

TOMPKINS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARDS
UPDATED December 2014

*N/C - Apts. processed through a nominating committee

Advisory Board on Indigent Representation (ABIR) N/C

Est. via Res. No. 293 of 1987; bylaws approved by Resolution No. 39 of 2/7/89; amended by Res. 7 and 60 of 2000, Res. No. 233-05; and Local Law No. 1 of 2002; 13 members with three-year terms. Majority of the Board shall consist of attorneys recommended for membership by the Tompkins County Bar Association. See bylaws for waiving term limits.

Contact: Julia Hughes, Program Coordinator for Assigned Counsel
272-7487

- 10 - At-large representatives
- 1 – OAR Director (Residency waived if out of County)
- 2 - Tompkins County Legislators

Function: The purpose of this Board is to insure effective, high-quality representation for indigent persons at a reasonable cost. In conjunction with that purpose, the Board's responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the study, review and recommendations concerning appropriate modifications to the existing program under Article 18-B of the County Law for providing representation through assigned attorneys in Criminal Court and in the Family Court, and to study, review and make recommendations in regard to the possible creation of a public defender. The Board will also advise the Tompkins County Bar Association on various issues relating to representation of indigents in the criminal courts and family courts in Tompkins County.

Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board

Established via Resolution No. 405 of 1992; 11 members (at least four shall be ex-officio and shall serve as a condition of their position) with four-year terms, limit two terms (unless beneficial for a member to serve additional terms). Bylaws amended by Res. No. 54 of 2004, Res. No. 240 of 2009.

Contact: Monika Roth, Cooperative Extension
272-2292

- 4 representatives of farming
- 1 Agriculture Land Preservation representative
- 1 County Legislator
- 1 Agri-business representative

Ex-officio members (voting members):

Terms coterminous with tenure in such office:

- Planning Commissioner or Designee
- Cooperative Extension Agent
- Director of Assessment or Designee
- Chair, Soil and Water Conservation District
- Associate Members (non-voting) – two-year term

Function: The purpose of this Board is to determine which agricultural lands fit the criteria for inclusion in an agricultural district and in addition it shall advise the County Board of Representatives and work with the County Planning Board in relation to the proposed establishment, modification, continuation, or termination of any agricultural district. It will also render expert advice as to the nature of farming and farm resources within any proposed or established area and the relation of farming in such area to the County as a whole.

Air Service Board N/C

Created by Resolution No. 281 of 2005 and amended by Resolutions No. 57, 115 extended Board until 12/31/13, 140 of 2009 and Res. No. 212 of 2013. Ten members with three-year terms, no limit on the number of terms a member may serve.

Contact: Roxanne Noble, Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport
257-0456

- Member of the Legislature
- Commissioner of Planning and Public Works

- Representative of Cornell University with functional responsibility for air travel issues
- Representative of Ithaca College with functional responsibility for air travel issues
- 6 At-Large members representing varied economic development, business, and airport-user interests

Function: The Board is to serve as an advisory board to the Airport Manager focusing on policy and procedures to ensure the successful operation of the airport. It is to assist the Airport Manager in preparation of a budget that will support air service in the county, to consult on opportunities for state and federal funding, to promote the best possible use of all airport resources, to improve existing services whenever possible, and to formulate policy for confirmation by the Legislature.

Tompkins County Area Development Board of Directors

Bylaws adopted 1/14/88; at-large seats are for three-year terms, all others are one-year terms; 22 members, revised bylaws filed 1/23/97. Chair of the Tompkins County Legislature nominates annually one voting member.

Contact: Michael Stamm at Tompkins County Area Development.

273-0005

- 1 Chamber of Commerce Chair or VC
- 1 Nominated by the Mayor of the City of Ithaca
- 1 Nominated by the Chair of the Legislature
- 1 Nominated by the President of Cornell University
- 1 Nominated by the President of Ithaca College
- 1 Nominated by Tompkins Cortland Community College
- 1 Nominated by the IDA Chair
- 1 Nominated by the Office of Cornell Economic Devel.

14 At-large Members representing the following areas:

- 1 Banking Community
- 1 Commercial sector
- 3 Industrial sector
- 2 Rural Public Sector
- 1 Retail/Commercial
- 1 Labor representative
- 1 Tourism representative
- 4 At-large non-designated representatives

Ex-Officio (non-voting members)

- President the Chamber of Commerce
- Director of the City of Ithaca Planning Department
- Tompkins County Planning Department Commissioner
- Executive Director of TCAD
- Director of Cornell Research Park

Function: To encourage the location and expansion of industrial, research, and business facilities, the creation or new and improved job opportunities, the reduction of employment and the betterment of individual and community prosperity within Tompkins County.

