ACADEMIC BASED WORKSHOPS

The three academic based workshops will focus on emerging topics in the local government innovation ecosystem.

Public Engagement

<u>State of the Art Practices in Outreach and Public Engagement</u>

During the planning stages of the "One Region Forward" initiative no request was denied to meet with a group, no matter what size. The dialog continued until every question and comment was received and discussed. Meetings were held in private homes, churches, and restaurants. People were met where they felt comfortable such as in their own neighborhoods and in smaller settings. The results were amazing. Thousands of citizens participated across the two counties over the course of two years, from the most rural villages to downtown Buffalo. People felt they were being heard and their thoughts mattered. Children were also included in outreach activities and attended the Community Congress and Workshops on the Road. The resulting "One Region Forward" is a cutting edge sustainability plan for the region, based on unprecedented public engagement and outreach efforts. There is much we can learn from this model.

Dr. Shibley will explain that collaboration pays off. When the public asks, "Who are you to tell me what to do in my town?" Answer with, "We're not. We are providing tools, better information, a way of thinking, and public engagement. We don't tell you what to do. We tell you what the consequences of what you are thinking about might be." His extensive public engagement is really rooted in that kind of scenario planning. "If you do X, then this will be the short and long term consequences and financial costs."

Speaker:

Robert G. Shibley: Dean and Professor, School of Architecture and Planning, University of Buffalo, SUNY

OPEN DATA PANEL

<u>Open Data: What It Is, How It Can Help You, and Where to Start</u>

The open data movement is transforming how the federal government and some state and local governments deliver services and engage with their citizens. We have brought together some local leaders with national ties to tell you about what's going on right here in New York and how your municipality can take advantage of these new technologies.

Panelists are practitioners and leaders of an emerging community of practice in upstate. They will identify some of the key terms and concepts around open data, such as "open data", "big data", "data science", and "Internet of Things". They will discuss their firsthand experience in projects such as the Upstate Data Project & Open Data Playbook, partnering with academic

institutions to gain insights from their data, Bloomberg Philanthropies' What Works Cities Initiative.

Panelists:
- **Mark Headd**: Technology Evangelist at Accela, Syracuse, NY and former Chief Data Officer, Philadelphia, PA
- **Sam Edelstein:** Chief Data Officer, Syracuse, NY
- **Oswaldo Mestre:** Director of Citizen Services, Buffalo, NY

TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION PROJECTS

Technology-Oriented Economic Development Projects with Local Government Applications: Regional Economic Development Councils and State University of New York have invested in many economic development projects that promise new technology and tools with potential application to government. We have assembled some of the leaders of those initiatives to discuss ways these tools might be applied in the public sector and opportunities for local government to partner with these cutting edge local businesses.

Panelists are leaders of state-funded economic development projects in upstate New York. They will address potential local government uses for technologies that include smart cities, unmanned aerial vehicles (drones), and big data.

Panelists:
- **Mike Kennerknecht:** Economic Development Coordinator & Assistant Director of State Relations University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
- **Anthony Albanese:** President of Gryphon Sensors LLC, Syracuse, NY
- **Michael Fancher:** Vice President for Business Development and Economic Outreach at SUNY Polytechnic Institute, Albany, NY and Director of Smart Cities Innovation
- **Gary McCarthy:** Mayor, City of Schenectady, NY

PRACTITIONER WORKSHOPS

The three practitioner based workshops will be hosted by the Local Government Efficiency section of DLGS and will focus on successful local government functional consolidations of Public Safety, Infrastructure, and Administrative services. The proposed format is a brief discussion with an individual or individuals from a Local Government in NYS that has recently implemented a successful consolidation, of that type, followed by a free flowing conversation with the attendees about that consolidation or a similar consolidation the attendee is trying to implement.

Public Safety

On January 1, 2011 the Town and Village of Saugerties combined police forces under a town wide department. This session will review the process that the municipalities undertook to get to the point of consolidation and review the benefits that have been realized since.

Local Government Practitioner: Joe Sinagara - Chief of Police, Town of Saugerties

Infrastructure

The Town of Hyde Park has partnered with the Dutchess County Water and Wastewater Authority (DCWWA) to transfer the Town's water and wastewater systems to DCWWA. The project has helped the town manage the challenge of maintaining aging infrastructure amid growing complexities in the regulation, coupled with growing pressures to reduce the costs of providing municipal services.

Local Government Practitioners: Aileen Rohr - Supervisor, Town of Hyde Park -
Bridget Barclay – Executive Director, Dutchess County Water and Wastewater Authority

Highway Services

The Town of Chemung and the Town of Ashland, with cooperation from Chemung County, are completing the consolidation of the municipal highway departments. The project, which required the highway superintendent position in the Town of Ashland to become appointive through local referendum, will save the local governments over $175,000 annually.

Local Government Practitioners: George Richter - Supervisor, Town of Chemung
Andy Avery – Commissioner of Public Works, Chemung County