

# Draft downtown Ovid plan to be presented

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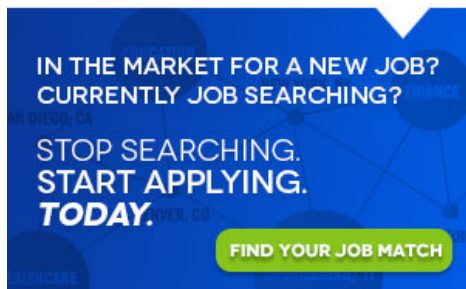
By DAVID L. SHAW [dshaw@fltimes.com](mailto:dshaw@fltimes.com) | 0 comments

OVID — The first draft of plans for the Downtown Ovid Re-Visioning Project will be presented at 7 p.m. Nov. 18 in the Papa Bear courtroom at the Three Bears Complex on Main Street.

The presentation is being sponsored by Seneca Towns Engaging People for Solutions (STEPS).



At the meeting, students from Cornell University's Design Connect organization will present the first draft plans for downtown and seek public input.



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"We have had two great public input sessions where residents have told us what they value about Ovid, what its strengths are, where they see opportunities and what they perceive as threats," said Daniel Mckenna-Foster, Design Connect team leader. "We have had people tell us what they would like to see downtown as well as what they don't want to see."

Those offering comments have ranged in age from 12 to 72.

"We are taking that input, along with conversations we have had with local officials and business owners, to shape our initial plans and designs," Mckenna-Foster said.

He said the Nov. 18 meeting is important to obtain feedback on the initial plans.

Urging the Ovid community to come out for the Nov. 18 conversation is STEPS program Director Theresa Lahr.

"The Cornell students have been working hard on this project and are listening closely to what people have to say," she said. "It is wonderful to have such a fine group of talented students working with us to help achieve our vision for a healthier community."

The Design Connect students are creating conceptual ideas and renderings of a re-envisioned downtown, as well as possible economic strategies to achieve that vision.

For more information or to offer suggestions, contact Lahr at (617) 403-0069 or [mtlahr@gmail.com](mailto:mtlahr@gmail.com), or Ave Bauder at 539-9251 or [bauder@cornell.edu](mailto:bauder@cornell.edu).

STEPS is a long-term program that focuses on where people live and how the social, economic and environmental state of neighborhoods impact health. It serves the towns of Covert, Lodi, Ovid and Romulus, funded by a grant from the Greater Rochester Health Foundation.