Board of Legislators
County Office Building, Room 201
7 Court Street
Belmont, New York 14813
Phone: 585-268-9222

Meetings are being livestreamed right on our website now:
https://alleganyco.gov

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA
October 21, 2026, 10:30 a.m.

1. **Roll Call**

2. **Approval of Agenda**

3. **Approval of Minutes**
   - September 16, 2026

4. **Director of Planning Kier Dirlam**
   - Monthly Report
   - Larson Design Group – Sewer Study

5. **Director of Allegany County Industrial Development Agency Dr. Craig Clark**
   -

6. **Employment and Training Program Director Reita Sobeck-Lynch**
   - Monthly Report

7. **Director of Economic Development Ashley Smith**
   - Monthly Report
   - Acceptance and Appropriation of Grant Funds – Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation

8. **Unfinished Business**

9. **New Business**

10. **Good of the Order**

11. **Adjournment**

Planning

The Latest News and Updates
October 2026

General Planning

The Office of Planning has provided various support to several municipalities during the past month to assist with technical issues. Issues included comprehensive planning, local laws review, Zoning Law amendments, Data Center laws, renewable energy laws, starting a planning board, SEQR, and other planning matters.

Conducted research and reviewed municipal and New York State planning examples to support Planning Board reviews and municipal requests. We also are providing County functions such as maintenance of the County website, GIS discussions, GIS maps for school districts and elections, grant meetings, economic development meetings, as well as support to various boards.

Staff attended the Upstate American Planning Association Annual Conference in Albany. Topics of interest included downtown revitalization methods, ethics, natural resource inventories, brownfields and waterfront development.

Allegany County Planning Board

The October meeting of the County Planning Board is scheduled for October 21st and currently has 16 referrals from 8 municipalities. The packet is over 200 pages for review. Referrals included: Moratorium for Battery Energy Storage Systems, Moratorium on Data Centers, Moratorium on Solar Energy Systems, update of a Solar Energy Law, Short Term Rentals Moratorium, Zoning Law amendments, Site Plans, and SEQR Lead Agency requests. The County Planning Board will be meeting on at 7PM at the Crossroads Center. Anyone that wants more information on the Allegany County Planning Board should reach out to Kier.dirlam@alleganyco.gov for more information.

Sewer Study:

The proposals were received by September 25, 2026, for the last phase of work. We are hiring the firm based on the scoring of these proposals and are looking to have the County Legislature approve the contract during October so that they can start November 1, 2026. This last phase will need to complete by July 1st, 2027 so moving through the County process in a timely fashion is important.

Required Board Action This Month:

This month we have a Memorandum of Explanation to contract with LDG for the Phase 3 work on the Sewer Study.

MEMORANDUM OF EXPLANATION

Introduction No: _____
(clerk's use only)

COMMITTEE: **PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** DATE: October 21, 2026

The Office of Planning requests a resolution authorizing Allegany County to accept the proposal from Larson Design Group (LDG) to undertake the Preliminary Engineering Reports for Sewer Study Priority Projects consulting work. Authorize the Chairman of the Legislature to execute all required forms and contracts.

The price of this proposal is $380,000.00
The term of this contract will be from the date of execution of the purchase order until completion of the project.

Fiscal Impact:
This proposal is subject to review and approval by the County Attorney.
FISCAL IMPACT: $380,000
Accounts involved: A 1015.429, A 1015.4089.ARP, A1015.4089.ARP, A1015.3089
Resolutions Previously Approved Related to this Project: #440-23, # 247-24, #349-24
This project is part of the IIJA ARC and ESD funded grant project approved in 2024.

For further information contact:

H. Kier Dirlam – Director
Allegany County Planning
585-268-7442
Kier.dirlam@alleganyco.gov

Allegany COUNTY New York

Employment & Training

Planning & Economic Development Meeting 10.21.26

Welcome: *WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) programs are funded by a contract with the Cattaraugus Allegany Workforce Development Board (WDB). The program year runs from 7.1. - 6.30.27.*

