



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 <i>Kevin Gilligan, Esq., President, Onondaga County Planning Federation</i>
8:30 – 9:30	<i>Choice of three concurrent sessions:</i> 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	<i>Choice of three concurrent sessions:</i> 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	<i>Choice of three concurrent sessions:</i> 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 <i>J. Gregory Connors, President and CEO, Saratoga Economic Development Corporation</i>
2:00 – 3:00	<i>Choice of three concurrent sessions:</i> J. County Referral (GML §239-l, 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