Board of Assessment Review

Established via Local Law No. 2 of 1971; revised by Local Law No. 1 of 1979; Local Law No. 1 of 2003; at least three members but no more than five; five-year terms. Terms expire September 30.

Contact: Jay Franklin, Director of Assessment
274-5517

- 3 to 5 At-large representatives who must have knowledge of real property values in the County. (No more than one member's term shall expire in any one year. Neither the Director of Assessment or staff of the Division shall be appointed to this Board.)

Function: The purpose of this Board is to hear and determine complaints in relation to assessments and shall have all the powers and duties now or thereafter imposed by law on Boards of Review by Section 512 of the Real Property Tax Law and by any other law. This Board shall be the final assessing authority for all property concerning which a written complaint has been filed.

Board of Health N/C

Section 340-343 of Public Health Law; 8 members with six-year terms. Bylaws adopted 5/16/95. Revised by Local Law No. 1 of 2003, Res. No. 36 of 2004, Res. No. 137 of 2010, and Res. No. 137 of 2012.

Contact: Brenda Crosby, Health Department
274-6674

- 3 physicians
- 1 County Legislator
- 1 City of Ithaca Representative
- 3 At-large members

Function: The purpose of this Board is to formulate, promulgate, adopt, amend, or repeal and publish rules, regulations, orders and directives for the security of the life and health in the health district, which shall not be inconsistent with the Public Health Law of State Sanitary Code. These rules, regulations, orders, and directives are known as the County Sanitary Code.

Civil War Commission (Temporary Committee)

Created October 21, 2008, to develop and coordinate events commemorating the American Civil War, begun April 1861 and ending 1865. Committee membership will be a maximum of 17 voting members.

Contact: Tompkins County Legislature
274-5434

Function: The Commission will develop a community civics and history lesson using the occasion to begin a discussion of war, civic obligation, racism, the role of women, soldiers of color, political opinion, and to discuss the expansion of the political process of democratization that has occurred since 1865. Specific commemorative events will begin in April 2011 and last through the end of the war-cycle, 2015.

Community Mental Health Services Board N/C

Est. 8/23/65 via Local Law No. 2; Local Law No. 1 of 2003; revised bylaws approved by Resolution No. 177 of 1996 and amended by Resolution No. 007 of 2011; 15 members with four-year terms; no limit on the number of terms a member may serve.

Contact: Leslie Connors, Tompkins County Mental Health
274-6300

- 1 Certified psychologist or licensed physician (may be filled with at-large if no psychologist or physician applies)
- 1 Licensed physician (may be filled with at-large member if no physician applies)
- 13 At-large members

Function: The Board is responsible for developing the community preventative, rehabilitative and treatment services offering continuity of care; for improving and expanding existing community programs for individuals with mental illness, developmental disabilities and those experiencing or recovering from substance abuse or substance dependence. Planning for the integration of community and state services and facilities for the mental disabled and for cooperating with local governments and with the state in the provision of joint services and sharing of resources.

*There are three subcommittees consisting of nine members each with four-year terms. Each subcommittee has six community member seats. Contact Betsy Doling, Tompkins County Mental Health, 274-6300.

- Substance Abuse Subcommittee
- Developmental Disabilities Subcommittee
- Mental Health Subcommittee

Criminal Justice Advisory/Alternatives to Incarceration Board (CJA/ATI)

Est. by Res. No. 129 of 1975 and 62 of 1985; renamed 2/18/86 by Res. No. 57. Additional members added via Res. No. 367 of 1986, Res. No. 84 of 1990, Res. No. 69 of 1991, Res. No. 333 of 1995, and Res. No. 151 of 1996. Defense Bar seat est. via Res. No. 160 of 1992. Law Guardian seat removed by Res. No. 172 of 2008. Three-year terms. Bylaws amended by Res. No. 128 of 2004 and Res. No. 214 of 2010.

Contact: Susan Cook, Chair
274-5546

- 1 Youth Services representative
- 3 At-Large members
- 1 Representative of Agency representing crime victims
- 1 Department of Social Services representative
- 1 County Attorney’s Office representative
- 1 Representative of agency providing mediation services to courts

Additional seats on this Board per bylaws that are not appointed by County Legislature:

- Agency providing indigent legal services (up to two seats)
- Ex-Offender
- County Court Judge (appointed by Administrative Law Judge)
- District Attorney
- Probation Director
- Agency Providing ATI services (OAR)
- Representative of Local Police Agencies
- County Legislator (Public Safety Chair)
- Town or Village Court Judge (appointed by Administrative Law Judge)
- Crime Victim (appointed by County Executive)
- Sheriff
- County Executive
- Mental Health Director
- Individual who provides State certified substance abuse treatment programs or services

Function: This Board studies and identifies needs and recommends effective methods for meeting the needs of the County’s criminal justice system. The Board also prepares and supervises the County’s Alternatives to Incarceration Plan.

