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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 10, 2025

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**Best Practices for Land Use, Code Enforcement, and Property Tax
Assessment in Amish Communities Workshop January 28**

The Northern Oneida County Council of Governments and the NYS Tug Hill Commission invite you to attend this free workshop on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Town of Lee Municipal Offices, 5808 Stokes Lee Center Road, Lee Center, NY 13363, with a snow date of Thursday, January 30, 2025, same time and location. Refreshments will be served, and everyone is welcome to join but must register in advance at www.tinyurl.com/NOCCOGworkshop or reach out to John Healt at jhealt@tughill.org, 315-941-2818 to sign up or for more information.

Local officials often find themselves navigating the intersection of modern-day responsibilities and the traditional way of life upheld by Amish communities. This three-part workshop provides an opportunity for assessors, municipal officials, planning and zoning board members, and code enforcement professionals to explore these unique challenges, while gaining a better understanding of the Amish beliefs and culture. Invited presenters will share insights and discuss practical solutions that support local compliance while continuing to respect long-standing community values. The topics covered will include an introduction to the Amish culture, proactive planning and zoning, code enforcement best practices, and assessment best practices. There will also be ample time for questions and answers.

Speakers include George Frantz, Associate Professor, City and Regional Planning, Cornell University; Brian Tollisen, Deputy Director, NYS Department of State Division of Building Standards and Codes; and Warren J. Wheeler, IAO, Executive Director, NYS Assessors Association.

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The New York State Tug Hill Commission is a non-regulatory state agency charged with helping local governments, organizations, and citizens shape the future of the region, especially its environment and economy. The commission uses a grassroots approach to build local capacity and provide technical assistance in land use planning, community development, and natural resource management.

Helping local governments and citizens shape the future of the Tug Hill region.