WIOA Adult & Dislocated Worker: During the first quarter of Program Year 2026, the Adult, DW, and Trade Act programs maintained strong customer engagement, with a total of 428 customer contacts made through career guidance, case management, and follow-up services. Training interest remained steady, with 11 training inquiries received during September. Two Adult participants remained in training, and three customers were approved for training assistance through the Skill Up Allegany ACAF Grant**,** obligating $2,500 of the available $5,000**.** Employment outcomes remained positive, with nine total employment placements reported during Program Year 2026, including a TAA participant who secured training-related employment as a CDL-A Truck Driver earning $31.00/hr**.** Follow-up & retention services remained a priority, with 21 customers actively receiving follow-up services**.**

WIOA Youth: There were 87 youth contacts and services in September. There is funding for training and 20% of the total funding must be spent on Work Experience. The WDB has additional funding for On-The-Job training after the initial work experience.

SYEP Program: The final evaluations and timesheets were collected, and paychecks were mailed. Ended 9.30.26.

Business Services:

112 business contacts, received 82 services, including job orders/postings, verifications, job matching, applications, follow-up, and work experience sites.
Job Board: There are 856 recipients, and 10 to 20 new jobs are listed weekly.
There were 74 open job listings posted in the county in September. The Board averages over 12K views per week.
Facebook: 139.7K page views and 69 new page follows.

Labor Force & Unemployment Data

Employed: August 2026, 17,500; August 2025, 17,300.
Unemployment rates: August 2026, 5.0%(2025 4.9%); NYS, 4.6%; and U.S., 4.3%.
Unemployment Insurance Benefit (UIB): 17 new September applications
Provided UIB assistance on 7 visits.
69 customers reported employment, including 34 full-time positions in 2026. Hourly wage range is $16.00- $35.00.

Veterans Services: 4 Veterans utilized job seeking services in September.

DSS Contractual Services

Family Assistance: 29; Safety Net–Individuals: 30 Safety Net Family: 0; SNAP: 19; and HEAP: 54 for a total of 82 individuals provided with 278 services, including 39 employment assessments, 19 directed job searches

General Information

Front Door Traffic: 298, 87 visits were from job seekers residing in Allegany County
Total Customer Contacts: 704
Resumes: 126 year to date
We attended and promoted the Manufacturing and Tech Job Fair in Wellsville on 9.16.26.
We hosted a Back to School/Back to Work community outreach event at the Family Resource center in Wellsville.

Econ Dev/Tourism

Director: Ashley Smith
October 2026

INFRASTRUCTURE:

Identifying site development needs and infrastructure in support of development.

Project: *Power Project*
Project update: Maps provided for Power Up Grant Project. Call scheduled for 10/16.
Timeline/Status update: In Progress

HOUSING:

Engage and attract housing developers for new build and existing structure revitalization.

Project: *Amity Complex*
Project update: Awaiting timeline for project start.
Discuss Process: 3 phase multifamily gated community, CR 20
Timeline/Status update: In progress

Project: *Bolivar Housing Committee*
Project update:
Group of residents are creating a housing committee and have invited me to join.
Timeline/Status update: Starting

MARKETING:

Focused on efforts that represent the County and our office.

Project: *Regional Program (WNY Wilds)*
Project update: Next Regional meeting scheduled for 10/27/26. Working on Website revamp and ads for 2027.
Timeline/Status update: In Progress

Project: *WNY Wilds Trademark*
Project update:
Working through process, will have items circulating for application requirements at the summit.
Timeline/Status update: In Progress

Project: *Brand Transitions*
Project update: Press Release issues with follow up posts on all. Working on branded assets now.
Timeline/Status Update: In progress

BUSINESS SUPPORT:

Focused on engaging current businesses and specific industries to grow the economy.

Project: *BRE Program*
Project update:
- YTD: 71 meetings = 142% to goal
- 5 Visits for Sep; 2 Community Events

Timeline/Status update: In Progress

Project: *AC-NY Empowerment Hub*

Project update:

- Working on a new opportunity for multiple organizations to work together for business support across the county. Project would create and ecosystem to support businesses, drive workforce development, create incubator spaces, and would support a physical space for offices, community use, and tourism related spaces.
- Identifying space opportunities
- Funding Identified for feasibility study work

Timeline/Status update: Just starting

TOURISM:

Growing all seasons tourism through business growth and visitor attraction efforts

Project: *Marketing Materials*

Project update: We are beginning work on 2027 materials and bring those to committee in Jan. Campaign ideas will be included in the November Marketing Plan presentation.