Tompkins County Development Corporation Board of Directors

Est. via Resolution No. 33 of 2010. No less than three, but no more than nine Directors, who shall be members of the Tompkins County Industrial Development Agency. Directors serve at the pleasure of the County.

Developmental Disabilities Subcommittee N/C

Legislature appoints 9 members; 4 year terms

Contact: Leslie Connors, Mental Health
274-6300

- 6 Community Member representatives
- 3 Mental Health Board representatives

Function: Responsible for program planning and program evaluations of the agencies assigned to them. They will review all new program proposals and will develop the local governmental plan for the disability they represent. They bring their written recommendations on the above to the Mental Health Services Board for its consideration.

Economic Development Loan Oversight Committee

Est. via Res. 293 of 1999. Micro-Enterprise seat added by Res. No. 266 of 2004. The Tompkins County Legislature appoints members from the following constituencies who serve at the pleasure of the Legislature.

Contact: Ed Marx, Commissioner of Planning and Public Works
274-5560

- Previous Recipient
- Tompkins County Business Advisor (TCAD)
- Tompkins County Legislature (appropriate committee chair)
- Bank Representative
- Small Business Owner
- Commissioner of Planning
- Tompkins County Finance Director
- Tompkins County Attorney
- Micro-Enterprise Business

Function: To recommend redistribution of the funds as per the Economic Development Loan guidelines for Tompkins County Small Cities Economic Development Loans as adopted by Res. 152 of 1999.

Emergency Communications Review and Oversight Committee

Est. via Resolution No. 265 of 1994; amended by Resolution No. 286 of 1997; Reorganized via Res. No. 318 of 2002; amended by Res. No. 28 of 2006; Bylaws amended by Resolution No. 14 of 2010. 15 members with three-year terms. Contact: Lee Shurtleff, Director of Emergency Response 257-3888

- 1 At Large
- 3 Volunteer fire and EMS members
- The New York State Police Zone Commander or designee
- The Director of Cornell Public Safety or Designee
- The Director of the Ithaca College Campus Safety or designee
- The Tompkins County Director of Emergency Response
- The Ithaca Fire Chief or designee
- The Manager of Commercial Ambulance Service or designee
- The Tompkins County Sheriff or designee
- The Ithaca Police Chief or designee
- 1 Village Police Chief (representing village police departments)
- 1 Member of the County Legislature Public Safety Committee
- The Communications Center Manager

Function: The purpose of this Committee is to oversee the planning, implementation, and operations of the E911 system by working with public safety agencies, governmental officials, and equipment, service and software providers to assure that an efficient system is in operation.

Empire Zone Administration Board

Created via Local Law 5 of 2005. Bylaws adopted via Res. No. 221 of 2006. Nine members, three-year terms. The Chair shall be the Commissioner of Planning. Contact: Heather Filiberto, TCAD 273-0005

- Representative of organized labor
- Representative of a financial institution
- Representative of education
- Representative of business
- Representative of community organization
- Residents

Function: The Board shall be responsible for coordinating, monitoring, and evaluating Empire Zone (EZ) benefits on behalf of Tompkins County in accordance with Article 18-B of the New York State General Municipal Law, the enabling legislation for the Empire Zone.

Environmental Management Council (EMC) N/C

Est. via Resolution No. 103 of 5/10/71; amended by R200-91, R244-93; restructured via Resolution No. 295 of 1999, added to Charter via Local Law No. 1 of 2003. Two-year terms; Resolution No. 322 of 1999 terms were staggered. Total

membership is to be not less than 21 members and not more than 28 members. Chair to be confirmed by Legislature.

Contact: Planning Department
274-5560

- 12 At-large seats
- 16 Municipal seats (one designated for each municipality in Tompkins County) *Resolution No. 295 of 1999 contains stipulations regarding municipalities forfeiting seats if no recommendation is received.

Function: The purpose of the EMC is to identify problems, propose priorities and promote coordination of activities in the development and management of natural resources and to provide a public forum for the discussion and resolution of these problems and completion of proposed projects.

Ethics Advisory Board

Local Law No. 2 of 2013; Chair is appointed by the Chair of the Legislature; 5 members with four-year terms.

