



# Town of Amherst

## Department of Economic Development

### 2024 Annual Report

The Economic Development Department is committed to promoting Amherst as a premier destination for businesses and residents. We believe in a holistic approach to economic development that encompasses: Business Attraction and Retention, Workforce Development, Infrastructure Investment, Strategic Growth, Community Engagement, and Streamlined Permitting

The Strategic Economic Development Plan was accepted by the Town Board in September 2023 and included an Implementation Strategy to assist the Town in focusing its economic development effort to improve efficiency and effectiveness. The Department of Economic Development focused on the Implementation Objectives, among a variety of other initiatives in 2024.

The following Objectives have been achieved in 2024:

**1.1.1 | 1.1.2 | 1.1.3 | 1.3.1 | 1.3.2 | 1.3.4 | 1.5.1 | 2.1.2 | 2.1.4 | 2.1.5 | 3.2.1**  
5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 5.5 – in progress to be released with website update in 2025

Full details of these objectives are in the Strategic Economic Development Plan  
(Implementation Matrix begins on pg 10):

[https://www.amherst.ny.us/pdf/ecodev/strategic\\_plan\\_final\\_231010.pdf](https://www.amherst.ny.us/pdf/ecodev/strategic_plan_final_231010.pdf)

2024 added

**\$582,890,701**

in new property value.

This growth was achieved with projects like the 716 Health facility, Roswell Park facility along with multiple mixed use projects and developments.



## SMALL BUSINESS

The Town of Amherst Small Business Liaison along with Town Officials attended and presented at

### 24 Ribbon Cuttings

to celebrate new businesses and expanding businesses.

These celebrations represented approximately **454 new jobs** in Amherst.

Over **400 business** were reached via in person visits, phone calls and email



With a shared goal of economic growth and prosperity, the Department of Economic Development works closely with the Amherst Industrial Development Agency, Amherst Chamber of Commerce, Erie County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Implementation Committee, Empire State Development, Buffalo State College Small Business Development Center, Canisius College Women's Business Center, University at Buffalo, and the Williamsville Business Association

## GRANTS

The Department of Economic Development has development and maintained a Town-wide database of State, Federal, and other relevant funding sources received by the Town.