Timeline/Status update: Just starting

Required Board Action This Month:

- MOE - Accept and Appropriate Grant Funds

Item to Note:

Economic Development Summit 11/5 4:30-7 at the Palmer Opera House.

Domestic Travel and Tourism Report

Allegany (County) (show market)

Watch Tutorial

Time Period: Year to Date · Home Distance: 150+ Miles

Total Trips — YoY -2.5% · PoP -2.5%

143.4K

vs. 147.1K prev. year (Jan '25 - Sep '25)
vs. 147.1K prev. period (Jan '25 - Sep '25)

Avg. Monthly Visitors — YoY +0.4% · PoP +0.4%

14.3K

vs. 14.2K prev. year (Jan '25 - Sep '25)
vs. 14.2K prev. period (Jan '25 - Sep '25)

Visit Nights — YoY -2.6% · PoP -2.6%

307.8K

vs. 316.0K prev. year (Jan '25 - Sep '25)
vs. 316.0K prev. period (Jan '25 - Sep '25)

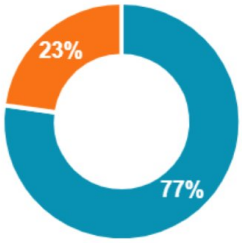
Total Visitor Spend

Unlock to view total spend for this time period

Day vs Overnight Monthly Visitors

Avg. Monthly Visitors

3.3K
Day Visitors



11.0K
Overnight Visitors

Top 3 Categories Spend

Unlock Visitor Spend Insights

View spending patterns across categories, track out-of-town visitors' spending in your region and find the origins of highest and lowest spending visitors.

Learn More

Top Origins

DMA All Trips

1st **New York, NY** — 32.3K Trips — YoY -4.9%

2nd **Philadelphia, PA** — 9.9K Trips — YoY +10.5%

3rd **Albany-Schenectady-Troy, NY** — 9.0K Trips — YoY +21.6%

Overnight Trips

1 night	38% (41.7K)
2-3 nights	39% (42.3K)
4-7 nights	17% (18.0K)
8-30 nights	6% (6.3K)
31-60 nights	0% (119)

AVERAGE DURATION

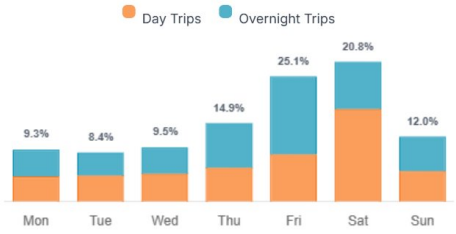
3.9
days (108.4K trips)

YoY +0.1% · PoP +0.0%

Day of Arrival

All Trips

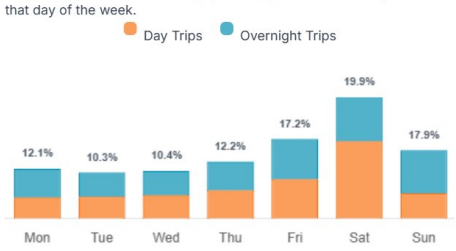
Each bar represents the percentage of trips that arrived on that day of the week.



Visitors Count

All Trips

Each bar represents the average percentage of total visitors present on that day of the week.



Overnight Leakage

Estimates lost overnight visitor traffic from day trips preceded or followed by overnight stays in other markets.

32.8K
NIGHTS LOST
YoY +36.5% · PoP +0.0%

9.6%
LEAKAGE RATE
YoY +17.7% · PoP +0.0%

Unlock Visitor Spend to see Estimated Revenue Impact

Spend Metrics

Unlock Visitor Spend Insights

View spending patterns across categories, track out-of-town visitors' spending in your region and find the origins of highest and lowest spending visitors.

Learn More

Top State Markets

County All Trips

Top Markets is only available for Full Years or Last 12 Months. Showing Last 12 Months instead.