Contact: Cathy Covert, Clerk of the Legislature
274-5434

- 4 County residents
- 1 Legislator

Function: This Board shall meet at least once per year and within thirty days after receipt of written complaints of alleged unethical practices. This Board shall also review annual financial disclosure forms and conflict of interest statements.

Family Court Advisory Council

Est. via Resolution No. 263 of 10/22/79; amended by Resolution No. 66 of 2/19/91 and Resolution No. 348 of 12/7/93. Bylaws do not exist; 13 members with three-year terms.

Contact: Marisa Matsudaira, Family and Children's Service
273-7494

- 1 DSS representative
- 1 Youth Board representative
- 1 Family and Children's Service representative
- 1 School representative
- 1 Probation Department representative
- 1 Police agency representative
- 1 Mental Health Clinic representative
- 3 - 6 At-large representatives

Function: To study and identify needs of Tompkins County's Family Court system, monitoring of the system, and recommending effective methods for meeting the needs of the system, and gathering relevant data regarding the operation of the family court system.

Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance

Restructured April 2002. Representative must have a broad view of the tourism industry. 3-year term.

- 1 County representative
- Contact: Convention and Visitors Bureau
272-1313

Fire, Disaster, and EMS Advisory Board

Est. via Resolution No. 24 of 2/13/51 and Local Law No. 1 of 2003; bylaws updated May, 1992, R178-92; maximum 21 voting members with three-year terms (alternates are optional).

Contact: Beth Harrington, Department of Emergency Response
257-3888

- 4 City of Ithaca Delegates
- 1 Town of Danby Delegate
- 3 Town of Dryden Delegates
- 1 Town of Caroline Delegate
- 2 Town of Groton Delegates
- 1 Town of Enfield Delegate
- 2 Town of Lansing Delegates
- 1 Town of Newfield Delegate
- 2 Town of Ulysses Delegates

- 2 Village of Cayuga Heights Delegates
- 2 At-large representatives

Function: To develop and maintain programs for fire and EMS training and mutual aid in cases of fire and other public emergencies in which the service of fire and other emergency personnel would be used. To work with the Tompkins County Legislature in connection with establishment and maintenance of a County fire training school, mutual aid programs and any other duties the Legislature may prescribe in cases of fire and other public emergencies in which the services of fire and other emergency personnel would be used.

Fish and Wildlife Management Board

Environmental Conservation Law Sec. 11-0501. Two-year terms; a member may only serve four successive terms. Alternate representatives may be appointed and have voting privileges.

Contact: NYSDEC
1-800-388-8244

- 1 Landowner representative
- 1 Sportsmen's representative
- 1 County Legislator

Function: To develop fish and wildlife practices that will preserve and develop resources of the State and improve access to them for recreational purposes by the people of the State.

Hillview Road Landfill Citizens Advisory Committee

Est. via Resolution No. 497 of 12-18-90; amended by Resolution No. 85 of 3/5/91, R282-91, R51-04; bylaws adopted by Resolution No. 231 of 8/10/93; bylaws amended by Resolution No. 51 of 2004 and Resolution No. 70 of 2010. 5 members with four-year terms.

Contact: Tom Richardson, Solid Waste Assistant
273-6632

- 2 Neighborhood representatives
- 2 At-large representatives
- 1 County Legislator

Function: This Committee advises the appropriate Committee of the Tompkins County Legislature during the planning, design, operation, maintenance, closure, and post closure of the landfill and shall include comment on aspects related to the planning, design, operation, and maintenance of the landfill site, monitoring of the site during use and after closure, the approach roads, compensation to landowners, and municipalities impacted.

Homeownership Oversight Committee

Established via Res. No. 42 of 1994; no set terms.

Contact: Megan McDonald, Planning Department
274-5560

- 1 At-large
- 1 Tompkins County Mortgage Company
- 1 Planning Commissioner
- 1 Planning Committee Chair
- 1 Finance Director
- 1 Director of Better Housing for Tompkins County (ex-officio)

Housing Affordability Program and Housing Trust Program Oversight Committee

Created by Resolution No. 31 of 2009. Nine total members; three from each participating municipality (Tompkins County, City of Ithaca, and Cornell University). Each entity may have one ex-officio non-voting member. Memorandum of Understanding is for a six-year term (expires 2015).

Contact: Planning Department
274-5560

Function: The Program Oversight Committee will serve as the oversight and administration entity for the Community Housing

Affordability Program and the Community Housing Trust Program.

Board of Human Rights Commissioners N/C

Est. via Resolution No. 290 of 1963 and Local Law No. 1 of 2003; amended bylaws adopted by Resolution Nos. 220 of 2014 and 211 of 1992; Resolution No. 67 of 1999; three-year terms; 15 members.