### A snapshot of Town Grants from 2018 through 2024:

Total Grant Applications **61**

Total Grant Applications Awarded **56**

Total Funding Awarded **\$54,604,201**

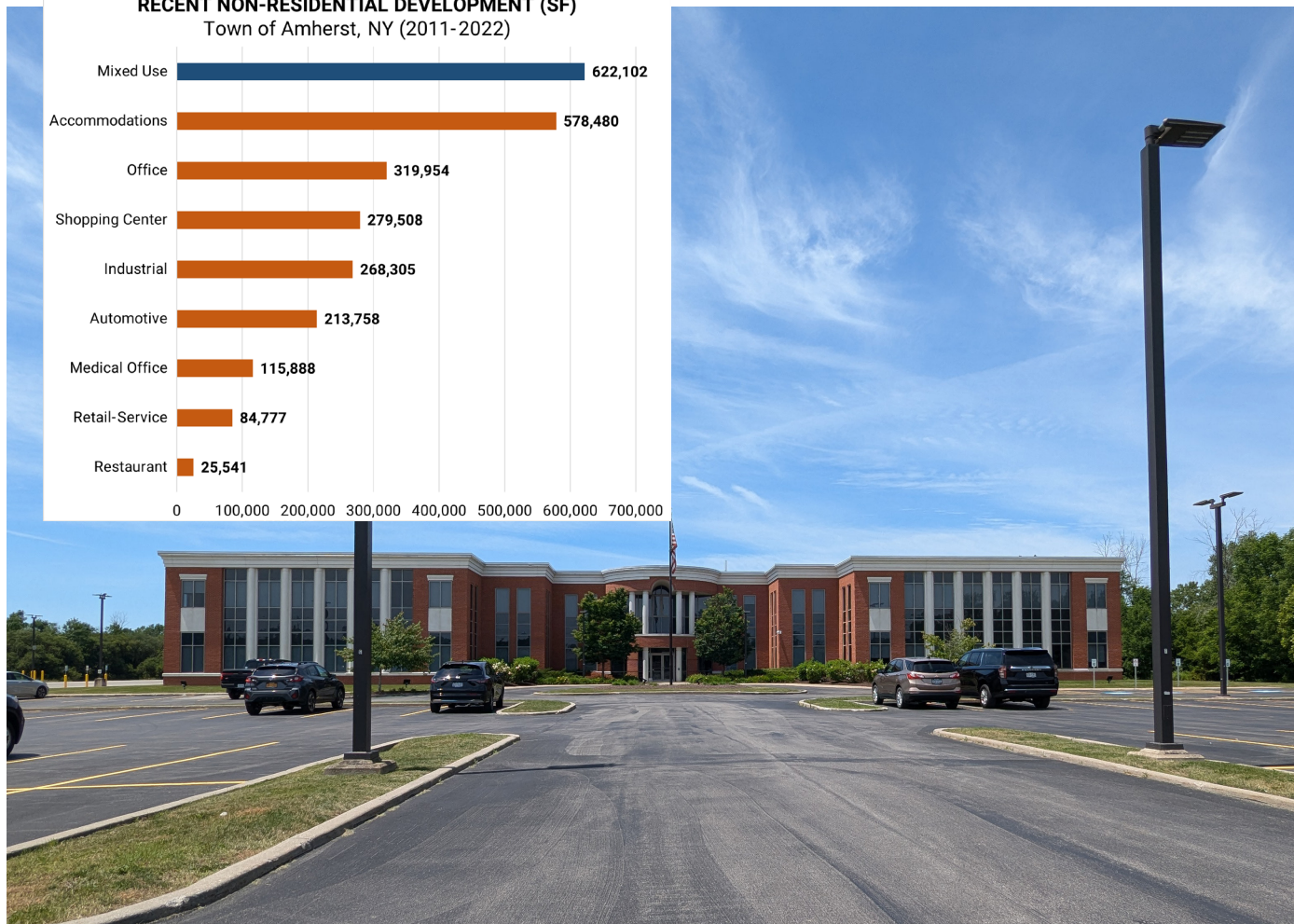
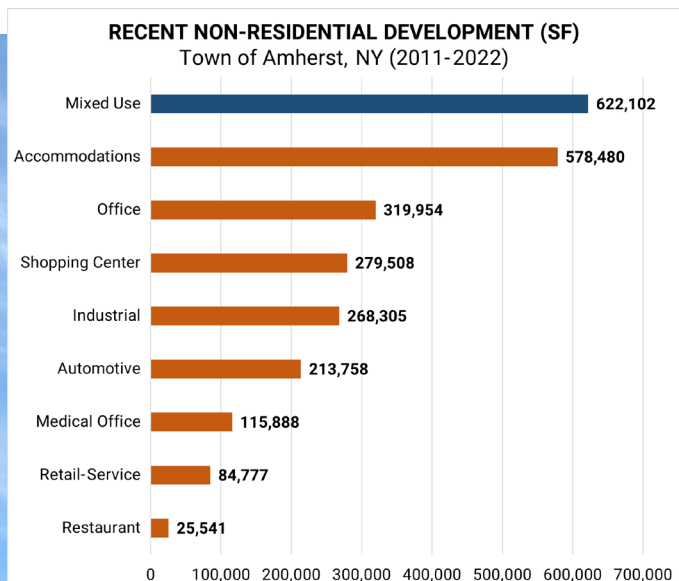
#### Funding Highlights:

- West Side Interceptor (\$31,000,000 - ESD)
- Inclusive Playground at ACP (\$1,000,000 - DASNY)
- Northtown Ice Chiller Replacement (\$2,000,000 - DEC)
- Emergency Radio Project (\$900,000 - DOJ)
- Park Enhancements including funds for improvements at Clearfield Community Center Park, Dellwood Park, Audubon Library Park, Royal Park, North French Soccer Pavilion, Paradise Park, Splash Pad, Evergreen Playground (\$2,940,000 - Legislative Funding)



# DEVELOPMENT

In the previous decade, mixed-use developments constituted most non-residential construction activities. Relative to other non-residential building types in Amherst, mixed-use buildings are a relatively new concept. The practice of integrating retail and office uses and/or residential or retail is gaining traction among local developers, capitalizing on the concept's marketability.



Looking ahead to 2025, the Department of Economic Development is excited to launch a new website with the Amherst Industrial Development Agency focused on promoting the Town of Amherst as a premier destination for businesses and residents, promoting economic diversity, quality employment opportunities and broadening the tax base of the Town of Amherst in order to reduce the tax burden on homeowners, while helping to maintain and enhance a high-quality living environment.

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