1st **Manhattan - New York** — 37.4M Trips — YoY +7.3%

2nd **Queens** — 10.7M Trips — YoY +1.4%

3rd **Suffolk** — 10.5M Trips — YoY -2.9%

Domestic Travel and Tourism Report

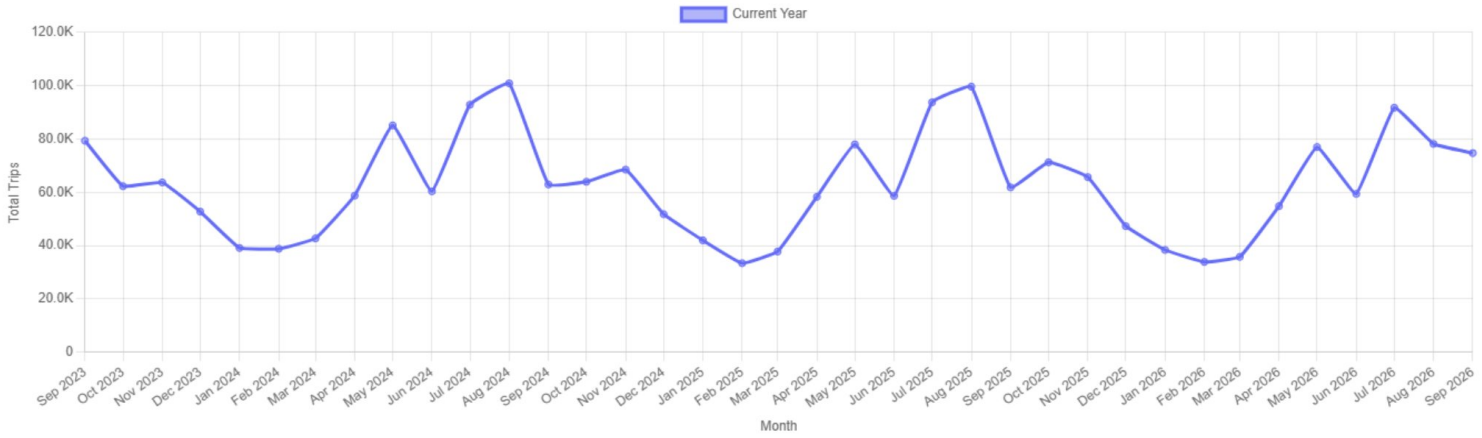
Allegany (County) (show market)

Watch Tutorial

Trend Analysis

Visualize metrics over time with flexible intervals

Total Trips · 50+ Miles · Monthly · Line · 2023-09 – 2026-09



Domestic Travel and Tourism Report

Allegany (County) (show market)

Watch Tutorial

Visitor Origins

Your top feeder markets by geography

DMA · Period: Last 12 Months · 50+ Miles · All

Table | Map

ORIGIN	TRIPS	AVG MONTHLY VISITORS	VISIT NIGHTS	AVG DURATION	TOTAL SPEND	AVG SPEND/TRIP	TREND
Buffalo, NY	285,755	19,507	465,504	3.3 days	Locked	Locked	View
Rochester, NY	160,936	10,319	236,437	3.2 days	Locked	Locked	View
New York, NY	46,666	3,934	115,224	4.2 days	Locked	Locked	View
Syracuse, NY	38,964	2,590	65,277	3.7 days	Locked	Locked	View
Elmira, NY	21,408	1,141	22,655	3.4 days	Locked	Locked	View
Binghamton, NY	16,538	1,045	28,837	3.8 days	Locked	Locked	View
Wilkes Barre-Scranton, PA	13,682	821	16,341	3.2 days	Locked	Locked	View
Albany-Schenectady-Troy, NY	12,542	1,032	23,701	3.6 days	Locked	Locked	View
Philadelphia, PA	12,310	1,040	24,744	3.4 days	Locked	Locked	View