Contact: Karen Baer, Director of the Tompkins County Human Rights Commission; Leon Lawrence, Chairperson, Board of Human Rights Commissioners
277-4080

- 15 At-large representatives

Function: The purpose of the Commission is to encourage equality of treatment for, and discourage discrimination against, any person on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, creed, actual or perceived sexual orientation/preference, sexual minority status, national origin, age, disability, marital status, or arrest and conviction record.

Industrial Development Agency

Est. via Resolution No. 46 of 1971; seven voting members, serves at the pleasure of the County Legislature; revised bylaws adopted 11/21/01, 3/15/02, 2/2/07, and 10/3/08. Appointments of Legislators are made annually by resolution. Non-Legislator board members appointed for two-year term, with no more than three successive terms.

Contact: Michael Stamm at Tompkins County Area Development
273-0005

- 4 Members from the Tompkins County Legislature
- 1 Member from the TCAD Board of Directors
- 2 At-large

County Administrator, Planning Commissioner, and Finance Director shall be ex-officio, non-voting members.

Function: To promote, develop, and assist in acquiring, constructing, and furnishing industrial, manufacturing, warehousing, commercial, research, and recreational facilities and thereby advancing job opportunities, health, general prosperity and economic welfare of the people of New York State.

Library Board of Trustees N/C

Est. 9/11/67 pursuant to Section 255 of Education Law. Amending Resolutions and Local Laws: Res. No. 221 of 1976; Res. No. 7 of 99; Local Law No. 6 of 1981 fixed terms of office; Local Law No. 1 of 1999 – three-year terms; Local Law No. 1 of 2003; no less than 5 members; no more than 15.

Contact: Susan Currie, Public Library Director
272-4557

- Up to 15 members

Function: To promote sound fiscal management and review of the Library's operations and to establish proper accountability by the Library of funds received from the County.

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)

Est. 1987 - appointments made by the Tompkins County Legislature with the approval of the New York State Disaster Preparedness Commission. Bylaws revised in June, 1992; R287-88, R187-92; 15 members with no set terms.

Contact: Lee Shurtleff, Director of Emergency Response
257-3888

- Chair, Public Safety Committee
- Chair, Health Committee
- Emergency Response Coordinator
- City Fire Chief
- Public Health Director
- University Safety Officer

- Print Media representative
- Broadcast Media representative
- Community representative
- Law enforcement representative
- Hospital representative
- 4 Facility Owner and Operator representatives

Ex-Officio members:

- Chair, Tompkins County Legislature
- New York State Police

Function: The principal duty of the LEPC is to develop an emergency response plan for Tompkins County and the municipalities and organizations, businesses and industrial facilities within the County.

Mental Health Subcommittee N/C

Legislature appoints 9 members; 4 year terms

Contact: Leslie Connors, Mental Health

274-6300

- 9 Community Member representatives
- 3 Mental Health Board representatives

Function: Responsible for program planning and program evaluations of the agencies assigned to them. They will review all new program proposals and will develop the local governmental plan for the disability they represent. They bring their written recommendations on the above to the Mental Health Services Board for its consideration.

Municipal Electric and Gas Alliance

Established via Res. No. 237 of 2001. Tompkins County as a member county appoints one representative. As a representative they are authorized to execute any agreement with MEGA on behalf of Tompkins County. Appointed by the Chair of the Legislature.

Contact: Jennifer Luu, 274-7526

- 1 Director

Office for the Aging Advisory Committee N/C

Est. by Local Law No. 1 of 7/15/1974; amended by Local Law No. 1 of 1978 (Res. No. 34 of 2/13/78), Local Law No. 1 of 2003, and Res. No. 127 of 2011 (bylaws amended); may not serve more than two consecutive terms. 15 members, three-year staggered terms.

Contact: Lisa Holmes, Office for the Aging

274-5482

- 15 members. *At least half of the members have to be 60 years of age or older; remaining members shall be At-large members who are concerned with the interests of the elderly.

Function: To advise the Tompkins County Legislature and the Director of the Office for the Aging on matters relating to the quality of life for persons 60 years of age and older in Tompkins County.

Personal Emergency Response Service Advisory Board

Est. via Resolution No. 222 of 1985; six members with two-year terms with no limit on number of terms a member may serve.

Contact: Lisa Holmes, Office for the Aging

274-5482

- 1 At-large representative
- 1 County Legislator
- 4 representatives of agencies dealing with aging or disabled clients

Function: This Board is responsible for recommending policies and procedures for operation of the Personal Emergency Response System and for developing criteria to be used in requesting proposals from non-County agencies to take over the administrative and outreach activities of the service.

