \$50,000 loan from the St. Lawrence County IDA – Civic Development Corporation. The loan will be used to provide bridge financing for grant funds the CCE will be receiving from the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York. The funds will assist the CCE with its efforts to improve and better equip the Harvest Kitchen that the CCE operates on the Extension Farm at its offices in Canton. The Harvest Kitchen is a commercial value-added processing facility primarily used as a technical teaching platform. 
- The St. Lawrence County Property Development Corporation accepted the transfer of the former Newell manufacturing building from the City of Ogdensburg. The St. Lawrence County IDA secured \$200,000 in 50/50 in grant/loan funds from the Development Authority of the North Country and \$500,000 in grant funds from the Northern Border Regional Commission to continue with the rehabilitation of the building.

As these funding sources are reimbursement-based, the St. Lawrence County IDA – Civic Development Corporation authorized a loan in amount of up to \$500,000 to the St. Lawrence County Property Development Corporation to assist with the up-front financing for the project. The second phase of the rehabilitation project, expected to cost approximately \$1 million, is near completion. This phase included reinstalling water, sewer, electrical, gas, and heating systems, as well as a new building entrance, corridors, office space, and restrooms.

- Board members approved the 2020 Independent Audit reports in June of 2021. The reports showed no findings. Legislators have been provided the reports electronically. In addition, the reports are available on our website at www.SLCIDA.com.
- As part of our Public Authority Law compliance program, annual policy reviews are conducted by the IDA and its affiliated organizations. Conflicts of Interest, Procurement, Investment and Assessment of Internal Controls, Property Disposition, Investment of Funds, Whistleblower, Code of Ethics, Defense & Indemnification, and Compensation, Reimbursement & Attendance policies were reviewed. Performance documents for 2020 were also reviewed.
- Appointments/Reappointments: Lynn Blevins was reappointed in June 2021 and Mark Hall was reappointed in December 2021. Both will fill another three-year term.
- The following officers were elected to a one-year term: Brian W. Staples (Chair); Ernest J. LaBaff (Vice-Chair); Lynn Blevins (Secretary), Patrick J. Kelly (CEO) and Kimberly A. Gilbert (CFO). The firm of Silver and Collins was reappointed as General Counsel.
- Board members approved a 2022 budget, copies of which were forwarded to the Legislative Chair, County Treasurer, County Clerk and Authorities Budget Office. The budget is also available electronically at www.SLCIDA.com.



St. Lawrence County Industrial Development Agency Civic Development Corporation

Additional Questions

1. Have the board members acknowledged that they have read and understood the mission of the public authority?

ANS: Yes – the Board members reviewed and approved (by formal resolution) the mission statement and performance measures of the board.

2. Who has the power to appoint the management of the public authority?

ANS: Management is appointed by the board members of the authority.

3. If the Board appoints management, do you have a policy you follow when appointing the management of the public authority?

ANS: The Board of the St. Lawrence County Industrial Development Agency Civic Development Corporation appoints its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer. The Chief Executive Officer appoints management and staff.

4. Briefly describe the role of the Board and the role of management in the implementation of the mission.

ANS: The Board, with assistance of management, works to develop the authority's mission, and evaluate the authority's goals and performance.

Management ensures that the Board's mission and goals are carried out in a manner which achieves the intended public purpose - a process involving program evaluation, reporting, feedback and recommendation.

5. Has the Board acknowledged that they have read and understood the responses to each of these questions?

ANS: The Board acknowledges its understanding of this document by formally approving the document in public session.