Showing 1 to 9 of 100 results

< 1 2 3 4 5 ... 12 >

Top Origin Trend Matrix

Monthly rankings by trips showing market shifts and patterns

CBSA | DMA | Zip Code

All | Day | Overnight

50+ Miles | 150+ Miles

RANK	APR 26	MAY 26	JUN 26	JUL 26	AUG 26	SEP 26
#1	Buffalo, NY 17.4K	Buffalo, NY 30.3K	Buffalo, NY 22.2K	Buffalo, NY 34.8K	Buffalo, NY 29.2K	Buffalo, NY 30.0K
#2	Rochester, NY 12.6K	Rochester, NY 14.9K	Rochester, NY 11.8K	Rochester, NY 17.6K	Rochester, NY 17.0K	Rochester, NY 16.6K
#3	New York, NY 3.4K	New York, NY 5.4K	Syracuse, NY 2.3K ↑1	New York, NY 4.8K ↑1	New York, NY 5.9K	New York, NY 4.2K
#4	Syracuse, NY 3.2K	Syracuse, NY 3.5K	New York, NY 1.6K ↓1	Syracuse, NY 3.7K ↓1	Syracuse, NY 3.9K	Syracuse, NY 3.6K
#5	Elmira, NY 2.6K	Binghamton, NY 1.9K NEW	Philadelphia, PA 1.1K NEW	Philadelphia, PA 1.8K	Albany-Schenectady-Troy, NY 1.7K NEW	Binghamton, NY 1.8K NEW

Legend: ↑ Rank improved • ↓ Rank declined • Upward trend (10%+ increase, same rank) • Downward trend (10%+ decrease, same rank) • NEW First time in top 10

Domestic Travel and Tourism Report

Allegany (County) (show market)

Watch Tutorial

Category Analysis

View trips, visits, or spend breakdown by category with year-over-year comparison

Table | Chart

Visits · Trip Type: All · Distance: 50+ miles · Last 12 Months (Oct '25 - Sep '26)

CATEGORY	VISITS	% OF TOTAL	YOY CHANGE	TREND
Retail	363,215	46.8%	-3.1% ↓	View
Restaurants	174,373	22.5%	-2.8% ↓	View
Groceries and Food Stores	142,189	18.3%	-4.3% ↓	View
Hotels	47,439	6.1%	+0.2% ↑	View
Recreation & Entertainment	27,356	3.5%	-2.7% ↓	View
Automotive Sales, Rentals and Services	12,346	1.6%	+0.5% ↑	View
Others	5,349	0.7%	-7.5% ↓	View
Health, Beauty and Wellness	3,412	0.4%	+14.3% ↑	View

Domestic Travel and Tourism Report

Allegany (County) (show market)

Watch Tutorial

Time Period: Last 12 Months · Home Distance: 50+ Miles

Visitor Distribution

Breakdown of monthly visitors by type

Monthly Visitors | Visit Nights

Total Avg. Monthly Visitors

Average monthly visitors (day + overnight) to your market.

48.2K

Overnight visitors who stayed in your market.

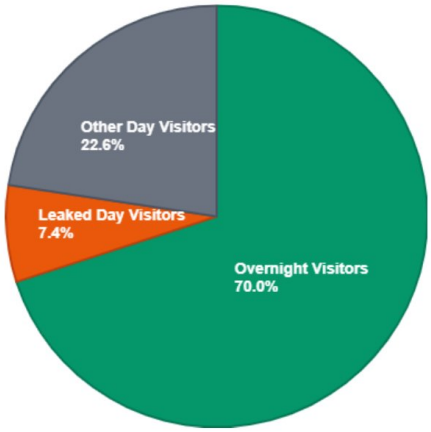
33.7K (70.0%)

Day visitors who stayed overnight in other markets.

3.6K (7.4%)

Day visitors who didn't stay overnight anywhere.

10.9K (22.6%)