Planning Advisory Board

Est. 4/18/95 via Local Law 1 of 1995, Resolution No. 180 of 2002. Restructured via Local Law No. 5 of 2002; Local Law No. 1 of 2003. Bylaws approved by Res. No. 214 of 1996. Revised bylaws approved via Res. No. 48 of 2003. 19 Members - Staggered 3 year terms.

Contact: Tompkins County Planning Department

274-5560

- 1 Member of the program committee or designee
- 1 Economic development representative
- 1 Human services representative
- 1 Transportation representative
- 1 Natural Environment representative
- 1 Housing representative
- 1 Agriculture representative
- 2 Education representatives
- 3 At-large representatives
- 1 Land Preservation/Public Land Management representative
- 1 Business representative
- 1 Local Planning (non-urban) representative
- 1 Built Environment Design representative
- 1 Infrastructure/Utilities representative
- 1 Local Planning (urban) representative
- 1 Cultural/Historic Preservation representative

Function: The purpose of this Board is to provide the Tompkins County Legislature and the Commissioner of Planning with advice on comprehensive land-use planning and matters relating to regional, County, and municipal planning consistent with Article 12-A of the NYS General Municipal Law (GML) and the Tompkins County Charter.

Public Information Advisory Board

Est. via Resolution No. 135 of 1999; Eight members with two-year terms. Bylaws adopted 8/20/02 via Res. No. 207.

Contact: Marcia Lynch, Public Information Officer

274-5555

- 8 At-large representatives
- Ex-officio (non-voting) members: Public Information Officer, County Legislator, County staff member

Function: Advise the Public Information Officer and the Tompkins County Legislature on effective ways to disseminate information and encourage meaningful public involvement in County government and issues and activities.

Recreation Partnership

Created in 1995. Bylaws adopted February 5, 2002, via Res. No. 13 of 2002, Amended and adopted by Res. No. 96 of 2002, Res. No. 223 of 2005. Two-year terms, expiring December 31; each municipality will have at least one seat on the governing board. In addition, the City of Ithaca, Town of Ithaca, and Tompkins County may appoint one additional member.

Contact: Amie Hendrix, Youth Services

274-5310

Function: Designed to reduce geographical barriers and increase affordable access to youth from participating municipalities.

Regional Forest Practice Board

Est. 7/1946; not less than 3 members. 3 year terms. Legislator serves for 2 years.

Contact: David Sinclair, Asst. Regional Forester in Region 7

607-753-3095

- At least two landowner representatives
- 1 County Legislator

Function: To provide for the development and maintenance of a forest resources planning program to conserve, improve, and protect natural resources and the environment.

Soil and Water Conservation District

Est. via Resolution No. 53 of 1944; three-year terms, County Legislators – one-year term; 5 members.

Contact: Jon Negley, Soil and Water Conservation District Office
257-3820

- 2 County Legislators
- 1 At-large representative
- 1 Grange representative
- 1 Farm Bureau representative

Function: To conduct surveys, investigations, and research relating to the character of soil erosion, floodwater, sediment damages, non-point source water pollution, and the preventative and control measures needed to publish the results of such surveys, investigate or research and to disseminate information concerning such preventative and control measures.

South Central Resource Conservation and Development Committee District

The Board shall be composed of a representative from each of the 12 governing bodies (Tompkins County Legislature). New Bylaws adopted April, 2011 and effective October 1, 2012. The CNYRCD Nominating Committee will choose member from each County and present to the County Legislature for approval. Voting members will continue for a three-year term with a maximum of two concurrent terms.

Contact: Andy Kiraly, Chairperson, Central NY Resource Conservation and Development, 99 N. Broad St., Norwich, NY 13815

Function: To provide local leadership required for carrying out the orderly conservation, improvement, development, and wise use of the natural resources, thereby improving the economic opportunities for people within the counties that comprise the Central New York Resource Conservation and Development project, Inc.: Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Madison, Onondaga, Otsego, Schoharie, Sullivan, Tioga, and Tompkins.

STOP-DWI Advisory Board

Est. via Res. 317 of 1982 - Governor signed into law in 1981; Local Law No. 1 of 2003. Bylaws adopted by Res. No. 71 of 4-7-82; amended by Res. 28 of 1986, 399 of 1988, 231 of 1989, and membership amended via Res. No. 152 of 1992. Fifteen members with three-year terms.

Contact: Michelle Barber, DA's Office
274-5461

- Public Safety Committee member
- At-large representative (preferably youth)
- Sheriff's Department representative
- City Police Department representative
- Village Police Department representative
- 4 At-large representatives
- District Attorney representative
- Alcoholism Council representative
- Substance Abuse Subcommittee of the Mental Health Board
- Probation Department representative
- Public Schools or BOCES representative
- Restaurant, Tavern, & Motel Owners Association Representative

*The Tompkins County Traffic Safety Board may have an ad-hoc, non-voting member.

