Hamlet of Great Bend

Resources are located between NYS DOT Start/End Mile Point Jefferson County 8.89 through 10.44

Located in northern Jefferson County in the Town of Champion along Route 3, early settlers first constructed a dam and grist mill in 1807 following the 1804 construction of a bridge across the Black River. The bountiful natural resource of wood and water influenced community development as well as its strategic location to travel routes. The Great Bend Paper & Pulp Company, small dairy and crop farms, complementary retail services supporting development, and a tourist economy supported by visitors traversing to and from other destinations were key businesses supporting the local economy.

Strategically located at the intersection of Route 3 and 26 and its proximity to Fort Drum, visitors continue to access retail services and/or explore points of interest in the quaint community. A newly constructed infrastructure along Route 3 and cooperative municipal efforts to implement a planning process to guide development along the corridor provide enhanced opportunities for economic development while encouraging visitors to explore points of interest.

Resources and Special Sites & Attractions	Recommendations	Likely Partners of Stakeholders
Natural & Recreational		
Black River – traverses along the north side of Route 3. Visitors are provided with opportunities to enjoy breathtaking views of the river along an abandoned railroad-hiking trail. In addition, opportunities exist to traverse the river by canoe/kayak.	• Develop a plan to identify and open scenic vistas along the corridor as opportunities and funding become available; • Develop a beautification plan to enhance views along the corridor with debris clean up and strategically removed underbrush;	• Town of Champion DPW Crews, NYS DOT
Natural and Recreational		
Fishing – Off shore fishing located along the waterfront area.	• Develop a plan to identify safe fishing areas;	• NYS DEC; NYS DOT

	• Directional signage to facilitate visitor access to safe fishing areas;	
	• Develop a plan to enhance designated fishing areas with picnic tables.	
Hiking Trail – located along Route 3 on an abandoned railroad. Natural ?????????????????>>>>>	• Further develop existing trails as part of an interconnected multi-use trail system.	• NYS PRHPO supported by local interest groups and municipality.
Historic		
Historic Flour Mill Site – located along the waterfront, visitors are intrigued by the historic foundations of yesteryear and the desire to explore its significance in shaping community.	• Acquire property from Reliant Power Company as a municipally owned and maintained picnic area as opportunities and funding are available; • Directional and interpretive signage to inform visitors of the significance of the site as funding opportunities are available; • Provide off road parking to accommodate use by visitors;	• Town and Planning boards; Reliant Power Company, NYS OPRHP
Architecture – located throughout the hamlet i.e. churches private homes, and historic hotel, visitors are attracted to the architectural designs of buildings reflecting cultural and economic influences through local building materials.	• Restore/rehabilitate/renovate historic structures as opportunities and funding is available; • Ongoing maintenance and enhancements to attract visitors;	• 4-Rivers Historical Society, property owners,
Veterans Memorial -	• Ongoing maintenance and enhancements to the memorial.	• Local veterans group, 4-Rivers Historical Society
1-Room Country School House – constructed in 1827 of native limestone, the schoolhouse currently	• Develop a plan to purchase the property to maintain the significance of the property as opportunities and funding become available;	• 4-Rivers Historical Society, Property owner

serves as a private residence today.	• Interpretive signage to inform visitors of its significance;	
Sunnyside Cemetery – visitors are attracted by the wrought iron gate and fence surrounding the cemetery and intrigued to trace history.	• Ongoing maintenance and enhancements;	• Town of Champion, Special Interest groups