



**TOMPKINS COUNTY  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS**

125 East Court Street Ithaca, NY 14850  
Phone: (607) 274-5551 Fax: (607) 274-5558  
Email: [tccog@tompkins-co.org](mailto:tccog@tompkins-co.org)

*Douglas Austic, Chairperson*

*Herb Engman, Vice-Chair*

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**APPROVED SEPTEMBER 25, 2008**

**MEMBERSHIP**

*City of:  
Ithaca*

*County of:  
Tompkins*

*Towns of:  
Caroline*

*Danby  
Dryden  
Enfield  
Groton*

*Ithaca  
Lansing  
Newfield  
Ulysses*

*Villages of:  
Cayuga Heights*

*Dryden  
Freeville  
Groton*

*Lansing  
Trumansburg*

**RESOLUTION 002-2008 - ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AND ENDORSEMENT  
OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BY  
TOMPKINS COUNTY COUNCIL OF  
GOVERNMENTS – WATER AND SEWER  
INFRASTRUCTURE**

MOVED by the Town of Danby (Dietrich), seconded by the town of Groton (Morey), and unanimously approved by those present.

**WHEREAS**, the Tompkins County Economic Development Strategy’s goals include increasing and diversifying the County’s housing supply and revitalizing the County’s unique commercial districts and town centers, and

**WHEREAS**, the Economic Development Collaborative was organized to formalize, strengthen and deepen the cooperation among the many local agencies and municipal bodies addressing economic development issues in the County to make the process more effective through common goals and approach, and

**WHEREAS**, the Tompkins County Council of Governments (TCCOG) is a member of the Economic Development Collaborative, which is currently working to address the goals of the County’s Economic Development Strategy, and

**WHEREAS**, the Economic Development Collaborative has suggested the creation of an updated, County-wide evaluation of existing water and sewer infrastructure and the development of a conceptual plan of water and sewer infrastructure needed to support future growth, and

**WHEREAS**, the last County-wide evaluation of water and sewer infrastructure was completed in 1994, and

**WHEREAS**, an updated evaluation would facilitate the development of housing within town and village centers, commercial revitalization of those centers and growth in the tax base, with the most efficient use of public dollars for infrastructure, and

**WHEREAS**, the result of this evaluation will be a report that is available for all municipalities to use in their planning of infrastructure development, but that no actual investment in water or sewer facilities is included in this project, and



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**WHEREAS**, the County of Tompkins, on behalf of TCCOG, applied for and was awarded a grant known as Shared Municipal Services Incentive grant from the State of New York, to conduct a County-wide evaluation of water and sewer infrastructure and develop a conceptual plan, now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Tompkins County Council of Governments supports the development of a County-wide evaluation of water and sewer infrastructure and the development of a conceptual plan of water and sewer infrastructure needs to support future growth,

**RESOLVED**, further, That the members pledge to work with the Economic Development Collaborative to ensure cooperation of members' planning and engineering departments with this project, providing information and documentation requested by the consultant team, led by TG Miller, including but not limited to:

- Current rated capacity of water and wastewater treatment systems from existing SPDES (State Pollution Discharge Elimination System) permits and facility plans
- Electronic files or paper copies of maps showing current water distribution and/or sanitary sewer collection systems
- Recent studies of water and sewer facilities
- Treatment processes, mechanical and other systems related data
- Scheduled or anticipated system upgrades or new construction
- Historical problems and obstacles including operational difficulties, regulatory compliance, land use restrictions, public impact and complaints, and funding
- Current population served by the utilities including number of service connections
- Anticipated population growth rate for the next ten years
- Existing or planned funding sources that may be available, and

**RESOLVED**, further, That the County of Tompkins, on behalf of TCCOG, is authorized to accept a grant from the State of New York's Department of State in the amount of \$82,245.24 to conduct a County-wide evaluation of water and sewer infrastructure and develop a conceptual plan.



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*MEMBERSHIP*

*City of:*

*Ithaca*

Statement of need:

*County of:*

*Tompkins*

Increasing housing supply and revitalization of commercial districts are two of the Tompkins County Economic Development Strategy's three goals. Both require improvements to water and sewer infrastructure, especially in the non-urbanized areas of the county. The proposed infrastructure study is, therefore, an integral step to achieving affordable housing and revitalization goals. In particular, to provide for housing to be reasonably affordable, housing requires density. Continuing to build individual homes on 1-2 acre lots is not an affordable approach to providing housing. Dependable water and sewer infrastructure is also critical for revitalization of our town and village centers.

*Towns of:*

*Caroline*

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*Dryden*

*Enfield*

*Groton*

*Ithaca*

Preliminary scope of work:

A consultant will be hired to:

*Lansing*

*Newfield*

*Ulysses*

- Update the 1994 County-wide evaluation of water and sewer infrastructure working with local municipal staff.
- Prepare a conceptual plan of water and sewerage infrastructure, including potential service areas, to support future growth.
- Prepare preliminary costs to expand infrastructure to accommodate planned growth.

*Villages of:*

*Cayuga Heights*

*Dryden*

*Freeville*

*Groton*

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*Trumansburg*

Work will reflect anticipated growth of the municipalities, local plans, and the Tompkins County Comprehensive Plan."

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