Function: This board advises the STOP-DWI Coordinator on programs to reduce alcohol-related offenses, relates the County-wide program to State and regional programs, and informs the public and private sectors of the DWI problem and the means of maintaining safety in the County.

Strategic Tourism Planning Board N/C

Est. via Res. No. 339 of 1998 to replace the Advisory Board on Tourism Development; Bylaws amended by Res. Nos. 145 and 231 of 2000, Res. Nos. 272 of 2001, and Res. No. 29 of 2002; Res. 210 of 2008 and Res. No. 109 of 2012. 18 members with three-year terms.

Contact: Thomas Knipe, Planning Department
274-5560

Voting Members:

- 2 Lodging representatives
- 1 Recreation representatives
- 4 Arts/Culture representatives
- 1 Cornell University representative
- 1 Ithaca College representative
- 7 At-large representatives
- 1 Tompkins Cortland Community College representative
- 1 Agriculture representative

Non-Voting Members:

- 1 Tompkins County Legislator
- 1 Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce
- 1 Convention and Visitors Bureau representative
- 1 Governmental transportation representative
- 1 Tompkins County Area Development representative
- 1 Downtown Ithaca Alliance representative
- 1 Community Arts Partnership representative

Function: This Board reviews and evaluates the activities of all entities receiving Room Occupancy Tax and recommends to the Legislature the most appropriate and effective use of room tax funds.

Substance Abuse Subcommittee N/C

Legislature appoints 9 members; 4 year terms.

Contact: Leslie Connors, Mental Health
274-6300

- 6 Community Member representatives
- 3 Mental Health Board representatives

Function: Responsible for program planning and program evaluations of the agencies assigned to them. They will review all new program proposals and will develop the local governmental plan for the disability they represent. They bring their written recommendations on the above to the Mental Health Services Board for its consideration.

Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit, Inc. Board of Directors

Est. via Res. No. 290 of 1997; 9 members with three-year terms. County only appoints County representatives.

Contact: Joe Turcotte, TCAT
277-7433

- 3 Tompkins County representatives
- 3 City of Ithaca representatives
- 3 Cornell University representatives

Function: The purpose of this Board is to establish, maintain, and improve an efficient and coordinated public transportation system in Tompkins County and the surrounding areas. The TCAT Board also assists in the development of improved public transportation facilities, equipment, techniques, and methods with the cooperation of public and private companies.

Tompkins Cortland Community College Board of Trustees

Est. via Resolution No. 208 of 1966. Ten members, seven-year terms. Student trustee with one-year term. Local Law No. 1 of 2003.

Contact: Cathy Northrup, TC3
844-8211

- 4 Members appointed by the Governor
- 3 Members appointed by Tompkins County
- 2 Members appointed by Cortland County
- 1 Student Trustee (one-year term)

Function: All affairs, property, business, and policies of the College are under the control of the Board of Trustees. The

Board of Trustees establishes polices and delegates the responsibilities for administration of those polices to the President.

Traffic Safety Board

Est. via Local Law No. 1 of 2000; Up to 11 members (including five from the appropriate Board Committee that deals with Public Safety); three-year terms. Seats specified by Res. 39 of 2000.

Contact: Michelle Pottorff, Chief Deputy Clerk, Legislature 274-5434

- Up to 5 members from the Public Safety Committee
- 1 Representative of the Tompkins County Sheriff's Department
- 1 Representative of the New York State Police
- 1 Representative from and Chosen by the City of Ithaca with the request that the person be a member of the City Police Department
- 1 Village Police official appointed by the Municipal Officials Association
- 1 Representative of the Tompkins County Highway Division
- 1 Representative from the Metropolitan Planning Organization

Function: The Traffic Safety board shall promote and encourage street and highway safety programs and coordinate efforts of all interested parties and agencies engaged in traffic safety education. The board shall also study traffic conditions on streets and highways within the County and study and analyze reports of accidents and causes thereof to promote safety education for drivers and pedestrians.

Tompkins County Water Resources Council N/C

Est. via Resolution No. 181 of 1997. Restructured via Res. 57 of 2000 (combined Council and Technical Committee). Bylaws, membership, and terms amended by Res. Nos. 200-98, Res. 49, 50 and 51 of 2001, Res. No. 40 of 2002, and Res. 200-2013. 21 voting members, 6 ex-officio (non-voting associate members). At-large seats added per Res. No. 211 of 2000 and Res. 123 of 2010. The term of office shall be for three years. Tompkins County Legislators terms shall be for one year. There are no limits on the number of terms a member may serve.