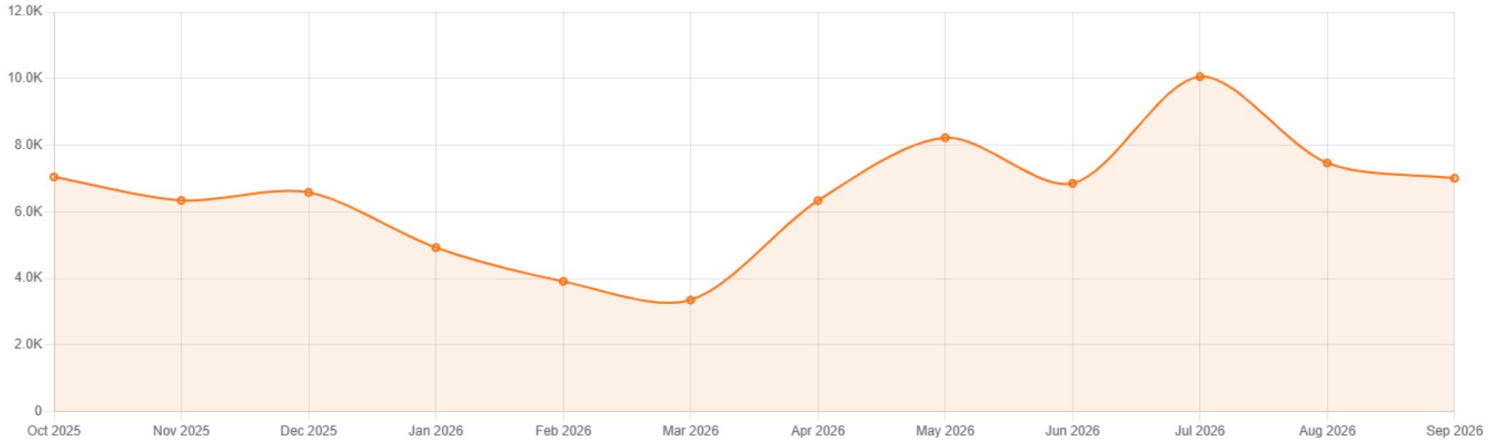
Min. Estimated Revenue Impact

Unlock Visitor Spend to see Estimated Revenue Impact

Leakage Trend Over Time

Track seasonal patterns and conversion impact

Nights Lost | Leakage Rate



Domestic Travel and Tourism Report

Allegany (County) (show market)

Watch Tutorial

Top Leakage Destinations

Table

Where are your leaked visitors staying?

Last 12 Months · 50+ Miles · Leakage Nights · Max Distance: 200 Miles

RANK	DESTINATION COUNTY	STATE	LEAKAGE NIGHTS	YOY	% OF TOTAL
1	Steuben	NY	28.0K	↑ 3.5%	37.9%
2	Cattaraugus	NY	17.1K	↑ 32.8%	23.2%
3	Erie	NY	4.9K	↑ 13.9%	6.6%
4	Wyoming	NY	3.9K	↑ 100.0%	5.2%
5	Potter	PA	3.1K	↓ 0.7%	4.1%
6	Livingston	NY	2.6K	↑ 9.3%	3.5%
7	McKean	PA	918	↓ 29.0%	1.2%
8	Chautauqua	NY	792	↓ 4.7%	1.1%
9	Niagara	NY	772	↑ 10.5%	1.0%
10	Chemung	NY	748	↑ 66.1%	1.0%

Showing 1 to 10 of 50 destinations

Domestic Travel and Tourism Report

Allegany (County) (show market)

Watch Tutorial

Last 12 Months · Trip Type: All · Market Type: Counties · Sort By: Trips

Top 10 Counties in New York

Last 12 Months rankings by selected metric

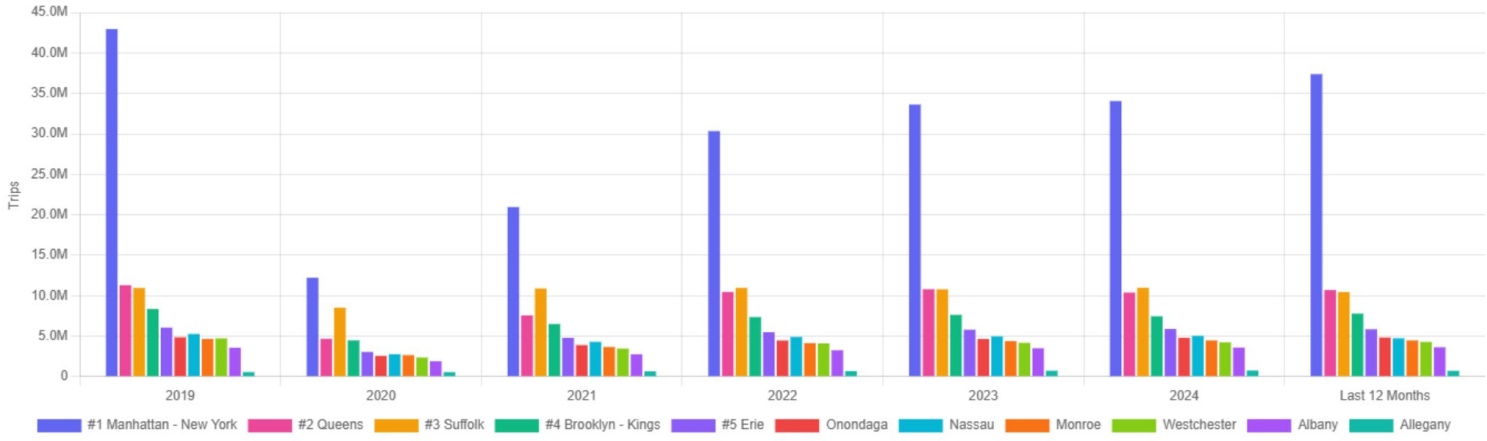
Time Period: Last 12 Months | Sort By: Trips

