

Downtown Revitalization

Village of Ballston Spa

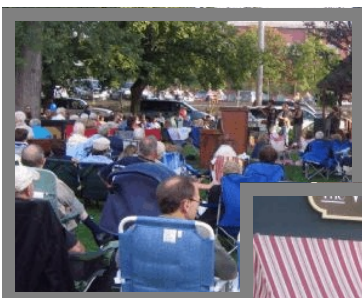
The Village adopted a Commercial Revitalization Plan funded in part by the NYS Office for Small Cities (OSC) in July 2003, and that Plan recommended several primary revitalization goals:

- ▶ Improve downtown commercial and residential properties.
- ▶ Focus resources on mixed-use buildings and adjacent neighborhoods.
- ▶ Increase resident and visitor awareness of shopping, social, and cultural facilities.



In both 2004 and 2006 the Village was awarded Small Cities Community Development Block Grants of \$400,000 and \$357,000 to initiate the revitalization of its downtown through the rehabilitation of apartments over storefronts and adjacent substandard residential properties. By creating and improving housing conditions in mixed-use buildings, property owners will be able to attract more residents downtown that provide foot traffic to support retail and cultural activities.

The Village received in 2005 \$400,000 in HOME grant funding to repair deteriorated homes owned and occupied by lower income residents in the neighborhood surrounding the downtown business district, known as the “Flats.” The Village is also continuing to install new period street lights, upgrade pedestrian cross-walks, plant street trees, and improve public parking facilities and increase signage to attract residents and visitors to explore the business district.



AVALON ASSOCIATES, in partnership with Camoin Associates, advises the Village on downtown and community revitalization strategies and funding opportunities. Avalon prepares the applications for the Small Cities and HOME grants, and Camoin is helping the Village design a commercial building improvement program to complement the current downtown housing activities.