Contact: Planning Department 274-5560

- 1 Cornell Cooperative Extension representative
- 1 Department of Planning representative
- 1 Environmental Management Council representative
- 1 Environmental Health representative
- 1 Soil and Water Conservation District representative
- 1 County government representative
- 3 Municipal government representatives
- 1 Agriculture representative
- 1 Business and Industry representative
- 1 Environment representative
- 1 Recreation representative
- 1 Water purveyor representative
- 1 Watershed organization representative
- 6 At-large representatives

6 non-voting members:

- NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation
- NYS Dept. of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Geologic Survey
- U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service

Association members are appointed by the Council.

Function: The Council focuses on identifying problems, proposing priorities, and promoting coordination of activities in

the development and management of the County's water resources. A liaison will also be maintained with regional and neighboring planning agencies.

Workforce Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Established and bylaws adopted via Resolution No. 227 of 2006. Composed of 11 – 15 undesignated seats representing County Legislature, County Staff, and the Community; 3-year terms. Revised bylaws adopted by Res. No. 17 of 2012.

Contact: Karen Fuller, Tompkins County Legislature Office 274-5434

- County staff members
- Community members
- Legislators

Function: To serve in an advisory capacity on issues relating to diversity and inclusion in employment and service within the Tompkins County work force; to encourage equality of treatment for and discourage discrimination in employment and customer service within Tompkins County, and to assist the Tompkins County Legislature in fulfilling the goals of the Diversity Policy Guidelines as adopted by Resolution No. 126 on July 18, 2006, and the Diversity and Inclusion plan.

Tompkins County Workforce Investment Board

Created pursuant to the Workforce Investment Act of 1998. Bylaws adopted via Res. 181 of 1999 and amended by Res. 98 of 2000 and Res. No. 294 of 2001; Local Law No. 1 of 2003; Res. 234 of 2004; and Res. No. 80 of 2007; Chair of the Tompkins County Legislature appoints all members. Seats are not limited to one representative. Majority shall represent private sector; staggered three-year terms.

Contact: Jennifer Luu, Administrative Coordinator, Workforce Development, 274-7526

- At least 19 representatives
- Local education representative
- Labor organization representative
- Community-based organization representative
- Economic development representative
- A representative from each of the 11 Partners

Function: To oversee workforce development programs for the County and to research future employment needs of public and private sectors. The Board also works toward assuring that all Tompkins County residents are able to work and earn a wage they can live on.

Tompkins County Youth Services Board

Established by Res. No. 267 of 1976; Article 21 of the Tompkins County Charter and Code of 1970; membership increased and amended by Local Law No. 2 of 1993; amended by Local Law No. 1 of 2003; bylaws amended via Res. Nos. 54 of 1988, 52 of 1993, 53 of 1993, and 128 of 2003; three-year terms; 28 members.

Contact: Amie Hendrix, Youth Services Director 274-5310

- 3 City of Ithaca representatives
- 1 Representative from each town/village (15 total)
- 10 At-large representatives (of which at least two but no more than six shall be filled with youth; with the rest representative of other areas of expertise including, but not limited to County departments and/or educational agencies, law enforcement, United Way voluntary organizations, business organizations, or labor.
- Non-voting liaison from County Legislature (appointed annually)

Function: The Youth Services Board acts as a resource to municipalities in solving youth problems and enacting youth recreation and development programs. It is also the function of this Board to work with the Director of Youth Services to

recommend effective programs that will prevent and control delinquency and crimes by youth.



Boards the Chair of the Legislature Appoints to:

Civil War Commission (Temporary Committee)
Tompkins County Area Development Board of Directors
[Industrial Development Agency](#)
[Municipal Electric and Gas Alliance](#)
Tompkins County Workforce Investment Board
[Ithaca Metropolitan Planning Organization Policy Committee](#)
Chamber of Commerce
Local Advisory Board on Assessment Review
[Extension Service](#)
[Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization](#)
Cornell Vet School Incinerator Project
Tompkins County Council of Governments Gas Drilling
Committee
Special Negotiating Committee – 2012
Poet Laureate

Other Boards the Legislature Appoints a Representative to:

[Greater Ithaca Activities Board](#)
Joint Operations Committee
[Downtown Ithaca Alliance](#)
Emergency Planning Committee
Ernest N. Warren Supreme Court Library Board of Trustees
Greater Tompkins County Health Insurance Consortium
Joint Committee on Plan Structure and Design (Consortium)
Independent Redistricting Commission – Disbanded October
2012