RANK	DESTINATION	TRIPS	VISITORS (AVG. MONTHLY)	NIGHTS	AVG DAYS
1	Manhattan - New York	37.4M YoY +7.3%	2.7M YoY +17.4%	50.1M YoY +8.7%	3.3 YoY -0.0%
2	Queens	10.7M YoY +1.4%	787.4K YoY +10.8%	11.5M YoY -0.1%	2.9 YoY +0.5%
3	Suffolk	10.5M YoY -2.9%	710.4K YoY +7.8%	21.0M YoY -1.6%	3.8 YoY +0.4%
#4	Brooklyn - Kings	7.8M YoY +3.3%	546.4K YoY +14.0%	11.0M YoY +3.7%	3.3 YoY -0.4%
#5	Erie	5.9M YoY +0.8%	440.3K YoY +9.6%	9.2M YoY +2.7%	3.3 YoY +1.5%
#6	Onondaga	4.8M YoY +1.2%	355.2K YoY +9.8%	6.6M YoY +0.7%	3.1 YoY +0.5%
#7	Nassau	4.7M YoY -3.5%	339.8K YoY +5.8%	8.5M YoY -3.1%	3.7 YoY +0.4%
#8	Monroe	4.5M YoY -0.1%	321.6K YoY +9.9%	7.2M YoY +0.3%	3.4 YoY -0.4%
#9	Westchester	4.3M YoY +2.0%	290.9K YoY +11.7%	6.4M YoY +2.3%	3.4 YoY +0.5%
#10	Albany	3.6M YoY +1.5%	260.6K YoY +11.1%	4.8M YoY -3.7%	3.0 YoY -2.4%
Not in Top 10	**Allegany**	727.8K YoY -2.6%	48.2K YoY +2.2%	1.2M YoY -5.0%	3.4 YoY -1.2%

Historical Trend Comparison

Multi-year trends for top 10 destinations

Show Metric: Trips | Display: Value



M E M O R A N D U M O F E X P L A N A T I O N

For acceptance and budgeting of GRANTS

Committee of Jurisdiction: Planning & Economic Development **Date**: October 21, 2026

Explanation of Grant: *The Office of Economic Development is requesting a resolution authorizing the County to accept grant funds from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, in the amount of $750,000, see attached award letter. Authorization to apply was granted with resolution #280-26. The funds will be used to support Advancing Allegany County: Economic Development Organization for capacity building and for professional services necessary to advance facility planning and project readiness. The resolution authorizes the acceptance of the award as well as the Chairman of the Board to sign all related paperwork.*

Please complete the 2026 budget adjustment as follows:

Appropriations ($500,000):

A6430.476	Economic Opp & Dev Cont.	$500,000

Revenue ($500,000)

*A6430.1989.RCWF	Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation Grant	$500,000

FISCAL IMPACT: Total Grant: $750,000
($500,000 budgeted in 2026 and $250,000 budgeted in 2027)
Local County Share: $0.00

Private Grant X Revenue # A6430.1989.RCWF $750,000
State Grant _____ Revenue # _____ $_____
Federal Grant _____ Revenue # _____ $_____

If Federal, please list Federal Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number _____-_____

____ This grant is a renewal of an existing grant funded program.

__X__ This is a new grant fund program.

Grant Fiscal Year: 2026-2027

Obligation of County after grant expires: None

Major benefits of accepting this grant are: The grant program will provide funds to be used for building feasibility study. The Office of Economic Development will administer this grant.

For further information regarding this matter please contact:
Ashley A. Smith, Director of Economic Development

*new account number

jkelley 10.6.26