



37th Annual Planning Symposium

March 19, 2026 • Marriott Syracuse Downtown

AGENDA

- 7:30 – 8:00 AM** **Registration & Continental Breakfast**
- 8:00 – 8:15** **Welcome and Federation Annual Meeting**
Kevin Gilligan, Esq., *President, Onondaga County Planning Federation*
- 8:30 – 9:30** *Choice of three concurrent sessions:*
A. Special Use Permits
B. Building Momentum: Great Housing Opportunities for Onondaga County
C. Case Study: A Pathway to a Greenway
- 9:40 – 10:40** *Choice of three concurrent sessions:*
D. Area Variances: A Deep Dive
E. Regulating Short Term Rentals: A Local Perspective
F. Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)
- 10:40 – 11:00** **Break**
- 11:00 – 12:00 PM** *Choice of three concurrent sessions:*
G. Site Plan Review
H. How to Design a Neighborhood
I. Changes in New York State Wetland Regulations
- 12:15 – 1:00** **Lunch**
- 1:00 – 1:45** **Keynote Address: How to Kickstart Planning Action in Your Community**
J. Gregory Connors, *President and CEO, Saratoga Economic Development Corporation*
- 2:00 – 3:00** *Choice of three concurrent sessions:*
J. County Referral (GML §239-I, m & n)
K. Choose Wisely: How Land Use Drives Local Government Revenue and Operations
L. Overview of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) Process
- 3:00 – 3:15** **Break**
- 3:15 – 4:15** **M. Closing Plenary Session: Case Law Update for Planning and Zoning**