

**Cazenovia Area Community Development Association, Inc. (CACDA)
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MEDIA ADVISORY

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Village Supports CACDA

Cazenovia, NY – Cazenovia Area Community Development Association, Inc. (CACDA) is beginning to be recognized as a true resource for the community. When the Village of Cazenovia budget was approved at the Board of Trustees meeting several weeks ago, funding was included to help support the relatively new organization's efforts.

According to Mayor Thomas Dougherty, "The 2006 - 2007 Village of Cazenovia Budget included an appropriation of \$2500 for CACDA. The Board of Trustees felt that the \$2500 was a sound investment in our community."

CACDA has been actively collaborating with residents in the greater Cazenovia area for the past year. In addition to sponsoring several public informational sessions about the lake, farmland protection and Route 20, CACDA has provided technical assistance to various groups.

With CACDA's help, four local entities were able to complete an application for New York State's Shared Municipal Services Incentive grant program. The Towns of Cazenovia and Nelson, the Village of Cazenovia and the Cazenovia Central School District have partnered to apply for coordinated professional planning assistance to develop or update comprehensive plans. If funded, this grant will help eliminate redundancy and enable more efficient use of taxpayer dollars. This initiative has also provided an opportunity for everyone to meet regularly to discuss common interests and issues.

CACDA's partnership with the Syracuse University Whitman School of Management will facilitate the update of a 1996 market study. The information gained will provide a better idea of the types of retail businesses that are desired and would be supported by residents.

In the past few months, CACDA has been cooperating with the farming community, the Town of Cazenovia, the American Farmland Trust and the NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets to develop a process that will enable local farmers to apply for Purchase of Development Rights funding. This program can help ensure that the high quality soils located in the Cazenovia area are maintained for agricultural purposes and that the intrinsic rural scenery is protected.

A project to remove riprap along the shoreline of Lakeside Park and replant with native species is also being guided by CACDA. Adding more plant materials to the buffer zone next to the water will assist the health of the lake in several ways. It can provide a better filtration system for runoff, reduce erosion at the shoreline, protect terrestrial and aquatic wildlife, and supply more oxygen through photosynthesis and cooling of the water. Actual planting at the site will occur this fall.

"I think that CACDA has really shown that they are involved, and want to be involved, in assisting the Village and its taxpayers with obtaining grant funding and working on community objectives," said Village Trustee Troy Waffner. "This funding is an endorsement of that, which will allow them to continue this good work."

Cazenovia Area Community Development Association, Inc. is an independent 501(c)(3) not-for-profit community based organization representing a broad cross-section of stakeholders. CACDA seeks to facilitate the planning and implementation of various projects and programs that will enhance the quality of life, for all residents in the greater Cazenovia region, through education and consensus-

building activities.

CACDA offers assistance in accomplishing community goals and objectives. It provides a non-political clearinghouse for discussion and a resource for fact finding as well as dissemination of information.

Individuals and corporations can support CACDA's programs through donations and volunteer efforts. For more information, please call Barbara Henderson, Executive Director, at 655-7651 or e-mail director@cacda.net.